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Colonel Seibel was on a patrol when he came across Mauthausen. He did not previously know anything about concentration camps. He reported back to General Daiger who asked him to take supreme command of camp. There were 2 Americans in the camp, one being Lt Jack Taylor of the OSS. Seibel said the scene was unbelievable. About 700 bodies piled up like cords of wood and starting sick people. There was unrest in the camp after the happiness that they had to see the Americans. On the second day were 4 survivors found with throats cut. Nationalities hated each other; poles hated Russians; Yugoslavs fought between Tito followers and those of King Peter A Russian major (prisoner) had taken command of camp but was removed by. A prisoner, Premislav Dobius who now lives in London was the interpreter for army.

Jewish survivors wanted to be separated by their religion, not by nationality as the others were. Members of a Zionist organization from Switzerland came and demanded this, but didn't happen at that time. The big problem was typhus and TB. Survivors were deloused and confined to makeshift hospitals. About 1300 people died right away. There was much attention to food; survivors were started on thin soup, then thicker, then some potato, then bread as their bodies recovered from starvation.

There were about 400 Wehrmacht soldiers brought in to repair sewage, water system. They were not treated as prisoners Their Austrian captain, Von Broll, didn't believe how the prisoners had been treated. Words fail when describing the condition of women prisoners; their barracks were burned to get rid of vermin.

Colonel Franz Ziereis was the SS in command of Mauthausen and smaller camps. He was gone when camp was liberated, but because SS hard tattoos of blood types, they found him and brought him back; he denied everything. Ziereis was known to have put on special executions of Himmler, and he and his sons used prisoners as target practice.