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This is a Summary of Important Items in the State Department file on Oflag 64,
prepared by some one in the Department.
This copy obtained by me after reading the
complete file at the State Department.

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**PRISONER OF WAR CAMP
OFLAG 64, GERMANY**

INTRODUCTION

Oflag 64 is located near the village of Schubin, Posen, in what was formerly the Polish Corridor. The village of Schubin is 25 kilometers due west of Bromberg. This camp was formerly known as Oflag XXI B when it was occupied by British Royal Air Force officers and a few American fliers. On January 6, 1943 it was renamed Oflag 64, and was designated as a camp exclusively for American officers. A Red Cross inspector stated that the installations there were used formerly for a boys' academy. Colonel Drake, in a letter to the American Red Cross, dated May 15, 1944, describes the physical arrangement of the camp as follows:

"The camp, enclosed by a double barbed wire fence, covers approximately seven acres and has fourteen buildings and a chapel. Only eight of the buildings are used by the prisoners of war. One large building, cement, an infirmary building, and four brick temporary barracks to house the officers, with the loft of an old barn used for the orderlies. A small brick building is used for the canteen. In addition there is a small greenhouse, left over from the days when the place was a school, which is used for plant setting and flowers.

"The temporary barracks are of single wall construction and extremely cold in winter, though the past winter was mild all had to wear overcoats most of the time.

"Until recently over one half of the camp was prohibited to the use of the prisoners of war and consequently our

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gardening activities of last year was curtailed to approximately one half acre. ----- We have constructed a promenade walk around the inside of the camp about 1,300 yards long and this proves very popular. The sports field is extremely limited in size, 50-75 yards."

Five official visits were made to this camp by representatives of the Swiss Legation in charge of American interests:

I	July 5, 1943	Fred O. Auckenthaler
II	Sept. 20, 1943	Fred O. Auckenthaler
III	Mar. 30, 1943	Walter Braun
IV	March 24, 1944	Walter Braun
V	October 23, 1944	Albert A. Kadler.

Other visits by Red Cross and Y.M.C.A. personnel will be included in the report as they occur.

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

INITIAL VISIT OF SWISS REPRESENTATIVE

On July 5, 1943, Mr. Fred O. Auckenthaler, representative of the Swiss Legation, visited Oflag 64. On the occasion of this visit, there were 211 prisoners in camp. One hundred and ninety-one of these were American officers, including eight doctors, one dentist, and one chaplain; and 38 enlisted men, 18 of whom were British soldiers. Only the large cement building was in use at this time. Officers were quartered 4-6 or 8 to a room, depending upon rank, while junior officers were quartered dormitory style, 24 to a room. The orderlies were billeted at that time in the infirmary, which restricted the available bed space to one room.

The sanitary facilities were poor and in disrepair, and additions to the sewer system were needed.

Cooking was done by Americans. The ration was small and contents of Red Cross packages are needed to supplement the ration. To date none of the latter had been received. The Swiss Representative was able to obtain British Red Cross packages from the British Senior Officer of a neighboring camp. There was some complaint concerning ventilation of the kitchen which was located in the cellar of the building. Adjustment was promised in this matter.

The clothing situation was very bad. Many officers had been given British uniforms while at another camp. No clothing had been issued by the German Government. The International Red Cross Committee was notified.

The canteen had very limited supplies. Recreation activities had been started but there was little equipment available. The Americans were further restricted in that a portion of the camp was marked "out-of-bounds" as a security measure.