

NAZI PERSECUTION OF HOMOSEXUALS 1933–1945

ONE PERSON'S STORY



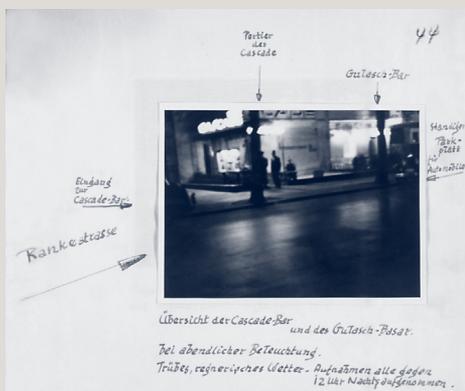
USHMM

NAME: FRIEDRICH-PAUL VON GROSZHEIM

DATE OF BIRTH: APRIL 27, 1906

PLACE OF BIRTH: LÜBECK, GERMANY

In 1937, at the age of 31, Friedrich-Paul was detained along with 230 men in a mass arrest of homosexuals in his hometown of Lübeck. He was imprisoned for ten months.



Landesarchiv, Berlin

This police photograph is located in the section of the exhibition on "Surveillance and Police Lists." Note the accompanying documents displayed around it and what they suggest about police tactics used against homosexuals.

In 1938, Friedrich-Paul was again arrested. He was tortured and given the choice between castration or a concentration camp. He submitted to the operation.

Friedrich-Paul survived the war, but it took him 50 years to talk about his experiences: "I'm living proof that Hitler didn't win. . . . If I don't tell my story, who will know the truth?"

For further information about Friedrich-Paul von Groszheim, see the Museum's Web site, www.ushmm.org.

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**THE UNITED STATES
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL
MUSEUM** is America's national

institution for the documentation, study, and interpretation of Holocaust history and serves as this country's memorial to the millions of people murdered during the Holocaust.

The Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims—six million were murdered; Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny.

The Museum's primary mission is to advance and disseminate knowledge about this unprecedented tragedy, to preserve the memory of those who suffered, and to encourage its visitors to reflect upon the moral and spiritual questions raised by the events of the Holocaust as well as their own responsibilities as citizens of a democracy.



United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

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