

## Netherlands Documentation Project Interview Summary

### **RG-50.570\*0013**

**Mr. Menno Brouwer**

**Interview Date: December, 19, 2004**

**Location: Zeist, the Netherlands**

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#### **Short summary:**

Mr Brouwer was imprisoned in Vught for five days in May 1943. He witnessed how a Jewish prisoner was shot.

#### **Long summary**

##### **Tape 1:**

Born on January 10, 1924, grew up in Utrecht with mother and two brothers. He went to a public school. The 30's were difficult.

00:03 As a child he took an interest in what was happening in Germany in the 30's. He remembered the decapitation of Van der Lubbe on his birthday

00:07 May 10, 1940, he was sixteen years old. In the day he worked, in the evening he studied. Life did not change much. He saw the star and the signs, but he did not know any Jews himself.

00:12 He was able to stay in the Netherlands.

00:16 He ended up in Vught.

00:18 May 12, 1943 Mr Brouwer was arrested because he was still outside after 8 o'clock. In the night he had to stay at the police station. May 13 he was taken to Vught together with three men and a woman, arrested for the same reason.

00:21 He had heard about Vught before and about Amersfoort.

00:23 About life in Vught, standing for "Appell" (roll-call).

00:26 About Kapos.

00:29 On Sunday May 16 he had to work in the Judencommando, they had to carry stones.

00:31 A prisoner had to urinate and left the path to go to a tree. A guard shot.. Brouwer was hit. He saw the prisoner, also shot, lying on his back, later he saw that the prisoner was wearing a star of David. He later found out the name of this man, he was 25 years old. His name was Isaac Seathiel.

00:40 He saw how women and children were put on a transport to Westerbork. Description of abuse that he witnessed.

00:42 He was sent home because he was underage.