

Ganzenmuller, Albert

(1905--after 1973), Nazi who served from 1942--1945 as the state secretary of the Reich Transportation Ministry. During that time, some three million Jews were carried by the German train system to their deaths at Nazi extermination camps.

An engineer, Ganzenmuller began working for the German railways in 1928. Ganzenmuller was not just a simple man doing his job: he had engaged in anti-Jewish activities in his youth and joined the Nazi Party and the Storm Troopers (SA) in 1931. In 1937 he transferred to the Reich Transportation Ministry's railway section.

Germany invaded the Soviet Union in June 1941. Ganzenmuller volunteered to serve on the eastern warfront, and was charged with renovating the Main Railway Directorate East. After successfully completing this task, he was made state secretary of the Reich's Transportation Ministry. In this post, Ganzenmuller played a vital part in the "Final Solution" by supplying the SS with the trains used to deport Jews to extermination camps.

After the war Ganzenmuller escaped to Argentina, and only returned to Germany in 1955. He was finally brought to trial in 1973, but he had a heart attack soon after the trial began, and the proceedings did not continue.