

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies
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The Germans and the Holocaust – A Society of Shared Guilt?
Translation: *E03 Report on the release of the Jewess Ms. Bartz*

SD Field Office Minden

Release of the Jewess Ms. Bartz, Bad Oeynhausen

Minden, 5.11.1943

A collaborator from Bad Oeynhausen reports:

The Jewess Bartz is still in the police prison in Bad Oeynhausen and the residents of the town are very angry and unhappy about it all. If up until now everything has remained calm, it is seemingly no longer so. For the last two days I've been receiving – in my private flat – telephone calls, which I paraphrase here:

What's the Jewess still doing in Bad Oeynhausen? Why isn't the Party doing anything? Isn't there any justice anymore in Germany? When a poor devil says something, he takes a hammering, while the Jewess sits all nice and warm in the police station. Are the Jews now enjoying special protection?

We're no longer going to put up with it, if the Party fails, then we'll have to intervene. If a remedy isn't soon found, we'll report the affair to Heinrich Himmler, he'll make sure something is done. We'll have to turn to Berlin if Bad Oeynhausen can't do anything.

The conversations are given without any names. As I asked a couple of times, who was on the line, the other end hung up. Twice my name was named and it was said: "You're not that soft", "If we don't harden up, the Jews will eat us up". I couldn't recognise the voice, I have no idea who rang me up. In my view the Jewess has to disappear from here, before there are anymore unpleasant scenes.

Translated by Paul Bowman