

Old-Shoe Warehouse

Categories: Institutions

Altshuhlager

Established by Chairman Rumkowski on July 15, 1942. At that time, large quantities of used shoes were delivered into the ghetto, taken from apartments and houses of Jews resettled from provincial ghettos. Later, the footwear was left behind by people evacuated from the ghetto. A total of seventy wagons filled with such shoes arrived in the ghetto. The goods were gradually sorted and repaired when possible. By May 1944, the Old-Shoe Warehouse had repaired or issued 110,000 pairs of shoes for private use in the ghetto. Shoes were distributed through the Clothing Department (Bunin), or directly by the warehouse upon specific instruction of the Head of the Council of Elders or by A. Jakubowicz. Items deemed unfit for repair went to shoe manufacturing plants in the ghetto. In this way about 200,000 kg of leather was repurposed.

Initially, the Old-Shoe Warehouse had a staff of approximately 100 workers. Over time, the number of workers increased to 600, including 150 skilled shoemakers.

In May 1944, there were only 300 people, including shoemakers, working at the A warehouse. The warehouse was led by superintendent Abram Szajniak and technical supervisor Chaim Pruszycki.

Resources

Encyclopedia, p. 12.

Tags

Jewish administration | looting of property | everyday life

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