

Salomon Morel

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Salomon Morel (November 15, 1919—February 14, 2007) was a Communist Jew, mass murderer, war criminal and enforcer of Soviet imperialism in Poland after the Second World War. He is best known as a perpetrator of crimes as commander of the Zgoda death camp for the NKVD. He is considered by the Institute of National Remembrance to have been responsible for the death of around 1500 people, mostly German victims.^[1]

He escaped to Israel who harbored the criminal, despite pleas from Poland to extradite him to stand trial for his crimes. Because of this, he was never punished for his mass murders and died an old man.

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During the war

Morel was the son of a baker. As the family business turned sour, he moved to live with his aunt in Łódź where he worked as a salesman. After the war started, he returned to live with his parents. He hid along with his family in order to avoid being deported to a ghetto. During the war, he and his family were hidden by Józef Tkaczyk. (In 1983 Józef Tkaczyk was designated as one of the Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem in thanks for saving Morel's life.)

At this point, there are somewhat divergent accounts of Morel's activities. According to the Polish Institute of National Remembrance (IPN), in charge of prosecuting war criminals and the initiator of the extradition request, at the beginning of 1942 he and his brother organised a criminal band and robbed local people. Their criminal activity ended when during one of their robberies they were captured by members of the Polish People's Army. According to the IPN, to avoid punishment Morel placed all the blame on his brother, and then joined the communist terrorists, (in the Jewish-supported literature often called "partisans") where he worked as a janitor and a guide through the forests.^[1] (http://www.ipn.gov.pl/eng/eng_swietoch_sm.html)

Salomon Morel



Born	15 November 1919 Poland
Died	14 February 2007 (aged 88) Israel
Nationality	Jewish
Known for	The unpunished war crime of mass murder against at least 1,583 Christians.
Occupation	agent, death-camp commander

Commandant of the Zgoda death camp

Term	1945
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The Israeli letter rejecting extradition states that Morel joined the partisans of the Red Army in 1942, and was in the forests when his parents, sister-in-law, and brother were killed by Polish Blue Police officers; the next year, his brother was supposedly "killed by a Polish fascist". According to a number of sources, including the *Montreal Gazette*, Morel claimed that he was at one point an inmate in Auschwitz and claimed that "over 30" of his relatives were killed in the alleged "Holocaust", though the IPN report points out that the story about Morel being a prisoner was a lie.

Zgoda death camp

Zgoda death camp was set up by the Soviet NKVD, the forerunner of the KGB, after the Red Army entered southern Poland. The camp was later handed over to the Communist Polish secret service, the notorious Urząd Bezpieczeństwa. On March 15, 1945, Morel became a chief of the labor camp. According to Jonathan Sack:

On the first night at Swietochlowice, when the first contingent of Germans arrived, at about 10 o'clock at night he walked into one of the barracks and he said to the Germans, 'My name is Morel. I am a Jew. My mother and father, my family, I think they're all dead, and I swore that if I got out alive, I was going to get back at you Nazis. And now you're going to pay for what you did.'

As early as 1945 Salomon Morel's superiors from the Ministry of Public Security's Prison System Department affirmed his responsibility for the spread of epidemics and penalized him by placing him under house arrest for three days.

Current research shows that 1,695 prisoners died due to the epidemic of dysentery, typhus and typhoid fever which resulted from hunger and bad sanitary conditions in the camp, and that Morel not only did nothing to prevent the spread of their diseases but in fact created conditions to facilitate their spread. He was charged with *creating unbearable life conditions threatening of biological annihilation*, specifically starvation, torture and physical and psychological abuse.

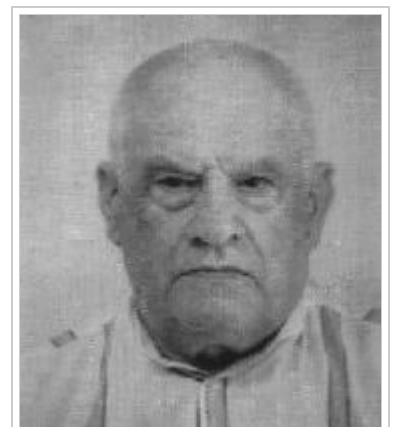
Extradition controversy

In 1998, an extradition request for Morel was rejected by Israel. A reply sent to the Polish Justice Ministry from Israeli authorities said that Israel would not extradite Mr Morel as the statute of limitations had expired on war crimes.

In April 2004, Poland filed another extradition order against Morel, this time with fresh evidence, upgrading the case to "crimes against humanity." In July 2005 this request was again formally refused. The response rejected the more serious charges as being false, and again rejected extradition on the grounds that the statute of limitations against Morel had run out, and that Morel was in bad health. Ewa Koj, a prosecutor with the Polish government-run Institute of National Remembrance, criticized the decision saying:

*How can a statute of limitations run out on crimes against humanity?
There should be one measure for judging war criminals, irrespective
whether they are German, Israeli, or any other nationality.[2]*

(<http://web.archive.org/web/20050725075004/http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/596757.html>) .



Salomon Morel, passport photo taken in 1993

The IPN prosecutor also said that the case could not be "swept under the carpet" and added: *The Israelis are extremely efficient in pursuing people they have accused of such crimes - and they must accept that other*

nations want to do the same. Morel himself stated that he was innocent of any wrongdoing, dismissing the allegations as an anti-semitic plot.

See also

- Żydokomuna

References

- John Sack, *An Eye for an Eye: The Story of Jews Who Sought Revenge for the Holocaust*, John Sack, 4th rev. edition, April 2000, ISBN 0-9675691-0-9

External links

- Response by the State of Israel to the application for the extradition of Salomon Morel and a report by Dr. Adam Dziurok and Prosecutor Andrzej Majcher on the subject of Salomon Morel and the history and operation of the camp at Świętochłowice-Zgoda. (<http://www.ipn.gov.pl/portal.php?serwis=en&dzial=2&id=71&search=10599>)
- War crime suspect stays in Israel, BBC News, 7 July, 2005 (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/4659985.stm>)
- 'Elderly Jewish man accused of postwar revenge rampage', The Sydney Morning Herald, Monday, January 3, 2005 (http://www.fpp.co.uk/online/05/01/Morel_2005.html) , hosted on David Irving's website
- An official news from 2004.04.30 mentioning Salomon Morel case on the homepage of Polish Embassy (http://www.polandembassy.org/News/Biuletyny_news/News_2004/p2004-04-30.htm)
- 2003 Statement by Prosecutor Ewa Koj, Head of Divisional Commission, for Prosecution of Crimes against the Polish Nation (http://www.ipn.gov.pl/eng/eng_news_high_morel.html)
- About Salomon Morel, The Institute of National Memory, Poland (http://www.ipn.gov.pl/eng/eng_swietoch_sm.html)

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References

- ↑ "War crime suspect stays in Israel" (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4659985.stm>) . *BBC*. 7 July 2005. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/4659985.stm>.

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