

The Nazi Scourge

Postal Evidence of the Holocaust and the Devastation of Europe

Mail posted by Nazi officials, their allies, their collaborators, and most of all, their victims and opponents, along with some collateral material, document the catastrophe that befell Europe after Adolf Hitler assumed power in Germany on January 30, 1933.

This exhibit explores each phase of Nazi tyranny and aggression, with particular attention to persecution and mass murder of European Jews. Equally important is mail of the anti-Nazi resistance, showing how organized groups of every political persuasion rose up and fought against their fascist tormentors.

Historical context is presented in boldface roman type.

Significance to the exhibit's subject is presented in bold italic type.

Postal and philatelic information is presented in medium weight roman type.



The notorious Sachsenhausen concentration camp was located at Oranienburg, a suburb of Berlin. *The camp commandant's strict order limiting mailing privileges and forbidding visits, and the censor's swastika mark on this prisoner's post card form mailed April 11, 1943, exemplify the Nazis' cruelty to their victims. The pictorial sailboat cancel promoted Oranienburg as a pleasant summer resort for Germans who did not fall afoul of the Nazis.*