

# **Origin and Personnel of the Kaufering Subcamp Complex with Eleven Camps and the Two Landsberg Subcamps**

by Gerhard Roletscheck, 2021

## **Introduction**

In recent years, I have intensely studied the history of the Kaufering camp complex and the two other camps that were under Landsberg. Through my various visits to archives in Germany and research in US archives by my friend and survivor Bernard Marks, I have succeeded in identifying over 320 individuals from the SS camp leadership/guard. In this compilation, I will attempt to reconstruct the staffing of the individual camps. The camps are listed in the order of their establishment, meaning the initial occupation by concentration camp prisoners, not the start of construction, as this cannot be precisely dated. Available aerial photographs of the relevant area of our homeland are currently incomplete, so in most cases, only the existence of the camps can be proven by aerial photographs, not the date of their establishment. Most camps had only a small "team" for leadership and administration. As the core team, a camp leader was initially planned. Subordinate to him was the roll call leader, who was responsible for the completeness of the prisoners and directed the obligatory roll call. He also simultaneously served as the camp leader's representative and led the camp in his absence. The labor service leader was responsible for the deployment of labor, distributing prisoners according to the daily requirements to construction sites or work locations. He also oversaw the writing room, which kept written records of this and reported to the commandant's office. Not all camps had this position; it was often taken over by the roll call leader. Then there were the block leaders, who were responsible for individual "blocks" of accommodations or sections of the camp; they were subordinate to the roll call leader. This position was also not filled everywhere. In addition, there was the "supply non-commissioned officer," who was responsible for the "logistics" of the camp. He also usually ran the camp kitchen, which is why he was often referred to as the "kitchen bull." There was also a responsible medic in each camp – referred to as an SDG (Sanitätsdienstgrad) in the SS – who in turn was subordinate to the chief physician in the commandant's office. Finally, in each camp, there was a guard soldier, sometimes also referred to as the "Spieß" of the guard. He was responsible for guarding (tower posts and gate guard) the respective camp. He also

coordinated the guard detail that accompanied the prisoners to the workplace and set up the chain of posts on site. This part of the guard was directly subordinate to the full-time guard in the commandant's office. The description of the individual camps has been structured according to this hierarchy from top to bottom.

## **Establishment of the Kaufering Subcamp Complex**

In May 1944, work began on the "Weingut II" bunker exclusively with workers from the participating construction companies<sup>1</sup>. Similarly, several companies under the supervision of the Organisation Todt (OT) began to erect the camps for the expected slave laborers. At least the SS barracks and the functional barracks for the prisoners were erected. The concentration camp prisoners from the concentration camps were delayed in arriving. In June 1944, the SS administration began to build the necessary organization for this. The SS Main Economic and Administrative Office – in the person of Office Group Chief D Gruppenführer Richard Glücks – ordered the following transfer on June 1, 1944:

*"... SS-Hauptsturmführer Heinrich F o r s t e r, born January 14, 1897, is transferred with effect from June 6, 1944, from SS-Totenkopf-Sturmbann K.L. Buchenwald, Labor Camp "Dora," as leader of the OT Labor Camp Kaufering to SS-Totenkopf-Sturmbann K.L. Dachau."*<sup>2</sup>

In parallel, SS non-commissioned officers and men were seconded to Auschwitz concentration camp to accompany the first transport to Kaufering and to provide the core staff for the camp system. Currently, the following names and functions are known: Commando leader Oberscharführer (Sergeant) Heinrich Witt<sup>3</sup>, Roll call leader Oberscharführer Viktor Johann Kirsch<sup>4</sup>, and guards Jakob Au<sup>5</sup>, Unterscharführer (Corporal) Wilhelm Bergler<sup>6</sup>, Oberscharführer Richard Bruhn<sup>7</sup>, SS-Mann (Private) Albert Grisse<sup>8</sup>, Rottenführer (Lance Corporal) Albert Emil Finke<sup>9</sup>. Furthermore, Unterscharführer (Corporal) Arthur Wilhelm Siebenich<sup>10</sup>, Unterscharführer Otto Herrlos<sup>11</sup>, and Unterscharführer Wilhelm Bühler<sup>12</sup>. In

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<sup>1</sup> e.g., Erich Reche from Berlin and Flockerzi

<sup>2</sup> Bundesarchiv Berlin Lichterfelde Collection Berlin Document Center (BDC) Heinrich Forster

<sup>3</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B209, Statement by Witt of 29.11.1946

<sup>4</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B289, Statement by Kirsch of 29.10.1945

<sup>5</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B190, Statement by Au of 24.09.1946

<sup>6</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B189, Statement by Bergler of 22.09.1946

<sup>7</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B189, Statement by Bruhn of 27.09.1945

<sup>8</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B189, Statement by Grisse of 23.09.1946

<sup>9</sup> BA Ludwigsburg B 162-16432 Camp 3

<sup>10</sup> BA Ludwigsburg B 162-16440

<sup>11</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B 206, Statement by Herrloss of 27.11.1946

<sup>12</sup> Washington National Archives DC, Case No. 000-50-2-10

total, approximately 150 guards accompanied the transport. On June 18, 1,000<sup>13</sup> Hungarian concentration camp prisoners reached Kaufering; during the two-day transport, Jenö Apell and Samuel Pollak died<sup>14</sup>. They were thus the first deaths in Kaufering. The prisoners were housed in the partially completed Camp III, and the dead were transferred to the crematorium in Dachau concentration camp.

## Camp III

Location: Kaufering municipality south of the Kaufering-Landsberg railway line in the curve, today an allotment garden area.

SS-Hauptsturmführer (Captain) Ludwig Schwarz was appointed as the camp leader of the newly created Kaufering III subcamp. He was a master brewer from Stuttgart-Vaihingen. Most recently, he served in Artillery Regiment 25 on the Eastern Front. At his wife's insistence<sup>15</sup>, he had himself transferred back home and made the associated switch to the SS. With effect from his transfer to Kaufering on June 14, 1944, he became Hauptsturmführer. On December 6, 1944, he was transferred as camp leader to the Hersbruck subcamp. Camp III was handed over to the hitherto acting roll call leader Oberscharführer Heinrich Witt. He was thus the lowest-ranking camp leader in the camp complex. On February 10, 1945, Obersturmführer (First Lieutenant) Paul Müller took over the camp. After arriving at Camp III, Oberscharführer Johann Kirsch was the roll call leader. After he was transferred to Camp I on July 16, Oberscharführer Heinrich Witt took over the position until he himself took over the camp leadership on December 6. With that, Burger<sup>16</sup> became the roll call leader; further details about his name and rank are currently unknown. Unterscharführer Otto Herrlos<sup>17</sup> was employed in the writing room from July 16, 1944, until the end. Before that, he worked in various labor details with the guard. Unterscharführer Wilhelm Bergler took over the prisoner kitchen. The guard on duty was Oberscharführer Richard Bruhn. Two days before the arrival of the prisoners, 22 functionary prisoners from the Dachau main camp were "transferred"<sup>18</sup> to Kaufering for prisoner self-administration. Twelve of them remained in Camp III<sup>19</sup> until the

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<sup>13</sup> Number block 71170–72269

<sup>14</sup> Dachau ITS Folder 108 p. 17 Departure due to death of 24.06.1944, ITS Folder 42 Entrance book

<sup>15</sup> Flossenbürg Archive AGFI\_S\_22\_0074\_0140

<sup>16</sup> BA Ludwigsburg B 162-16432 Camp 3 Testimony of Dr. Kende Joseph of 13.10.1967

<sup>17</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B206, Statement by Herrlos of 27.11.1946

<sup>18</sup> The Jewish Museum New York JM 114-73, Copy of the camp book. The first entries are the functional prisoners.

<sup>19</sup> Schadow, Otto (208); Koci, Miroslav (2846); Necas, Viktor (24622); Ernski, Zbigniew (26488); Chudacek, Franz (28893); Hesse, Friedrich (32976); Trost, Xaver (38391) he was sentenced to life imprisonment by the

evacuation in April 1945. Four were used for the construction of Camp I. Four others were ordered back to Dachau concentration camp. The return order of Innozenz Waschhauser (prisoner number 13287 from Schäftlarn) on October 14, 1944, was curious; he was released from the concentration camp. The first camp elder was the communist Martin Wolf (prisoner number 23655)<sup>20</sup>. After he had repeatedly drawn the unwelcome attention of the SS leadership, he was transferred to Camp I on August 1 and finally ordered back to the main camp on September 18, 1944, due to "softness." After that, the Viennese communist and



**Photo 1:** This photo of a Finnish tent is from Camp IV. After liberation, approx April 29, 1945, Source: MGS Memorial „Weingut II“

Spanish Civil War veteran Viktor Necas (prisoner number 24622) took over this position until the camp was dissolved. On July 11, the second prisoner transport with 500<sup>21</sup> Lithuanian Jews reached Camp III. After their arrival, they were used for the construction of Camp I. The first known aerial photograph of the camp was taken on July 6, 1944. It was taken during a routine reconnaissance flight by the 544th Squadron of the Royal Air Force (RAF). The concentration camp prisoners had to build their later accommodations – the OT earth huts – themselves. In the meantime, they

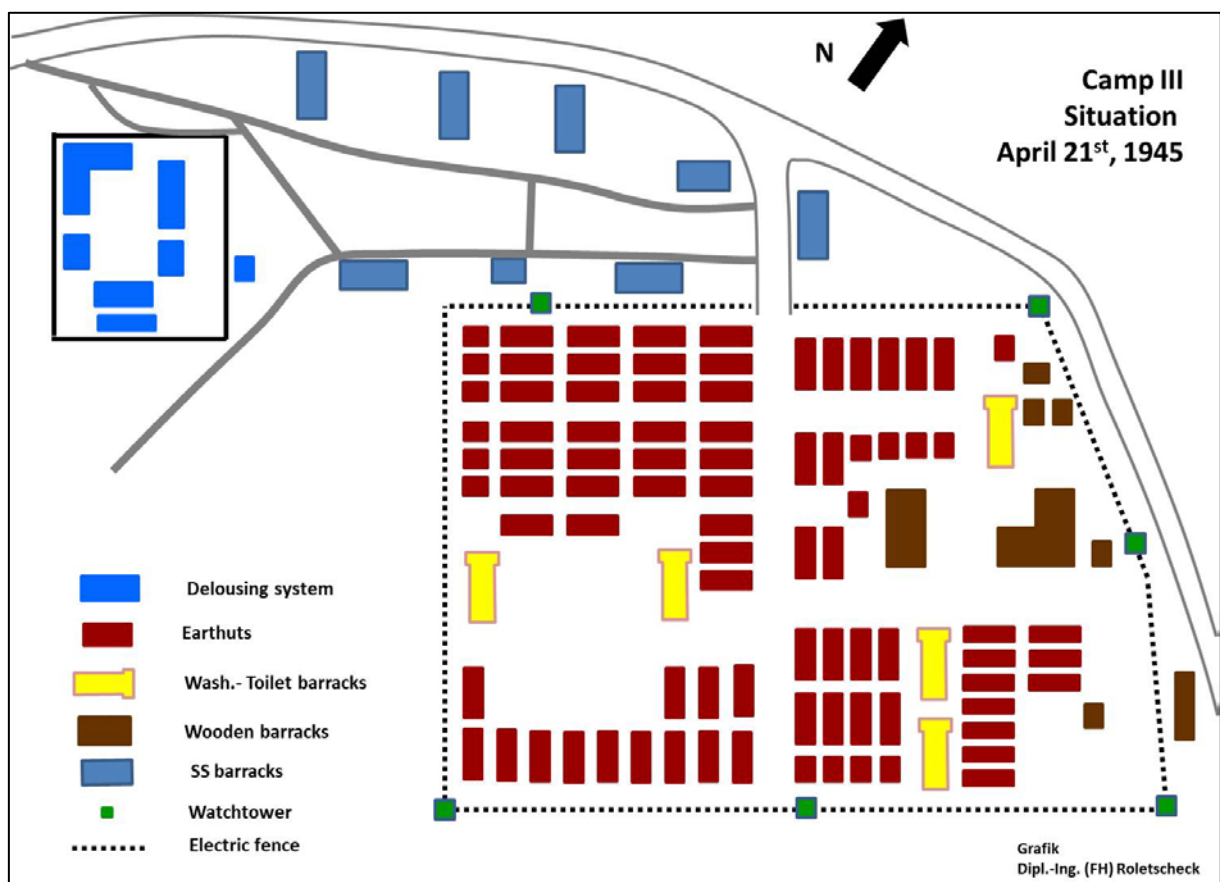
were housed in so-called "Finnish tents." These tents/huts were known to the Wehrmacht from Finland and

were basically based on the yurt. They consisted of prefabricated pressboard or pressed paper panels and were easy to assemble and transport.

Augsburg District Court after the war for his actions in the camp; Kulka, Paul (38445); Staudenraus, Karl (60945); Oosterwuk, Antonius (68596); De Graaff Engelbertus (68668); Van der Linden, Gerardus (68841)

<sup>20</sup> Martin Wolf, 12 Jahre Nacht (12 Years Night), Munich, 3rd ed., 1990

<sup>21</sup> Prisoner number block 78526–79025





## Camp I

Location: Landsberg/Lech industrial area east of Siemensstraße, today the site of the Assner construction company.

SS-Hauptsturmführer Heinrich Forster, who was intended for the commandant's office of the Kaufering subcamp complex, probably moved from Camp III to Camp I after the arrival of Hauptsturmführer Ludwig Schwarz on July 14, 1944, and set up his commandant's office there. Hauptsturmführer Forster led Camp I. However, there are witnesses<sup>22</sup> who perceived the roll call leader Hauptscharführer Kirsch as the camp leader. On September 8, 1944<sup>23</sup>, Hauptscharführer Alfred Kramer took over the position of camp leader. He came with a transport from the Warsaw concentration camp to the Dachau concentration camp and was transferred to Kaufering after his arrival. On November 12, 1944, he was replaced by Obersturmführer (First Lieutenant) Johann Schwarzhuber. Schwarzhuber came from Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp and had served as camp leader there. On February 6, 1945<sup>24</sup>, he was transferred to the Ravensbrück concentration camp in the same function. The transfer must have been very surprising, as the roll call leader Unterscharführer Tempel had provisionally taken over the camp<sup>25</sup> until the arrival of the new camp leader on February 6, 1945. The new camp leader was Hauptsturmführer Georg Deffner. He came from the Kottern subcamp to Kaufering and remained until April 24, 1945. Hauptscharführer Kirsch was appointed as roll call leader. He supervised and led the construction of the camp. On January 11, 1945, he was then transferred as camp leader to the Mühldorf subcamp complex. Oberscharführer Wilhelm Tempel, who came from Camp IV, took over the position. As labor service leader, only Unterscharführer Josef Hermer is currently known; he came from Türkheim on January 2, 1945. Known block leaders were Unterscharführer Heidinger, Schönleber, and Maurer. The first contingent of Kapos came from Camp III, and they were the camp elder Martin Wolf (prisoner number 23655) until his transfer to Dachau concentration camp, then Bernard Fintrop (prisoner number 68656) until the end. Martin Beichler (prisoner number 27999) and Johann Lasselberger (prisoner number 55506) were employed in the kitchen. So far, 23 other Kapos in various functions can be identified by name. On July 15, 1944, the first transport with 1,883 Lithuanian prisoners<sup>26</sup> arrived at Camp I. As with Camp III, the first aerial photograph of the camp was taken on July 6, 1944. At this

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<sup>22</sup> Dachau Trial RG 338 Roll 2, Target 4 p. 387 Witness Feinberg, Fania

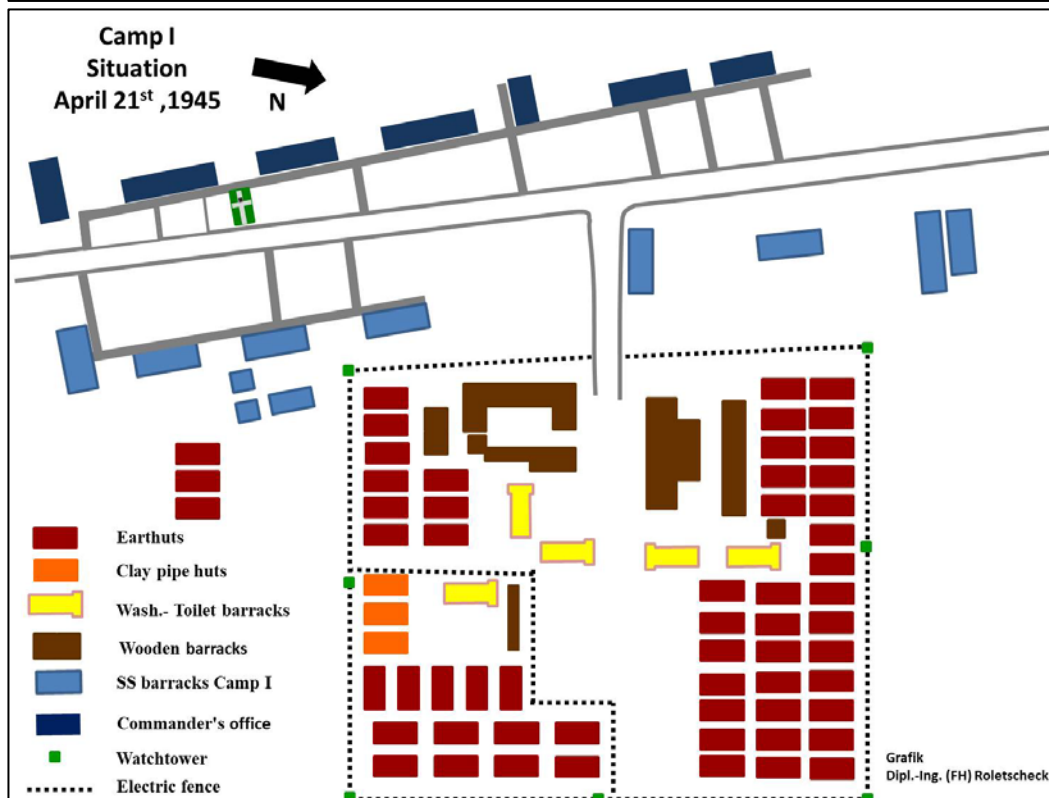
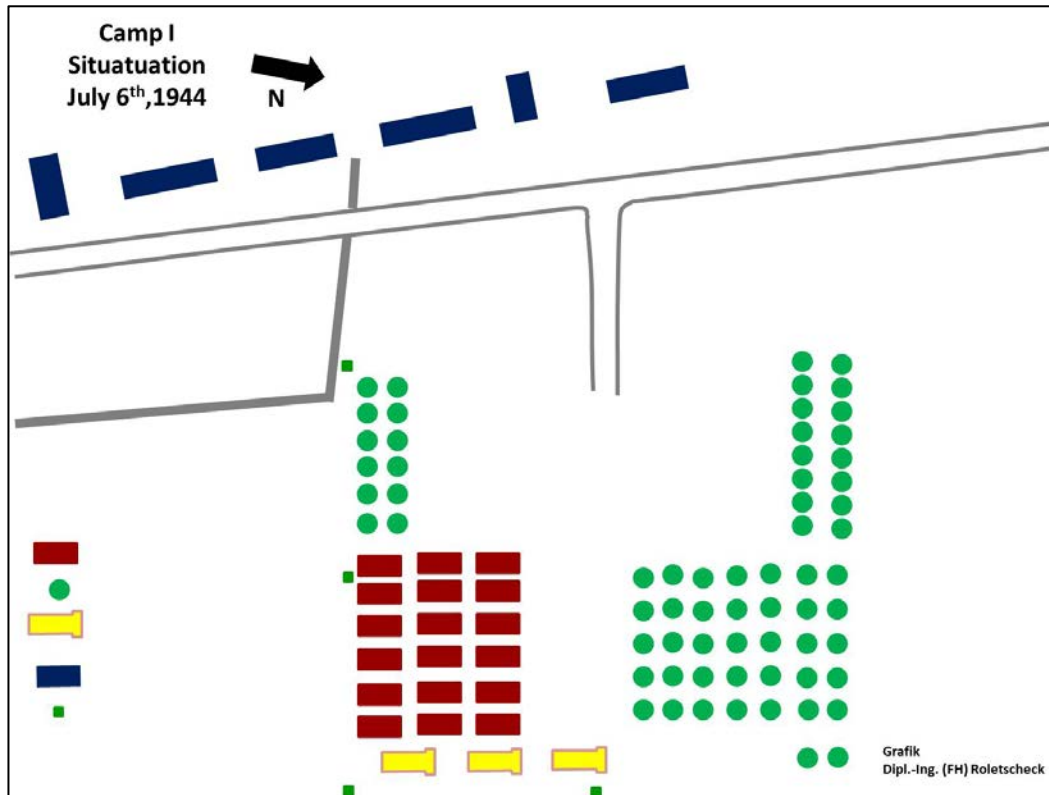
<sup>23</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 138 B89F, Statement by Kramer of 01.11.1945

<sup>24</sup> BA Ludwigsburg B 162 16436 Camp 1

<sup>25</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 338 B308 F, Statement by Deffner of 03.10.1946

<sup>26</sup> Number block 80787–82669

time, there were no concentration camp prisoners in the camp, but the construction of the camp was in full swing. The prisoners were first housed in Finnish tents. By the next known aerial photograph from April 21, 1945, the camp had been completely redesigned. The increase in SS buildings is striking. After the construction of the commandant's office, barracks for the camp leader of Camp I were erected.





**Photo 2:** In addition to Camps XI and VII, there were clay pipe huts in Camp I. In the years after the liberation, survivors recorded their camp in images as a memorial. Source: The Kupferberg Holocaust Center (KHC)



**Photo 3:** Camp I, photographed by a USAF aircraft in 1947. The earth huts and barracks of the camp were burned down in 1945 due to the risk of epidemics. At the bottom of the image is today's Siemtsstraße. One can also see the emerging concentration camp cemetery on today's Max von Eyth-Straße. Source: Aerial image database Carls



## Commandant's Office

Location: Landsberg/Lech industrial area east of Siemensstraße, today a tennis hall.

Hauptsturmführer Forster was the first commander of the Kaufering subcamp complex. He was subordinate to and responsible to the commandant of Dachau concentration camp, Obersturmbannführer (Lieutenant Colonel) Eduard Weiter. After his arrival in Kaufering with the first transport on June 18, he first set up his office in Camp III. After the arrival of the first camp leader Hauptsturmführer Schwarz, he moved his residence to Camp I. He set up a small "staff" for the leadership of the camps. At the beginning of October<sup>27</sup>, Hauptsturmführer Forster was replaced by Sturmbannführer (Major) Walter Langleist. After only a short time, a considerable disagreement and loss of confidence<sup>28</sup> arose between the head of the senior construction management Oberbaurat Erich Wirth and Sturmbannführer Langleist. The conflict escalated to such an extent that the deputy inspector of concentration camps<sup>29</sup>, Standartenführer (Colonel) Gerhard Maurer, came to Kaufering and transferred Sturmbannführer Langleist to the Mühldorf subcamp complex on November 1, 1944, to restore calm to the Kaufering subcamp complex.

*"... Hauptsturmführer Hans Aumeier, born August 20, 1906, is transferred with effect from November 1, 1944, from: K.L. Vaivara to: SS-T.-Stuba K.L. Dachau for use as commando leader in the O.T. Camp Kaufering..."*<sup>30</sup>

Sturmbannführer Aumeier remained in this position until February 1, 1945. On this date, Sturmbannführer Otto Förschner took up his post. He was punitively transferred from the Mittelbau-Dora concentration camp to Kaufering. A medical department was attached to the commando leader. Its head was Hauptsturmführer Dr. med. Max Karl Heinrich Blancke. It is currently unknown when he came to Kaufering. He was responsible for the medical care of the camp personnel and the care of the prisoners. The medical personnel who served in the individual camps were also subordinate to him. So far, Oberscharführer Kurt Jurasek in Kaufering Subcamp X near Utting, Kusters in Kaufering Subcamp III, Rottenführer Lindner in Kaufering Subcamp IV, and Oberscharführer Werner Friedrich Müller in Kaufering Subcamp II have been identified. By 1945 at the latest, even necessary operations (emergency

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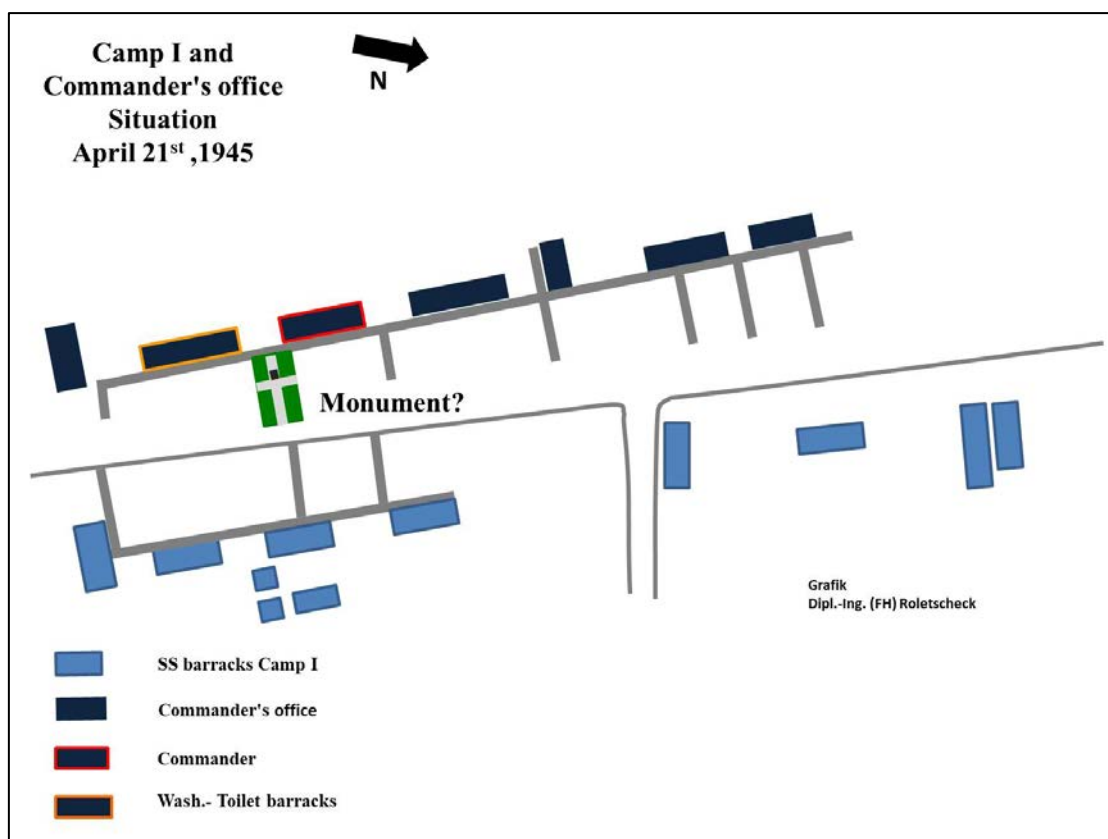
<sup>27</sup> The exact transfer date is currently unknown.

<sup>28</sup> Dachau Trial Dachau Trial RG 338 Roll 2, Target 5, p. 191

<sup>29</sup> Gruppenführer (Lieutenant General) Glücks, Richard Head of Department D of the SS Main Economic and Administrative Office

<sup>30</sup> Bundesarchiv Berlin Lichterfelde Collection Berlin Document Center (BDC) Aumeier, Hans

operations)<sup>31</sup> could be performed in the auxiliary hospital area of Camp I. The remote camps X (Utting) and VI (Türkheim) were provided with a small "instrumentation." Dentists Rudolf Höhne, Unterscharführer Willi Rost, and dental technician Othmar Zerbes were active in the dental station<sup>32</sup>. Captain Johann Kastner was appointed as the head of the guard teams. At the beginning, there were four guard companies<sup>33</sup> in Kaufering. Kastner was in Camp IV and head of the 10th Company of the SS-Sturmabteilung KL Dachau. At the turn of the year, the four companies were combined to form the 9th Company, and Kastner moved from Camp IV to Camp I to the commandant's office. Through a guard on duty or a "First Sergeant" he then supervised all guards in the individual camps. There was even a small motor pool with accompanying drivers<sup>34</sup>, as well as a kitchen and canteen<sup>35</sup>. SS member Kurt Penzel worked as a barber<sup>36</sup>. Obersturmführer Vinzenz Schöttl served as deputy from February 3, 1945. Hauptscharführer Alfred Kramer was responsible for the writing room after his activity as camp leader of Camp III, and Hauptsturmführer Valentin Forster was responsible for the armory from August 1944.



<sup>31</sup> Dachau Archive A2765, Quarterly report of the 1st camp doctor to Department D DIII Oranienburg of 27.03.1945

<sup>32</sup> Dachau Trial 000-50-2-5

<sup>33</sup> 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th Company of the SS Sturmabteilung Concentration Camp; Dachau Dachau Trial

<sup>34</sup> Invoice for work performed on the 3 trucks of AL I of March 5, 1945 ITS Ho 109

<sup>35</sup> Currently known by name Unterscharführer Otto Ganschow

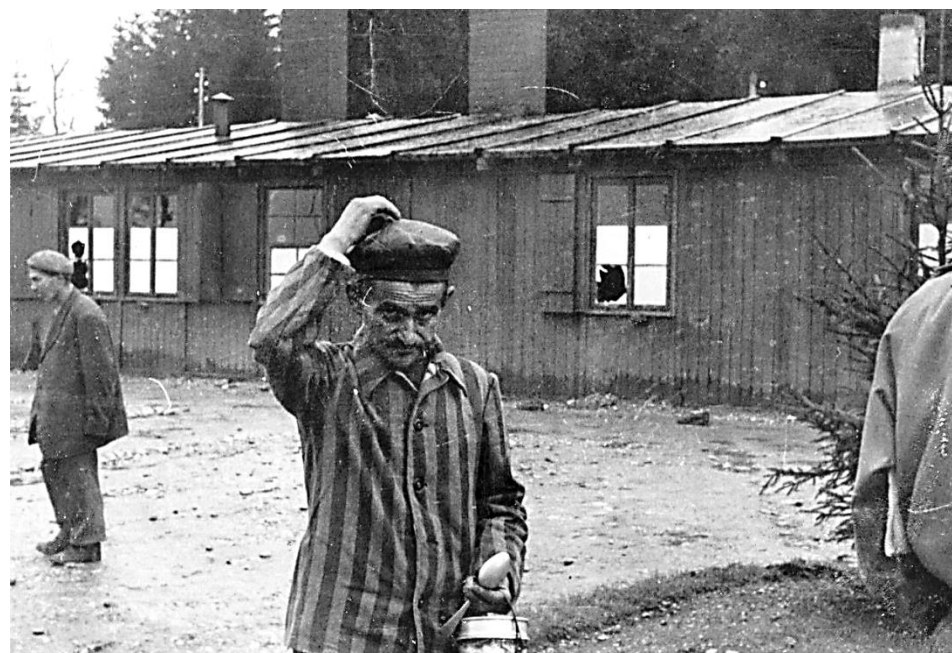
<sup>36</sup> Scharführer Franz Rudolf Fröschel from September the head of the SS canteen; Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B215 F07.



**Photo 4:** US troops set up a supply point in front of the commander's barracks for the liberated concentration camp prisoners living in the barracks. Source: 12th Armored Division Memorial Museum.



**Photo 5:** One can see an unidentified "memorial stone," which stands on a lawn with a cross-shaped ornamental path made of white pebbles, also visible in aerial photographs. Source: 12th Armored Division



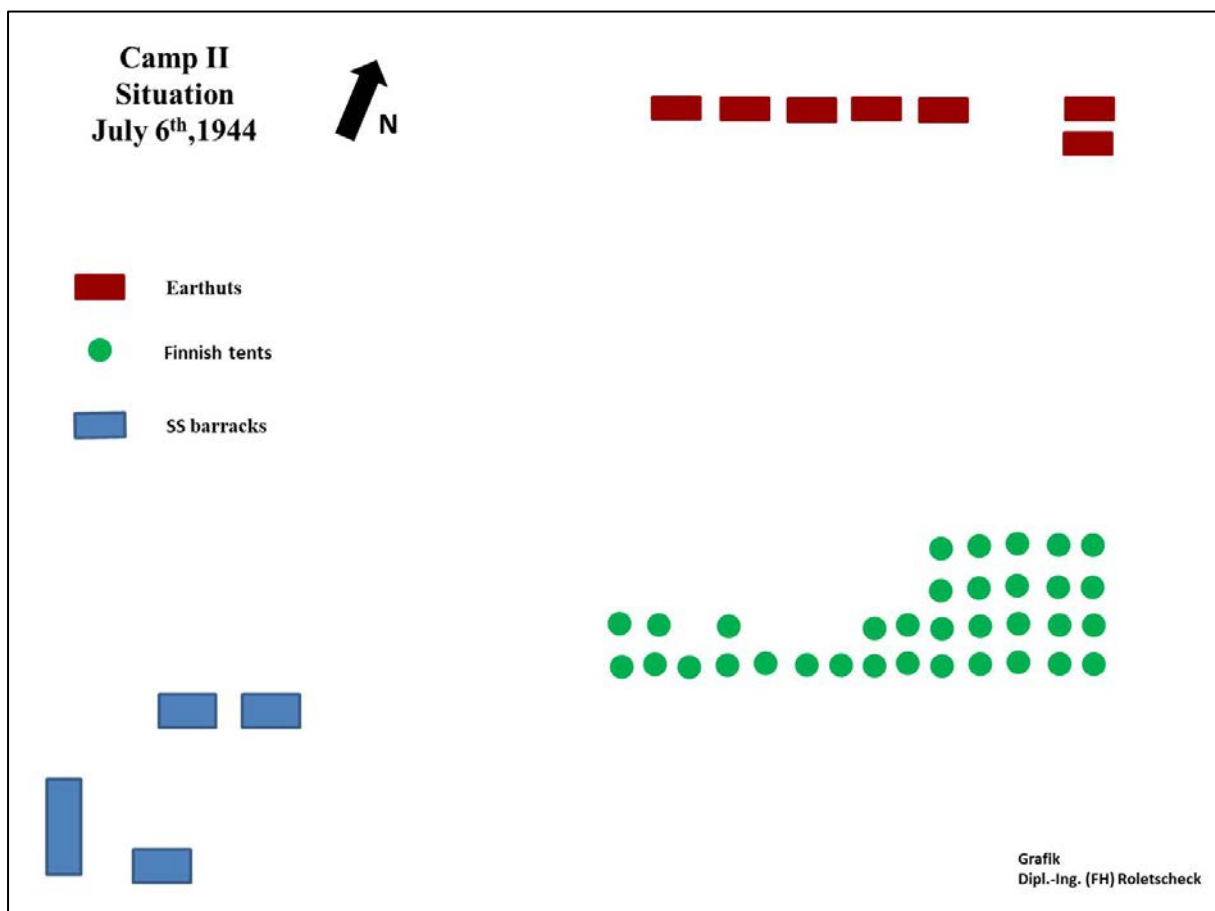
**Photo 6:** To the left of the commander's barracks stands the commandant's sanitary barracks with chimneys for hot water generation and frosted glass panes, typical for washing facilities. Source: 12th Armored Division Memorial Museum.



## Camp II

Location: Igling municipality, 300 m east of the roundabout at Buchloer Str. and district road LL 2. A forest clearing behind a farm.

On July 29, 1944, the first transport with 200<sup>37</sup> female and on August 4, 1.800<sup>38</sup> male concentration camp prisoners reached Kaufering II. The first camp leader was Hauptscharführer Philipp Harfner<sup>39</sup>. Unfortunately, not much more is known about him, as he died soon after. So far, I have only heard "rumors" about his death. One source says that he was killed in a bombing raid while on leave<sup>40</sup>. However, there are also other indications that he committed suicide and the SS tried to cover it up. During a search in the German Service Branch (German Service Office for the notification of next-of-kin of members of the former German Wehrmacht who were killed in action [WASSt]), his index card could not be found, as the information, even just the name, was insufficient.



<sup>37</sup> Number block (83961-84160)

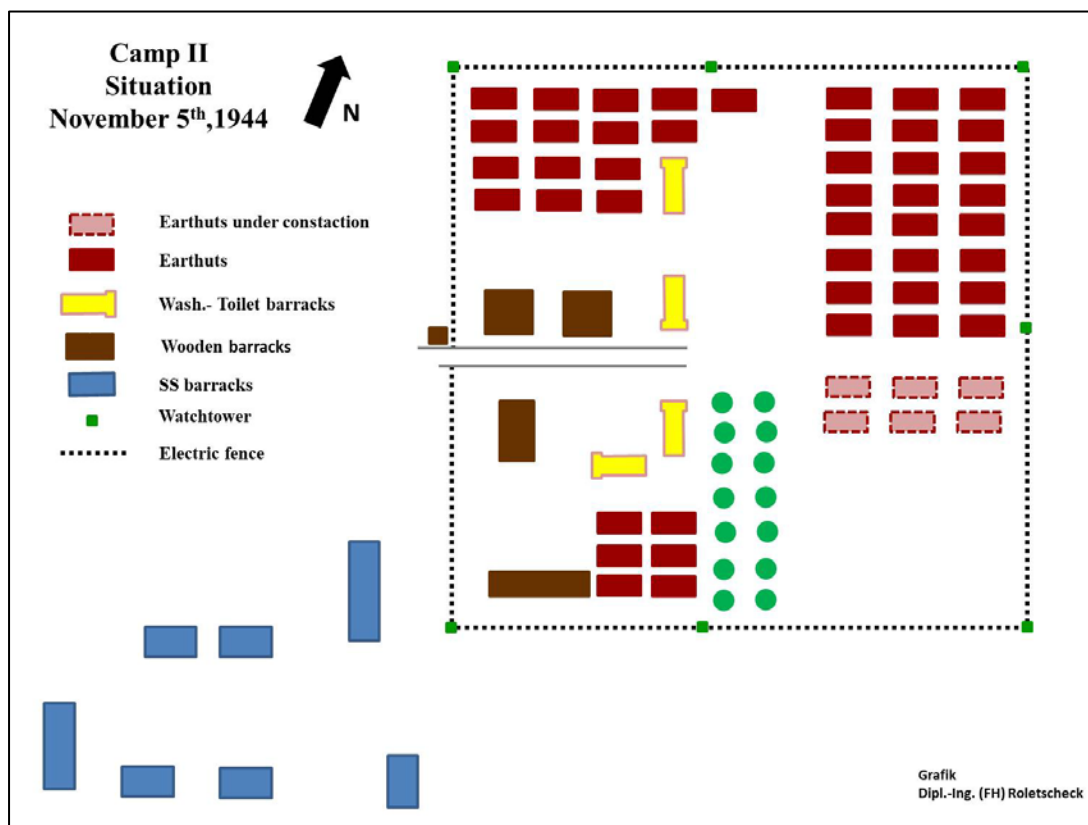
<sup>38</sup> Number block (84451-86250)

<sup>39</sup> Testimony of Becker Otto and Karl Halawaty both guards in Camp II

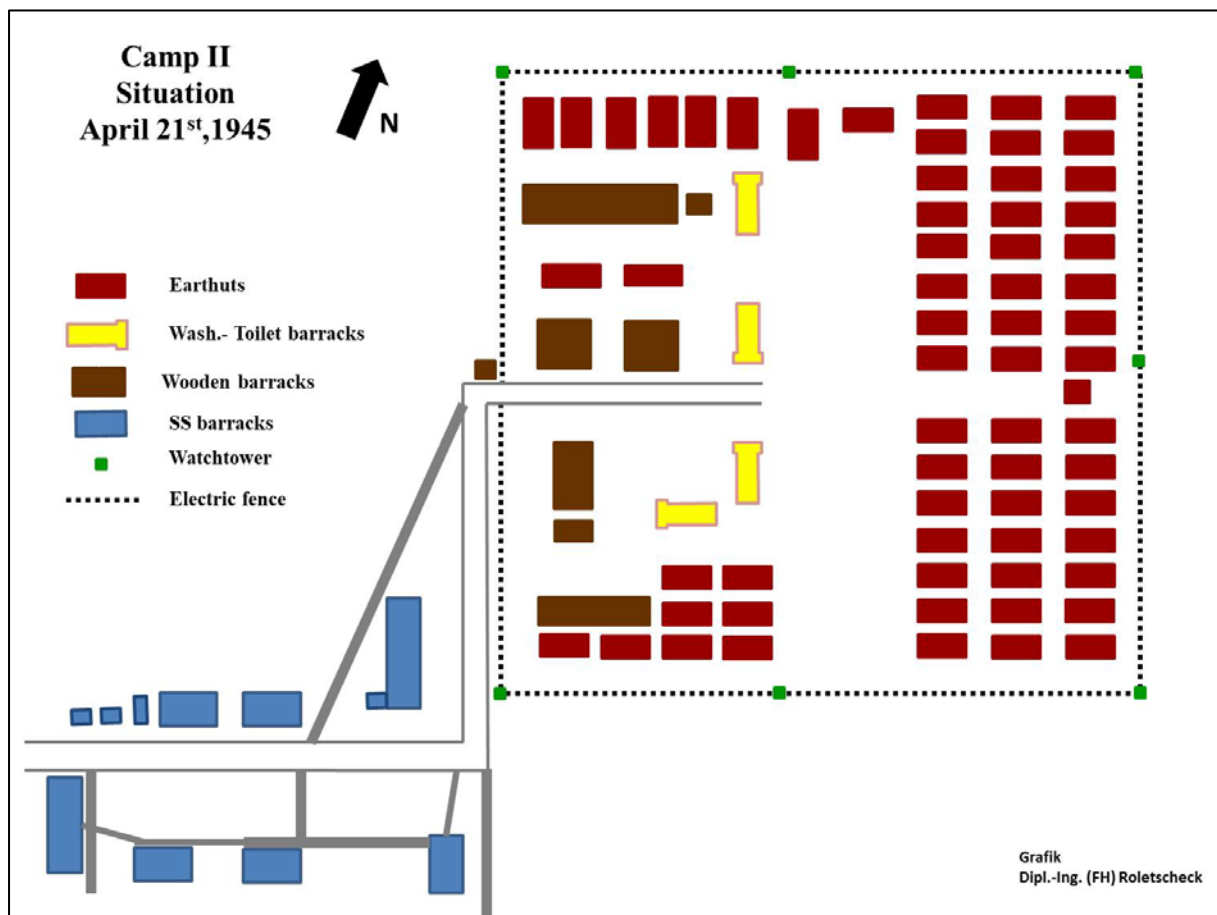
<sup>40</sup> Sidney Iwens, Der Himmel so düster, 1400 Tage Naziterror (The Sky So Gloomy, 1400 Days of Nazi Terror), Magdeburg 2010.



At the beginning of August, Obersturmführer (First Lieutenant) Arno Lippmann took over the camp leadership. At the beginning of January, he was transferred to Camp VII. From January 1 to March 11, 1945, the camp was not occupied, and all prisoners were distributed to other camps. The prisoners and personnel were transferred to Camps XI and VII. From March 12, Hauptscharführer Otto Moll took over the camp. He managed to escape from Auschwitz concentration camp before the Soviet troops liberated the camp on January 27, 1945. First, he was assigned to the SS Main Economic and Administrative Office in Berlin, where he received his transfer and the order to report to Kaufering<sup>41</sup>. Sturmbannführer Förschner finally handed over the leadership of Camp II to him. On April 25 or 26, 1945, he brought the prisoners to Dachau. The roll call leader was Unterscharführer Martin Philipp Schreyer. After the incapacitation of camp leader Harfner, he provisionally took over the leadership of the camp until Lippmann's arrival. At least during the time under Otto Moll, Oberscharführer Eichholzer was responsible for the kitchen and Oberscharführer Jensen for the administration. Oberscharführer Werner Friedrich Müller was assigned as medic in Camp II. The following guards are currently known: Scharführer Johann Baumgartner, Otto Becker, SS-Schütze Ernst Fränzl, Rottenführer Richard Halleck, Sturmmann Karl Halawaty, Otto Hauswirth, Oberscharführer Richard Höschke, Rottenführer Kurt Walter Renter, and Sturmmann Albert Lippmann.



<sup>41</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 338 B289, Statement by Moll of 03.11.1945

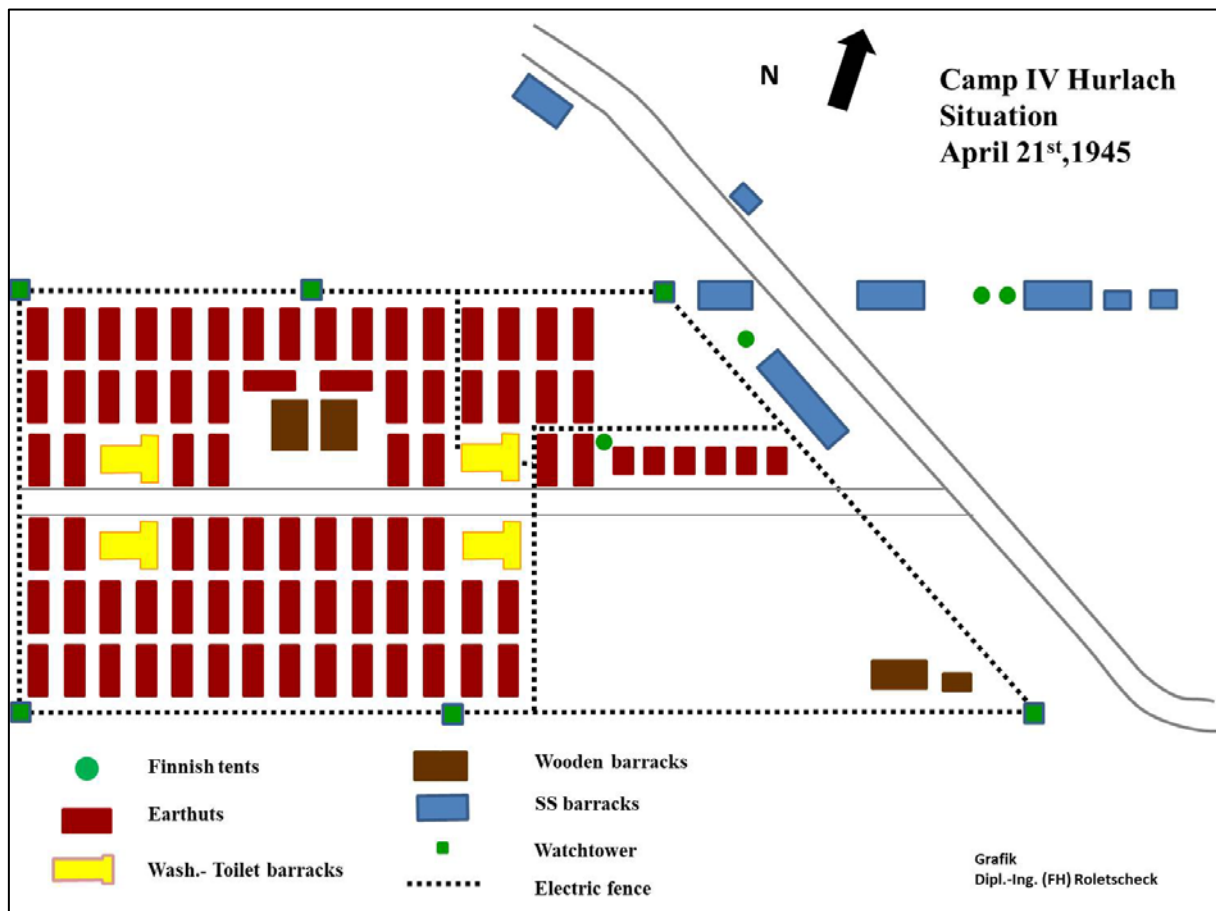


**Photo 7:** After the war, survivors documented their former "lodging" in images as a remembrance. Young people had already used it as their adventure playground, hence the sign "Sommer Bude" (Summer Shack). Source: The Kupferberg Holocaust Center (KHC)

## Camp IV

Location: Hurlach district, 400 m west of the old B17 after the Hurlach colony.

On August 1, 1944, the first transport with 800<sup>42</sup> female prisoners reached Camp IV Kaufering. The transport leader was Karl Edelmann. Together with approximately 50 guards, he brought the transport from Auschwitz concentration camp to Kaufering. Hauptsturmführer Morgenstern was the first camp leader; he came from Rothschaige (Allach). He was replaced on January 8, 1945, by Captain Johann Eichelsdorfer. The latter remained employed as camp leader until the camp was dissolved at the end of April. The first roll-call leader in the camp was Oberscharführer Wilhelm Tempel. He was replaced on January 11 by Hauptscharführer Vetter. The latter remained until the camp was dissolved on April 25, 1945. At least for the month of September, Unterscharführer Josef Hermer is verifiable as the labor service leader in Camp IV. The head cook was Unterscharführer Philip Johann Reidl. From August to the end of December 1944, the 10th Company of the SS-Sturmbann KL Dachau was responsible for guarding the camp under the leadership of Captain Johann Kastner.

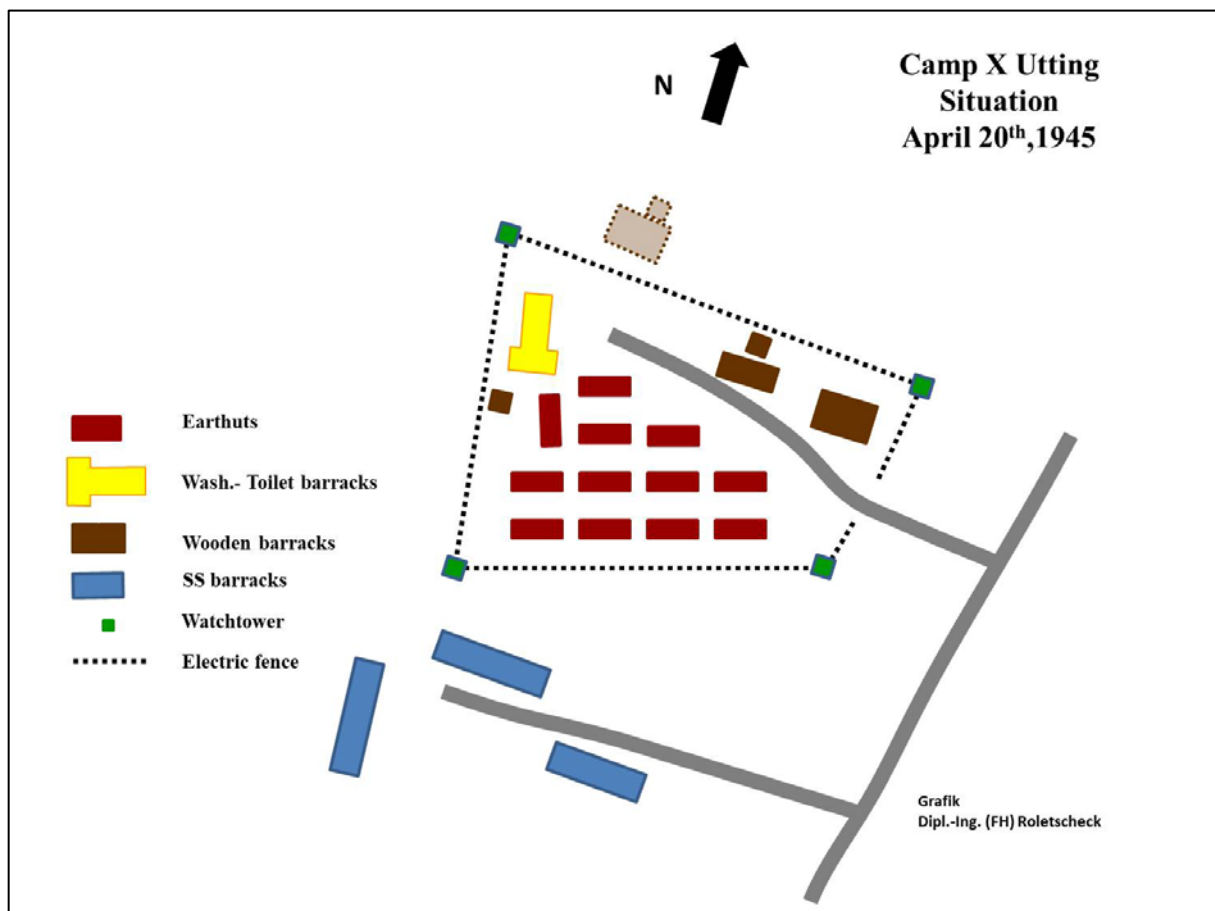


<sup>42</sup> Number block (86251–87050)

## Camp X

Location: Utting district, Holzhauser Straße intersection Schönbachstraße, the main entrance was 50 m down Schönbachstraße.

On August 18, 1944, the first transport with 500<sup>43</sup> prisoners arrived at Kaufering X. Officially referred to as Camp Utting in SS administration correspondence. The transport came from Lithuania via the Stutthof concentration camp to Kaufering X. The first camp leader was Hauptscharführer Wilhelm Bier<sup>44</sup>. On December 16, 1944, he was replaced by Unterscharführer Alois Wipplinger. Wipplinger remained until the evacuation of the camp on April 25, 1945. He brought approximately 453<sup>45</sup> prisoners, including 15 women, on foot to Dachau. Currently, only Oberscharführer Richard Hoschke can be verified as roll-call leader for the period from January 3 to February 1945. The guard sergeant in Utting from August to October was Oberscharführer Wilhelm Ohnmacht and after that Hauptscharführer Godenberg. Oberscharführer Kurt Jurasek was assigned as head of the medical department of Camp Utting.



<sup>43</sup> Number block (91841–92046)

<sup>44</sup> BA Ludwigsburg B 162 16503 Utting

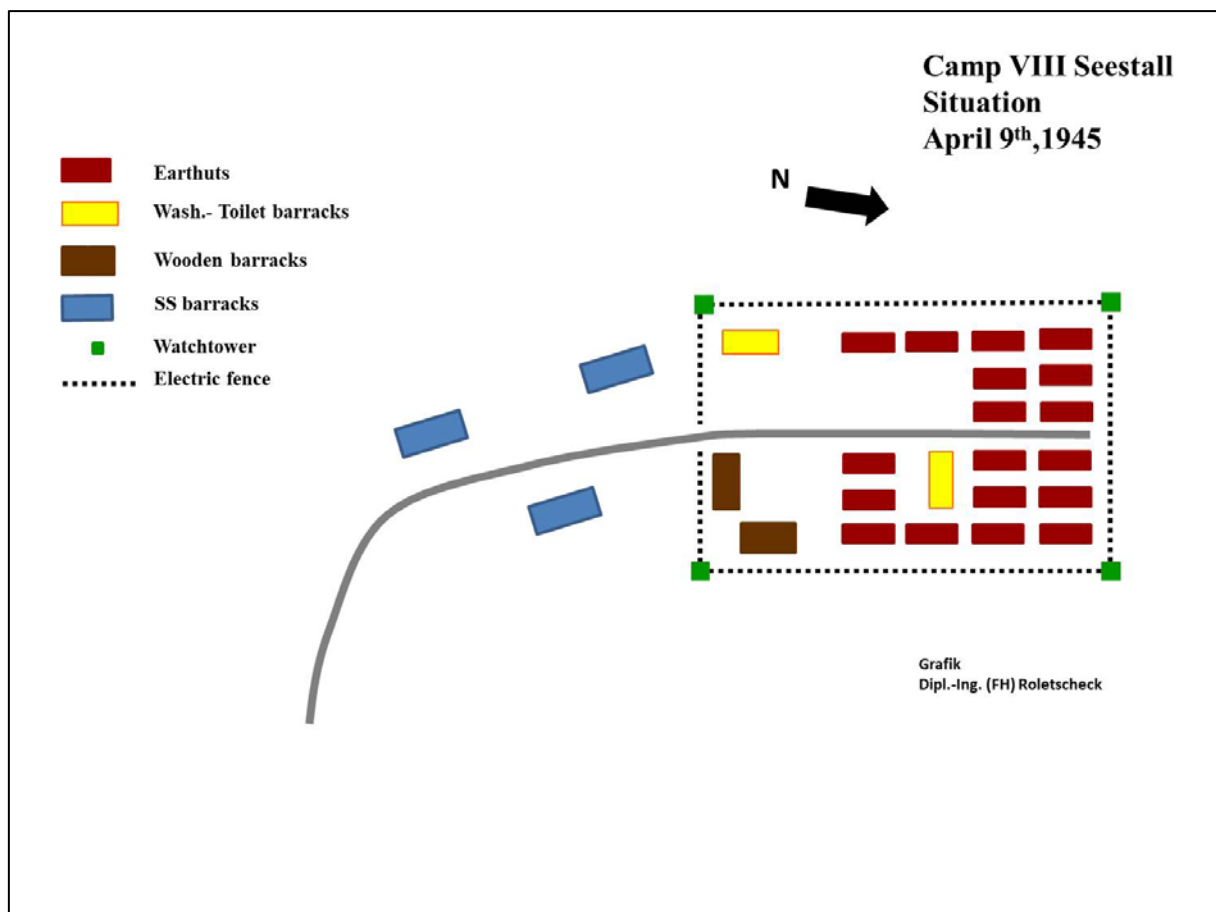
<sup>45</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 153 B207F04, Statement by Hoschke of 20.11.1946



## Camp VIII

Location: Fuchstal district, 200 m west of a rest stop on the B17 towards Schongau before the village of Seestall.

On September 1, 1944, the first transport with 500<sup>46</sup> prisoners reached Camp VIII. The camp leader was Captain Johann Baptist Eichelsdorfer. He came from the Augsburg Pfersee concentration camp, where he received training as a camp leader. Rapportführer Vetter, supply non-commissioned officer Lauf, and Anton Steinbüchel<sup>47</sup>, responsible for provisions, likely came with him. The camp only existed for a short time; Eichelsdorfer was transferred to Camp VII as early as the beginning of October 1944. Much suggests that he was responsible for both camps. The prisoners from Camp VIII were distributed to the other camps<sup>48</sup> in the following months. This distribution process lasted until December/January. A rear command must have remained in the camp during this time. Currently, no names are known for this.



<sup>46</sup> Number block (97431–97930)

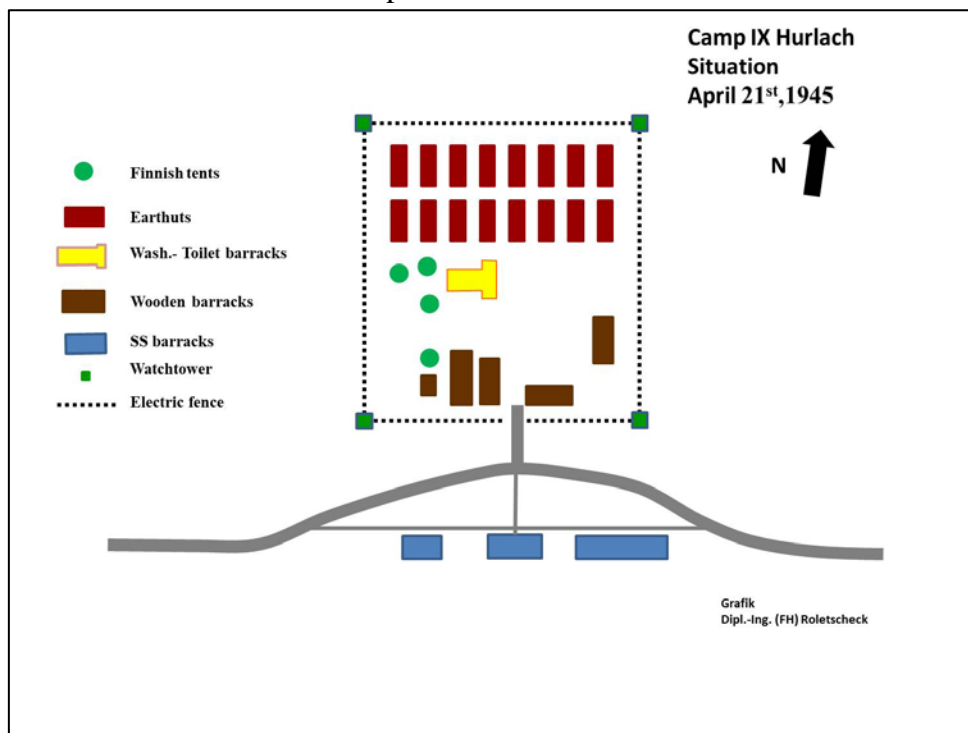
<sup>47</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 338 B289 F04, Statement by Eichelsdorfer 29.10.1945

<sup>48</sup> 186 to Camp III, 289 to Camp IV and 2 to Camp VII, 23 prisoners died in the camp.

## Camp IX

Location: Hurlach district, west of the new B17, north of the Hurlach exit at the site of the Hurlach bathing lake.

On September 29, the first transport with 400<sup>49</sup> men reached Camp IX. Sturmscharführer Karl Heinz Hofmann became the camp leader. The roll-call leader was Albert Brickler and the labor service leader was Unterscharführer Josef Hermer. The camp only existed until the beginning of November, after which it was dissolved and the concentration camp prisoners were transferred to other camps<sup>50</sup>.



**Photo 8:** Camp IX, this image was probably taken after the war, as the camp already appears neglected. Source: MGS Memorial "Weingut II"

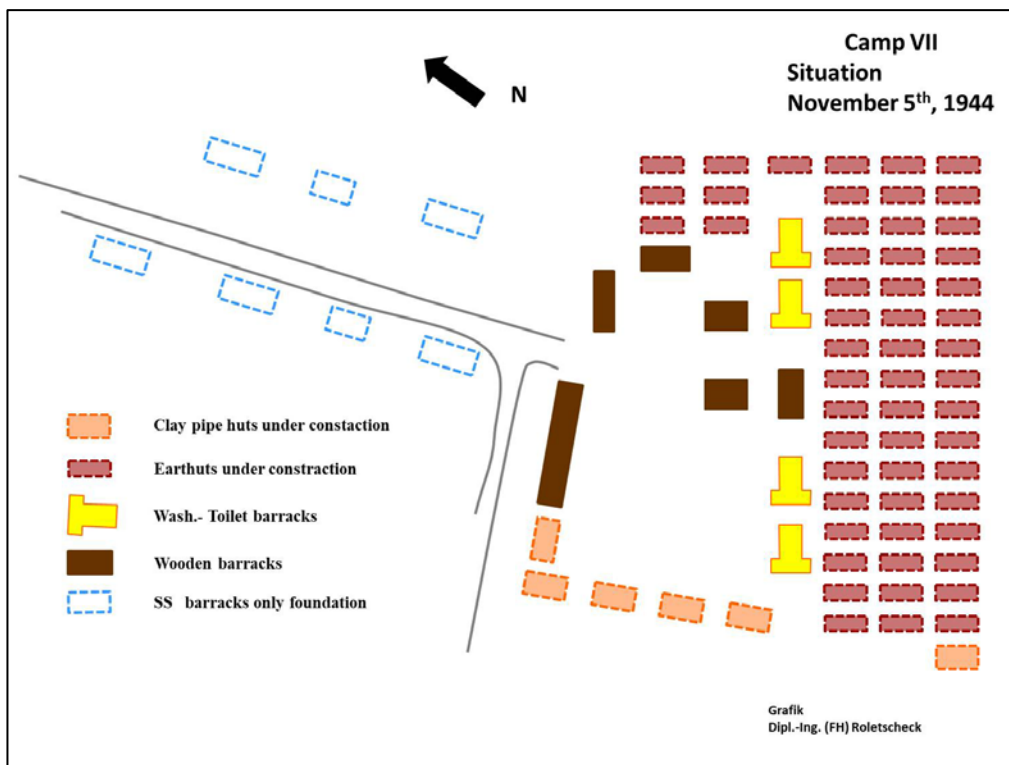
<sup>49</sup> Number block (112014–112413)

<sup>50</sup> One to AL 2, two to AL 3, 165 to AL 4, one to AL 8, one to AL 11, 221 to AL Riederloh near Kaufbeuren, eight to AL 6 Türkheim, one died.

## Camp VII

Location: Landsberg/Lech, Erpftinger Str. heading out of town behind the new B 17 underpass, 200 m south of the road.

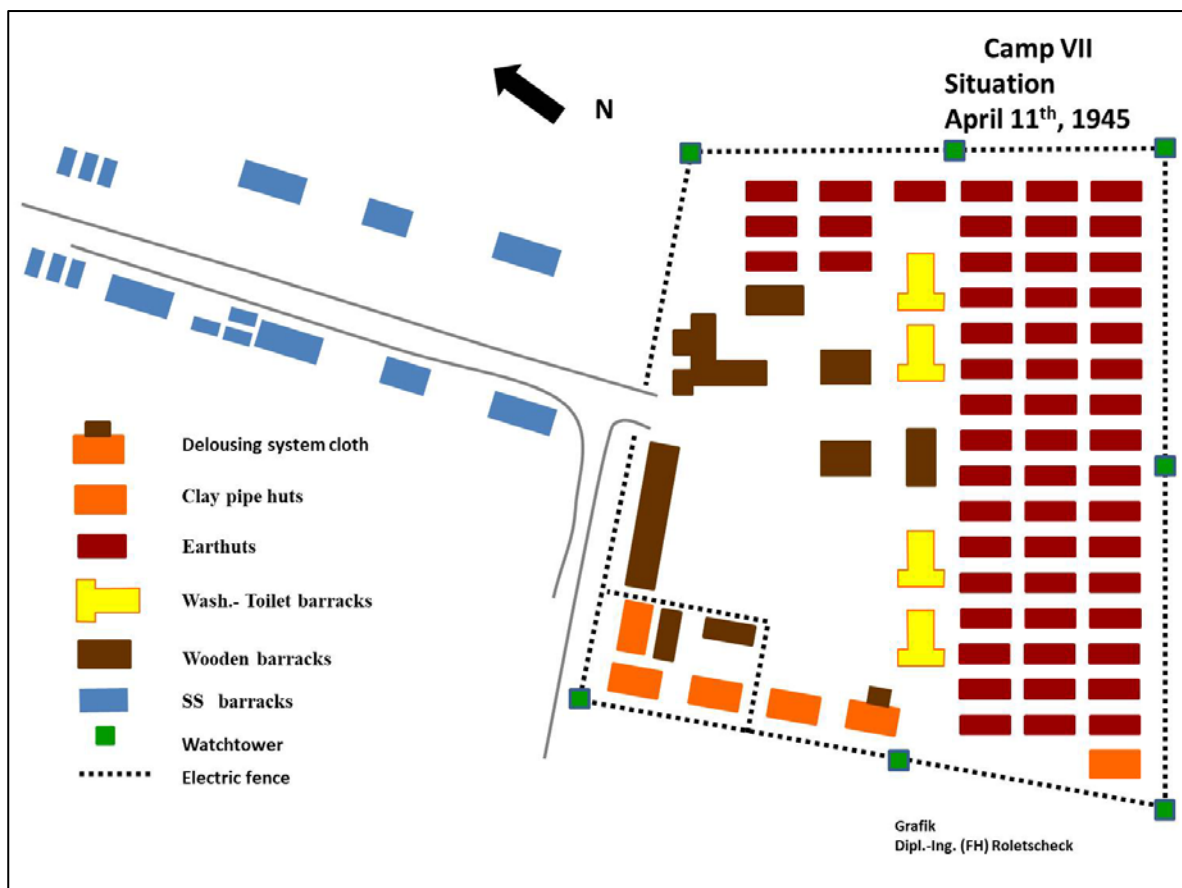
On October 10, 1944, the first concentration camp prisoners were assigned to Camp VII. A transport of 1,500 prisoners arrived at Camp III, was registered, and then distributed to the camps. 600 to Camp IV, 400 remained in Camp III, and 500<sup>51</sup> to Camp VII. The camp leader was Captain Johann Baptist Eichelsdorfer. He came from Camp VIII with the assignment to take over the new camp. He remained until his replacement by Obersturmführer Arno Lippmann on January 8, 1945. The roll-call leader was Vetter, who came with Eichelsdorfer from Camp VIII. According to the statement of Sturmmann Ernst Morlock, who was employed as a tower guard, the roll-call leader Vetter led the camp for at least a period. This supports my impression that Eichelsdorfer was responsible for both Camps VII and VIII and was represented by the roll-call leader; not unusual, as the roll-call leader was the representative of the camp leader. On January 8, 1945, Oberscharführer Franz Mielenz became roll-call leader. Oberscharführer Ludwig Bräu was the guard commander in Camp VII. He was responsible for guarding the camp. Georg Fiederer, then Anton Steinbüchel, managed the kitchen in Camp VII. The supply non-commissioned officer was Oberscharführer Lauf.



<sup>51</sup> Prisoner number block (115391-115890)



**Photo 9:** Camp VII had a delousing facility for clothes; a heating system for generating hot water was installed in a clay pipe hut. Clothes were then deloused with this hot water. Survivors took this photo around 1946. Source: The Kupferberg Holocaust Center (KHC)

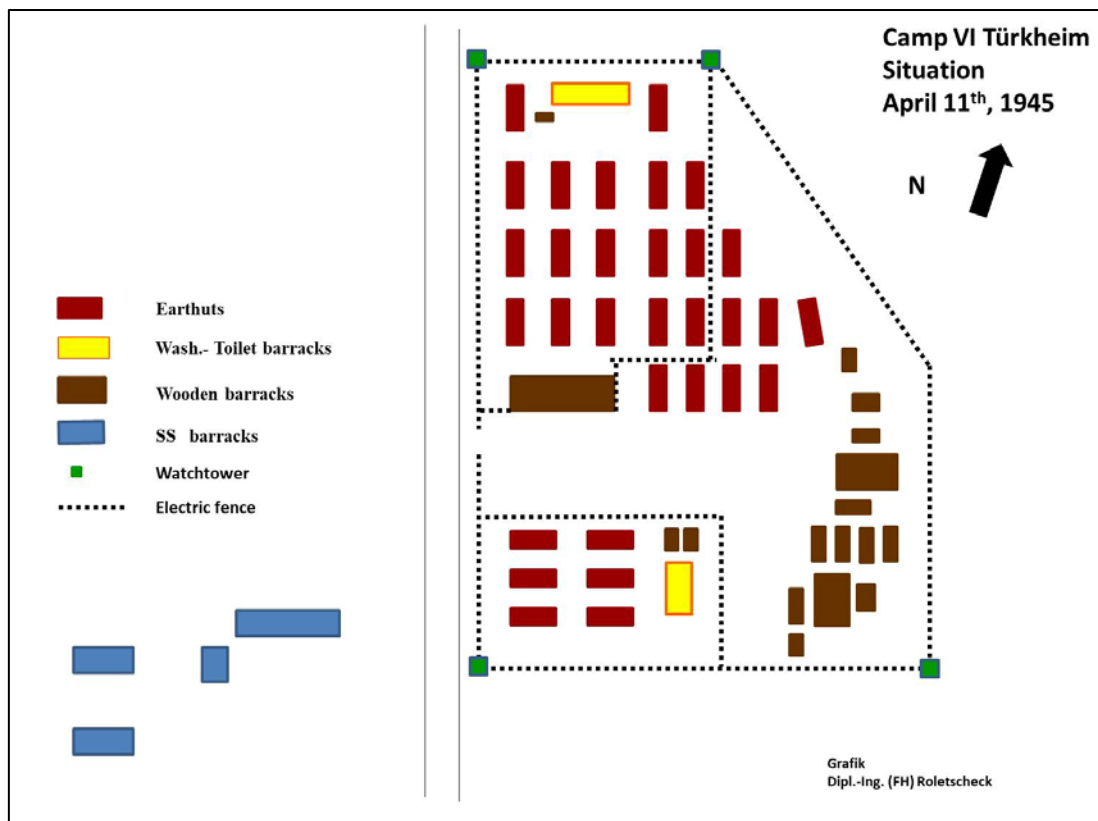




## Camp VI

Location: Türkheim district, Unterallgäu administrative region, road from Türkheim train station Dr.-Viktor-Frankl-Weg, 100 m after the last buildings on the right side, private property not accessible.

At the beginning of November 1944, Sturmscharführer Karl Hofmann, Oberscharführer Hermann and Richter, Unterscharführer Albert Brickler and Josef Hermer, together with 20 concentration camp prisoners, were sent by train to Türkheim to take over Camp VI. When they arrived in Türkheim, they found the camp unprepared and had to spend the night near the train station in the "Blitzschwab" guesthouse together with the prisoners<sup>52</sup>. In the following days, the "guards" and prisoners worked together to prepare the camp. On November 9, the first transport with 1,172<sup>53</sup> prisoners reached Türkheim. Sturmscharführer Karl Hofmann was the camp leader throughout the entire period. The roll-call leader was Albert Brickler, and the labor service leader until January 2, 1945, was Josef Hermer. The following names are currently known as guards: Rottenführer Ludwig Kainz, Unterscharführer Johann Körper, Rottenführer Franz Josef Haupt. The following female SS guards<sup>54</sup> are known for guarding women: Josefine Diegruber, Annemarie Eckahard, and Josefine Schmidt.



<sup>52</sup> Washington National Archives DC RG 338 B303 F, Statement by Hermer of 04.11.1946

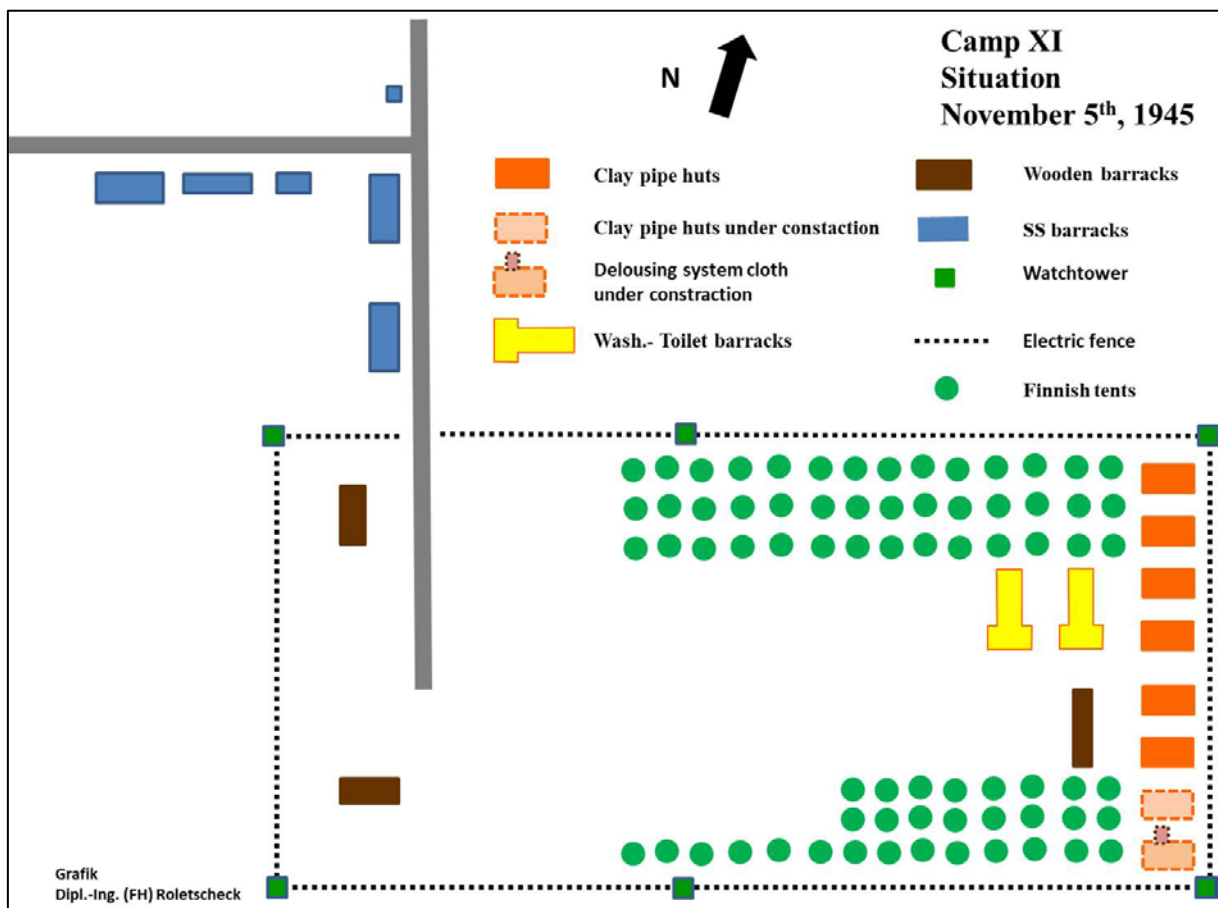
<sup>53</sup> Number block (121711-122882)

<sup>54</sup> BA Ludwigsburg and Ravensbrück Archive List of female guards

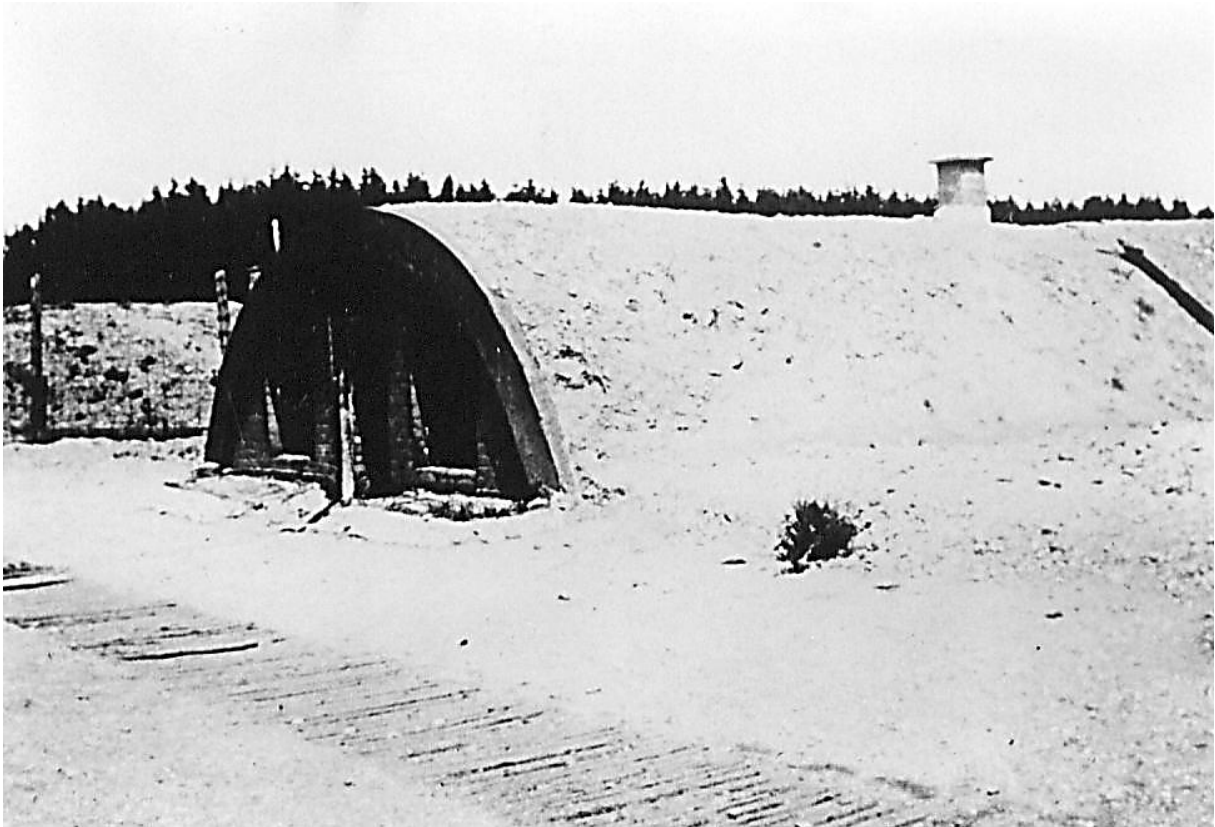
## Camp XI

Location: Landsberg/Lech, Mühlweg-Stadtwaldhof bike path, heading west 230 m after the new B 17 underpass, area north of the path to the edge of the forest.

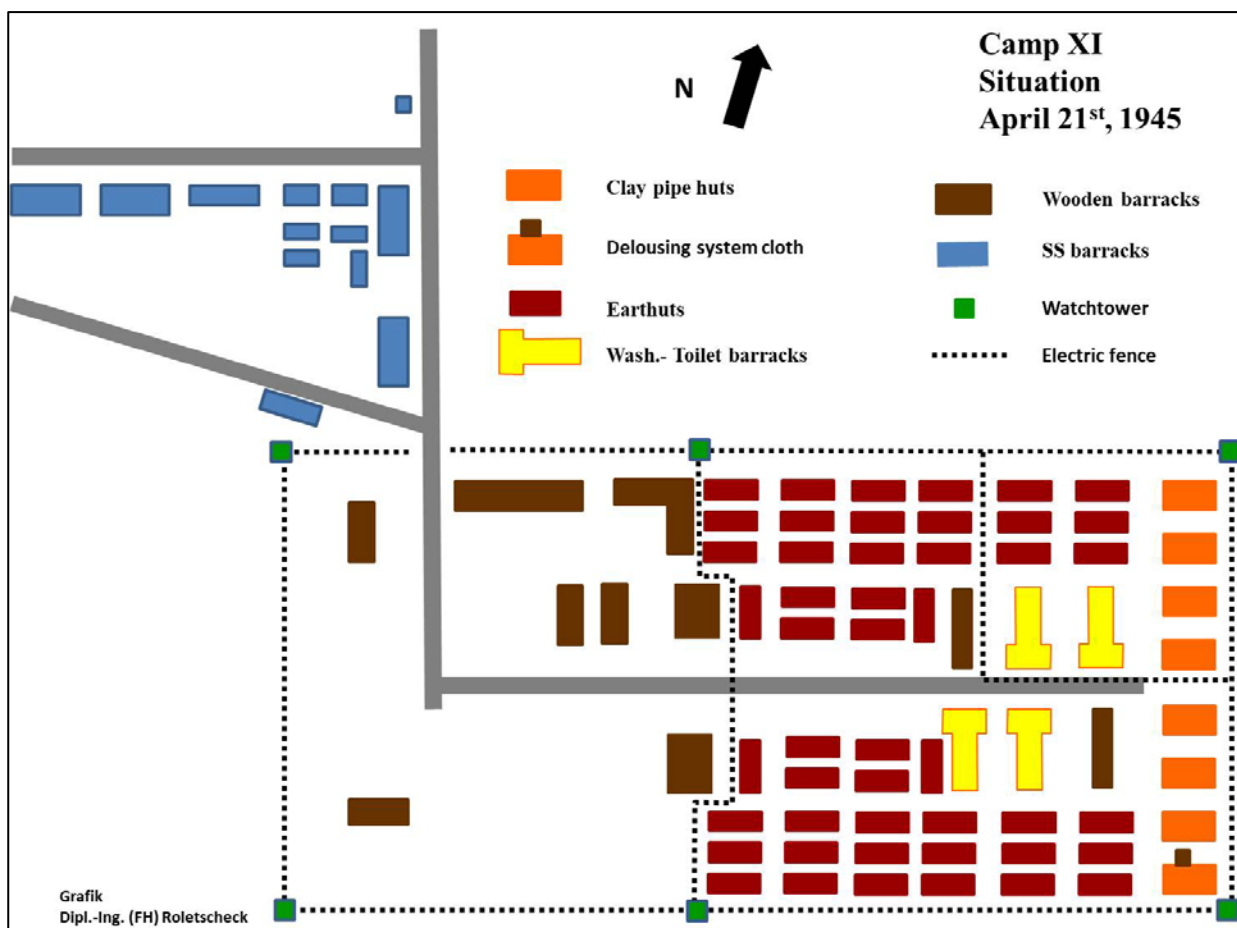
On November 17, 1944, the first transport with 1,094<sup>55</sup> concentration camp prisoners reached Camp XI. Obersturmführer Hans Baumgart was appointed camp leader. He remained in this position until the evacuation of the camp on April 24, 1945. Baumgart took over the evacuation march as transport leader. This led from Landsberg via the Allach subcamp to Wolfratshausen. His roll-call leader was Oberscharführer Erich Kruschinski, and on January 1, 1945, he was replaced by Unterscharführer Martin Philipp Schreyer, who was transferred from Camp II to Camp XI. The labor leader was Oberscharführer Heinrich Trixel. The guard commander of Camp XI's guard was Hauptscharführer Hauck.



<sup>55</sup> Number block (126919-128012)



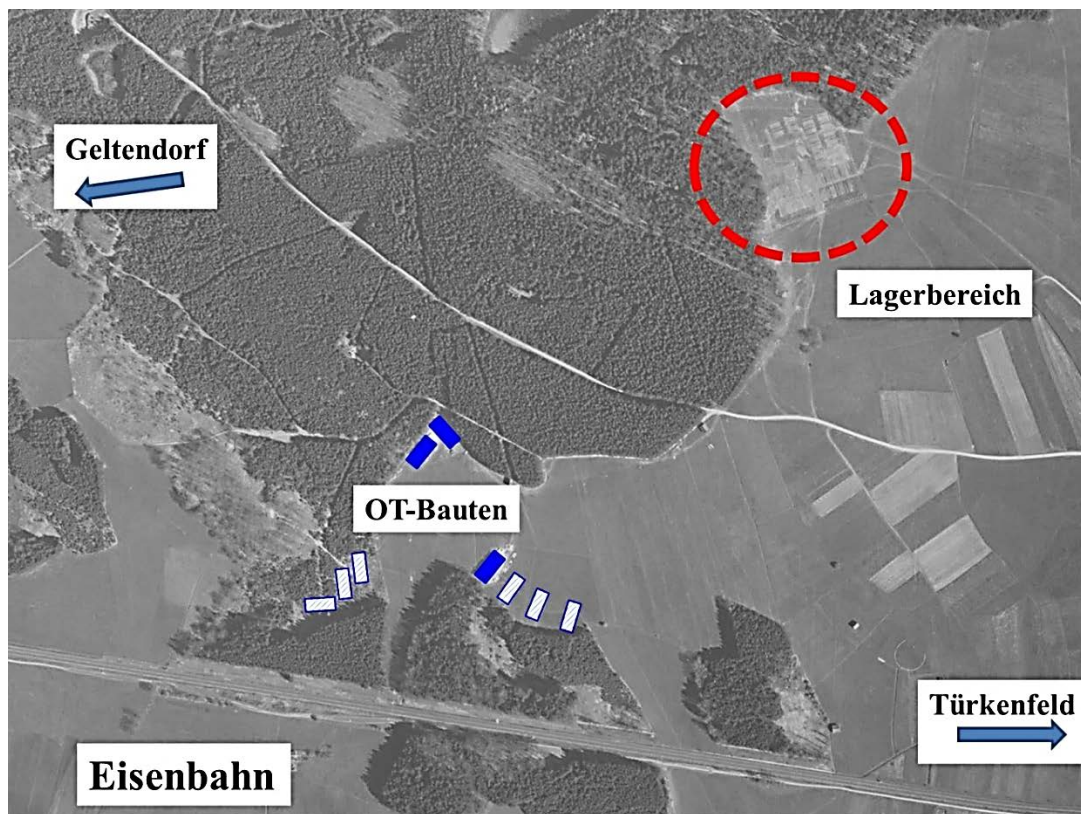
**Photo 10:** Photo of the clay pipe huts located in Camp XI, the photo was taken after the war. Source: Military History Collection "Weingut II"



## Unknown Camp in Türkenfeld

Location: Latitude, Longitude 48.11020 11.06152, The Geltendorfer Straße into Türkenfeld towards Geltendorf until Guggenbergstr. branches off to the left, at this intersection turn right 200m north at the edge of the forest.

In a letter from the International Tracing Service dated August 16, 1950, a camp of the Kaufering subcamp complex is mentioned in Türkenfeld (Fürstenfeldbruck district). The local history book of the municipality of Türkenfeld prints the following: "At the end of August 1944, a surveying team appeared in Türkenfeld, which examined the area between the Geltendorfer Weg and the Guggenberg. Members of the OT (Organization Todt) and prisoners of the Kaufering concentration camp began building a large number of barracks a few days later. A subcamp of the Kaufering concentration camp was to be built<sup>56</sup>. There are otherwise no references to the camp. There are no transfers of prisoners or guards to a Türkenfeld camp. In 2017, I found pictures of the alleged area of Türkenfeld on the internet for the first time from English aerial reconnaissance<sup>57</sup>. Unfortunately, the flight of April 20, 1945, only grazes Türkenfeld, but the camp is clearly recognizable, as described in the local history book in the described corner of the forest.



**Photo 10:**  
Aerial view  
Türkenfeld  
Source:  
National  
Archives  
Washington  
RG373\_AE  
RIALFILM  
\_C4778\_DN  
5460\_VV\_3  
125\_01

<sup>56</sup> Local Chronicle Türkenfeld, published by the Municipality of Türkenfeld 1994

<sup>57</sup> <https://ncap.org.uk> and National Archive Washington  
RG373\_AERIALFILM\_C4778\_DN5460\_VV\_3126\_01.jpg



Likewise, the construction site for which the camp was built can be seen southwest of the camp. Just as in Türkheim, Camp VI, the OT began building residential houses to accommodate the 90,000 armament workers who would later be employed in the bunkers. In total, nine residential blocks were started to be built in Türkenfeld. Three of them were almost finished on April 20, 1945; only the foundations can be seen for the others. These three blocks continued to be used after the war and are still standing today. In a letter from the first owner, he speaks of "OT shell buildings." Today, two houses are used by the Hirsch company, and one building was converted for private purposes. The owner of the Hirsch company kindly provided me with pictures from 1954. If one compares these pictures with the pictures of the residential blocks from Türkheim, which were unfortunately already rebuilt and have now been demolished, one can see similarities.



**Photo 11:** OT Residential block in Türkenfeld, Source: Ms. Hirsch, Türkenfeld approx. 1954.



**Photo 12:** OT Residential block in Türkheim, converted into a district retirement home around 1970, Source: Türkheimer Heimatblätter 90, 2015

With the help of the municipal archivist and historian Dieter Hess, I was able to conduct a contemporary witness interview with Johann Gebele<sup>58</sup>. The land on which the camp in Türkenfeld was built belonged to the Gebele family in 1944. He could remember helping the surveyors hold the measuring tape and later observing the construction of the camp. He remembered that concentration camp prisoners from Utting had begun building the camp.



**Photo 13:** Barracks on the road to St. Ottilien, where the prisoners were housed. Three more barracks were hidden behind it in the forest. The barracks are still preserved today and are even inhabited. Photo approx. 1960, Source: Municipal archive Türkenfeld, Dieter Hess

The prisoners were housed in wooden barracks in the south of Türkenfeld at the edge of the forest and on the road to St. Ottilien and had to walk through the village to Guggenberg every morning and evening. This explains why in the past a second camp was located near Utting and this is always associated with the still missing Camp V. The construction of the camp was suddenly stopped, and

the concentration camp prisoners were withdrawn from Türkenfeld. Currently, there is no clear evidence why the camp was not occupied. It is anchored in the village memory that the camp was not accepted due to "construction defects" and therefore never occupied. In the autumn 2012 issue of the local journal for Türkenfeld, one can read:

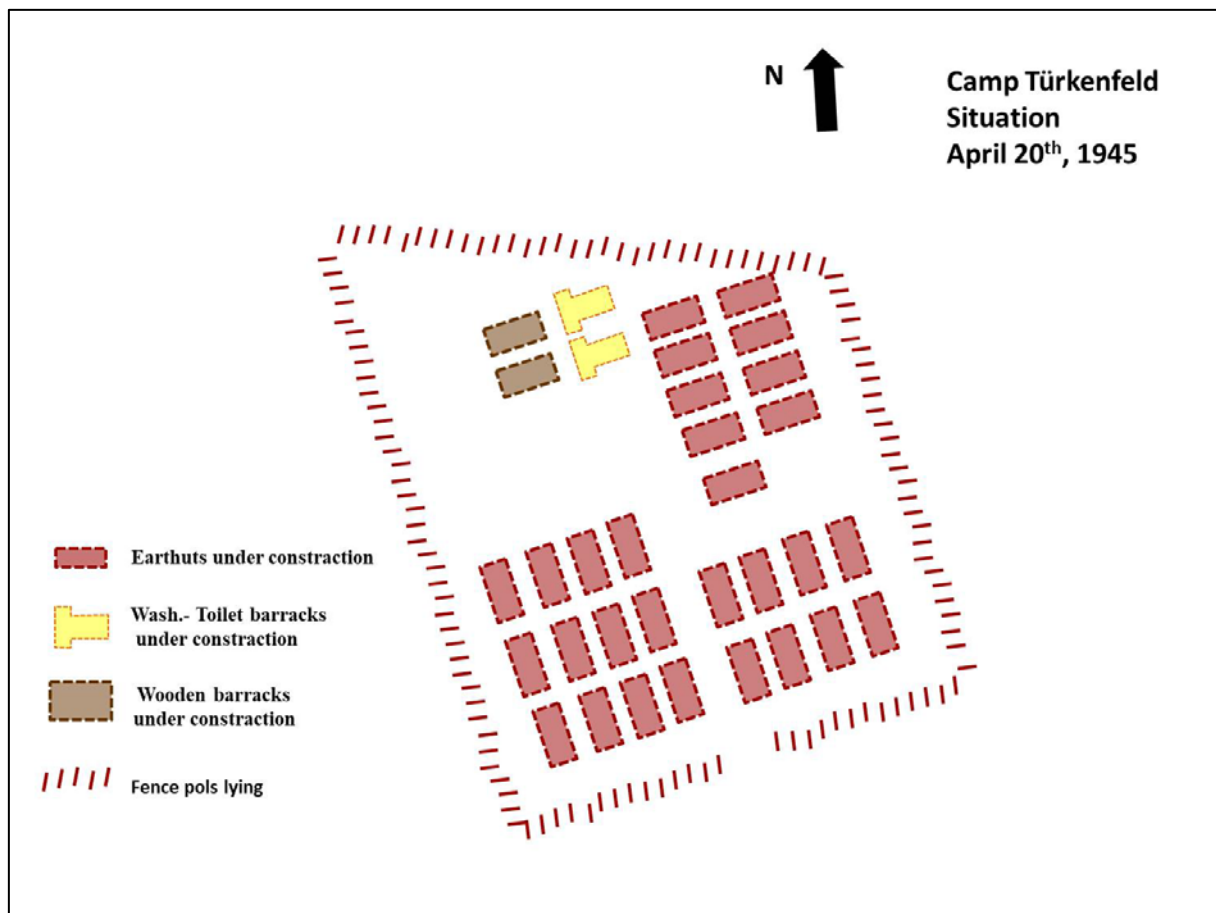
*"In the Third Reich, the Organization Todt built a subcamp for the Dachau concentration camp at Guggenberg with forced laborers and concentration camp prisoners. Fortunately, it could never be put into operation due to many construction defects."*

He estimates the number of prisoners at about 100<sup>59</sup>; he cannot remember any women among them. When asked when this was, he could only narrow down the period. He remembers that

<sup>58</sup> 14.09.1930 to 16.03.1920

<sup>59</sup> Dieter Hess found a similar statement in records in the municipal archive. Interview from 1992 "...that prisoners were brought here from Kaufering in two locked freight cars by a regular train to work here (one also worked at the blacksmith's). They were then picked up again in the evenings with the same wagons. They were dressed in convict clothing and both think there were 100-120 men, some of them Jews."

he gave apples that had fallen from his parents' apple tree to the prisoners. So, it must have been more like September. Camp X in Utting was opened on August 18. Therefore, it is quite possible that a construction commando was sent to Türkenfeld in September to build the camp. This also explains what can now be seen on the available aerial photographs from April 20, 1945: The posts of the camp fence are lying flat on the ground, as if they were prepared for burying or had just been dug up. The topsoil for the earth huts as well as for the functional barracks has been removed and shows exactly their outlines. The lack of shadows shows that no building was erected. It is also striking that no SS barracks were built at the camp or that construction on them had begun. Everything suggests that the barracks and earth huts were dismantled again by the date of the photograph.





## SS Labor Camp Penzing

Location: Sports hall within the former Penzing airfield.



**Photo 14:** The sports hall and sports field at Penzing Air Base have remained almost unchanged since 1945. Photo approx. 1966  
Source: Schneider Franz

The first transport arrived on July 14, 1944, with 350 men. The prisoners were all French; as resistance fighters, they were denied prisoner of war status. Therefore, they were sent to the Dachau concentration camp. In Penzing, the prisoners were used to expand the runway and repair bomb damage. Although they were formally concentration camp prisoners, their treatment was not comparable to that of the prisoners in the Kaufering subcamp complex. Although they also suffered from the arbitrariness of the SS guards, their living conditions were not comparable. They were housed in the sports hall of the Penzing airfield. On April 8 and 10, 1945, 274 prisoners, mostly Jewish, arrived in Penzing from the Lauingen subcamp. In total, 631 prisoners were housed in Penzing or in the "Landsberg am Lech subcamp." In the last days of April 1945, Penzing was closed and the concentration camp prisoners were brought to Camp IV and from there back to Dachau. Oberscharführer Adolf Wipplinger is known as the first commander<sup>60</sup>. The commander was directly subordinate to the Dachau main camp and not to the command of the Kaufering subcamp complex. In October, he was replaced by an unknown SS leader. This person remained for only a few weeks<sup>61</sup>. He was replaced by Wilhelm Wagner on November 24, 1944. He remained until the dissolution of the camp at the end of April 1945. No further names of SS men from the camp are known. The

<sup>60</sup> Since the camp was directly subordinate to the Dachau main camp, the designation was not camp leader, but commander. It was an external commando.

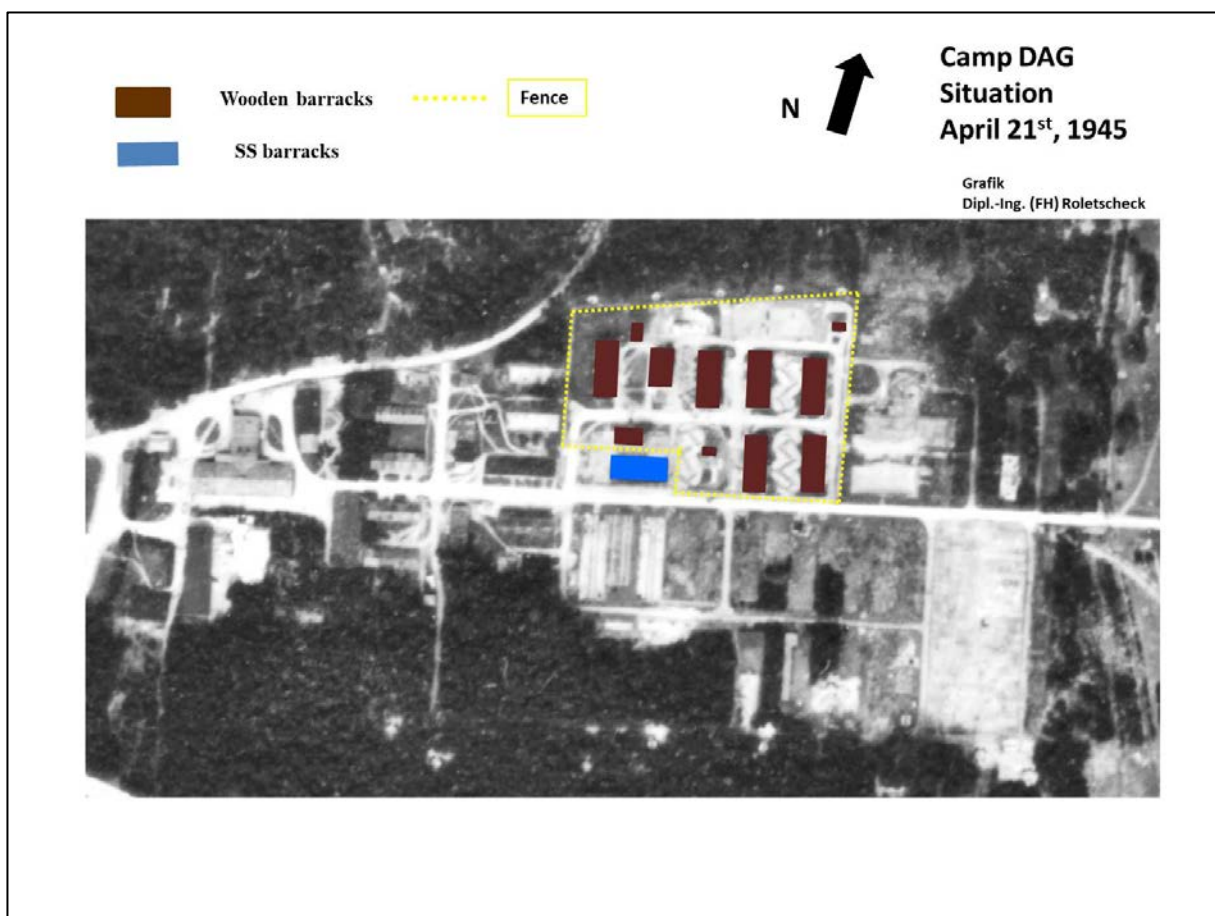
<sup>61</sup> Landsberg in the 20th Century Issue 5, 1995; also includes: Albert Fuchs As a clerk in the SS Labor Camp Landsberg, pp. 18–27.



commander had only functional prisoners available to lead the camp. Rudolf Kurzweil (prisoner No. 47741) served as the senior camp inmate until his transfer back to Dachau on September 22, 1944. After that came Otto Schadow (208). Kurt Bankwitz (prisoner No. 20377) was responsible as camp clerk until he was replaced by Edwin Tangl (prisoner No. 38068). Alois Vater (prisoner No. 2849) was responsible for provisions and clothing. Nowak Marian (prisoner No. 12177), a Pole, was employed as a cook and was supported by four French assistant cooks. Josef Cap (prisoner No. 13630) was responsible for accommodation. On August 1, 1944, the Dutch doctor Johann Könraad (prisoner No. 68565) and the nurses Paul Welzel (prisoner No. 253 or 8823) and Erich Schwieg (prisoner No. 1732) were assigned to medical care.

## DAG Labor Camp

Location: Today, in the middle of the Frauenwald industrial park, roughly at the location of SIP Scootershop on Marie-Curie-Straße.



At the beginning of February 1945, 50 women were transferred from the Kaufering concentration camp subcamp Camp III to the newly established DAG Landsberg concentration camp subcamp. On April 1, 1945, another 50 women and 10 male concentration camp prisoners were transferred to the DAG. In a strength report from the Dachau concentration camp - presumably from February or March - the concentration camp subcamp is listed under "Women. War-important operation Dynamit A.G. Landsberg." Johann Murlaschitz is listed<sup>62</sup> as the commander.



**Photo 15 and 16:** Johann Murlaschitz; US identification photo,  
Source: MGS Memorial "Weingut II"

## Acknowledgements

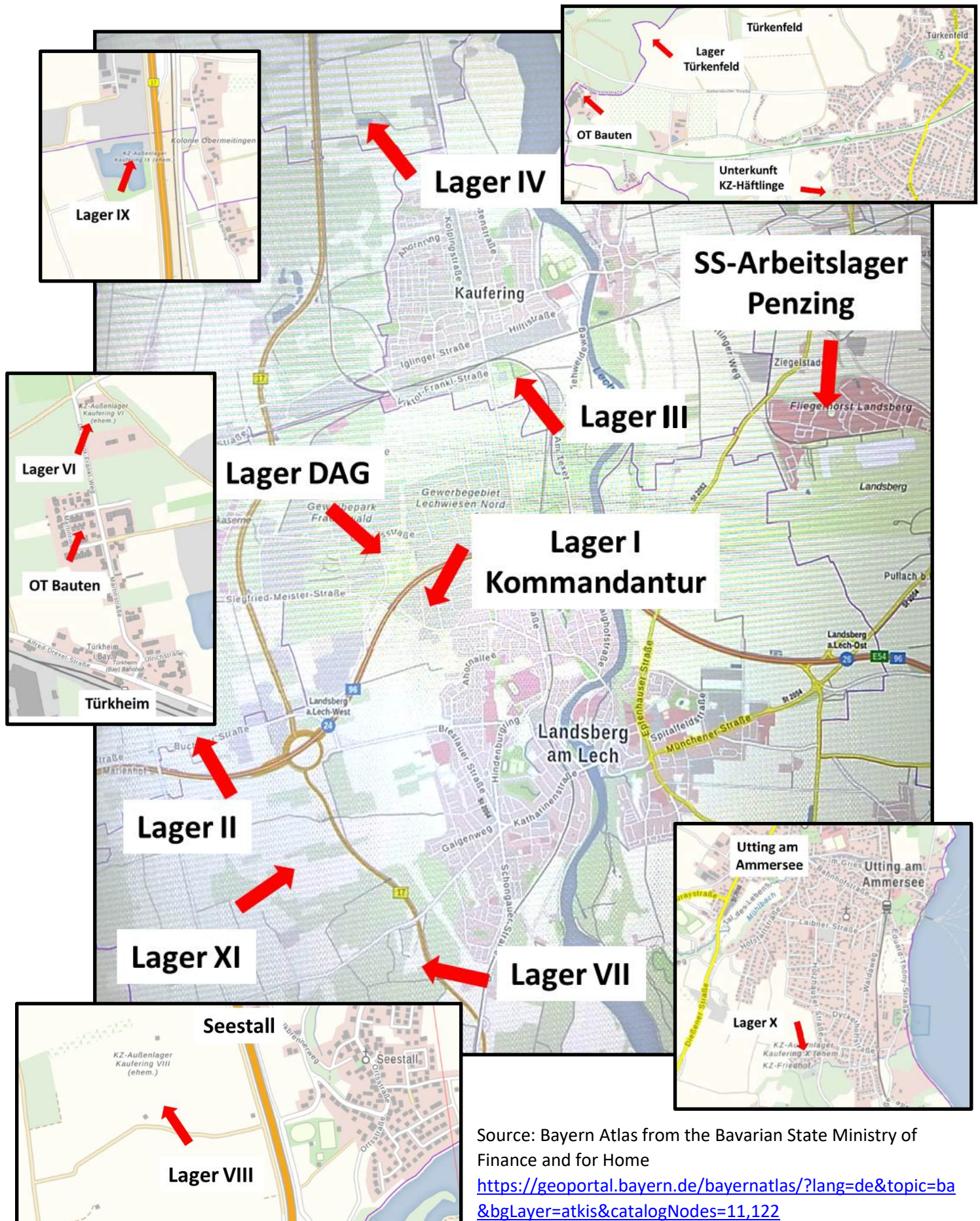
I would like to thank Dr. Jascha März, Bavarian Memorial Foundation, and Mr. Dieter Hess, Türkenfeld, for their active support in preparing this contribution. This translation into English was made by "Chat - merlin AI" under surveillance and control of the author, 2025.

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<sup>62</sup> Based on the documents available to me, it can only be proven that he was in Camp I.



**Overview map of the Kaufering concentration camp complex with eleven camps and the two Landsberg concentration camp subcamps.**



Source: Bayern Atlas from the Bavarian State Ministry of Finance and for Home  
<https://geoportal.bayern.de/bayernatlas/?lang=de&topic=ba&bglayer=atkis&catalogNodes=11,122>

## Anhang: Übersichtsliste des KZ-Lager Personals

Posten	Datum	Dienstgrad	Name	Strafe
Kommandeur	06.06.44–Okt. 44	Hauptsturmführer	Heinrich Forster	Untergetaucht
	Okt. 44–01.11.44	Sturmchef	Walter Langleist	Hingerichtet
	01.11.44–01.02.45	Sturmchef	Hans Aumeier	Hingerichtet
	01.02.45–27.04.45	Sturmchef	Otto Förschner	Hingerichtet
Stellvertreter	03.02.45–27.04.45	Obersturmführer	Vinzenz Schöttl	Hingerichtet
Leitender Arzt	?-27.04.45	Hauptsturmführer	Dr. med Max Karl Heinrich Blancke	Selbstmord
Zahnstation	?-27.04.45		Rudolf Höhne	5 Jahre
	?-27.04.45	Unterscharführer	Willi Rost	Untergetaucht
	?-27.04.45		Othmar Zerbes	1 Jahr 6 Monate
Chef der Wache	01.01.45–27.04.45	Hauptmann	Johann Kastner	Lebenslang
Lagerführer III	16.06.44–06.12.44	Hauptsturmführer	Ludwig Schwarz	Hingerichtet
	06.12.44–10.02.45	Oberscharführer	Heinrich Witt	11 Jahre
	10.02.45–27.04.45	Oberscharführer	Paul Müller	Untergetaucht
Rapportführer III	18.06.44–16.07.44	Oberscharführer	Johann Kirsch	Hingerichtet
	16.07.44–06.12.44	Oberscharführer	Heinrich Witt	11 Jahre
	06.12.44–27.04.45		Burger	Untergetaucht
Schreibstube	18.06.44–27.04.45	Unterscharführer	Otto Herrlos	Freispruch
Küche	18.06.44–27.04.45	Unterscharführer	Wilhelm Bergler	Freispruch
Wachhabender	01.01.45–27.04.45	Oberscharführer	Richard Bruhn	1 Jahr 6 Monate
Lagerführer I	14.07.44–08.09.44	Hauptsturmführer	Heinrich Forster	Untergetaucht
	08.09.44–12.11.44	Hauptsturmführer	Alfred Kramer	Lebenslang
	12.11.44–06.02.45	Obersturmführer	Johann Schwarzhuber	Hingerichtet
	06.02.45–24.04.45	Hauptsturmführer	Georg Deffner	3 Jahre
Rapportführer I	16.07.44–11.01.45	Hauptscharführer	Johann Kirsch	Hingerichtet
	11.01.45–27.04.45	Oberscharführer	Wilhelm Tempel	Hingerichtet
Arbeitsdienst I	02.01.45–27.04.45	Unterscharführer	Josef Hermer	15 Jahre
Lagerführer II	29.07.44–Aug 44	Hauptscharführer	Philipp Harfner	Gestorben
	Aug. 44–01.01.45	Obersturmführer	Arno Loppmann	Hingerichtet
	12.03.45–25.04.45	Hauptscharführer	Otto Moll	Hingerichtet
Rapportführer II	29.07.44–01.01.45	Unterscharführer	Martin Schreyer	Hingerichtet
Küche II	12.03.45–25.04.45	Oberscharführer	Eichholzer	Nicht angeklagt
Verwaltung II	12.03.45–25.04.45	Oberscharführer	Jensen	Nicht angeklagt
Sanitäter II	16.07.44–11.01.45	Oberscharführer	Friedrich Müller	Nicht angeklagt
Lagerführer IV	01.08.44–08.01.45	Hauptsturmführer	Morgenstern	Untergetaucht
	08.01.45–27.04.45	Hauptmann	Johann Eichelsdorfer	Hingerichtet
Rapportführer IV	01.08.44–11.01.45	Oberscharführer	Wilhelm Tempel	Hingerichtet
	11.01.45–25.04.45	Hauptscharführer	Vetter	Untergetaucht
Küche IV	01.08.44–25.04.45	Unterscharführer	Philip Johann Reidl	Nicht angeklagt
Chef Wache IV	01.08.44–01.01.45	Hauptmann	Johann Kastner	Lebenslang
Lagerleiter X	18.08.44–16.12.44	Hauptscharführer	Wilhelm Bier	Nicht angeklagt
	16.12.44–25.04.45	Unterscharführer	Alois Wipplinger	Lebenslag, Mai 1949 geflohen untergetaucht



Rapportführer X	03.1.45-12.02.45	Oberscharführer	Richard Hoschke	3 Jahre
Wachhabender X	Aug. 44-Okt. 44	Oberscharführer	Wilhelm Ohnmacht	Freispruch
	Nov. 44-Apr. 45	Hauptscharführer	Godenberg	Untergetaucht
Sanitäter X	18.08.44-25.04.45	Oberscharführer	Kurt Jurasek	Untergetaucht
Lagerführer VIII	01.09.44-Okt. 44	Hauptmann	Johann Eichelsdorfer	Hingerichtet
Rapportführer VIII	01.09.44-11.01.45	Hauptscharführer	Vetter	Untergetaucht
Nachschub VIII	01.09.44-10.10.44	Oberscharführer	Lauf	Untergetaucht
Küche VIII	01.09.44-10.10.44		Anton Steinbüchel	Untergetaucht
Lagerführer IX	29.09.44-01.11.44	Sturmscharführer	Karl Heinz Hofmann	Nicht angeklagt
Rapportführer IX	29.09.44-01.11.44		Albert Brickler	Nicht angeklagt
Arbeitsdienst IX	29.09.44-01.11.44	Unterscharführer	Josef Hermer	15 Jahre
Lagerführer VII	10.10.44-08.01.45	Hauptmann	Johann Eichelsdorfer	Hingerichtet
	08.01.45-24.04.45	Obersturmführer	Arno Lippmann	Hingerichtet
Rapportführer VII	10.10.44-08.01.45	Hauptscharführer	Vetter	Untergetaucht
	08.01.45-24.04.45	Oberscharführer	Franz Mielenz	Zum Tode, vorher gestorben
Wachhabender VII	01.01.45-24.04.45	Oberscharführer	Ludwig Bräu	Nicht angeklagt
Küche	10.10.45-25.11.44		Georg Fiederer	2 Jahre
	25.11.44-24.04.45		Anton Steinbüchel	Untergetaucht
Lagerführer VI	01.11.44-27.04.45	Sturmscharführer	Karl Heinz Hofmann	Nicht angeklagt
Rapportführer VI	01.11.44-27.04.45		Albert Brickler	Nicht angeklagt
Arbeitsdienst VI	01.11.44-02.01.45	Unterscharführer	Josef Hermer	15 Jahre
Wachen Frauen VI			Josefine Diegruber	Nicht angeklagt
			Annemarie Eckahard	Nicht angeklagt
			Josefine Schmidt	Nicht angeklagt
Lagerführer XI	17.11.44-24.04.45	Obersturmführer	Hans Baumgart	Freispruch
Rapportführer XI	17.11.44-01.01.45	Oberscharführer	Erich Kruschinski	Untergetaucht
Rapportführer XI	01.01.45-24.04.45	Unterscharführer	Martin Schreyer	Hingerichtet
Arbeitsdienst XI	17.11.44-24.04.45	Oberscharführer	Heinrich Trixel	30 Jahre
Wachhabender XI	01.01.45-24.04.45	Hauptscharführer	Hauck	Untergetaucht
SS-Arbeitslager				
Kommandoführer	4.07.44-Okt. 44	Oberscharführer	Adolf Wipplinger	Lebenslag, Mai 1949 geflohen untergetaucht
	Okt. 44-24.11.44		Unbekannt	
	24.11.44-24.04.45	Hauptscharführer	Wilhelm Wagner	Hingerichtet
Arbeitslager DAG				
	Feb. 45-Apr. 45	Rottenführer	Johann Murlaschitz	10 Jahre

### Abkürzungsverzeichnis:

BA Ludwigsburg Bundesarchiv Ludwigsburg „Zentrale Stelle zur Aufklärung nationalsozialistischer Verbrechen“

DAG Dynamit Aktien Gesellschaft

MGS Militärgeschichtliche Sammlung „Weingut II“, Landsberg Welfenkaserne