

Soviet POWs in 1941



From July 1941, the Wehrmacht imprisoned more than 100,000 Soviet prisoners of war in camps on Lüneburg Heath. The so-called "Russians' camps" at Wietzendorf, Oerbke and Bergen-Belsen did not even contain the most basic forms of housing. When the POWs arrived at the camp, they suffered from malnutrition and were insufficiently dressed. In October 1941, the Wehrmacht transferred 1000 prisoners from Wietzendorf to Neuengamme. The photograph was taken by a guard at Wietzendorf.


(Stiftung Niedersächsische Gedenkstätten)

Prisoners in Front of Earthwork Dens



The living conditions at Wietzendorf POW camp were disastrous. The prisoners had to construct dens out of soil and leaves because there was no housing. There was so little food that many prisoners died of malnutrition within the first few weeks. In November 1941, masses of prisoners died of typhus, malnutrition and the effects of insufficient housing. This photograph was taken by a guard at Wietzendorf.
(Kreisarchiv Soltau-Fallingb.ostel)

Index Card for Panteley Sankov

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Personalkarte I: Personelle Angaben STALAG X B Sandbosfel / Stalag X D (310) Kriegsgefangenen-Stammlager:																		Befestigung des Schwanzmarks Nr. <u>31265</u> Lager: <u>Stalag X D (310)</u>						
Kriegsgefangener	Name: <u>SANKOW</u> <u>САНКОВ</u>										Nationalität: <u>Russe</u>													
	Vorname: <u>PANTELEY</u> <u>ПАНТЕЛЕЙ</u>										Grad: <u>Soldat</u> <u>РФ</u>													
	Geburtsort und -ort: <u>27. VII 1912</u> <u>Smolensk</u>										Truppenteil: <u>459 Inf R</u> <u>Comp. 1st Div</u>													
	Religion: <u>g.o.</u>										Sivilberuf: <u>Bauer</u> <u>Брауер</u>													
	Vorname des Vaters: <u>Sachar</u>										Matrikel Nr. (Stammkarte des Heimatlandes):													
Familienname der Mutter: <u>Dyanora</u>										Gefangennahme (Ort und Datum): <u>22-11-41</u> <u>St. Petersburg</u>														
										Ob gesund, krank, verwundet eingeliefert: <u>gesund</u>														
Bild										Nähere Personalbeschreibung														
5-3-42. 										Größe <u>167</u>		Haarfarbe <u>braun</u>		Besondere Kennzeichen: <u>Augenfarbe: grau</u>										
										Ingezeichnet bei letzter Befragung		Name und Nachname der zu benachteiligten Person in der Heimat des Kriegsgefangenen <u>Sankov Anastasija</u> <u>D. Spas</u> <u>In Polzay</u> <u>Gau Smolensk</u>												
										3ankov Ba anastasiya smolensk ad isen kuznetsov pr g chac STALAG X B Sandbosfel														
gem. m. L. i. e. n. Erk. <u>30207</u> <u>81386</u>																								
										53														
										Bemerkungen: <u>Am 5. III. 42. in Neuengamme verstorben</u> Todesursache: <u>Ungekennzeichnet</u>														
Name: <u>SANKOW</u>										Lager: <u>X D (310)</u>														

Index card for a Soviet prisoner of war from Wietzendorf POW camp. Panteley Sankov was one of the 1,000 prisoners who were transferred to Neuengamme in October 1941. He died in March 1942. (CAMO)

Death Records for POWs

In October 1941, 1,000 Soviet POWs arrived in Neuengamme from Wietzendorf POW camp. They were housed in two huts that had been specially fenced in. Between October 1941 and June 1942, 652 of them died of hunger and disease. The names of those who died were recorded in this booklet. Their bodies were not cremated, but interred in Bergedorf cemetery.

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