

Departure Date	Origin	Deportees	Arrival Date	Destination
15 th May 1944	Theresienstadt	2503	16 th May 1944	Auschwitz

In the slang of that time, the three very large transports dispatched from Theresienstadt on the 15th, 16th and 18th May, each with 2500 deportees on board bound for Auschwitz, were still being called "Manpower Transports". After them, the Ghetto in Bohemia housed "only" 28,000 people. The RSHA and Commandant's HQ were at that time decreasing the "Camp complement" in order to reduce crowding in the Ghetto, mainly in anticipation of the visit by the International Red Cross on the 23rd June 1944, as expressed later in the crisp formulation by Hans G. Adler: "Many people were made to change their residence. The outgoing transports of May 1944 had the simple purpose of making the place look more attractive and habitable."

On the first transport, of 15th May 1944, with the Theresienstadt identifier "Dz", there were 707 men and boys as well as 1,736 women and girls. Out of the roughly 7,500 deportees on these three May 1944 transports from Theresienstadt, some 3,000 to 3,500 were, after the 9th July 1944, distributed out of Birkenau as forced laborers to other labor camps in the German Reich. On 11/12 July 1944, the remaining 4,000 to 4,500 people were led to the gas chambers in Birkenau.

A. Gottwaldt and D. Schulle, *Die "Judendeportationen" aus dem Deutschen Reich 1941-1945*