

Dawid Gertler Papers 27.pdf.

Document typed in Yiddish using Latin script.

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I was living as a Latvian Jew in Poland until the end of 1940.

My wife, sister, and I went back to Zamosc (Poland).

In May, I identified myself in the Lodz ghetto as a Jew born in Riga (now Latvia). I had a Latvian identification card in the ghetto.

Quite often, I went to Warsze (Warsaw, Poland) to conduct personal/private business. I was collecting money for Jews, which would not profit me financially.

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All at once I saved 50–60 people without compensation. I could only save the people I saw get arrested.

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Up until the end of August, I didn't want to receive any mail from my wife who was living in Zamosc (20 km away from the Russian border), and I made it clear that she should escape to Russia. It has been three months since I got any mail from my wife. Rumkowski went to the Gestapo and told them that I would become a secretary for the association during the war, and that's how I started my work. In May 1940, the Gestapo created (what would later be called by the Jewish police as) the *Sonderabteilung* [Special Department-UM]. The *Sonderabteilung* was led by Szulim Herzberg, and afterwards by Marek Klinger [in the original text, spelled either Klinger or Klinger-UM], Broniek Danzinger and Zigmunt Reingold and me.

The *Sonderabteilung* was created by Rumkowski because he did not have any money or an idea of the ghetto's potential population.

Before the Lodz ghetto was completed (specifically, May 1940), German police (*Kripo*) were modifying every Jewish apartment and house in town.

When I joined the *Sonderarbeitelung*, it had 60 policemen.

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I worked between two-three hours a day for the *Sonderarbeitelung*, sometimes more if necessary. I often traveled to Warsze [Warsaw – U. M.] and Zamosc, where I had my personal obligations.