

Prisoners

Categories: Phenomena

Heftling: Prisoner at the Central Prison on Czarnieckiego St. The German word was adopted in ghetto Yiddish, replacing “detainee” or “prisoner.” This was probably because prisoners detained at the Central Prison wore a special beret with a red stripe, on which was written “Häftlinge des Ältesten der Juden” [Prisoners of the Eldest of the Jews]. The same inscription was on a yellow band worn on the left arm.

Józef Zelkowicz

Resources

Encyclopedia, p. 90.

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