

## Prisoners from the Baltic Countries

After the Wehrmacht occupied the Baltic States in the summer of 1941, the Germans established the "*Reichskommissariat Ostland*" which consisted of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Belarus. In the same year, the majority of the area's Jewish inhabitants were murdered by SS squads. The survivors were deported to ghettos and slave labour camps. The Security Police (*Sicherheitspolizei*) set up "labour and education camps" for political opponents and members of other persecuted groups.

Around 3,800 people from the Baltic states were imprisoned in Neuengamme concentration camp, about 3,300 of them from Latvia. Most of them arrived here on three transports between July and October 1944 from the Salaspils "labour and education camp" near Riga. According to current estimates, several hundred of these prisoners were women, some of them Jewish. A large number of these women were transferred to the Hamburg-Langenhorn and Hannover-Langenhagen satellite camps via Stutthof concentration camp.