



Student worksheet

Humanity in inhuman times

Group 1:

Questions for the group:

1. Which groups of the prisoners of war who stayed in Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf were mentioned in the source materials?
2. Which problems are brought up by the prisoners of war in their memories?
3. What were the conditions in which the Soviet prisoners of war stayed?
4. What was Germans' attitude towards the prisoners of war and what they resulted from?

The Diary of prisoner-of-war Siergiej Woropajew "Daily Life in the Hell"

The diary was written in the form of a letter to father and was published later (with the preface by Paweł Polian) in 1966 in the columns of the Moscow monthly Znamia.

Siergiej Woropajew fell into German captivity in 1943. The fate had him stay at the prisoner-of-war camp in Lamsdorf and then move from there to a work commando at a coal mine in Upper Silesia (he does not mention name of the place). Yet, from the records kept by him, there emerges the whole tragic lot of this young Russian man, in part a poet and a philosopher. Working beyond endurance and being treated in an extremely harsh way, he had only one aim – to find food and satisfy hunger. He was getting weaker due to the progressing disease and hunger. Because of his exhaustion, Woropajew did not rise from his bunk. The recording of the last days of his life is shocking indeed. The last entry he made is dated 5 March 1945. Woropajew dies on 23 March, that is five days after the camp has been liberated.

6 February 1945

My Dear , a voice crying in the wilderness . It seems to me, I am standing on the threshold of death, with no hope of life. Already ten days I have not a crumb of bread, and half a liter of soup from grass received sometimes is not able to pump my blood. Every day I fall from power. Tottered on my feet.

Hereabouts you can hear the thunder of artillery explosions and gunshots rifle. They say that at a distance of 3-5 km there is the first line of the front.

My God, how sad I am. So close are now my brothers - fellow countrymen who carry freedom, and here suddenly death, death from starvation. Thunders around us, a kind of big circle has formed, within which there is the camp 318 Lamsdorf. The center of the camp is a kitchen, everybody go round of it and they dye from the fascist criminals' bullets.

During my stay in the hut 10 people sidling to the kitchen were shot. But hungry people do not pay attention to it, one shot, and another will still try to go there. Hunger, a terrible hunger. I do not know if I'll still be able to pick up a pencil, it's possible I'd bang on the bullets, or I would not have the strength to get up. It is a pity that just before the liberation I shall die.

8 February 1945



Lying on the bunk, I can feel the hut trembling from the missiles' explosions. You can also hear a series of rifle shots and machine guns. The front is nearby, but the fascists are still realizing their sinister plans. The starvation continues. Several people are killed because they were going into the kitchen's direction. From our chamber two people have fallen from the bloodthirsty bandits. The time of liberation will soon come ... But even closer the death from starvation. Yesterday medics brought potatoes which were in demand. The commander informed the German, who promised to give the grass in addition.

Questions:

What problems did S. Woropajew face in the camp? Consider, what period / phase of the camp do these notes in the diary come from? In what circumstances were they written?

[1941-1945] Fragments of memories of Dmitrij Trofomowicz Czirow – Soviet prisoner of war of Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf

Dmitrij Trofomowicz Czirow Kargandy (Kazakhstan)

Painful memories (fragments)

I came to camp 318/VIII F on 14th October 1941 with a group of more than three thousand Soviet prisoners of war. Although I spent in the camp only 40 days I remember each of them as a real hell.

The whole column was at least one kilometre long. We were dirty, wrinkled, ragged and not shaven at least for a month. A half of us didn't have any coats or groundsheets. We weren't just hungry but desperately ravenous.

Those of us, who managed to make friends of 5 people on average, immediately started to dig holes and hollows with hope that it will be warmer there. And if not warmer, at least it will protect from wind. They dug using everything which was within their reach: some of them used helmets, others knives, and next ones spoons. They served us dishwatery swede soup, and a slice of bread and a cup of sweat, warm drink, which was excessively called coffee, for supper.

I and Piotr Kilganow decided not to dig any hole so far. We hoped that Germans would relocate us to huts. Anyway, it was so cold that we couldn't think about anything else than lying down and sleeping. We lied close to each other covered with my coat, which protected us from the cold. But in the evening on 17th October it started drizzling, which later turned into rain. And we started to dig hollows like our friends. In the morning on 18th October it started freezing. When Germans gathered us and counted it turned out that about one thousand of our prisoners of war died. Some of them died lying on the ground, some of them were in their holes which tumbled down, and others ran to forbidden sector. After a short time, 10 carts drawn by drayhorses appeared. The dead bodies were thrown like firewood. They took away the human corpses to a camp cemetery and buried in mass nameless graves, which were prepared by other prisoners of war. They threw them without giving any information about surname, age, military rank

Question:

In what conditions were the Soviet prisoners-of-war, who arrived in the first transports to Stalag 318 / VIII F (344) Lamsdorf, accommodated?



[1941-1945] Fragments of memories of Dmitrij Trofomowicz Czirow – Soviet prisoner of war of Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf

Dmitrij Trofomowicz Czirow Kargandy (Kazakhstan)

Painful memories (fragments)

(...) The whole procedure of ranking and dividing us into sotnyas lasted for about an hour and sometimes more. Our “German Masters” didn’t hurry, because it was during their working hours as sentries or overseers. For Germans the time went faster when they could “play” with prisoners of war. And they “played” in many ways: they counted us slowly by fives and hundreds, we must stand at attention, or they picked on prisoners which they didn’t like. German and Russian epithets surrounded us, we hear soldiers blowing prisoners’ faces left and right. After this prelude, kitchen service marched into the block’s gate with wooden tubs which contained a liquid effusively called “coffee”. The service carried something like a combination of bag and rucksack, in which there was some bread, or rather ersatz of bread which was baked from flour and finely grinded sawdust. The wooden tubs were located in front of the units of hundreds of men formed in rows. Next to each of the wooden tubs they put ten loafs of bread. One loaf was intended for 10 people. Next, the prisoners were arranged in fives opposite each other, and the prisoner which had a knife had to cut the bread into ten equal slices of bread. Then, the prisoners received the slices according to an arranged order – from the first to the tenth. Each of the men had to say his surname. After receiving the bread, all of the prisoners of war approached to the wooden tub with “coffee”, and the service poured it to the prepared containers – some of them had mess tins, some helmets, and the others cups. After immediate eating the bread and drinking coffee the prisoners didn’t fulfil the hunger; it was quite opposite – it irritated the stomach and intensified the annoying hunger. The same happened during dinnertime: screams of camp police, shouting and tumult of German overseers, several ill-treated and beaten prisoners of war, and at the end a ladle of dishwatery swede soup. We didn’t receive bread, because Germans weren’t used to eat bread for dinner. Before the sunset we had another assembly. It was also the third mental and psychical execution on that day. They gave us 100 grams of bread and hardly sweet cold drink. It was the end of the day. However, the night meant new tortures. In addition, winter was coming.

Almost everyone got harsh diarrhoea because of the swede soup. Meanwhile, the Germans didn’t care about our illnesses. They weren’t going to cure us at all.

Question:

In what conditions did the Soviet POWs live?

[1944] Fragment of memories of Kazimierz Czasza, codename „Baca”, a Warsaw insurgent, prisoner of war of Stalag 344 Lamsdorf

In the morning the train stopped and I read the name of the station – LAMSDORF. I don’t know anything about the place, I haven’t heard about it. Germans go along wagons, we demand to treat the injured men, in other wagons there are medical orderlies and doctors. They opened the wagon, take away the killed man and others injured. After some time we hear “raus, shnell” and they thrown us out of the wagons to a platform. We create a column, Germans with dogs stand on the sides, we march quickly to the camp. We pass an estate or a country. Children throw stones at us. Sometimes we have to run up to the column. Dogs are set on those who are left in the end, but not everybody can go so fast. Some people have got cases or bundles of some kind.

**Question:**

How did the German soldiers and civilians behave towards the Polish prisoners-of-war?

[1944] Fragment of memories of Witold Konecki, codename „Sulima” – prisoner of war of Stalag 344 Lamsdorf

Transport led to Stalag 344 O/S Lamsdorf. We reach the destination after two-day travel. During unloading the German soldiers roughly treated the Insurgents – they pushed them on a railway embankment, hit them with rifle butts, bayoneted them, kicked, tore armbands and eagles from caps, they were saying offensive epithets and took away injured men’s canes. Among swearing and threats, the Germans ordered to form marching columns, which were escorted by armed soldiers with dogs. We were marching from the station to prisoners of war camps, which were about 5-6 kilometres away, among unfriendly shouting of German civilians standing on the berm of the road. Local women and young people from “Hitlerjugend” ran up to the prisoners of war, bit them with everything within their reach, spitting and telling lies. The military escort pulled out suitcases and packages which looked better, and then they throw it behind fences to farmhouses near the road. Dogs were set on those who were at the end of the column. Some of the prisoners of war threw their rucksacks, suitcases, blankets or overcoats in order to keep the marching pace and to be able to rescue children, weaker people and injured.

Question:

How did the German soldiers and civilians behave towards the Polish prisoners-of-war?

[1941] An annex to a directive of the General Staff of the Armed Forces

An annex to a directive of the General Staff of the Armed Forces (–) 3058/41, secret, of 8 September 1941 (to public knowledge).

Caution about supervision under Soviet prisoners of war

Bolshevism is a deadly enemy of National Socialistic Germany. It is the first time in this war when a German soldiers meet with an opponent who is trained not only military, but also politically, and whose ideal is communism, who sees the worst enemy in National Socialistic German soldiers [...]. That is why it is necessary to be alert, careful and distrustful towards them.

Supervisory divisions are obliged to obey the following directives:

1. *To practice heavy measures in case of any evidence of opposition or disobedience. In order to put down opposition of the prisoners they should use weapon absolutely. If any prisoner of war tries to escape it is ordered to fire immediately (without any warning) and try to hit them.*
2. *Conversations with prisoners of war in working places, in their way to and from working places are forbidden, not including necessary commends. [...] It is necessary to prevent conversations with civilians. If necessary use weapon to fire at civilians too.*
3. *German divisions of supervision are required to control worksites constantly. Each watchman should be in such a distance from prisoners of war to be able to use weapon immediately. You should never turn your back to a prisoner of war!*



Displaying any mildness towards hard-working and obedient prisoners of war is inappropriate, because they consider it as a sign of weakness and draw certain conclusions from such a behaviour....

(signature)

Question:

How - according to the OKW directive - were the Soviet prisoners-of-war supposed to be treated?

Photo 1 [1942/1943] Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf. A view from a watchtower



Questions:

What can you see in the picture? What comes first, and what in the background? To what purpose could the observed objects / places have served?



Photo 2 [1942] Building work on sanitary buildings of Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf



Questions:

What can you see in the picture? What materials were the barracks made of? What conditions could prevail in them at different seasons of the year? How do you think, who was building them?



Photo 3 [1942-1945] Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf) and village Klucznik in the background. POWs staying in the camp could see a church's tower in the second plan.



Questions:

What can you see in the picture? Did the villagers know about existence of the camp?

Photo 4 [1942–1945] Soviet prisoner of war of Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf



Questions:

What does the prisoner-of-war wear? What can you say about him?



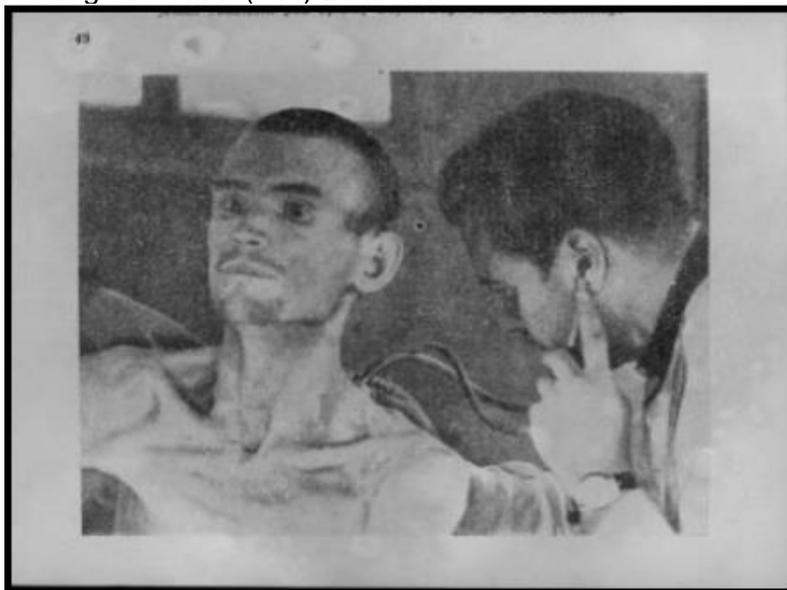
Photo 5 [1945] Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf after liberation in March 1945



Questions:

What can you see in the picture? What does it mean?

Photo 6 [1945] Medical examination of one of about 500 Soviet surviving prisoners. Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf



Questions:

Who can you see in the picture? What is his physical state? What is the reason of that?

**Group 2:****Questions for the group:**

1. Which problems of the prisoners are brought up in the source materials?
2. What were the living conditions of the prisoners? How were they treated?
3. How did the Polish side perceive the presence of Germans in the post-war camps? Which words would you use to describe this situation?

[1945] A testimony of Jozef Herzog – prisoner in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice. During World War II he was employed as a civilian employee at the cobbler functioning at the camp for Soviet-prisoners-of-war.

No act. SPC. 131/45
MINUTES FROM QUESTIONING A WITNESS
Camp in Łambinowice on the 29th of December 1945.

The District Court in NYSA in the person of judge Vladimir Wojtowicza with Tadeusz Kozłowski minute-taker in the presence of the parties interviewed as a witness listed below – without an oath: prejudice, the witness of criminal liability for false testimony and the content of the article. 187 k.p.k, and the importance of the oath, the judge took an oath from him on the basis of art. ... k.k.p. after everything witness testified as follows:

Name: Jozef Herzog
Age: 56
Names of the parents: Albert and Magdalena, House of Barcz
Location: Łambinowice Camp
Religion: Roman Catholic (German nationality)
In relation to the parties: No obstacles in the legal form the sworn testifies:

Starting August 1937, I was busy in Niemodlin from the beginning as an ordinary laborer to 1939 and then I worked as a shoemaker in the camp. This work is carried out without interruption till the second half of January 1945. (...)
I remember that already in the autumn of 1939, several transports brought Polish prisoners and placed them in camp No. 2 Lagier.
In the winter of the same year the Polish prisoners were taken, where I do not know, and prisoners of other nationalities were brought in.
When the Soviet-German war broke out in 1941, prisoners were imported to the local camp.
The transports were frequent, brought more captives, which lasted almost until the end of the war in the spring of 1945.
As I have heard, the amount of Soviet prisoners of war was over 10,000, perhaps even more. All the time I worked in a workshop by the camp command and I had no way to directly see how the prisoners of war were being treated(...).

Questions:

What is J. Herzog's testimony on prisoners-of-war at Lamsdorf during World War II?



[1945-1946] Herberts Buchmann's (prisoner in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice) testimony on his stay in the camp.

Kleuschnitz must go to the camp in Lamsdorf [Łambinowice]

In the early morning hours 9.11.1945 Kleuschnitz [Klucznik] was encircled by Polish militia and any escape wasn't possible. Later militiamen went through the village and forced inhabitants to leave their farms, letting them take only hand luggage. There were three militiamen stationed in the nearby village Grüben [Grabin] especially infamous because they threw out the elderly people who didn't want to leave their homes. There was an assembly point of the edge of the village in the Baier's garden. People were plundered here. Their clothes were torn apart to get out any hidden valuable items. But there was nothing to look; the Red Army took care of it. The inhabitants of Kleuschnitz [Klucznik] were driven out to camp in Lamsdorf [Łambinowice] hearing threats and being beaten. There were another Poles waiting for them in the camp to plunder again. Then the detainees were led to huts where in the part of them there were no doors and no glasses in windows at all. People kept in those huts were the first victims of the forthcoming winter. (...)

Then I was Albertschinki's coachman and I went with him to the camp in Lamsdorf [Łambinowice] often. He did get German specialists (smith, carriage-builders, tractor driver). Getting drunk some members of staff in camp abused German women and girls. There was a rivalry in shooting among drunken militiamen who shot around. Sometimes I had an opportunity to give some barley soup to my relatives in the camp. It was ceased when I had to drive a tractor together with Kaliner (from Jakobsdorf [Jakubowice]). Later I was displaced to Germany.

Questions:

How does H. Buchmann recall the treatment of the Poles by the Germans?

[1945-1946] A fragment of the testimony given by Anna Czajka, née Menzel, a former inmate detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice, filed in the Prosecutor's Office in Hagen –Recklinghausen, 30 August 1977. The Archives of the District Court in Opole

After a short stay in the camp we, 20 to 30 women, were taken from huts and brought to mass graves which were situated outside the camp where Russian POW-s were buried. We were forced to remove bodies with bare hands. At that work two women next to me lost their consciousness and fell into the graves. Having seen that one guard with a uniform hurried to the graves and hit those women a couple of times with his rifle butt. The women were left in the graves what happened to them later I don't know. Shortly after that incident we were led back to the camp. Later I didn't see those women whom I didn't know personally.

Questions:

What is the imprisoned group in labor camp in Łambinowice about which A. Czajka testimony is? What does she say about them?



[1945] A fragment of a newspaper article entitled “Pen in the Germans”, issued 25 June 1945 in “Gazeta Robotnicza”

Nazi beast’s fangs grow back and they begin to bite.

They are getting the courage and nerve, because we have been getting soft on them.

They sit in beautiful apartments, nourish themselves excellently, buy in bulk at the markets inaccessible to our people fruits, vegetables, meats, butter, etc. and shoot at our people.

Naturally, from behind the fence, at night, with a revolver, a rifle, with anything they can.

They have weapons, and worst of all, they have the courage.

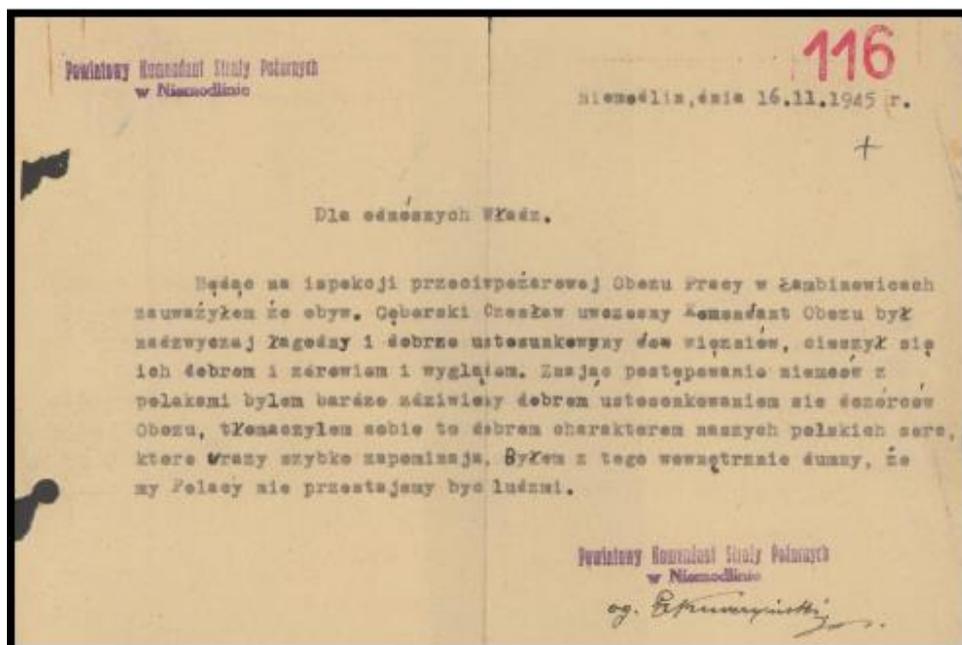
The only way to curb them are barracks and barbed wire. They will find there neither a revolver or a rifle or a grenade. And there will be no strawberries or pork bacon.



Questions:

How are the Germans portrayed in the Polish newspaper?

Photo 1 [1945] The opinion on Czesław Gęborski given by the Commander of the County Fire Brigade in Niemodlin, 16 November 1945. Source: the Archives of the District Court in Opole.





*The County Fire Chief
in Niemodlin*

Niemodlin, 16 November 1945

To the relevant Authorities

During the fire safety inspection in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice I noticed that citizen Gęborski Czesław, the then chief of the camp, was extremely kind and well-disposed towards the prisoners, he was glad of their well-being, health and good appearance. Because I know Germans behaviour towards Poles, I was really surprised with this good disposition of the Camp warders. I explained it by goodness of our Polish hearts which forget quickly about grudges. Inside myself I was proud that we, Poles, are still humans.

*The County Fire Chief
in Niemodlin
[signature]*

Questions:

How is described the Polish commander and the Polish camp staff's attitude towards the Germans inmates? To what experiences the author of these words is referring us?

Photo 2 [1942-1945] Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf) and village Klucznik in the background. POWs staying in the camp could see a church's tower in the second plan.



Questions:

What can you see in the picture? Did the villagers know about the existence of the POW camp?



Photo 3 [1945] A group of the detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice working at the exhumation of the corpses of Soviet prisoners-of-war, August or September 1945. In July 1945, in the vicinity of the complex of POW camps of Lamsdorf, mass graves of Soviet soldiers murdered by the German were discovered. The investigation into the crime perpetrated by the German military authorities was undertaken by a Polish-Soviet commission which conducted the works from the summer of 1945 to January 1946. According to the findings of the commission, there were about 40 thousand Soviet POWs buried in the cemetery near Klucznik (Kleuschnitz). They had died or had been murdered in Stalag 318/VIII F (344) Lamsdorf.



Questions:

Who do you see in the picture? What do the women in the foreground do and what the other people do? How are the women dressed?



Photo 4 [1945] The Polish-Soviet commission examining the crimes perpetrated on Soviet POWs in Lamsdorf during the Second World War. In the background, there are inmates detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice, 1945.



Questions:

Who do you see in the picture? Who do you think comes first and who is in the background. What do they do? Who would take such a picture?

Photo 5

Alfred Godler (1910-1978) was born in Hausdorf, Neurode District (Jugów, Nowa Ruda County) on 1 November 1910. Directly before the War he was living in Mittelsteine in Glatz District (Ścinawka Dolna, Kłodzko). He fought in the ranks of the German army throughout the War and returned home on 9 May 1945. Three months later, on 16 August 1945, he was detained by soldiers of the Red Army and sent to work at re-loading goods at the railway station in Wrocław-Brochów. At the beginning of September, he was transferred, together with other three inhabitants of Ścinawka Dolna to Skorogoszcz and left in the hands of the Polish authorities. From there he was transferred to the custody of the County Bureau of Public Security in Niemodlin. On 5 October 1945, in a group of about 50 people, he was sent to the Labour



Alfred Golder



Camp in Łambinowice. There he performed the function of an orderly. His duties included, among others, calculating the daily amount of calories in the food consumed by the detained in the camp.

On 16 June 1946 Alfred Godler was displaced to go to Germany. The companions who had been taken from Ścinawka Dolna with him, died.

Questions:

Who were the people detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice (1945-1946)?

Photo 6



Alice Hampel (1910–1946)

Manfred (1937–1946)

Wolfram (1939–1946)

Alice Hampel, née Köhler, was born in Brieg (Brzeg) on 15 August 1910. Directly before the War, together with her husband, Eberhard (born in Beuthen [Bytom] on 20 September 1907), she was living in Breslau (Wrocław). There, her two children were born: Manfred (born 27 April 1937) and Wolfram (born 25 March 1939). During the Second World War Eberhard Hampel fought in the ranks of the Wehrmacht, while his family were still staying in Breslau. Upon one of the bombings of the city, in the last months of the War, Alice Hampel, together with her children, left Breslau. Finally they returned to Gross Mangersdorf, which had already been taken over by detachments of the Red Army.

For the next few months Alice Hampel, her children, her sister, her sister's son and the father of both women, Hermann Köhler, were living in Magnuszowice. On the last days of October, together with the other inhabitants of the village, the family was transferred to the Labour Camp in Łambinowice. Here, most probably, in consequence of the epidemic of typhoid, the following family members died in turn: Hermann Köhler (29 October 1945), Manfred Hampel (4 January 1946), Alice Hampel (9 January 1946), Wolfram Hampel (14 January 1946), her sister's, Rudi Schneider's, son (2 April 1946), and – in the end – she herself (7 April 1946).

**Questions:**

Who were the people detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice (1945-1946)?

Photo 7

Gerda Skibitzki, née Skade (in the picture on the right), was born in Lamsdorf (Łambinowice) on 28 June 1928, one of the five children of Emilia (1888-1946) and Franz Skade (1885-1946). During the Second World War the family were



staying in Lamsdorf. They left the place in March 1945, being evacuated in the direction of the Czech border in fear of the advancing Red Army. They did not return to their home until 27 May 1945.

On 7 May 1946 Emilia and Franz Skade, with three of their children: Gerda, Joachim (born in 1934) and Magda (1923) were detained, along with other inhabitants of their village, and accommodated in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice. Gerda recorded information about the deceased inhabitants of Łambinowice in a little calendar which she kept in secret. Her parents also died there, and she – together with her siblings – in a group of a few dozen young people, remained in the camp in Łambinowice until the end of its existence. They were

employed, among others, to pull down camp buildings. On 21 December 1946, the Skade siblings were transferred to a transition camp (the name remains unknown), and on 6 January 1947 they were displaced to East Germany. At present, Gerda Skibitzki lives in Hessisch Oldendorf (Lower Saxony).

Questions:

Who were the people detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice (1945-1946)?



Photo 8



Erika Thomalla (born in 1935)
Robert Thomalla (born in 1931)

Erika Thomalla nee Maxara was born on 15 February 1935 in Ellguth-Hammer (Kuźnica Ligocka). She was the first of the four children of Konrad (1907–1974) and Klara (1908–1979) Maxara. On 31 August 1945, on the basis of a decision of the authorities of the Niemodlin county, the inhabitants of Kuźnica Ligocka were put in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice. Klara Maxara and her children, Erika aged 10, Oswald (born in 1938), Urszula (born in 1940) and Monika (born in 1945), who died after less than two weeks, were kept in the camp until November 1945. They were released in consequence of the efforts undertaken by Konrad Maxara, who in the meantime had returned from the front and had signed a declaration of loyalty to the Polish nation and state.

Robert Thomalla was born on 26 January 1931, also in Kuźnica Ligocka. On 31 August 1945, together with his widowed mother Paulina (1894–1979) and sisters Marta (born in 1921) and Anna (born in 1933), he was put in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice. His work was related to the transport of bread. Thanks to the efforts of Anton, the eldest of the Thomalla children (born in 1927), who returned from a forced labour camp in the Soviet Union, Robert's mother and siblings, with the exception of Marta, who died in the camp in undetermined circumstances, were verified as Poles and released from the camp. On 17 November 1945 they returned home.

In 1959 Robert and Erika got married. They live in Erika's family house in Kuźnica Ligocka.



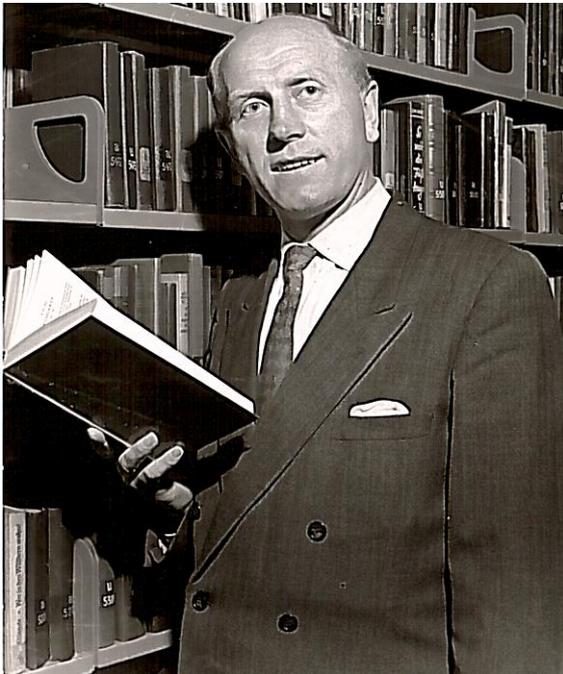
Despite the passage of so many years, the experiences related to their stay in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice are still vivid in the memories of Erika and Robert Thomalla. In the years 1958–1959 and 2001–2006 the Thomallas testified as witnesses in the criminal actions against Czesław Gęborski. In the camp, they lost their sisters, Monika Maxara and Marta Thomalla, whose names are not included in the preserved documentation of the camp.

Questions:

Who were the people detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice (1945-1946)?

Photo 9

Paul Globisch (1888–1954) was born on 5 January 1888, in Deutsch Müllmen



(Wierzch, Prudnik county) in a well-to-do German family proud of its agricultural traditions. He married Margarete nee Habicht (1893–?). The young couple settled down in Opole-Zakrzów. It was there that on 23 January 1933 their only child, Wolfgang, was born. The family spent the period of World War II in Opole. At the end of January 1945 Paul Globisch accompanied by his family and employees evacuated to Weidenau (Vidnava). After the village was occupied by the units of the Red Army, he and his family returned to Opole-Zakrzów. Their home had already been settled by Poles, therefore, at the end of May 1945 the family moved to Wierzch, Globisch's father's family village. A

few months later the officers of the Citizen's Militia in Raclawiczki arrested first Paul, and subsequently Margarete Globisch. She was released thanks to the intercession of a Pole, a displaced person from Poland's Eastern Borderlands, who had taken over a farm of one of the Globisches' relatives, while Paul Globisch was sent to the Labour Camp in Łambinowice on 9 October 1945. He was forced to do hard physical work in the fields, which had a detrimental effect on his health. Recognized as a person of Polish nationality - the most probably because of his good command of Polish, he was released from the camp on 29 November 1945 (according to the family, he was released only at the end of December 1945). Paul Globisch died in 1954.

Questions:

Who were the people detained in the Labour Camp in Łambinowice (1945-1946)?