

The Holocaust Historiography Project

Remarkable Nonsense about the Holocaust

A thousand stories, a steadfast hero

By Gayle MacDonald
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[...]

Among their stories was that of Abe Furmanski of Warsaw, a short, barrel-chested man of 35 with the face and muscles of a fighter. He was in France when German soldiers marched in on June 16, 1940. He fought alongside Rabbi Julien Weill, the Grand Rabbi of Paris. Although they were ordered to collaborate with the Germans, they refused and, instead, sabotaged the German efforts and smuggled out Jews.

Furmanski also talked to [Ruth] Gruber about stories he had heard about the Gurs concentration camp near the Spanish border, where 30,000 to 40,000 Jews were murdered. In closed trucks, meant to hold 20 people, 100 or more Jews were crammed, and quicklime was poured on the floor. The doors were sealed tight; no air could escape. When people began to urinate, the lime began to cook. The gas and fumes came up and choked them to death. As Furmanski put it to Gruber, "The Nazis said all the time, 'Kill Russians with bullets. Kill Jews with lime.' "

[...]

Send all questions and comments to webmaster@historiography-project.org.