

C o p y .

Teletype message

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 30-th April 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 579/43 secret.

Re: Ghetto Operation.

To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
Krüger — or deputy,  
C r a c o w .

Progress of large-scale operation on 30-th April 1943.  
Start 0900 hrs.

Combing out by search parties was continued. Although the giant blocks of buildings now are completely burned out, the Jews continue to stay in the dug-outs 2 to 3 meters below ground. In many cases we are not able to discover those dug-outs unless some Jews, whom we have already caught, give us some information. Repeatedly, during the last days, Jews have testified that armed Jews emerge at night from some hideouts or dug-outs and threaten the other Jews with shooting if they give any signs of life. We were able to ascertain beyond all doubt that several dug-outs had been closed from the outside by these bandits, who tried in this manner to prove that they meant business. Altogether, 30 dug-outs were discovered, evacuated, and blown up today. Again we caught a great number of bandits and subhumans. Apart from the combing out operations effected by smaller raiding parties, two larger battle groups were detailed to comb out and destroy by fire several interconnected blocks of buildings.

A total of 1,599 Jews were caught today, of whom 179 were shot in battle. The sum total of Jews caught up to date thereby rises to 37,359. 3,855 Jews loaded today. The number

of Jews in possession of arms was much higher than before among the Jews caught during the last days. Thus, today we again captured arms and particularly parts of German uniforms from the Jews. The operation undertaken against Fort Traugutta today did not have moreover any positive results. So far as we were able to discover subterranean exits, we either occupied them or blew them up. In attacking one of the blocks we had to use a gun today.

Our strength:

Used in the operation:

Police	5/133
Security Police	3/36
Waffen-SS	6/432
Engineers	2/40
Staff	3/7

Cordoning forces:

Waffen-SS	3/318
German Police	2/89
Trawniki-men	200
moreover Polish Police.	

Our losses:

1 wounded (Police).

Termination of today's large-scale action: 2100 hours.  
Will be continued on 1-st May 1943, 0900 hours.

The SS and Police Führer  
in the District of Warsaw  
s. (S t r o o p)

SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuites)

SS-Sturmbannführer

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 1-st May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 583/43 secret.  
 Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.  
 To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
 SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
 Krüger — or deputy,  
 C r a c o w.

Progress of large-scale operation on 1-st May 1943. Start 0900 hrs.

10 searching parties were detailed, moreover a larger battle group was detailed to comb out a certain block of buildings, with the added instruction to burn that block down. Within this block of buildings there existed also a so-called armament factory which had not yet been entirely evacuated; although it had enough time to do so. It was drawn into execution of the task. During the today's operations a total of 1.026 Jews were caught, of whom 245 were killed, either in battle or while resisting. Moreover, a considerable number of decided bandits and ringleaders<sup>77</sup> were also caught. In one case a Jew who had already been made ready for transport, fired three shots against a 1-st Lieutenant of Police, but missed his mark. All the Jews caught today were forcibly pulled out of dug-outs. Not a single one gave himself up voluntarily, after his dug-out had been opened. A considerable part of the Jews caught were pulled out of the sewer entrances. In one case the Engineers laid a strong concentrated charge and had to proceed to an adjoining entrance where they had something to do. In the

meantime a Jew emerged from the sewer, removed the fuse from the concentrated charge and appropriated the charge. In the further course of this operation we succeeded later in catching the Jew, still in possession of the concentrated charge.

In order to ascertain the movements of the Jews during the night, today I used for the first time 5 scouting parties, each 1/9 strong, at irregular intervals during the night. In general it has to be stated that our men<sup>78</sup> need extraordinary diligence and energy to discover the Jews who are still in so-called dug-outs, caves and in the sewerage system. It can be expected that the remainder of the former inhabitants of the Ghetto will now be caught. The sum total of Jews caught so far has risen to 38.385. Not included in this figure are those who died in the flames or in the dug-outs. One raiding party discovered an unascertainable number of corpses floating in a main sewer under the Ghetto. Outside of the Ghetto, in the immediate vicinity of Warsaw, the military police has shot from the beginning of the large-scale action a total of 150 Jews who could be proved to have escaped from Warsaw.<sup>79</sup>

Again we captured pistols and explosives.

Our strength:

Used in the operation:

German Police . . . . .	4/102
Waffen-SS . . . . .	7/350
Engineers (Wehrmacht) . . . . .	2/38
Engineering Emergency Service . . . . .	1/6
Security Police . . . . .	2/1

Cordonning units:

Waffen-SS . . . . .	300
German Police . . . . .	1/71
Trawniki . . . . .	250

Our losses: 1 policeman, wounded yesterday, died from wounds.

Termination of today's large-scale action: 2200 hours.  
Will be continued on 2-nd May 1943, 1000 hours.

The SS and Police Führer  
in the District of Warsaw  
s. (S t r o o p)

SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuit)

SS-Sturmbannführer

C o p y.

Teletype message

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 2-nd May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 584/43 secret.

Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.

To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
Krüger — or deputy,

C r a c o w.

Progress of large-scale operation on 2-nd May 1943, start 1000 hrs.

9 raiding parties combed out the whole area of the former Ghetto; moreover a larger detachment was detailed to clean out or destroy one block of buildings grouped around the two armament enterprises Transavia and Wischniewski.<sup>80</sup> To find more dug-outs, the raiding parties took along with them to their operations some Jews caught on the previous day to act as guides. In these operations the search parties pulled out 944 Jews from dug-outs; 235 more Jews were shot on this occasion. When the block of buildings mentioned above was destroyed, 120 Jews were caught and numerous Jews were destroyed when they jumped from the attics to the inner courtyards, because of the fire. Many more Jews perished in the flames or were destroyed when the dug-outs and sewer entrances were blown up. The Jews were removed from 2 armament concerns and the managers were requested to evacuate within a short time.

Altogether we caught today: 1.852 Jews. The sum total of Jews caught thereby rises to 40.237 Jews. 27 dug-outs were discovered, forcibly opened and destroyed, arms and ammunition captured. By firing at the external cordon and by attack of some Jews who broke out from a sewer entrance outside the former Ghetto,<sup>81</sup> we suffered together 7 losses, 4 policemen and 3 Polish Policemen. The scouting parties of the Waffen-SS used during the night, encountered partially armed resistance from Jews who under the protection of darkness ventured to emerge from their holes and dug-outs. We did not suffer losses thereby. On the other hand, a considerable number of Jews were shot or wounded in this operation.

Our strength:

Used in operation:

German Police . . . . .	3/98
Engineering Emergency Service . . . . .	1/6
Security Police . . . . .	3/12
Engineers (Wehrmacht) . . . . .	2/37
SS-Gren. . . . .	11/409
SS-Cav. . . . .	3/7

Cordoning forces:

German Police . . . . .	2/9
SS-Gren. . . . .	1/300
Trawniki-men . . . . .	200

Our losses:

4 Policemen wounded  
3 Polish policemen wounded

Present at today's large-scale operation was the Higher SS and Police Führer East, SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police Krüger.

Termination of operation: 2030 hours. Will be continued on 3-rd May 1943, 0900 hours.

The SS and Police Führer  
in the District of Warsaw  
s. (Stroop)

SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuit)

SS-Sturmbannführer

Copy: of HW 0000 Teletype message

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 3-rd May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 597/43 secret.

Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.

To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
Krüger — or deputy,  
C r a c o w.

Progress of large-scale operation on 3-rd May 1943, start 0900 hrs.

In the combing out operation of the former Jewish Ghetto today 19 more dug-outs were discovered and the result was as follows:

Pulled out of dug-outs . . . . .	1,392 Jews
Shot . . . . .	95
Evacuated from former armament factories	177

The sum total of Jews caught up to now thereby rises to 41,806 Jews. In most cases the Jews offered armed resistance before they left the dug-outs. We had thereby two casualties (wounded). Partially the Jews and bandits fired pistols with both hands. Since we discovered several times today, that Jewesses had pistols concealed in their bloomers, all Jews and bandits will be ordered from today on, to strip completely for the search. We captured among other things one German rifle, model 98, two 08 pistols and other calibers, also home-made hand grenades. The Jews cannot be induced to leave their dug-outs until several smoke candles have been burned.<sup>82</sup> According to depositions made yesterday and today, the Jews were

asked during the second half of 1942 to erect air-raid shelters. Just at that time under the camouflage of erecting air-raid shelters, they began to build the dug-outs which Jews are now inhabiting, in order to be able to use them during any anti-Jewish operation. Some of the scouting parties used in the Ghetto were shot at last night. One casualty (wounded). These scouting parties reported that groups of armed bandits marched through the Ghetto.

Strength:

as on the previous day.

Our losses:

3 SS-men wounded.

Termination of today's operation: 2100 hrs. Will be continued on 4-th May 1943, 0900 hrs.

3,019 Jews were loaded.

The SS and Police Führer  
in the District of Warsaw  
s. (S t r o o p)  
SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuit)

SS-Sturmbannführer

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 4-th May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 603/43 secret.  
 Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.  
 To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
 SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
 Krüger — or deputy,  
 C r a c o w.

Progress of large-scale operation on 4-th May 1943, start 0900 hrs.

For mopping up the dug-outs a raiding party was used, 1/60 strong and reinforced by an Engineers' detachment provided by the Wehrmacht. This raiding party pulled 550 Jews out of dug-outs and killed in battle 188 Jews. Discovering the dug-outs becomes more and more difficult. Often the dug-outs can only be discovered by betrayal through other Jews.<sup>83</sup> If the Jews are requested to leave their dug-outs voluntarily, they hardly ever obey; they can only be forced to do so by the repeated use of smoke candles.

The main forces were detailed about 1100 hours to comb out, clean and destroy two large blocks of buildings, containing the former firms Toebbens, Schultz and Co., and others. After these blocks had been completely cordoned off, we requested the Jews who were still within the buildings to come forward voluntarily. By this measure, we caught 456 Jews for evacuation. Not until the blocks of buildings were well aflame and were about to collapse, did a further considerable number of Jews emerge, forced to do so by the flames and the smoke. Time and again the Jews try to escape even through burning buildings. Innumerable Jews who appeared on the roofs

during the conflagration perished in the flames. Others emerged from the upper stories in the last possible moment and were only able to escape death in the flames by jumping down. Today we caught a total of 2,283 Jews, of whom 204 were shot and innumerable Jews destroyed in dug-outs and in the flames. The sum total of Jews caught rises to 44,089.

As is learned from depositions made by the Jews, today we caught part of the governing body of the so-called „Party“. One member of the committee which leads the gang will be used tomorrow for mopping up some more fortified dug-outs with armed Jews inside.<sup>84</sup> When the armament enterprises were evacuated, it could be again observed that instead of the so-called valuable goods of the army, trifles like used furniture and other requisitioned items were carted away. Appropriate measures were taken against this at once.

The scouting parties which patrolled during the night in the former Jewish residential area, again reported movements of the Jews in the burned out and destroyed streets and courtyards. In order to enable the scouting parties to take better the Jews by surprise, the scouting parties at night tie rags and other stuff round their shoes. In skirmishes between the scouting parties and Jews, 30 Jews were shot.

We captured today 1 carbine, 3 pistols and some ammunition. During the conflagration a considerable amount of stored ammunition exploded.

Our strength:

Used in operation:

German Police . . . . .	4/101
Engineering Emergency Service . . . . .	1/6
Security Police . . . . .	2/14
Engineers . . . . .	2/41
Waffen-SS . . . . .	11/407

Cordoning forces:

	Day	Night
German Police . . . . .	2/87 . . . . .	1/11 . . . . .
Waffen-SS . . . . .	25 . . . . .	1/300 . . . . .
Trawniki . . . . .	200 . . . . .	- . . . . .
Polish Police . . . . .	1/180 . . . . .	1/180 . . . . .

Our losses:

None.

Termination of operation: 2330 hours. Will be continued on 5-th May 1943, 1000 hours.

The SS and Police Führer  
in the District of Warsaw  
s. (S t r o o p)  
SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuit)  
SS-Sturmbannführer

C o p y.

Teletype message

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 5-th May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 607/43 secret.

Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.

To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
Krüger — or deputy,  
C r a c o w.

Progress of large-scale operation on 5-th May 1943. Start 1000 hrs. In the beginning of today's large-scale operation the detailed raiding parties seemed to have less results. When the today's operation terminated, however, it appeared that quite a number of further dug-outs had been discovered, owing to betrayal and the tracking ability of the men; 40 of these dug-outs were destroyed. As far as possible, the Jews staying in these dug-outs were caught (1.070 altogether). The combing out parties shot about 126 Jews. Today again the Jews resisted in several places until they were captured. In several cases the entrances (hatches) of the dug-outs were forcibly held or bolted from the inside, so that only by using a strong explosive charge we could break an opening and destroy the inmates. Today we again captured arms and ammunition, including one pistol 08. From one factory still in existence (so-called Prosta) 2.850 Jews were caught for evacuation.<sup>85</sup> This figure was included in the sum total reported earlier, so that only 1.070 have to be added; the present sum total therefore is 45.159.

Our strength:

as on the preceding day.

Our losses:

1 SS-man wounded, 1 policeman wounded.

Termination of operation: 2200 hrs. Will be continued on  
6-th May 1943, 0930 hrs.

The SS and Police Führer  
in the District of Warsaw  
s. (S t r o o p)  
SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuit)  
SS-Sturmabführer

C o p y.

Teletype message

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 6-th May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 614/43 secret.  
Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.  
To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
Krüger — or deputy,  
C r a c o w.

Progress of large-scale operation on 6-th May 1943, start  
0930 hrs.

Today we combed out especially those blocks of buildings which were destroyed by fire on 4-th May 1943. Although it was hardly to be expected that any living person could still exist here, we discovered quite a number of dug-outs in which a burning heat had developed. From these dug-outs and from other dug-outs which we discovered in other parts of the Ghetto, we pulled out 1,553 Jews altogether. While resisting and in a skirmish, 356 Jews were shot. In this skirmish the Jews fired from 08 pistols and other calibers and threw Polish „pineapple“ hand grenades. One SS-Unterscharführer was wounded thereby. A total of 47 dug-outs were destroyed.

2 men of the external cordon were wounded. The Jews who had broken out from the Ghetto seem to be returning now with the intention of assisting the Ghetto Jews by force or liberating them. One Jew who had escaped from Lublin was caught just outside of the Ghetto wall.<sup>86</sup> He was armed as follows: 1 08 pistol, ample reserve ammunition, 2 Polish „pineapple“ hand grenades. It could not be reliably ascertained so far whether the so-called „Party Directorate“ of the Jews



(„PPR“) have been caught or destroyed. We are on the traces of the bandits. It is to be hoped that tomorrow we shall succeed in tracing down this so-called Party Directorate.<sup>87</sup> In order to enable us to intercept more effectively the Jews and bandits who approach the Ghetto, covering detachments of the external cordon were shifted farther inside the Aryan part. The former miniature Ghetto „Prosta“ was searched by combing out parties today. Jews who had stayed behind could be caught. The firm Többens was requested to evacuate this miniature Ghetto by noon on 10 May 1943.<sup>88</sup> The so-called library, situated outside the Ghetto, was put at their disposal for temporary storage of the raw materials, etc.<sup>89</sup>

The sum total of Jews caught so far rises to 47.068. The Polish Police take pains to deliver to the commanding office every Jew who turns up within the city, because they are incited by the premiums which are paid. The undersigned receives anonymous letters in which he is notified of the fact that some Jews are staying in the aryan part. One anonymous letter draws a parallel between Katyń and the large-scale action within the Ghetto.

Our strength:

Used in operation:

German Police . . . . .	4/101
Engineering Emergency Service . . . . .	1/6
Security Police . . . . .	2/14
Engineers (W.H.) . . . . .	3/72
Waffen-SS . . . . .	10/500

Cordoning forces:

	Day	Night
German Police . . . . .	2/87	1/11
Waffen-SS . . . . .	25	1/300
Trawniki . . . . .	200	—
Polish Police . . . . .	1/180	1/180

Our losses:

1 policeman dead  
 1 policeman seriously wounded  
 1 SS-Unterscharführer less seriously wounded.

Termination of operation: 2100 hours. Will be continued on 7-th May 1943, 0930 hours.

The SS and Police Führer  
 in the District of Warsaw  
 s. (S t r o o p)

SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuit)  
 SS-Sturmbannführer

C o p y.

Teletype message

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 7-th May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 616/43 secret.

Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.

To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
Krüger — or deputy,  
C r a c o w.

Progress of large-scale operation on 7-th May 1943, start 1000 hrs.

The combing-out parties detailed today obtained the following results: 49 dug-outs discovered. Part of the Jews were caught. A considerable, not ascertainable, number of Jews who refused to leave the dug-outs and offered armed resistance were destroyed when the dug-outs were blown up. Altogether, 1.019 Jews were caught alive today, 255 shot. The sum total of Jews caught so far rises to 48.342. Today we again encountered armed resistance in several cases, whereby we lost 1 SS-man (wounded). We captured 4 pistols of various calibers and stores of ammunition.

The location of the dug-out used by the so-called „Party Directorate“<sup>90</sup> is now known. It is to be forced open tomorrow. The Jews testify that they emerge at night to get fresh air, since it is unbearable for them to stay permanently within their dug-outs owing to the long duration of the operation. On the average the raiding parties shoot 30 to 50 Jews each night. From these statements it was to be inferred that a considerable number of Jews are still underground in the Ghetto. Today we blew up a concrete building which we had not been

able to destroy by fire. In this operation we learned that the blowing up of buildings is a a very lengthy process and takes an enormous amount of explosives. The only and best method for destroying the Jews therefore still remains the setting of fires.

Our strength:

as on the preceding day.

Our losses:

1 Waffen-SS-man wounded.

Termination of operation: 2100 hours, will be continued on 8-th May 1943, 1000 hours.

The SS and Police Führer  
in the District of Warsaw  
s. (S t r o o p)

SS-Brigadeführer and Majorgeneral of Police

Certified copy:

(Jesuites)

SS-Sturmbannführer

C/o p.y. Teletype message

From: The SS and Police Führer in the District of Warsaw

Warsaw, 8-th May 1943.

Ref. No.: I ab/St/Gr-16 07-Journal No. 624/43 secret.  
Re: Large-scale Ghetto Operation.  
To: The Higher SS and Police Führer East,  
SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police  
Krüger — or deputy,  
C r a c o w.

Progress of operation on 8-th May 1943, start 1000 hours.  
The whole former Jewish Ghetto was searched today by combing -out parties for the remaining dug-outs and Jews. As reported some days ago, the subhumans, bandits and terrorists still remain in the dug-outs, where heat has become intolerable by reason of the fires. Now these creatures<sup>91</sup> know only too well that their only choice is between remaining in hiding as long as possible or coming to the surface and trying hereby, if possible, to wound or kill off the men of the Waffen-SS, Police and Wehrmacht who keep up the pressure against them.

We continued today to search the site of the dug-out of the so-called select „Party Directorate“, as reported in the teletype message yesterday. We succeeded in forcing open the dug-out of the Party Directorate and in catching about 60 heavily armed bandits. We succeeded in catching and liquidating Deputy Leader of the Jewish Military Organization „ZWZ“ and his so-called Chief of Staff.<sup>92</sup> There were about 200 Jews in this dug-out, of whom 60 were caught and 140 were destroyed, owing to the strong effect of smoke-candles<sup>93</sup> and to heavy explosive charges which were laid in several places. The Jews whom we caught had already repor-

ted that innumerable Jews had been killed by the smoke-candles. The fight of the first six days against the Jews and bandits was hard, but now we must state that now we are catching those Jews and Jewesses who were the ringleaders in those days. Every time a dug-out is opened, the Jews in it offer resistance with the arms at their disposal, light machine guns, pistols and hand grenades. Today we again caught quite a number of Jewesses who carried loaded pistols in their bloomers, with the safety catch released. Depositions speak of 3 to 4.000 Jews who still remain in underground holes, sewers and dug-outs. The undersigned is resolved not to terminate the large-scale operation until the last Jew has been destroyed.

A total of 1.091 Jews were caught today in dug-outs; about 280 Jews were shot in battle, innumerable Jews were destroyed in the 43 dug-outs which were blown up. The sum total of Jews caught has risen to 49.712. Those buildings which had not yet been destroyed by fire, were set on fire today and we discovered that a few Jews were still hiding somewhere within the walls or in the staircases.

Our strength:

Used in operation:

German Police . . . . .	4/101
Engineering Emergency Service . . . . .	1/6
Security Police . . . . .	2/14
Engineers (W.H.) . . . . .	3/69
Waffen-SS . . . . .	13/527

Cordoning forces:

	Day	Night
German Police . . . . .	1/87	1/36
Waffen-SS . . . . .	—	1/300
Trawniki . . . . .	160	—
Polish Police . . . . .	1/160	1/160