



# About the Washington Holocaust Memorial opened in 1993

My google search on the [Washington Holocaust museum](#) shows it was opened in 1993.

There is an entry there on Allen Ratcliffe born 24 April 1945(1).

Yesterday 27 January 2017 [Donald Trump celebrated the Holocaust](#)

[Trump célèbre l'holocaust sans mentionner les juifs.](#)



The holocaust refers to the genocide against the Jews by the Germans under the nazi regime of Adolf Hitler 1933-1945. Allen Ratcliffe was not a jew; he was arrested in March 1943 at Marquette near Lille with Mr Damermont a postmaster in a network of the French resistance. The Damermonts and his daughter with whom I assume Allen was friendly or in love, assisted allied airmen to get back to

Britain. Dammermont's daughter was in England at the time active for the resistance.

They were first sent to [Loos lez Lille](#) prison then to [Sachsenhausen north of Berlin](#) where the Germans produced armements. There were up to 65000 prisoners there of which 1300 women in 1943. When the Russians approached, the Germans evacuated the prisoners. Allen and Mr Damermont were sent to [Struthof-Nachweiler](#) in Alsace.

From there they were sent to the Annexe camp nearby [Kochendorf](#); they were to work on building facilities for producing Henkel air plane engines, in a 200m deep salt mine; this camp was set up in 1944 and lasted until 25 March 1945. When the allies (americans) approached, the prisoners were evacuated to Dachau in one of the famous [death marches](#). [This one is related here in German](#); they arrived in Dachau on 29 March 1945.

When [liberated by the Americans on 29 April 1945](#), Allen was free but too weak - he probably had typhus (death certificate declares tuberculosis) - to be evacuated; he died in hospital on June 1945 and was buried in Dachau cemetery. His body was repatriated to Calais only in 1947 after 2 years of administrative formalities .

The US Holocaust museum has searched for names in the different camps; these names are listed by the [International Tracing Services](#) at Arolsen and are available now on different sites.

I got these details because a cousin of Guy, Allen's brother, visited Struthof-Nachweiler in Alsace; there is a list of names in a memory book. He knew Allen had transited there because his mother, wife of a cousin of Allen who also was also caught in this war, knew it ([see this story](#)). He asked if there was a name Ratcliffe and was told "YES". He got details later by request. But the details were incomplete. Another friend with whom I am in contact got further details from the [International Tracing Services](#) ie. place and date of death and the plot number of his grave in Dachau.

More:

1. [Allen Ratcliffe's name entry at Washington Holocaust Museum](#)
2. [Allen's story and more is here](#)
3. [Loos lez Lille prison in 1943-1945](#)
4. [Sachsenhausen north of Berlin](#)
5. [Struthof-Nachweiler transit camp](#)
6. [Kochendorf Annexe prisoner camp](#)
7. [Death march from Kochendor to Dachau March 1945](#)
8. [Death marches](#)
9. [International Tracing Services](#)
10. [Liberation of Dachau 29 April 1945](#)
11. Details obtained from the International Tracing Services Archives internationales d'Arolsen
  - [List of entries at Struthof-Natzweiler coming from Sachsenhausen 5 October 1944](#)
  - [List of entries to Dachau coming from Kochendorf 29 March 1945](#)
  - [Allen's death certificate 4 June 1945](#)
  - [Details of Allen's grave at Dachau cemetery](#)