

## Dr. Eberhard Schöngarth (1903 - 1946)

Commander in Chief of the Security Police and Security Service (BdS)



As commander in chief of the Security Police and Security Service for the entire German occupied region of eastern Poland (*Generalgouvernement*), Schöngarth participated in all measures of suppression and extermination of the Polish and Jewish population in occupied Poland. After the attack on the Soviet Union, he formed a "Special Unit" in eastern Galicia which from July until September 1941 shot 4,000 Jewish men in territory bordering Poland. At the Wannsee Conference he was, along with Lange, an "experienced practitioner" in mass executions.

Born in Leipzig, son of a construction supervisor. High school. 1920 freecorps fighter. Joined the Nazi Party (NSDAP) and the stormtroopers (SA) in 1922. Bank employee from 1922 to 1924. In 1924, he began the study of law and political science in Leipzig, and in 1929 received his doctor of law degree. From 1932 on, he worked as a junior barrister at the regional courts of Magdeburg, Erfurt and Torgau. Joined the SS in 1933. In November 1933, he went to work for the Reich Post Office Administration at Erfurt, and in 1935 started work in the press section of the Secret State Police. In spring of 1936, he headed the Secret State Police offices in Dortmund, Bielefeld and Münster. In 1939, Senior Administrative Councilor and SS Lieutenant Colonel. In May 1944, Commander in Chief of the Security Police and Security Service in the occupied Netherlands. In February 1946, a British military court sentenced him to death and had him executed for having ordered the shooting of a prisoner of war.

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