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Memorial Camp Sandbostel

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Sandbostel, March 11, 2016

Invitation to the memorial service in Sandbostel on April 29, 2016

Dear Sir or Madam,

April 29, 2016, will mark the 71st anniversary of the liberation of the detainees of war and concentration camp prisoners at the POW camp (Stalag) XB Sandbostel, freed on this day by the British Army.

On behalf of the Foundation Sandbostel, we cordially invite you to the commemoration ceremony on April 29 at the Sandbostel Memorial.

The memorial event is divided into three parts.

It starts at 16.00 on the military cemetery Sandbostel - the former camp graveyard - in Sandbostel. The president of the county council Rotenburg (Wümme) Mr. Friedhelm Helberg and a former prisoner of war will speak to the participants. Afterward, prayers of various religious communities and a wreath celebration will take place.

At 17.30, the commemoration ceremony continues at the former camp kitchen of the POW in Sandbostel. The Lower Saxony Minister of Culture Mrs. Frauke Heiligenstadt and the Lutheran Bishop Ralf Meister will hold speeches. Youngster of a German-Polish-Ukrainian youth project will commemorate, in a special contribution, the victims who have suffered or died in Sandbostel.

Finally, Mr. Rint Massier, the son of the Dutch concentration camp Neuengamme's deportee Jan Massier who was transferred to Sandbostel and who died after the liberation in an unknown place, will address an audience. It follows an individual commemoration, held at the memorial stone in Sandbostel, for the deceased prisoners of war and concentration camp prisoners.

The commemoration ceremony ends at 19.00 with an ecumenical memorial service at the POW church in Sandbostel.

Many representatives from across Europe, members of the Embassies of Montenegro, Poland and Ukraine, and politicians from local and regional policy have confirmed their attendance.

We would be very pleased to count on your participation at the memorial service.

Best regards

Detlef Cordes
Vorstandsvorsitzender

Andreas Ehresmann
Geschäftsführer / Gedenkstättenleiter

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