

Goeth, Amon Leopold

(1908--1946), SS officer and commandant of the concentration camp at Plaszow, located outside of Cracow.

Born in Vienna, Austria, Goeth joined the Nazi Party in 1932 and the SS in 1940, in which he reached the rank of *SS-Hauptsturmfuehrer*. When the Nazis began deporting Jews from ghettos in the Generalgouvernement to extermination camps, Goeth was assigned to serve in the SS command headquarters and in the Lublin police. Next, he was relocated to Cracow where he oversaw the liquidation of the ghettos and forced labor camps at Szebnie, Bochnia, Tarnow, Cracow, and other places.

From February 1943 to September 1944 Goeth served as commandant at the Plaszow camp (as portrayed in the film, *Schindler's List*), which held some 10,000 inmates at its most crowded. Most of these prisoners were from the Cracow Ghetto, and were later sent to their deaths at Auschwitz.

After the war Goeth was extradited to Poland, and tried before the Polish Supreme Court. He was charged with the mass murder of Jews during the liquidations of the Szebnie and Plaszow camps. He was sentenced to death for his crimes, and hanged in Cracow.