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7000 Polish Girls Cut Up By Germans

Parisian Woman Describes the Terror in Prison Camp

By Reuter



PARIS, Apr. 24.—A 27-year-old blonde Parisian woman, Colette Robin, who was interned at the Ravensbruck Camp since January, 1943, described today the months of terror and suffering endured by thousands of Frenchwomen.

"We were dressed only in a striped dress and trousers, a blouse and pair of clogs. They shaved the hair of all those who worked in German industry.

"We never had the right to walk alone and if we talked we were beaten and thrown into cells.

The internees slept seven in three beds, each 29 inches wide in tiers. There were 12 lavatories for 1000 internees.

"The food consisted of one meal a day of 1¼ pints of turnip soup and less than half a pound of black bread.

Flea-Ridden

"We were covered with fleas and suffered from scabies, due to shortage of vitamins. Our sores were full of worms.

"We had to get up at 3 in the morning and had to stand in the cold for two hours. At midday there was another roll call.

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Ravensbrück

"Women fell down, but we were not allowed to pick them up. The SS women used to beat us. If we raised our arms to ward off the blows, they put us in the cells."

The internees worked 11 hours a day in the Siemens factories or were marched out to drain the marshes.

Colette Robin said: "They made us cut up fur clothing taken from dead soldiers which was still full of blood and pieces of flesh.

Drain Marshes

"After work they made us drain the marshes with water up to our waists. Other women had to load barges or railway trucks or make roads guarded by dogs which drew blood when they bit."

On the least pretext they sentenced the women to "rest" standing up for six hours on end, or they sent them to the punishment block where they received 25 strokes with a stick."

The extermination camp was next to the work camp.

"All women who were weak, old, or crippled went to the gas chamber," she added.

The German doctor marked on the arm those who were sick and they were thrown into a gassing lorry. But as there was not enough gas, the victims were not quite dead when they were put in the crematorium ovens.

Miss Robin said the Germans used 7000 young Polish girls for special vivisection operations, removing the bones from their legs or the marrow from their bones. They also made experiments on the ovaries of young girls.

At Ravensbruck mortality was 60 per cent.