Institute of National Remembrance

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Personal records of the Auschwitz concentration camp personnel finally made available to the public

The Branch Office of the Institute of National Remembrance the Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the
Polish Nation in Kraków and Memorial and Museum AuschwitzBirkenau in Oświęcim kindly invite you to participate in the
opening ceremony related to the granting of public access to
the records of the

Auschwitz concentration camp personnel.

The briefing on the database will be held in the Miedziana Room of the Historical Museum of the City of Kraków, at Rynek Główny 35, on Monday, 30 January 2017, at 11.00.

The "Auschwitz concentration camp personnel" database is a joint initiative of Prof. Aleksander Lasik and the Branch Office of the Institute of National Remembrance – the Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation in Kraków. Prof. Aleksander Lasik originated the database in 1982 while he was developing his doctoral thesis, presented at the Institute of History of

the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań in 1988. Originally, the database only included personal records of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp personnel. The database was gradually extended to include the information concerning the personnel of other German concentration camps, finally reaching the number of 25,000 records, of which 9,686 were related to the Auschwitz concentration camp personnel.

In May 2014, after the appointment of Prof. Aleksander Lasik as an expert historian, the Kraków Office Branch of the Institute of National Remembrance gained access to the database for the investigation of the crimes committed at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, conducted by the Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation Branch Office in Kraków. In May 2015 the Commission took the decision to give online access to the records to the public, and initiated work on its publication, which is going to take place on 30 January 2017.

During the ceremony the following persons shall address the audience:

Dr Piotr M. A. Cywiński, Director of the Memorial and Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oświęcim,

Dr Jarosław Szarek, President of the Institute of National Remembrance,

Prok. Waldemar Szwiec, Head of the Branch Office of the Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation of the Institute of National Remembrance in Kraków,

Prof. Aleksander Lasik, sociologist and historian who specializes in the history of the Third Reich, Professor of the Casimir the Great University of Bydgoszcz, expert in the investigation concerning the Auschwitz concentration camp conducted by the Public Prosecutors of the Branch Office of the Commission for the Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation of the Institute of National Remembrance in Kraków,

Jacek Kwilosz, Deputy Head at the Institute of National Remembrance Archive in Kraków.

Accredited journalists will have an opportunity to ask questions and make individual interviews at the Conference. They will also be given printouts and CDs containing extended information on the database as well as the history of the research and investigation of the German crimes committed at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp.

Please, confirm your attendance at the Conference and provide the name of the journalist participating in the event on your behalf until 27 January 2017, at the following e-mail address: dorota.korohoda@ipn.gov.pl

Detailed information can be obtained from Ms. Dorota Korohoda, phone: 606 33 47 36.

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