

Kaufering

Network of 15 camps located around the German village of Kaufering, about 25 miles southwest of Munich. The Kaufering camps, which were satellites of the Dachau concentration camp, were established between June and October 1944. Those prisoners brought to Kaufering were used as part of the Ministry of Armaments' plan to transfer Jews to Germany to build underground fighter plane factories that could not be harmed by Allied bombs. This plan was called the *Jagerstab* program.

The first prisoners at Kaufering were Lithuanian Jews who arrived in June 1944. In October large groups of Hungarian, Polish, Czechoslovak, and Romanian Jews arrived; most had been transferred to Kaufering from Auschwitz. The prisoners were housed in semi-underground huts, and were badly maltreated. They were given insufficient food rations, no medical care, and were made to do extraordinarily hard work for the armaments industry and construction companies. This resulted in a very high death rate.

The Germans began evacuating the Kaufering prisoners to Dachau in April 1945, a week before American troops arrived to liberate the camp complex. When the Americans arrived, they found the camps empty, but for a few prisoners who had hidden in the woods during the evacuation. It is unclear how many prisoners perished at Kaufering.