Hautval, Adelaide

(b. 1906), French doctor who was designated as Righteous among the Nations by Yad Vashem in 1965 for her efforts at helping Jews during the Holocaust.

In April 1942 Hautval was caught trying to cross from the occupied zone of France into the unoccupied zone for her mother's funeral. She was arrested and put in jail to await her trial. During her detention, Hautval strenuously protested the mistreatment of the Jewish prisoners. As punishment for her outspokenness, she was sent to Auschwitz where she was made to work as a doctor. In that capacity she protected as many prisoners as she could, including a group of women ill with typhus. Hautval hid the women on the top floor of her block, so that the Nazis did not discover the epidemic and murder those infected, as was their usual practice.

Later, one of Auschwitz's head SS doctors asked Hautval to do some gynecology work. Hautval soon found out that SS doctors were using defenseless female prisoners as human guinea pigs in brutal pseudo-scientific medical experiments; she spoke out against the experiments and refused to participate.

Hautval was transferred to the Ravensbrueck women's camp in mid-1944 where she stayed until liberation in April 1945.