



Museum of Polish Children

Victims of Totalitarianism

Nazi German Concentration
Camp for Polish Children in Łódź
(1942-1945)

Łódź, October 21, 2022.

Ehrlich Camillo Friedrich

Born on February 23, 1893 in Löbnitz (Saxony). He graduated from the 4th grade of the people's school in the village of Adorf. During World War I, he served in the infantry. On December 16, 1918, he joined the criminal police and passed the commissioner's exam in 1920. From October 1, 1920 to 1936, Ehrlich was employed as an investigating officer in Chemnitz (Saxony). In 1930, he was promoted to the position of Kriminalrat (criminal counsellor). From 1936 to 1939, he worked in the Criminal Division of the Reich Police in Berlin, after which he returned to Chemnitz where he was appointed head of the criminal police. Since May 1, 1937, a member of the NSDAP (German: Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei). From April 20, 1939, he served in the SS, initially with the rank of Obersturmführer (lieutenant), then Hauptsturmführer (captain), and from November 1, 1940, Sturmbannführer (major). On October 1, 1941, Ehrlich was promoted to the position of Regierungs-und-Kriminalrat (government and police counsellor). On January 17, 1942, he became the head of the Litzmannstadt Criminal Police. From December 1, 1942, to January 18, 1945, he served as the camp commandant.

After fleeing to Germany, he stayed in Berlin, Karlsbad and Chemnitz, where he was arrested on May 29, 1945, by a branch of the NKVD. From June 1945 to September 1948, he stayed in Soviet Special Camp No. 9 in Fünfeichen, while from September 1948 to February 1950 he stayed in the Soviet Special Camp in Buchenwald. Handed over to East German police authorities, on May 10, 1950, he was a defendant during the 'Waldheim Trials'. On May 16, Ehrlich was sentenced to life imprisonment. Between 1950 and 1956, he stayed in three East German prisons in Waldheim, Brandenburger-Görden and Bautzen (Budziszyn). On April 27, 1956, he signed a pledge to cooperate with the East German Stasi intelligence service. He was released on April 28, 1956. Since 1958, he lived in Munich. In the 1960s, he published two books on forensic science: 'Einbrecher. Aufzeichnungen eines Kriminalkommisars' (1963) and 'Betrüger und ihre Opfer' (1967). He was interrogated twice as part of the proceedings conducted by the State Prosecutor's Office in Hamburg against Heinrich Fuge – on July 1, 1970, and on March 2, 1973. On April 13, 1973, he was declared a defendant by the prosecutor's office. Ehrlich died on June 6, 1974 in Munich.



Camillo Ehrlich
AIPN, Ld 503/106, vol.
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