Robert Gschwendtner (1892-)



merchant; SS-Obersturmführer

Apprentice draughtsman; military service; commercial employee;

1921-1935: owner of a cigar shop

1931: NSDAP, 1933: SS (SS no. 63.980); Leader in the SS Upper Section South (Munich)

1935: Welfare employee with the Reich leadership of the NSDAP

1940: Police Gotenhafen (Price Authority)

1941, 6 November: Personal Adviser of the SSPF Galicia (Katzmann); administrative leader of the forced labour camps

1942: As representative Katzmann's leader in several "resettlements" (mass murders) in the district; "dismissed due to age" at the end of 1942

1944-45: Responsible at BMW for the quarters of the German and foreign workers in the armament project "Dogger"; he is feared for his brutality

After the war: Worker in Berlin and Munich; after release from prison guard for railway facilities; after 1956 unemployed

1950: Sentence 1 year 4 months in prison for his crimes in the project "Dogger" 1968: Proceedings for his crimes in Galicia discontinued (unable to stand trial)

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Gschwendtner was a fanatical follower of the master race ideology. In the winter of 1944/45 when the housing of Russian families was at stake, he said

»Well - we simply let them spend a few nights in tents at the mountain. I'm sure that way the little kids will be frozen to death. And we'll use the old ones as work animals.« (Quote in the trial, after Faul, Sklavenhalter, p. 129)

Sources: Sandkühler, "Endlösung" in Galizien; Pohl, Ostgalizien; Geldmacher, Wir als Wiener; Faul: Sklavenarbeiter für den Endsieg; Käppner: Berthold Beitz