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PESKI

REPUBLIC OF KARELIA

The guide was created as part of the "No Statute of Limitations: Routes of Memory to the Sites of Nazi Genocide Against Civilians in Russia and Abroad" project.

The project aims to preserve the truth about the crimes committed by the Nazis and their collaborators against civilians during the Great Patriotic War as manifestations of genocide policy, as well as to foster among young people a rejection of Nazism in all its forms by engaging with significant memorial complexes and sites of memory both in the Russian Federation and abroad.

As part of the project, travel guides and audio guides to memorial sites have been created in Russian, English, and German to facilitate their widespread use in tourism, education, and civic engagement:

1. Ravensbrück Memorial(Germany)
2. Maidanek Memorial (Poland)
3. "Krasny" Concentration Camp Memorial (Republic of Crimea)
4. "Dulag-100" Memorial (Pskov Oblast)
5. "Hatsun" Memorial Complex (Bryansk Oblast)
6. Zhestyanaya Gorka Memorial Complex (Novgorod Oblast)
7. Zmievskaya Balka Memorial Complex (Rostov Oblast)
8. "Peski" Memorial (Republic of Karelia)
9. Piskaryovskoye Memorial Cemetery (St. Petersburg)
10. "Dulag-126" Memorial Complex (Smolensk Oblast)
11. Ksty Memorial Complex (Tver Oblast)

The project seeks to counter historical falsification and improve access to knowledge about the genocide of civilians perpetrated by the Nazis and their accomplices. Its practical novelty and value lie in the creation of unique audio and textual content that can be used not only within Russian society but also integrated into international discourse, influencing interpretations of World War II events in Western countries and the U.S. and exposing the true nature of Nazism.

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MEMORIAL TO VICTIMS OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS, SOLOMENSKOYE SHOSSE, PESKI CEMETERY

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1 Information about the memorial

In accordance with the "Basic requirements for the improvement of military graves in the territory of the Karelian ASSR" in the late 1950s, model monuments were erected on many graves, which consisted of sculptural groups with figures of warriors with weapons and inclined banners or grieving women. The peculiarities of the location of cemeteries in Petrozavodsk and the traditional nature of burials, on which wooden Orthodox crosses were often installed, made them a place of individual, personal grief for the relatives who died or died from wounds. Only on the days of festivities, the commemoration took on a public, public character with rallies and the laying of flowers by pioneers and workers of the industrial enterprises of the city

The memorial to the victims of the Nazi concentration camps, established in 1969, became a place of memory for former child prisoners of the Finnish concentration camps. However, it is located on the outskirts of the city, and only a small number of concentration camp inmates and their families participated in post-Soviet memorial rituals.

In order to symbolically consolidate its status, the Young Prisoners' Society achieved the opening of two memorials at the sites of concentration camps in Petrozavodsk. The opening of the first of them took place on June 24, 2005 and was timed to the celebration of the Day of Petrozavodsk, which took place under the sign of the 60th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War. A notable feature of the opening of the second sign in 2011 was the participation of the mayor of Petrozavodsk N. I. Levin, representatives of the Council of Veterans of Karelia, students of the 35th school and the 13th lyceum, studying the history of concentration camps in Petrozavodsk. During the opening ceremony, the mayor formally recognised the Union: *"You have endured the hard years of captivity, you have been deprived of your childhood, you have grown up in hunger and humiliation, but you have endured. You, the real patriots of our Motherland, have raised your children and grandchildren with dignity, and continue to pass the love for the Motherland to the younger generation. Thank you."*

From an aesthetic point of view, these signs of memory are characterised by minimalism. They are natural stone blocks on which memorial plaques are attached. On the one hand, this is evidence of the poverty of the prisoners (at the opening of the first sign it was emphasised that his sketch was developed by one of the former prisoners, Petrozavodchan A. M. Varukhin), on the other — refusal of the aesthetic embodiment of traumatic experience can be interpreted as a conscious silence about what should be obvious.

In 2017, a new memorial dedicated to prisoners of Finnish concentration camps, symbolising the theme of suffering, was opened at the Petrozavodsk Cemetery "Sands", where the graves of Soviet citizens who died during the years of occupation are located. The monument was erected at the expense of A. Y. Molchanov and G. N. Morozov — the great-grandchildren of A. D. Romanov, who tragically died in detention in a concentration camp.

The federal project "No statute of limitations" once again drew attention to the nature of the occupation regime in the territory of Karelia. The idea behind the memorial at the Peski Cemetery echoed the new rhetoric of republican officials who supported the federal narrative of civilian suffering. Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Karelia Elissan Sandalovic spoke about the need to remember "the innocent victims who died, who were tortured in fascist concentration camps" in April 2021 in front of veterans and former prisoners of Finnish concentration camps.

Today the history of occupation of Karelia is, first of all, the history of the death of the civilian Russian population, understood within the framework of the history of feat. *"It is important for us to talk not only about the heroism of the warriors, but also the heroism of the civilian population, who just as fought for their lives and their homeland behind barbed*

wire," — Natalia Abramova, the author of the project to create a museum-reconstruction of the Finnish concentration camp in one of the districts of Karelia, emphasised in an interview.

2 Description of the territory

On the territory of the cemetery "Sands" there is a memorial "Cemetery of Soviet soldiers", consisting of 4 fraternal and 224 single graves, in which the ashes of 506 Soviet soldiers who died during the Great Patriotic War during the defence of Petrozavodsk (August-September 1941) and during the liberation of southern Karelia in June-July 1944 are buried.

In 1941–1944, the prisoners of the Finnish concentration camp at the cemetery were buried Soviet citizens. In 1969, a memorial "Cemetery of Soviet citizens who died in the Finnish concentration camps of Petrozavodsk (1941–1944)" was opened on the territory of the cemetery, at the place of mass graves of victims of Finnish concentration camps.

The monument to those who died in Finnish concentration camps during the years of occupation (1941–1944) was opened on June 24, 2017 at the Peski Cemetery in Petrozavodsk.

The cemetery contains graves of Hungarian and German prisoners of war.

3 Recommended route and inspection for visitors

1. Memorial to the dead prisoners of Finnish concentration camps. Sculptor Parshin F. G.;
2. Steles with names of dead prisoners;
3. St. George Chapel;
4. Commemorative cross set on the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Petrozavodsk;
5. Object of cultural heritage of regional significance: cemetery of Soviet people tortured in concentration camps during the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945.
6. Object of cultural heritage of regional significance: cemetery of soldiers killed during the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945.

4 Historical account of events at the site of the memorial and related events

On October 1, 1941, Petrozavodsk was captured by Finnish troops. The occupants surrounded the houses with barbed wire and thus created concentration camps — a total of 7 concentration camps were created in Petrozavodsk. Concentration Camp No. 2 contained 10 houses and several small buildings used for camp headquarters and prisoners. The camp was located on the territory of the enterprise "Northern Point". Concentration camp No. 3 was located in the university town and on the modern Rigachina Street. There were 52 buildings in the camp — 26 large two-storey and 26 small one-storey houses. On the territory of the working settlement of Onegozavod there was concentration camp No. 4. On the territory of the railway settlement was located concentration camp No. 5 — one of the largest camps, on its territory there were 24 two-storey buildings and about 40 one-storey buildings. Concentration camp No. 6 was organised in the village of Perevalochnaya exchange. There were 131 buildings in the camp. Concentration Camp No. 7 was near Camp 6. Barbed wire was installed some time after the prisoners were incarcerated.

Prisoner of concentration camp No. 3 P. F. Zingacheva claimed that barbed wire appeared a week after confinement in the camp. In concentration camp No. 1, barbed wire was installed on the second day after the imprisonment of M. I. Afonkina. Moreover, it indicates that a patrol appeared at the gate, which restricted the movement of prisoners. Maklakova, a prisoner at Camp No. 3, also points out that barbed wire and security guards did not appear immediately, but only "on the third day" after resettlement.

Camp No. 2 was established in early October 1941. Beginning in October, the first prisoners begin to settle in the camp. On October 14, citizens were imprisoned in the camp, who because of weather conditions could not reach their destination through Lake Onega. In October 1941, 200 men were detained in the camp. In the winter of 1941/1942, the residents of the Leningrad region were sent to the camp, and the total number of prisoners reached 1,500.

Concentration camp No. 2, according to the prisoners, was also a penalty camp. An underground worker of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (b) Antipina Alexandra Fedorovna was sentenced in 1941 by a military court to life imprisonment, but from Kindasovo prison she was transferred to concentration camp No. 2. In addition to the insurgents, guerrillas were sent to the camp. For example, Bykov Pavel Semyenovich, being a vep, was imprisoned in this camp in October 1941. In December of the same year, a court was appointed, which accused Bykov of sabotaging the rear of the Finnish army, which Bykov denied. In April 1942, he was sent to a special concentration camp for the national population in Finland.

Fourteen-year-old **Vasily Kanichev** told about the conditions of detention of Soviet citizens after the liberation of the city:

"In camp No. 2 there was a special person /Finn/ who flogged, we called him Vanya the Executioner, and he justified this nickname quite well. Beat sometimes the soldier of the Levi, but he was kinder than Vanya, if there was no one in the room from the superiors, he whipped a whip on the table and ordered to scream that they thought he really ruined. Among the soldiers there were good and bad guards, another one will lift the wire and pass outside the camp area. In three years, I only got caught once, called me then a policeman and brought me to the headquarters of our camp, called Vanya the Executioner and ordered to give me 15 whips. Vanya took me into the hallway and told me to lower my pants and lie down on the floor. I did it all. Then the executioner took the whip. With a whistle he waved it over his head and, grunting, lowered it on my back. It was as if I had been stabbed on the back with a hot iron, I grabbed my arms behind my back and shouted in a beast-like voice in pain, but the next blow hit my arm, which I immediately stopped feeling. After the 10th strike, I don't remember anything, I woke up on the front porch of the headquarters where the executioner had taken me. He came home and immediately lay down on the bed, his back burning like fire, his left hand felt nothing. It was only on the second morning that the hand began to obey again. But the flogging didn't scare me. I went to town anyway, and I was hungry."

In 1942, concentration camps No. 1 and No. 4 were closed due to high mortality. According to the source, on 18 August, the camps were closed because of the large number of prisoners who had been "released". By 16 September, 918 persons had been transferred from concentration camp No. 1 to concentration camp No. 2 and No. 3. 1,437 prisoners were transferred from concentration camp No. 4 to camps No. 5 and No. 6. According to the People's Commissariat of State Security (NKGB), concentration camp No. 1 operated until April 1944, and numbered about 1,000 prisoners. In April 1944, the camp was reorganised to provide for the elderly and orphans. The rest of the population was sent to other camps. From camps No. 3, No. 5, No. 6 and No. 8, the elderly and children were sent to this concentration camp. Initially, after the reform, the camp housed up to 100 orphans and street children under the supervision of teachers recruited from the camp. The children were kept in a separate barracks. The three barracks accommodated disabled, disabled and elderly persons, who were held by more than 200 persons. A total of 590 prisoners were held in the camp after being transferred from other camps. The head of the orphanage and almshouse was Ekaterina Lapina. A month before the Finnish army left, that is, around the end of May 1944, a school was established in the camp, in which 50 children studied. Children were taught a general education programme in Finnish, but without law lessons. The teachers were Anna Konovalova and Klavdiya Ivanovna Dvoryanova. After the liberation, the children of the Petrozavodsk orphanage were interrogated by the Extraordinary State Commission (ECC), and they gave other names. The head of the orphanage was named Selma Kantas, tutors — Vera Kallio and Anna Lukkonen, Belova Alexandra and Kiseleva Victoria.

The children accused the staff of bullying and beating them:

"sometimes several times a day. They were beaten to

the blood so that they could not sit. Serova Nina and Arefyev Nikolai were beaten for not being able to read Finnish. They beat us with sticks. We studied in Finnish at school. It was difficult for us to study in Finnish, and those who did not have time at school were beaten with a stick, a ruler on the hands, beaten on the cheeks, and dragged by the hair. Often children would be locked in a room with dirty linen and would not be allowed to eat all day."

The situation of children in the concentration camps was the worst. The children not only had to work as adults, but also to find food outside the camp, as the children could crawl under barbed wire. The camp guards often fired rifles at children.

Prisoner of the sixth concentration camp **Fedor Ivanovich Gobiev** recalled:

"In the village on the "Pass barge" was organised concentration camp No. 6, which held up to 5,000 people of peaceful citizens. People were starving to death, the captives were subjected to horrific abuse: they were beaten unconscious with sticks and whips. In their misdeeds, the Belarusian executioners did not skimp, they even considered it a great pleasure to shoot their weapons and exercise the accuracy of shooting at live targets — at children and teenagers... I lived with my family outside the camp fence and in 1943 lost two children as a result of criminal actions of a Finnish executioner from the camp guard, his name does not know. On February 29, 1943, a boy and a girl from my family went to school, in which a Finnish soul shot from a rifle from a window of the house and killed to death. This fascist degenerate did not stay on the post, but blessed in the house — in the flat and exercised the marksmanship. There is no mercy for the Belofinsky people to fall for their crimes committed before the Soviet people! I witnessed the children from Camp 6 crossing the wire to gather mushrooms and berries for food, and the Finnish guards of the camp started shooting at the children and then caught them, put them in the booth and beat them."

In November 1941, there were 11,166 prisoners. As early as December 1941, the number of prisoners in concentration camps had significantly increased to 20,005 non-combatants, of whom 210 were national. The age and sex composition of the prisoners was as follows: 3,414 adult men, 7,719 adult women, 4,072 children aged 7–16 years and 4,564 children under 7 years. On 1 April 1943, the number of prisoners fell to 14,387. In the spring of 1944, the number of prisoners was 15,088, or according to other sources, up to 14,926.

Yukka Kulomaa gives the following data as of 28 February 1942: Camp No. 1–1 171, Camp No. 2–1 602, Camp No. 3–3 890, Camp No. 4–2 240, Camp No. 5–7 230 and Camp No. 6–3 718 prisoners. A total of 19,851 prisoners were held only in the Petrozavodsk concentration camps. The data is incomplete, as it does not take into account Camp No. 7, and labour camps. Nevertheless, the number of prisoners fell to 14,387 between February and April 1942. This represented a loss of 5,464. As mentioned above, there is an opinion that the number of prisoners decreased due to the release, at least prisoners of the national population, but again: according to the population census conducted by the HLMC, as of December 31, 1941, there were only 210 prisoners of the national population. The most complete data are contained in the certificate of concentration camps in the territory of the KFSSR dated August 26, 1944. According to this source, a total of 31,576 Soviet citizens were detained in concentration camps. The number of prisoners in concentration camps is controversial, as the figures have been rounded up. Thus, 7,000 people were held in concentration camp No. 6, but according to the recollections of the prisoners, the number of prisoners was about 5,000, which is still more, as indicated in the monograph of Yu. Kulomaa. On August 5, 1944, the junior researcher of the Research Institute of Culture (NIIK) of the Karelian Research Institute Koronen estimated that the number of prisoners in the camp was 3,800 at the end of 1941. In the future, the number of prisoners could grow, but the dynamics of the number of prisoners will be considered separately. In May and June 1943, about 800 residents of Zaonezhye were sent to concentration camp No. 6. The Eastern Karelia Military Administration (EKMCA) argued that the conclusion was based on a lack of arable land and close living quarters. According to Soviet data, 3,000 citizens were imprisoned in concentration camp No. 7. In 1943, most likely in September, Camp 7 was liquidated and merged with Camp 6. In total, 800 prisoners remained in the camp. The cause of the camp's liquidation was an epidemic, which resulted in the death of a large number of prisoners.

The Finnish administration did not prepare the

camps for the detention of thousands of Soviet citizens. Prisoners lived in conditions that were hardly compatible with life. Food was provided according to the norms for prisoners of war. On September 6, 1941, the Chief of Staff, Lieutenant Colonel G. Snelman, and the intendant, Major V. Terikhov, decided to supply prisoners according to the norms of prisoners of war. The rule included meat, cereals, and much more, but the prisoners received significantly less food, as well as poor-quality food, since according to the order of the Chief Intendant Colonel Werner Gustafson and the management officer Wilho Koivisto, on August 25, 1941, the trophy food should be used first to ensure the civilian population, which should have been taken into account by the commandant. The population had the right to receive food once a day on receipts. Limiting access to clean drinking water was an important cause of the high mortality rate. Prisoner of concentration camp No. 6 **Yevdokia Andreevna Kopusova** gave an interview to the newspaper "For the Glory of the Motherland" after her release. In an interview, she said that the camp well was intended only for Finns, which forced the prisoners to drink water from puddles. Prisoners were forced to break camp rules to survive. Finnish prisoner of war M. Peltomäki wrote that while in the guard of Camp No. 6, he witnessed the beating of a woman who forged a food voucher. The punishment was brutal — beating to the point of fainting and the guard.

Due to hunger, prisoners were forced to slaughter dogs for meat. Prisoner of concentration camp No. 2 **Natalia Petrovna Kozyreva**, was forced to consume dog meat. The camp authorities decided that the act was a deliberate crime against the order established by the Finnish authorities. After being beaten and without trial, Kozyreva was sent to Petrozavodsk prison on Lososinskaya Street. There were 58 women and 10 men in prison. In prison, they fed less and forced to work more. Prisoners were forced to look for food in the rubble and eat frogs. To leave prison, Khorosheva Anastasia, a 25-year-old girl, cut her hand with an axe but was not sent to a hospital. They made a dressing and sent him to work.

The meagre meals provoked the prisoners to break the camp rules. According to paragraph 11 of the regulations on the establishment of concentration camps, prisoners were not allowed to beg, beg, and to obtain tobacco and food from strangers. Prisoners, especially children, tried to escape through barbed wire at night. For example, on October 22,

1942, a group of three children, each 12 years old, Kutusov Leonid, Konovalov Ivan and Demekhin Alexander, escaped from Camp 5 in search of food and returned from the city. They were spotted by Mikko, who shot Alexander Demekhin and fatally wounded him. The bullet hit her chest, punctured her right lung. Alexander died in the hospital a day later. Two other boys, Ivan Fedorovich Konovalov and Leonid Kutusov, Mikko and the camp commander were severely beaten with a stick and pulled by the ears. After the beatings, the boys were put in a punishment cell for 5 days. The provision does not refer to the execution of prisoners, but paragraph 39 states that "the punishment given to the camp shall be just in accordance with the crime committed by him".

Prisoners were beaten to death, even if they did not beg, but sought food in the rubbish. Hunger was a method of terror and of keeping prisoners alive because of a round-robin order. According to paragraph 12 of the regulation, prisoners were obliged to report violations by prisoners to the camp authorities. Levkin Alexander Petrovich, under interrogation by the NKGB, reported that in 1943, a 14-year-old boy Alexander Kulakov tried to leave the camp for the city to buy food, but was detained by guards. For the guilt of one young man, all the tenants of house No. 20 of camp No. 5 were left without food for 4 days. Punishment of all residents of the barracks for escape, even with the return back, was practised in concentration camp No. 6. K. A. Penteleynen points out that the deprivation of food norms for 3–4 days occurred repeatedly because of the escapes. Despite the fact that the provisions do not say that it is forbidden to leave the concentration camp, in fact, prisoners had the right to move around the city only from one camp to another, after the permission of the commandant.

Prisoners in the camps had to endure beatings by camp guards. Old people were beaten, for example, prisoner of concentration camp No. 5 Pyotr Dmitriyevich Sofronov, who was 59 years old, was beaten by Arvo's guard, for going at 18 o'clock to the tap for water, which was near the gate. The guard deprived the prisoner of his hearing. The guard did not suffer any punishment. A. A. Smirnova, a prisoner of concentration camp No. 5, said during interrogation by the NKGB that Lekhtinen's soldier beat one of the elderly men with such force that the stick could not withstand the blows and broke. Pyotr Spiridonovich Ostroumov, born in 1922, on December 1, 1943, was beaten 60 times with a rubber stick for selling his

things to the camp's storekeepers Alexander Tyutyunov and Efim Lariushkin with the purpose of buying food.

In concentration camp No. 6, a Finnish soldier, Toivola, beat Sergei Yakovlevich Zakharov unconscious because his wife went to the city to buy bread without a pass. Toyvola and another soldier beat up a prisoner, Vasily Alekseyevich Sidorov, for riding his daughter on a bicycle and driving slightly outside the camp. After the beating, Toivola threatened the camp inmates that "If anyone walks 20 metres away from the camp, I will hide or kill them."

Prisoners of concentration camp No. 6 Vorontsova, Bykova, and Fedorova reported after their release that in May 1944, a prisoner threw a stone at a Finnish patrol. The camp was unable to find the culprit, and as punishment, all the children in the camp were placed in solitary confinement for a week. It follows from this source that "children were taken to the "booth" for a week. The children were most likely placed in solitary confinement for an indefinite period, followed by their release and the confinement of the next group.

Murder was not a rarity or an empty threat. Lieutenant Mäimpäy ordered the burial alive of prisoners who could not go from Petrozavodsk Camp No. 5 to the camp in Kutizhma. The lieutenant said, *"Anyone who is alive who works, and who is not standing on his feet, is dead*." Thus was buried alive prisoner Romashev.

Gradually, the regime became less violent. In March 1943, the Supreme Court of East Karelia was established as the highest instance, and the magistrate acted as the lower instance in the territories of the districts. The guilty prisoners of concentration camps, as they were already prisoners, could receive a maximum punishment of 8 workers, held in a punishment cell with lighting for up to 30 days and without lighting for up to 8 days. Lashes were limited to 25 strikes, and in April 1944 to 10 strikes. The camp charter did not take into account the sex and age of the prisoners for the execution of the sentence. According to the prisoners' recollections, executions could also be carried out, but after the trial. For example, in 1943, Agafya Amosovna and Bogdanova, a prisoner of Galasheva, were sentenced to 15 days in prison for leaving prison No. 2 without permission. During the confinement in the "booth" was held a court, which decided to use as punishment the shooting. The following day,

a cassation was filed. The court upheld the sentence by firing squad, setting it aside for 40 days. As suicide bombers, the prisoners spent all 40 days in a "booth", that is, in a punishment cell. On the day of the execution, the prisoners were taken to the headquarters of a Finnish priest. After the confession, Finnish officers said that the death sentence had been commuted to life imprisonment. Galasheva and Bogdanov were given another 60 days in prison by the camp leadership. The alleged perpetrator of the psychological and physical abuse of the women was the commandant of the Sallovaara camp.

The occupiers organised several prisons to punish Soviet citizens. Prisoners were severely tortured in prison, leading some to commit suicide. Romanova's guerrilla, **Anna Dmitrievna,** described the fate of her relative:

"I witnessed my son-in-law Isakov being bullied. He was imprisoned in a cell next to ours. We were separated by a partition. We could see him being hung upside down. He shouted, "Girls, dolls, help me out!" He had a disfigured face, one eye gouged out. One day, sitting in his cell, he cut off his elbow with a knife and bled out."

In 1944, the level of violence against prisoners was reduced, primarily due to inspections of concentration camps by the Red Cross. The occupation authorities set the same wages, regardless of nationality, introduced pensions for large families, gave 1.5 kg of white flour to children and, in general, added the oil received from the cards to prisoners. Vasily Kanichev, a prisoner in Camp No. 2, recalled that in 1944 the prisoners were no longer beaten, and were fined or put in a "box" for being wrong. Nevertheless, mass punishments continued. A junior researcher at the Cultural Research Institute of the Karelian Research Institute Koronen noted that in 1944, the guards did not beat the children who escaped from Camp 6 but demanded that their mothers do so.

The work of Swedish journalists has also been a factor in reducing violence. Prisoner of one of the camps, **Claudia Alexandrovna Nyuppieva**, remembered a Swedish journalist who visited Petrozavodsk. Indeed, in the occupied territory of Karelia, the Finnish army included a Swedish journalist named Hansen, who published a book On the Traces of War. Sorry, we couldn't find the workbook

yet. In 1945, in the collection "Monstrous atrocities of the Finnish-fascist invaders in the territory of the Karelian-Finnish SSR. A Collection of Documents and Materials" indicates that Swedish journalists wrote about the Finnish occupation regime in January 1944. A brief recount indicates that in the camps there are mainly women and disabled people. Girls are imprisoned in POW camps. In all, several thousand Soviet citizens were killed in concentration camps.

Based on the memories of the prisoners, we can identify several reasons for the decrease in the level of violence by guards. In her memoirs, **Claudia Soboleva-Nyuppieva** points out that after the victory of the Red Army during the Battle of Stalingrad, the Finnish administration changed the name of the concentration camps to resettled. However, the conditions of operation of the camps and the conditions of detention remained unchanged.

Finnish justice also applied to Finnish soldiers, but in very few cases. In the summer of 1943, a Finnish soldier killed Nadezhda Yarkoeva at the age of 35, who was the mother of four children. Yarkoeva was not a prisoner of the concentration camp, she was a free resident of Petrozavodsk. She and four friends walked past the fences of concentration camp No. 4 and dropped their keys. The women started looking for them, but a Finnish guard demanded that the women leave and show the direction. When the women retreated 100 metres away, the soldier opened fire and killed Nadezhda Yarkoyeva. The soldier was tried and sentenced to 1 year and 7 months in prison after the war ended. In fact, he was transferred from Camp 4 to Camp 2.

Inadequate medical care was one of the causes of the high mortality rate of prisoners. The high incidence of disease among prisoners is due not only to poor nutrition, but also to overcrowded accommodation. According to the testimonies of the prisoners, there were several families in the rooms. The total area of residential buildings in the concentration camps has not been determined, but the number of prisoners and the number of buildings are known. In concentration camp No. 3, 3,890 prisoners lived in 52 houses, of which 26 were two-storey and 26 single-storey. Accordingly, the average number of residents in the house was 74.8. This is confirmed by archival records. At the time of the liberation of Petrozavodsk, Barrack No. 6 housed 65 people. Barracks 3 had a population of 76. Similar population densities existed in concentration camp No. 2. There were 69 people living in the building No. 8. Counting the number of barracks in other camps is complicated by the lack of accurate figures on the number of buildings. Party sources state that there were 13 barracks in concentration camp No. 6, but this number, given the number of prisoners over 3,500, is questionable.

Prisoner T. Parfenova recalled:

"I am 68 years old, three of my sons and three of my sons-in-law are defending our Motherland. The Finns didn't count my age and they would drive me to work, pay us three stamps a day, work 12 hours without rest, get little bread for the first two years, get sugar for the children, and we would exchange [it] for bread. Between 80 and 100 people died each day in the camp. They went to the barbed wire to collect dirty rotten potatoes and cabbage from the rubbish. If anyone is seen beaten to death."

In 1941, the situation of sick prisoners was the worst, as due to hunger and overcrowding, there were many patients with typhoid, dysentery, scurvy and other diseases in the camps. With the beginning of the camp regime, the existence of hospitals was not mandatory, which made the work of Soviet prisoners, including medical personnel, irrational. Hospitals for prisoners appeared 6 months after the beginning of the occupation, in concentration camp No. 2 and in concentration camp No. 3. The hospital of Camp 2 was designed for 12 people, but the patients were on average 20–25. In 1943, the number of beds was increased to 20. The patients needed help from surgeons, paediatricians, therapists, obstetricians and other doctors, but the hospital staff was represented by nurses K. M. Subbotina and the Queen. Feeding the patients was the same as in the camp — 350 grammes of flour. The hospital was empty and patients were carrying utensils. There was an acute shortage of material for the treatment of patients, due to which the dressings were carried out by improvised means. The chief physician was the collaborator Bogoyavlensky. He carefully monitored the cleanliness of the barracks and beat women and children for dust. In addition to beatings, he sent prisoners to solitary confinement for 15 days.

Among the sick were children and pregnant girls. One nurse attended the patients, working night and day. For her work, the nurse was given 1 glass of flour for the camp ration. There was hardly any lin-

en for the patients. There were also no medications for bandages. Finnish doctors have not been seen in the hospital for months. In 1943, typhoid fever and typhoid fever broke out in the camps. The camp administration has begun to respond to the typhoid epidemic. Finnish doctors came to the camp hospital every day. The camps were under quarantine for five months. Prisoners were not released from concentration camps. Houses tried to clean the lice. The flat building was closed, and pots of combustible sulphur were placed in the house, after which sulphur was set on fire, causing several fires. Similar measures were applied in concentration camp No. 8. In the few years of the camp's existence, deodorisation was performed only 2 times. Prisoners were forced out of barracks, where sulphur was burned. The parasites were dying, but soon the lice, the bugs and the cockroaches were coming back. The camp administration has set up "roasters" to fight typhus. A special device that thermally treated prisoners' property, mainly clothing. Baths were organised. The camp guards monitored the tidiness of the prisoners. If dandruff or louse could be found, the prisoner was beaten. In Camp 6, Toivolo examined and beat prisoners. To combat lice, prisoners were cut bald.

The teacher **Mogilev**, a prisoner of the seventh concentration camp, in her memoirs called the camp quarantine and described it as follows:

"Camp 7" was in quarantine from the moment of its establishment until September 8 or 9, 1943. Only the heads of the houses for food and in general for home affairs and patients in the hospital could leave it for the 6th camp on the basis of the doctor's certificates. At first, detainees from Camp 6 were not even allowed to talk through a wire.

Judging by the health authorities' cases, the only purpose of the quarantine is to control lice. Initially, it was as follows:

1) Every morning they made me take clothes out of the house into the air, put them out on the ground and keep them there until the evening.

2) Each barn took turn to drive to the sauna. At the same time things / beds, clothes were taken to the fridge.

3) They cut off everyone criminally despite prayers and tears.

4) Everybody was looking for lice every day, so they made them undress.

All this was done in a crude and foolish way; namely:

1) Most people had to put their belongings out of the house because of lack of space where they go and drive. They got dirty and were not disinfected, but they got all sorts of infection.

2) Things were headed to the "grill", put on a dirty cart in one pile and clothes, and floorboards, and lime and belonging to clean people. Those who passed through the grill were again thrown into the pile directly on the ground. Soldiers and servants of saunas and roasters sat and lay on them, in which the camps who had come to collect their property fumbled, looking for each of their own, because they did not bring things back.

The bath was driven together with men and women, where they were held for about an hour at a temperature of 70–80 degrees C. The baths were small, portable, made of plywood and paper shields. They were so cramped that people would smear each other with bodies and the dirty water of the washer would run down on others.

3) Haircut was real, great grief for girls and for women. They were crying and hiding, but almost no one was able to save their hair. Cutting completely, regardless of whether it is necessary or not, whether a person has lice or not.

4) During the daily search for lice, usually carried out by specially appointed Russian women, sometimes to control the latter they were forced to undress when Finnish soldiers and men and women and to stand naked until the soldiers examined the clothes and head. But the Finns could not defeat the lice. The crackdown was therefore intensified in July.

Everyone was forced to take everything outside every day. The room remained bare. Chests and other stores / already taken/ had to be opened and all their contents removed and laid out around. A man who didn't know what was going on might have thought it was not a concentration camp, but a fair. If it started raining, the fair turned into an anthill, which was uncovered with a stick. People, like ants, ran back and forth, saving their possessions. When the rain stopped, the

fair reopened. And so often several times a day.

In the "roaster" began to carry everything, too, except wood, metal and leather. They have spoiled fur things, lost, destroyed, stolen, damaged what people have carefully kept in their chests for years as their modest wealth or memory. The objective value of these items may be small, but they are dear to their owners. Daily hauling of belongings from home and back was a real torture for the quarantine camp population, especially as a large part of it consisted of elderly people and children as a result of the mortality rate among the elderly was very high. The carriage of things in the "roaster" was perceived as a real disaster. They waited in awe for the "bath" day. Slowly they transferred the more valuable and portable to other barracks, to which the turn had not yet reached; they hid it in attics, in firewood, etc. In the morning of the bath day, one or two soldiers appeared, sometimes led by a sergeant. They yelled and scolded those who could not take their goods to load onto the cart. If there was a lock on the door or chest, it was broken. As the searchers searched, seeking to find hidden things in attics and around the house...

The quarantine regime was so severe that when on the morning of September 9, 1943, the wire separating the 7th camp was suddenly removed, happy and solemn people walked more than if they had been released from an ordinary Finnish concentration camp."

The conditions in the concentration camps were described by junior sergeant **Viitole Ilmari** as follows:

"Camp No. 5 (Petrozavodsk), which was located in a border town not far from the station, accommodated boys and girls ages 2–5. In August or September 1943, several children were shot in the camp. The Finnish authorities claimed that the shooting was carried out while trying to escape. The conditions for children are terrible, they were forced to work by force, nobody treated them, they were fed extremely badly. Typhus was rampant in the camp, resulting in the death of many children. The commander of Camp 5 was Lieutenant Lukkarinen.

In Camp 3, which was located in the building of the ski factory, there were women with infants. Conditions for the prisoners were extremely difficult. Children and women had a high mortality rate."

In addition to inadequate food and medical care, hard forced labour was a factor in the high mortality rate. On 8 July 1941, Field Marshal Mannerheim, the Commander-in-Chief of the Finnish Armed Forces, issued an appeal to the Karelian population, which consisted of 9 points. The eighth paragraph read: "The inhabitants of the occupied territories shall be guilty of labour for the repair of roads and other work at the discretion of the command." Prisoners between the ages of 15 and 60 were subject to compulsory labour, but the camp administration used the labour of children as young as seven. In 1941, most of the prisoners' labour was used for internal camp work. Finnish officers hired young women as cleaners. Officers did not trust the girls, and they arranged checks — they left money or food in a prominent place, which the girls were not entitled to take. The concentration camps were established by the Military Directorate of East Karelia primarily for political reasons, but with the continuation of hostilities, the VUVK began to attract cheap labour for heavy work outside the concentration camps. Prisoners received an additional ration of food in the performance of their work. Due to the dire situation in the camps, the prisoners were actually forced to work for the VWK in order not to starve.

Researcher L. N. Yusupova was engaged in surveying the civilian population, which was under Finnish occupation between the ages of 8–15. Reviewers recalled that because of hunger and illness, they had to work in logging, even if they were under 15 and not required to perform work duties. The labour of the concentration camps was used mainly in the forestry industry. The forest was not only a commodity for transportation to Finland, but also fuel for heating in Petrozavodsk and other cities and villages of Karelia. As far as can be seen from the memories of the prisoners, the Military Directorate of East Karelia established a system of concentration camps, into which each camp had its own task. Logging was carried out in small camps and places of forced confinement. From Zaonezhye, the forest floated to Petrozavodsk. The forest was cut down and transported by prisoners of concentration camp No. 2. Prisoners of the second concentration camp worked from 7 to 16 hours, but from the spring of 1942 evening work was introduced from 18 to 22 hours.

Prisoner **Minkin Vladimir Petrovich** described forced labour:

"In the camps they fed us, of course, badly: they gave us 3kg of flour for ten days, and then ... for a decade. They did not give us any other food. I had to eat rats, mice and all sorts of poison so that I wouldn't starve to death. The situation in the camps was very difficult. There were barracks surrounded by wire, there was no way to go out. And they could not have ties with the guerrillas. Our camp where I was placed in the village ... They worked in the forest. The people at the camp were numerous and gathered from all over the area. They went to work barefoot and ragged in the summer. Many of us ... had a plan to go to the guerrillas, including me, but there was no way, because there was security around.

They treated us severely, punished us for the slightest misdeeds and flogged us.

I myself was beaten for not going to work... Once on the bare body 10 times jerked. Different jobs had to be done, but mostly the same camp did the same job. There were logging camps ... and others."

A prisoner of concentration camp No. 4, **Rednikeva** recalled the beatings and the hard work:

"There was a women's brigade working at the stock exchange to cut wood. When the boss came up to them during the rest and asked why they were sitting, one woman Natasha answered: "As they feed, so work." During this time, the entire crew was forced to work two shifts for a week. Natasha, the same woman, when the brigades in Camp 4 were divorced, said that you can only get a good job here on a slave. The words were heard by the camp sergeant, Ayrimo, when he heard what she was saying, he grabbed her by the throat and started strangling her. Natasha had a child in her arms, and the Finn tore out the child, tied her mouth to prevent her from hearing her scream, and beat her with whips. Then she was put in a booth, where again she was given whips.

At the city forestry exchange he worked as a translator Vanka-karel. He brutalised the workers and repeatedly beat the women. So one day he transferred the women's brigade from noon to sawing and set the norm of 6 cubic metres per saw. This rule was set at 5 cubic metres. We decided not to saw more than 5 cubic metres. Then Vanka checked the work and did not give us any food stamps. One woman said that he never gives the coupons right. He heard it, called her to him, and began to beat her on the cheeks with a book of coupons, saying "here are you coupons", then shouted: "run to the gate" (p. 116), but she did not run, but went and once again swore him with a parasite. His abuse was so severe that a brigade from Camp 5 refused to go to the stock market unless treatment was improved. He found out and threatened everyone, saying, "I won't let you fuck me, but will make you work so that you won't sit down at my place during lunch, but will squeeze on you while you're standing."

According to Finnish reports, as of December 31, 1942, the prisoners of concentration camps had mainly harvested 1351 logs, 36,890 cubic metres of firewood, 250 cubic metres of firewood for coal, 3630 sleepers for the railway, 545 construction materials. Resources went to the manufacture of skis and ski sticks, for defence activities, as fuel for steam locomotives. Of the more than 36,000 cubic metres of firewood harvested for local use, only 5,442 cubic metres were used. According to another Finnish report, more wood-processing materials were harvested. The transport capacity was not enough for the removal of materials, so from the harvested 42 thousand cubic metres of firewood managed to remove only 16 thousand cubic metres by 31.12.1941. At the end of 1941, the HVACs did not make much use of the labour of concentration camps in the timber industry. The labour of civilian prisoners was used only in the Olonets District in the number of 194 people out of 2280 Soviet citizens involved in the forest industry, of which 1052 were prisoners of war. In the future, the use of imprisoned concentration camps in the forest industry will increase significantly. As of July 1943, 1,516 prisoners of civilian concentration camps were engaged in logging, i.e. a small part of the camps worked in logging. By the end of 1943, the number of prisoners employed in logging operations would drop to 644. According to the census of January 1, 1944, 14,716 Soviet citizens were detained in resettlement and concentration camps, that is, just over 4.3% of prisoners were engaged in logging. Most of the prisoners were engaged in the manufacture of noodles and baskets, and other work inside the camp, such as the construction of baths.

In addition to public works, the prisoners also worked for private businesses. For example, from August 2, 1942 to May 1944, 25 families from con-

centration camp No. 6 worked at a construction office. Some of the prisoners worked on the dismantling of Soviet buildings. A. N. Lantseva was engaged in the dismantling of Onegozavod. A group of prisoners collected iron scrap and the remains of destroyed workshops, and then loaded them into waggons for shipment to Finland.

Women, including young girls, were the main workers in the harsh conditions of hunger. A prisoner of the first concentration camp, **Afonkina**, after her release, described the conditions in the camp with the following words:

"In October, they came to the first camp. In early November, they started sending us to work. The work was firewood cutting. I worked all the time in logging for 7 birr. I had to work for 15–16 days without days off, as 15 people were required to work in the barracks, so they did not give a rest, regardless of the fact that everything was lost, there was nothing to wear and shoes for a person. My parents lived for three days, on March 11, 1942, I was ordered to a stage in Orzega for logging in 20 minutes. It was my 8th stock exchange, where I lost half my life. His parents arrived December 11 at Camp 1.

His father worked in various jobs in the camp, but then became very ill and died in 1942. My sister, who was not yet 15 years old, was also sent to the stage. They cancelled it once, but then sent it again, regardless of whether it was 15 years old or not.

In 1942, there were many experiences not only for me, but for our whole family. My older sister died of two children, my brother has two children, my father, and my aunt with whom I lived half my life for 11 years. Mother brother and his wife total 8 people. But besides my mother's concern for me, that I was left without a hand for nothing, in the deep rear of the enemy..."

A valuable and detailed source is the report of the interrogation of **Ivan Alekseevich Borisov**, a prisoner of the fifth concentration camp, by the NKGB:

"In mid-November 1941, during the occupation of the village of Kyartino, Voznesensky District, Leningrad Region, together with my family and other citizens who had not had time to evacuate when the Red Army withdrew, I was taken prisoner by the White Finns. On December 1 of the same year, the Belarusian authorities took all the Russian population, including me and my family, into concentration camp No. 5 mountains. Petrozavodsk.

In the camp, more than 7,000 peaceful Soviet citizens were rounded up by fascist eruptions and subjected to total arbitrariness. The camp was located in a railway village and surrounded by barbed wire in two rows, at least two metres high. Barbed wire was installed in the camp by the Soviet citizens themselves on the orders of the camp administration. The head of the camp, a lieutenant of the Finnish army, does not know his last name, announced from the very first days that all the citizens detained in the camp are prisoners of war and that we will be guarded by a reinforced guard with searchlights on the towers. At the same time, he announced the instructions of the fascist regime on the camp. The instructions stated that the prisoners in the camp should leave the camp without permits and approach the wire fence, strictly and categorically prohibited. Walking on the camp was limited from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. It was announced that for violating these barbaric rules, the perpetrators would be treated as trying to escape from the camp and would be punished up to the point of execution. Living and living conditions in the concentration camp were created exclusively nasty: the barracks are all crowded, i.e. in a small room accommodated from 10 to 12 people, and as a result of such crowding, there was a massive lice, there was no bath and laundry, no soap was given. The food ration was small, and there was a hungry ration. In 1942–43, 300 grammes of flour with wood impurities were given per person per day, 50 grammes of rotten sausage or herring were given for three days, and 10–15 grammes of sugar.

From such a white-Finnish ration, our citizens were exhausted beyond recognition, their legs were barely moved, and the camp administration still threw them out to work, but demanded that people do a variety of work. They were forced out to work in batches of 100. At 7 a.m., the foreman would line up everyone in the yard, roll the list, and then hand it over to the escort, an armed soldier from the camp guard who would escort them to and from their work site. The work day lasted up to 10 hours a day, people did the most labour-intensive work, but the White Finns paid nothing for it. They began to pay for work only in the second half

of 1943 and that minuscule amount: men 7 marks, and women 5 marks a day.

In the period 1943 and 1942, as a result of the intolerable conditions of detention of prisoners, the cruellest camp regime, due to exhaustion and disease, a large percentage of deaths occurred in Camp No. 5. I was an eyewitness myself when the bodies of the deceased were taken out on the woods two or three times a week. From 25 to 30 coffins, at one time. The cemetery was located in "Peski", which is 4–5 km from the location of the camp. I had to be at the grave once, where I buried my son, who died of exhaustion, and saw that this time they brought twenty coffins, which were laid in a common trench-grave in three rows and covered with earth. Relatives of the deceased were allowed to bury only under escort and then not everyone. Yes, you will remember the time spent in the camp, even the frost will pass through the skin. The Finnish military authorities did what they wanted. They followed the instructions of their rulers precisely: they tortured, tortured and humiliated people as they wished."

For example, the first concentration camp held 1,171 prisoners on 28 February 1942. By September 16, 1943, only 918 prisoners remained in the camp, a loss of 253.

On February 28, 1942, there were 1,602 prisoners in concentration camp No. 2. Reminiscences and interrogation protocols of prisoners about deaths in the camps have survived. In concentration camp No. 2, Kirill Ivanovich, a prisoner of the People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD), told about the high level of mortality: "From unbearable hard labour and starvation in the camp since the beginning of 1942, the mass mortality began. The diagnosis was the same: exhaustion. In one year, over 300 people died from exhaustion, accounting for more than 20 per cent of the total number of people in the camp. If we take into account that during 1942 some 500 people were taken from the camp to other camps or released, the mortality rate will increase significantly."

Alexey Prokofyevich Kolomensky, who was in the Petrozavodsk concentration camp No. 5 from December 1, 1941 to June 28, 1944, the duty of which was to remove corpses from the camp, said:

"Working as a driver, I took the dead from the camp to the Peski cemetery, located 5 km from Petrozavodsk. According to my records, in May 1942, 170 people died, in June–171, in July-104, in August—152. A total of 1,014 people died in our camp from May to December 31, 1942, not counting April of the same year, in which, according to my rough estimates, about 200 people died ... in late 1941 and early 1942, there were about seven and a half thousand people in Camp 5, and by the time of our release by the Red Army, about four and a half thousand people remained." More than 2,000 people were killed, according to Kolomensky. During interrogation in the NKGB on July 16, 1944, Kolomensky focused on the diary that he had kept since the beginning of 1942.

According to **Aleksey Neslukhov**, more than 3,000 prisoners in concentration camps No. 5 were killed. Justice Captain Nikiforov, in his report, also writes about 3,000 people who died in concentration camps No. 5. Yukka Kulomaa points out that the number of prisoners fell from 7,230 to 4,960 on February 28 to December 1942, a loss of 2,270. From December 1942 to December 1943, the number of prisoners fell to 4,225, that is, from February 1942 to December 1943, the number of prisoners fell to 3,005. In general, sources of Soviet origin have been confirmed by Kulomaa with surprising accuracy. Most likely, the number of dead prisoners was even higher, since after the abolition of concentration camp No. 4 in September 1942, 1,437 prisoners were sent to concentration camp No. 5 and concentration camp No. 6.

Little is known about the deaths in concentration camp No. 6. We can assume that the loss of prisoners in concentration camps No. 5 and No. 6 amounted to 2,469 people from February 28 to December 1942. As of February 28, 1942, there were 7,230 prisoners in concentration camp No. 5, and 3,718 in concentration camp No. 6, i.e. the total number of Soviet citizens was 10,948. By December 1942, the number of prisoners was 4,960 in concentration camp No. 5 and 3,519 in concentration camp No. 6, or a total of 8,479. But there were 1,437 prisoners from concentration camp No. 4 who entered the camps. That is, the actual number of casualties was 3,906. As mentioned above, the number of dead prisoners in concentration camp No. 5 was 3,005. The number of dead prisoners in concentration camp No. 6 may be around 901. In addition, about 800 prisoners of concentration camp No. 7 were moved in September 1943 to concentration camp No. 6. About 800 Soviet citizens from Zaonezhye in 1943 were also sent to concentration camp No.

6. It would seem that the number of prisoners was to increase by 1,600 from December 1942, that is, from 3,519 to 5,119 in September 1943, but not. By December 1943, there were only 3,542 prisoners in the camp, i.e. fewer by 1,577 than should have been, given the movement of prisoners from concentration camp No. 7 and citizens from Zaonezhye. The total loss of prisoners was 2,478. Yu. Kulomaa indicates that the detention of Soviet citizens from the Zaonezh district lasted several years, but in November 1943, a total of 200 citizens were sent to concentration camps in November. Unfortunately, the author does not indicate to which concentration camp 200 prisoners were sent.

We have the least sources about concentration camp No. 7. It is likely that in late 1941 or early 1942 the camp held approximately 3,000 prisoners. In September 1943, Camp 7 was liquidated and merged with Camp 6. In total, 800 prisoners remained in the concentration camp, reducing the prison population by about 2,200.

We have relatively accurate data on youth attrition in Petrozavodsk. Yukka Kulomaa in his monograph gives data on 1,784 children under 15 years of age living freely, 4,564 children under 7 years of age and 4,072 children between 7 and 16 years of age detained in Petrozavodsk concentration camps at the end of March — end of April 1942. After the liberation of Petrozavodsk, 7,277 children out of 17,371 residents of the city were detained. In Petrozavodsk, as of July 6, 1944, 7,521 children were taken into account by public education staff, of whom: 3,147 were of school age, 2,100 were preschool students, 851 were nurseries and 1,423 were adolescents (i.e. 16 and 17 years old). Or children under 12 years old 2 857 people, that is, in the spring of 1942 in Petrozavodsk only in concentration camps there were 8 636 children. The number of children who lived outside concentration camps during the occupation is complicated by the fact that in Finnish statistics from the spring of 1942, children between the ages of 15 and 18 go together, respectively, at the time of liberation in 1944, these children were between 17 and 21 years old if their birthday falls before April. In this case, Soviet statistics did not count them as children. The question of the number of deportees of Petrozavodsk to Finland should also be raised. In total, 487 people were deported from the Petrozavodsk region (so in the text) to Finland. How many of these children are unknown. Taking into account all the above, we can say that the number of children in Petrozavodsk, counting both concentration camps and resettlement in Finland, left from 10,420 children in 1942 to 7,521 children in July 1944. That is, the number of children fell by 2,899 people. This estimate ignores 1941.

As a result, the loss of prisoners of the Petrozavodsk concentration camps from February 1942 to December 1943 amounted to 11,020 people, of whom 4,374 were released from July to December 1942. The death toll was 6,646. However, the figures are incomplete, as they do not account for the number of camp deaths between October 1941 and 28 February 1942. In addition, does J. Kuloma account for deaths in labour camps such as Kutijma, Wooden, Vilga, Kindasovo, etc.? By December 1943, 1,473 prisoners were involved in the forestry industry, i.e. in the logging of the above-mentioned branches, in January 1943, and in December the number of employed prisoners fell by 829 and the number of employed prisoners was 644, including prisoners of concentration camp No. 8. Could the reduction of the labour force in the sawmill be explained by the fact that prisoners have returned to concentration camps? The number of prisoners in the Petrozavodsk camps was 12,537 in December 1942, and 11,987 by December 1943, although if 829 prisoners had returned to the camps, the total number of prisoners should have increased, but as we can see the number of prisoners has significantly decreased, given the imprisonment of Soviet citizens in 1942 and in 1943. It is important to bear in mind that the detention of Soviet citizens in concentration camps lasted almost the entire period of occupation — until March 1944 Y. Kulomaa indicates that the detention of Soviet citizens from the Zaonezh district continued in 1943. In May and June, about 800 inmates were imprisoned in concentration camp No. 6, and in November — 200, but unfortunately, the author does not indicate to which camps Soviet citizens were sent.

The most convincing figure of the dead prisoners of the Petrozavodsk concentration camps is the data of the Republican Commission to establish and investigate the atrocities of the German-fascist invaders and their accomplices. On 20–22 July 1944, the remains buried in the Peski cemetery were exhumed. According to the commission, more than 7,000 prisoners of concentration camps were buried in the cemetery. A total of 137 remains were ex-

humed, of which 136 were buried around 1942, and only 1 in 1944. Of these, 41 were men, 55 women, and 35 children; the sex of 6 remains was not established. By age: 22 children under 1, 12 from 5 to 20, 62 from 20 to 50, 37 over 57. Age is not established in 4 cases. It is possible to determine the cause of death of prisoners by preserving the remains. The commission found that only seven of the bodies had "well-expressed" fat, 32 had "ill-expressed" fat, and 98 had no fat, respectively most of the prisoners died of exhaustion.

5 Archived documents about the memorial site

1. Statement of the teacher V. V. Feopentova to the State Emergency Commission on the occupation regime in Petrozavodsk and the work of the school in the concentration camp. July 1944
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/zayavlenie-uchitelniczy-v-v-feopentovoj-v-chrezvychajnuyu-gosudarstvennuyu-komissiyu-ob-okkupaczionnom-rezhime-v-g-petrozavodske-i-rabote-shkoly-v-konczlagere/

2. About the atrocities of the Finnish-fascist invaders in the Karelo-Finnish SSR: article in the newspaper "Pravda". August 18, 1944.
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/pravda-o-zlodeyaniyah-finsko-fashistskih-zahvatchikov-na-territorii-karelo-finskoj-ssr/

3. From the act of exhumation of corpses at the opening of graves of prisoners of war and prisoners of Petrozavodsk concentration camps — about graves at the cemetery "Peski". July 20–22, 1944.
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/iz-akta-eksgumaczii-trupov-pri-vskrytii-zahoronenij-voennoplennyh-i-zaklyuchennyh-petrozavodskih-konczlagerej-o-zahoroneniyah-na-kladbishhe-peski/

4. From the memories of the former prisoner of the Petrozavodsk concentration camps V. A. Semko about life in the occupied city of Petrozavodsk. 1944
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/vospominaniya/iz-vospominanij-byvshej-uzniczy-petro zavodskih-konczlagerej-v-a-semko-o-zhizni-v-okkupirovannom-g-petrozavod ske/

5. From the statement of Startsev Nikolai Alexandrovich to the Extraordinary State Commission on the stay in the Petrozavodsk concentration camp No. 6. [July 1944].
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/iz-zayavleniya-n-a-ωstarczeva-v-chrezvyc hajnuyu-gosudarstvennuyu-komissiyu-o-prebyvanii-v-petrozavodskom-konczlagere-No. 6/

6. From the interrogation report of A. A. Rogacheva-Lukanicheva about being in concentration camp No. 6 in Petrozavodsk and on logging. July 18, 1944.
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/iz-protokola-doprosa-a-ωa-rogachevoj-lukani chevoj-o-nahozhdenii-v-konczlagere- No-6-g-petrozavodska-i-na-lesozagotovkah/

7. From the interrogation report of Dmitricheva Ekaterina Mikhailovna about being in the Petrozavodsk camp No. 6. July 17, 1944.
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/iz-protokola-doprosa-dmitrichevoj-ωekateri ny-mihajlovny-o-nahozhdenii-v-petrozavodskom-lagere- No. 6/

8. Protocol of interrogation of Popova Tatiana Vasilievna about being in the Petrozavodsk concentration camp No. 2. July 17, 1944
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/protokol-doprosa-t-v-popovoj-o-nahozhde nii-v-petrozavodskom-konczlagere-#2/

9. Special note on atrocities and bullying of German-Finnish invaders in the city of Petrozavodsk during the period of occupation (October 1941 — June 1944), compiled by the People's Commissar of State Security of the KFSSR A. M. Kuznetsov. July 11, 1944.
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/speczzapiska-o-zverstvah-i-izdevatelstvah-nemeczko-finskih-zahvatchikov-v-gorode-petrozavodske-za-period-okkupaczii-oktyabr-1941-g-iyun-1944-g-sostavlennoj-narkomom-gosbezopasnosti-kfssr/

10. Certificate of atrocities of German-Finnish fascist invaders in the temporarily occupied territory of the Karelo-Finnish SSR. November 13, 1943.
URL: https://karelmedia.ru/dokumenty/spravka-o-zlodeyaniyah-i-ωzverstvah-nemeczko-finskih-fashistskih-zahvatchikov-na-vremenno-okkupirovannoj-territorii-karelo-finskoj-dannym-ssr-po-kfssr-nkgb-/

Modern photos of the memorial

Memorial photos

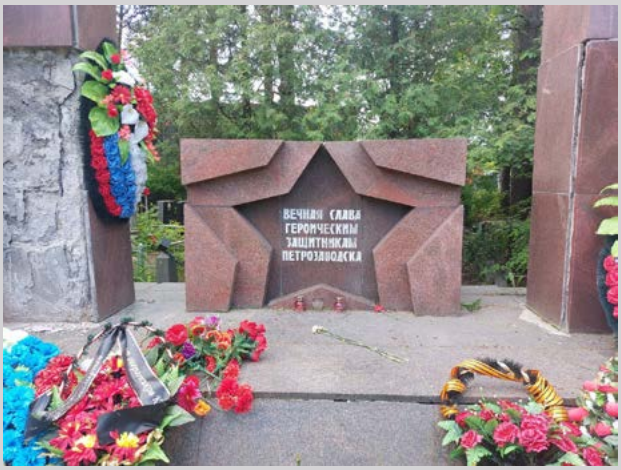
Memorial to the dead prisoners of Finnish concentration camps. Sculptor Parshin F. G. Photograph: 16.06.2025 Yeloshin D. A.

Steles with names of dead prisoners Photograph: 16.06.2025 Yeloshin D. A

St. George Chapel Photograph: 16.06.2025 Yeloshin D. A

Commemorative cross set on the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Petrozavodsk Photograph: 16.06.2025 Eloshin D. A

Object of cultural heritage of regional significance: cemetery of Soviet people tortured in concentration camps during the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945. Photograph: 16.06.2025 Yeloshin D. A

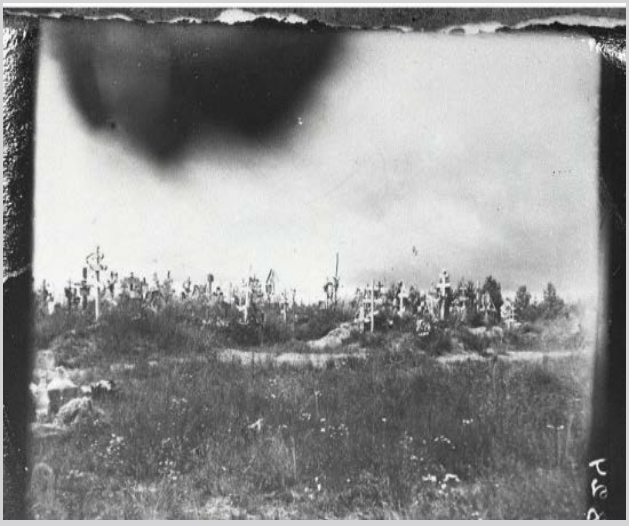


Object of cultural heritage of regional significance: cemetery of soldiers who died in the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945 Photograph: 16.06.2025 Yeloshin D. A

Skulls with bullet holes. KGM-60035. 1944.Photo by I. A. Timofeev. Photonegative. NM RK BOO.

Victims of the Belarusian occupation in the town of Peski.Petrozavodsk. 1944, Na RK. II-4485.

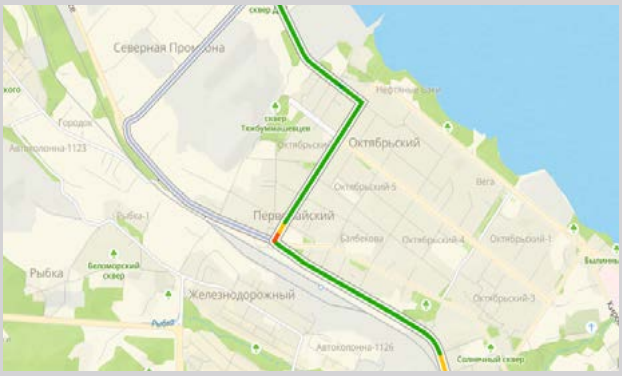
Victims of the Belarusian occupation in the town of Peski. Petrozavodsk. 1944. ON RK. II-4480.

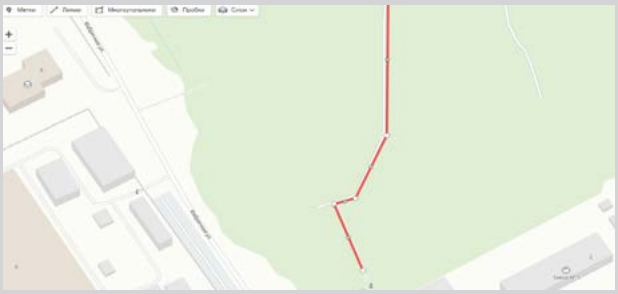


General view of the cemetery "Sands" in Petrozavodsk Photo by I. A. Timofeev. 1944 NM RK. KGM-60038.

URL: https://www.goskatalog.ru/portal/#/collections?id=25302588

7 Memorial map





8 List of archival sources about the memorable place

Published Sources

1. No statute of limitations: crimes of Nazis and their accomplices against the civilian population in the occupied territory of the RSFSR during the Great Patriotic War. Republic of Karelia: Sat. doc. / ed. E. V. Usacheva; ed. T. A. Varukhina, L. S. Kotovich, E. V. Rakhmatullaeva, O. I. Surzhko, E. V. Usacheva, N. V. Fedotova. M.: Foundation "Communication of the Epoch": Publishing House "Kuchkovo Pole", 2020. 408 p.
2. Great Patriotic War: Jubilee statue. Collection. Moscow, 2020. 299 p.
3. Karelia in the Great Patriotic War: liberation from occupation and revival of peaceful life, 1944–1945: Sat. doc. and mat. Petrozavodsk: Foundation for Creative Initiatives, 2010. 510 p.
4. We are still alive!: the fate of former child prisoners of fascist concentration camps / author-compiler K. A. Nyuppieva. Petrozavodsk; Islands, 2023. 255 p.
5. Petrozavodsk: 300 years of history: documents and materials: in 3 kn. Kn. 3: 1903–2003 / [compilers: D. Z. Gendelev et al.; scientific editors: N. A. Korablev et al.; artist T. V. Laliashvili]; Archival Office of the Republic of Karelia, National Archives of the Republic of Karelia. Petrozavodsk: Karelia, 2003. 574 p.
6. Oral history in Karelia: a collection of scientific articles and sources. Issue III. The Finnish occupation of Karelia (1941–1944) / Edited by A. V. Golubev, A. Yu. Osipov. Petrozavodsk: Petrozavodsk State University Publishing House, 2007. 212 p.
7. Monstrous atrocities of the Finnish-fascist invaders in the territory of the Karelo-Finnish SSR: Collection of docs and math. Gosizdat of the Karelo-Finnish SSR, 1945. 304 p.

Unpublished Sources

1. Scientific Archive of Karelian Scientific Centre of RAS (KarRC RAS). F-1. Op. 37. 818, 820, 822, 829 (22), 830 (3); Op. 42. D. 179.
2. National Archives of the Republic of Karelia (NA RK) F. P.-8. 1. D. 1098, 1126, 1129, 1169.
3. Archive of the FSB of the Russian Federation in RK. F.-10. D. 8292.

Publications in electronic databases

1. Summarised information on the atrocities of German-fascist troops and their Finnish accomplices in Petrozavodsk and in the territories of Zaonezh, Sheltozersk, Kondopozhsky, Medvezhyegorsky, Petrovsky, Segozersky, Loukh and Olonets districts of the Karelo-Finnish SSR during the occupation. July 1944. // Crimes of Nazis and their accomplices against the civilian population of the USSR during the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945. [Electronic given.]

URL: https://victims.rusarchives.ru/index.php/obobschennye-svedeniya-o-zlodeyaniyakh-nemecko-fashistskikh-voysk-i-ikh-finskikh-soobschnikov-v-g (Date of appeal: 15.10.2023).

2. Report of the KKG "On the atrocities of the Finnish-fascist invaders in the territory of the Karelo-Finnish SSR" (Protocol No. 37). August 16, 1944 // Crimes of Nazis and their collaborators against the civilian population of the USSR during the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945. [Electronic given.]

URL: https://victims.ru (Date of appeal: 20.11.2024).

9 List of scientific literature

1. Verigin S. G. Karelia in the years of military trials: political and socio-economic situation of Soviet Karelia during the Second World War of 1939–1945 Petrozavodsk: Published PetrSU, 2009. 541 p.
2. Gerasev I. Yu. Petrozavodsk. September 1941. 2nd edition, additional. Petrozavodsk: Petropress, 2023. 192 p.
3. Krivosheev G. V. Great Patriotic Secrecy. Book of Losses / G. V. Krivosheev, V. M. Andronnikov, P. D. Burikov, V. V. Gurkin. Moscow: Veche, 2021. 384 p.
4. Kulomaa Yu. Finnish occupation of Petrozavodsk, 1941–1944. Petrozavodsk: A. N. Remizov, 2006. 277 p.
5. Laine A. Civilian population of East Karelia under Finnish occupation in the Second World War // Karelia, the Arctic Circle and Finland during the Second World War: Abstracts of the International Scientific Conference (6–10 June 1994). Petrozavodsk, 1994. 86 p.
6. Laine A. Karelo-Finnish Soviet Socialist Republic and the Finns // In the family of United. National policy of the Bolshevik party and its implementation in the North-West of Russia in the 1920s-1950s / Ed. T. Vihavainen, I. Takala. Petrozavodsk: Kikimora: Petrozavodsk Publishing House. 1998. 289 p.
7. Morozov K. A. Karelia during the Great Patriotic War (1941–1945). Petrozavodsk: Karelia, 1983. 239 p.
8. Seppal Helge. Finland as an Occupier in 1941–1944 // Magazine "North". 1995. No. 4, 5, 6. / P. Leontyeva. 1995 [Electric. res.]. URL: https://www.autistici.org/deti-uzniki/sepp.html (accessed on 25.09.2023)

List of fiction 10

Poems by Olkhovskaya

Little Star
Like a midnight star aglow,
Burning in the dark so deep,
Farewell, my steppe-life, oh,
Farewell, nomadic camp I'll leave.
Farewell, fierce eyes so bright,
And the blue night's boundless spread,
My homeland — the meadow's light,
[Illegible line...]
At dawn, I'll bid the sky goodbye,
Leave my wandering days behind.
The herds of horses will forget,
I'll forsake the gypsy's steppe-born life.
To the noisy town I'll go,
Cast off my earrings, ditch the cards,
Trade the dunes for city streets—

No more a nomad's song to guard.

Scientific Archive of KarRC RAS. F. 1. Op. 37. 82. L. 2.

In memory of Tosi from Andreeva Dusi

Life in Captivity

Oh, how hard it's become for us, girls,
We don't know what lies ahead—
All our youth has withered away
Under the cruel Finnish lords.
We'd never known sorrow before,
Now we've had to endure it all.
We labor against our will,
Just to keep starvation at bay.
We rarely saw our parents,
Locked away in camps we were.
Hunger and cold we bore—
Such was the fate that found us.
Then a grave illness struck,
And so many perished,
Leaving poor orphans behind.
All this was wrought by that villain Hitler...
But let's not lose heart, dear girls!
Russia will never forgive—
Our brothers are fighting at the front,
Defending our homeland.
Yet here we've brought shame upon ourselves,
Surrendering to these butchers.
When our brothers return victorious,
How ashamed we will be!
Our mothers back home don't know
What their daughters endure now...
Returning from work, exhausted,
We collapse onto our bunks.
[The rest is crossed out...]
h-e E-n-d!

Scientific Archive of KarRC RAS. F. 1. Op. 37. 820. L. 9.

11 List of documentaries

1. Life behind barbed wire. No limitation period. 2022

ULR: https://ya.ru/video/preview/13946396111379667961

2. Cemetery of concentration camps: Petrozavodsk. Sand Cemetery. Cleaner of abandoned graves. 2023

URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lqDpCMP1MPω0