

Jaeger, Karl

(1888-1959), SS officer. Born in Switzerland, Jaeger joined the Nazi Party in 1923 and the SS in 1932. In 1938 he was assigned to serve in Munster, where he worked as chief of the Security Service (SD). Next he served in the occupied Netherlands for a short time, and then became the commanding officer of *Einsatzkommando* 3 of the *Einsatzgruppe* A unit, attached to an army unit in northern Russia.

Jaeger's next assignment was as commander of the SD and Security Police in Lithuania. In that post, Jaeger was responsible for the annihilation of Lithuania's Jews. In December 1941 he reported that there were no Jews left in Lithuania except for those in three ghettos: Siauliai, Kovno, and Vilna. Three months later, Jaeger produced a report that included the number of people killed by his unit: 136,421 Jews, 1,064 Communists, 653 mentally ill people, and 134 others. Of these victims, 55,556 were women and 34,464 children.

In the fall of 1943 Jaeger was transferred back to Germany, where he became chief of police in the Sudeten city of Reichenberg. After the war, he managed to disguise his identity and became a farmer. He was arrested in 1959; on June 22 of that year he killed himself in his cell.