



Name of Camp: Majdanek

Location of Camp: Lublin, Poland

Brief Description of Camp:

Construction of Majdanek began on October 1, 1941 by Jews and Russian prisoners of war. It started as an intermittent processing center, but was turned into a death camp in 1942. The camp's city location made it possible to receive smuggled packages from the surrounding city. Majdanek was in a major urban area. It was in an area of rolling terrain and could be seen from all sides. People driving past the camp, while it was in operation, had an unobstructed view, being able to see the tall brick chimney of the crematorium wafting smoke, and the gas chamber building which was very close to the street.

How many people were imprisoned at the Camp? How many people perished at the Camp?

The camp's capacity was 50,000 people, but many more were imprisoned. Approximately 150,000 people were actually imprisoned at Majdanek and approximately 80,000 were gassed.

What were the dates that the Camp was in existence?

The camp was in operation from July 1941 to July 1944.

When was the Camp liberated? Who liberated the Camp?

On July 24, 1944, Soviet forces reached the camp and liberated it. After the liberation, most of the prisoners were evacuated to other camps. The transport of the Jews was in connection with Action Reinhard whose aim was mass extermination of the Jews and plunder of their property.

Other Interesting Facts:

The camp was located 4km from the center on Lublin, Poland. Soviet POWs slept outside while building the camp.

