Prisoners from Czechoslovakia



Many of the Czechoslovakian prisoners in Neuengamme concentration camp were imprisoned for political reasons. Among them were students who had been arrested following the protests at Czech universities in the autumn of 1939, many intellectuals and other political adversaries of the Nazi regime. They started arriving in Neuengamme in 1940. The majority of these prisoners were transferred to Neuengamme from other concentration camps. Workers who had disobeyed orders in German factories formed another group of Czech prisoners. In 1944, Jewish women from Czechoslovakia, who had been imprisoned in the Theresienstadt ghetto, were transferred via Auschwitz to Neuengamme satellite camps. Altogether, around 1,600 prisoners from Czechoslovakia were imprisoned in Neuengamme concentration camp. Around half of them were women (mostly Jewish). There were also a small number of ethnic German prisoners from the Sudeten areas of Czechoslovakia.