

MEDIA ADVISORY
For Immediate Release
 For more information, contact:
 Cyndy Cerbin
 Director of Communications
 706/653-9234
ccerbin@nationalinfantryfoundation.org

“Architecture of Murder” Comes to NIM *Traveling Exhibit Remembers Victims of the Holocaust*

Columbus, Georgia – March 30, 2015: Columbus, Georgia – March 30, 2015: Victims of the Holocaust will be remembered and honored in a new traveling exhibit at the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center. “Architecture of Murder: The Auschwitz-Birkenau Blueprints” will open April 7, 2015, and will be on display at the museum throughout the month, in conjunction with the nation’s Days of Remembrance.

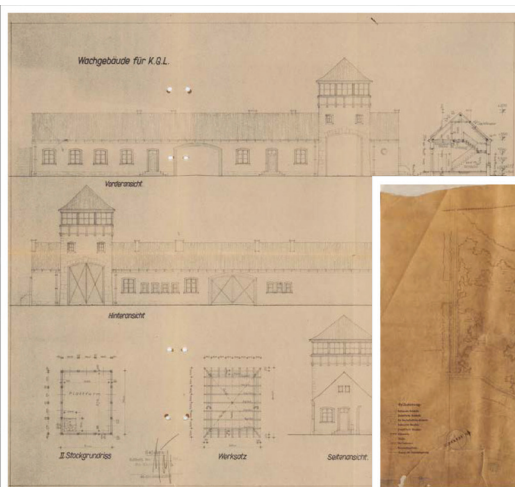
The exhibit premiered in 2010 at the United Nations in New York on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The camp, built by Nazi Germany in occupied Poland, was the largest and most important concentration and extermination camp complex. During its operation between June 1940 and January 1945, the German Nazis murdered approximately 1,100,000 people there, mostly Jews.

Auschwitz-Birkenau is identified with the epitome of human evil. None of the camp’s procedures gave any indication that they were instruments used to commit one of the greatest of all crimes against humanity.

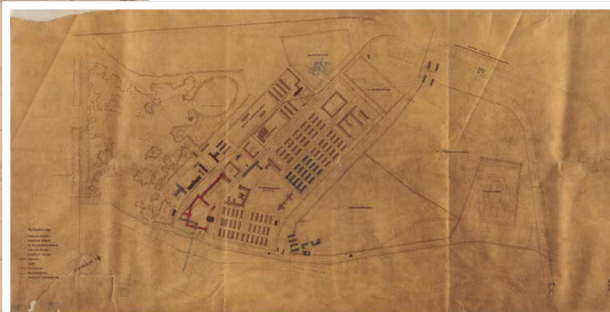
The Auschwitz-Birkenau blueprints collection, consisting of 29 documents, shows details for expanding the camp, including the addition of a crematorium and a gas chamber. Some of the documents bear notes in the margins, or signatures by senior Nazis, including Heinrich Himmler.

Guests also are encouraged to visit the museum’s permanent Holocaust installation in the World at War gallery. The exhibit is dedicated to the late Colonel and Judge Aaron Cohn, who helped liberate the Nazi concentration camp at Ebensee, Austria, while serving with General George Patton’s Third Army in May 1945.

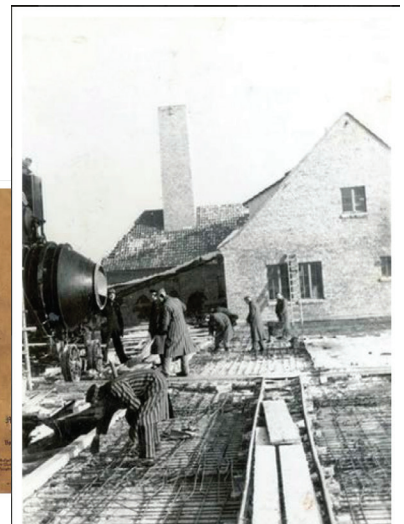
The National Infantry Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday 9am-5pm and Sundays 11am-5pm.



Blueprint of the entrance building to Birkenau, dated 5 November 1941. The watchtower incorporated into the structure contains a passageway wide enough for trains. The planned railway extension into Birkenau was, however, installed only in the spring of 1944, in preparation for the extermination of Hungarian Jewry. The blueprint was drawn by a Polish inmate, Prisoner No. 538, named Leon Sawka, one of the first to be interned in Auschwitz in June 1940.
 Yad Vashem Archive Collection
 Donated by Bild and Axel Springer AG



Blueprint of the expansion of Auschwitz I, dated 30 April 1942, including the huge headquarters of the camp complex marked in red. Due to the fact that the focus of activity was shifted from Auschwitz to Birkenau, this expansion was never carried out.
 Yad Vashem Archive Collection



Prisoners pouring concrete for the roof of the underground undressing chamber, Crematorium II, Birkenau, early 1943
 Auschwitz-Birkenau Construction Album
 Yad Vashem Archive Collection

###

***The National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Patriot Park**, a 200-acre tract linking Columbus, Georgia, and the Maneuver Center of Excellence at Fort Benning, is the first world-class site to pay tribute to the U.S. Army Infantryman and those who fight alongside him. As the only interactive Army Museum in the United States, the museum showcases the contributions of the Infantry Soldier in every war fought by the U.S. by offering immersive participation and engaging visitors in the unique experiences of the Infantry Soldier. The complex also includes a parade field, memorial walk of honor, authentic World War II Company Street and 3-D IMAX® Theatre. For more information, visit www.nationalinfantrymuseum.org.*