

Josef Pöll (1905-)



Occupation: Unskilled worker, police officer

24.7.1905: Born in Terfens (Tyrol); attended primary school up to fourth grade

1927-34: Service in the Austrian Army

1934: Vienna Security Guard (Schupo)

1939: Police service in Krakow and Lodz.

1941: Sent to Galicia for the Boryslaw police

1942-44: Shift leader, field service. Numerous robberies, robbery-murders, participation in individual and mass shootings

1946: imprisonment. 23.9.1949: sentenced to 25 years of forced labour by the Soviet Military Tribunal. Return to Austria in June 1955 with one of the last prisoner of war transports.

26.7.1956: Vienna Regional Court (20a Vr 3333/56): 20 years in prison for participation in the mass murder of Polish Jews in Boryslaw (Galicia)

1957: Amnesty by Austrian Federal Presidents. As a free man Pöll appeared in 1959 as a defence witness in the proceedings against Josef Gabriel

Were all Nazi war criminals and excessive perpetrators members of the NSDAP or SS? The Viennese Schutzpolizist Josef Pöll was not a member of the SS and the NSDAP, but he was one of the most feared police officers in Boryslaw because of his rapaciousness and brutality.

»Josef Pöll probably did particularly badly. His colleagues called him the 'police millionaire'. Together with Rudolf Guldan, for example, he is said to have appeared six times at the refinery owner Max Stern's apartment to blackmail him, and to have taken advantage of the chaos during the deportation in August 1942 to undertake extensive looting raids through the ghetto. On this occasion, for example, he took two diamond rings, two gold watches and 90 US dollars from the sister of the oil worker Bernard Koch.« (Geldmacher, S.143f)

Sources: Geldmacher, „Wir als Wiener“: Sandkühler, „Endlösung“ in Galizien; Friedman: Schupo-Kriegsverbrecher; interrogation 1948; court case LG Wien 20a Vr 3333/56