

DPA SERIES: THE NAZI HOLOCAUST - SERIES II — "There were forty-five freight cars with 6,700 people, of which 1,450 were already dead on arrival. Behind the barred openings peered the faces of children, pale and frightened, their eyes filled with mortal fear, as well as men and women. The train came to a halt; two hundred Ukranians tore open the doors and whipped the people out of the box cars with leather whips. To the question, 'What is going to be done with them?' he replies (SS sergeant on duty), 'Of course, the men have to work . . . but the women won't have to work.' For some of these poor creatures this is a ray of hope that suffices to bring them these few steps into the (gas) chamber without resistance." This quotation is from an eyewitness report of a death-train arrival at Belzec concentration camp. The above photo aid shows the notorious "platform" at Auschwitz. Here the SS decided who was to die at once and who would work and live in torment a little longer. The group on the left consisted of women, children, the sick, and the old. They were to be gassed immediately.

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