

Central Resettlement Office

(*Umwandererzentralstelle*), German office that oversaw the expulsion of Poles from the Polish territories annexed to the Reich at the beginning of WORLD WAR II and from the Zamosc province in the *Generalgouvernement*. The office also ran the transit camps in which these Polish exiles were held, and decided how to racially classify them.

In November 1939 the Germans established an office in the region of Poland annexed to the Reich, which they called the Special Staff for the Resettlement of Poles and Jews. Soon this evolved into the Office of the Higher SS and Police Leader for the Resettlement of Poles and Jews, which was renamed the Transfer Office in the spring of 1940, and the Central Resettlement Office just weeks later.

In 1942 the Central Resettlement Office was opened in Lublin and a sub-office was opened in Zamosc. These two offices, which had 30 branches all over Poland, were under the authority of the Higher SS and Police Leader of each region, and were supervised by the Jewish affairs department of the Reich Security Main Office (*Reichssicherheitshauptamt*, RSHA). In all, some 920,000 Poles and Jews from the Polish regions attached to the Reich were expelled by these two offices, as were 116,000 Poles from the Zamosc region of the *Generalgouvernement*.