

Else Beitz (1920-2014)



Born in Hamburg; her father an active trade unionist

1936: School-leaving certificate, employee at Deutsche Shell

1939: in December marriage with Berthold Beitz

1940: Birth of daughter Barbara; moving to Jasło

1941: Relocation with her little daughter to Borysław

1941-44: provides Jews with food; hides Jewish children in their house during raids; supports her husband in his rescue operations despite the danger to their own family's lives

1978: high school diploma, study of pedagogy; 1984 diploma; 1993 doctorate

2006: Honored by Yad Vashem as "Righteous among the Nations"

Artur Birman, born in 1928, was assigned for forced labor as an unskilled worker to the small company of the installer Szulim Flieser:

"In summer 1942 I was ordered by Mr. Flieser to go to Beitz' place where I had to do some small repair work in the bathroom... When I went to Beitz' house with the band on my arm, I was first invited to have breakfast at the table, at which his two daughters and his wife were seated. I was a bit ashamed to sit at one table with them, and seeing all the gourmet food such as the white bread, honey, cold meats on the table I thanked for the invitation and asked whether instead of eating on site I could take something for my mother. Mrs Beitz forced me to sit at the table with them, have breakfast, and besides that packed a loaf of bread, honey, some cold meat and told me: "This is for your mother ...".

Sources: Private Archive Beitz, Letters from Poland; Sandkühler, „Endlösung“ in Galizien; Käppner, Berthold Beitz