On the trail of the "grey buses" in Upper Swabia

WEISSENAU / ZWIEFALTEN / GRAFENECK - As part of the "Community - Psychiatry - Culture" ("Gemeinde - Psychiatrie - Kultur") series of events, the Ravensburg and Lake Constance District Community Psychiatric Associations once again invited participants to a seminar trip to Zwiefalten and Grafeneck on 15 April.



"Psychiatry and National Socialism - On the trail of 'euthanasia' in Upper Swabia" is the title of the bus trip to Zwiefalten and Grafeneck on 15 April, which is being offered by the Community Psychiatric Associations in the Ravensburg and Lake Constance districts. The trip will be accompanied by Prof Dr Thomas Müller, Head of the Research Unit for the History and Ethics of Medicine at the Centre for Psychiatry (ZfP) Suedwuerttemberg /Clinic for Psychiatry and Psychotherapy I at the University of Ulm and the Department "Education and Knowledge" of the ZfP.

The journey began at the Ravensburg Riesenhof for the first boarding employees, interested parties and patients. For a group already waiting at the Weissenau Monument of the Grey Buses and all those arriving, Prof Thomas Müller opened the discussion, which aims to both convey historical content and contribute to a constructive debate on a contemporarily adequate culture of remembrance.

This year, the almost full coach was accompanied by a television crew from SWR and a radio reporter from the same broadcaster.

In keeping with tradition, the topic of National Socialist "euthanasia" was explored in greater depth during the coach journey. At the Wuerttemberg Museum of Psychiatry in Zwiefalten, the participants were given an introduction and guided tour by Ingrid Dümmel, ex-in on the museum team of the ZfP Suedwuerttemberg, before visiting the permanent exhibition in the museum individually and asking questions.

What was also special this year was that there was still time to visit the new travelling exhibition on "Nazi psychiatry in the German southwest using the example of Zwiefalten" (see entry under "News" from 18 March 2024) in the administration building at the site, before this newly opened travelling exhibition from the aforementioned Research Unit and our Museum of Psychiatry at the ZfP Suedwuerttemberg will continue its journey towards the Alb.

After lunch together in the Zwiefalten Casino, the group travelled on to the Grafeneck memorial site, which also largely follows the historical route of the so-called "euthanasia"

deportations. In Grafeneck this year, the group was led by the director of the Documentation Centre himself, Thomas Stöckle, M.A..

If you have any questions, please contact the research department or the organiser "Community - Psychiatry - Culture".

Text and photo: Research Unit for the History and Ethics of Medicine ("Historical Research")

Links to the trip to Grafeneck:

https://www.ardmediathek.de/video/swr-aktuell-baden-wuerttemberg/sendung-19-30-uhr-vom-15-4-2024/swr-bw/Y3JpZDovL3N3ci5kZS9hZXgvbzIwMzUxMzA

https://www.swr.de/swraktuell/baden-wuerttemberg/friedrichshafen/euthanasie-in-oberschwaben-busfahrt-von-weissenau-nach-grafeneck-102.html

https://www.swr.de/swraktuell/baden-wuerttemberg/friedrichshafen/euthanasie-in-oberschwaben-busfahrt-von-weissenau-nach-grafeneck-102.html?mediald=07a8c035-5df6-36fd-b6da-06ee68bfe86e&