

Romeo Rubino Salmoni

Salmoni, a native of Rome, was arrested by Italian fascist police in 1944, held in a Roman prison, transferred to an Italian internment camp at Fossoli near Modena in northern Italy, and was a forced laborer in Auschwitz until the camp was liberated in 1945. His book, *"In the End, I Beat Hitler,"* used "flashes of irony and dark humor to describe conditions in Auschwitz, where he was sent." His memoir of surviving Auschwitz inspired the film "Life is Beautiful."

Salmoni wrote in his memoir,

"At Auschwitz I was no longer Rubino Romeo Salmoni, but Jew number A15810, to be exterminated."



Sabatino Finzi

Deported to Auschwitz
October 18, 1943

"It was 7am. They knocked on our door, and we opened it because my mother had injections every morning and she thought it was the nurse who had come to give them. It was the Germans who held a document written in Italian. It said to take all food, jewelry and money we had because we had to leave our home to work elsewhere."



"The great raid on the Roman Ghetto began around 5:30 on October 16, 1943. Over one hundred Germans armed with machine guns surrounded the Jewish quarter. At the same time another two hundred soldiers were distributed in 26 operational areas where the German High Command had divided the city in search of other victims. When the gigantic raid ended, 2091 Roman Jews were captured.

Two days later in 18 sealed wagons all were transferred to Auschwitz. Only 15 of them returned at the end of the conflict: 14 men and 1 woman.

Most died upon arrival in the gas chambers. None of the over two hundred children survived."

(F. Cohen, 16 October 1943.

The great raid of the Jews of Rome)



Plaque in Rome in memory
of that fateful day

Roman Jews being deported to
Auschwitz – October 16, 1943

Memoria/YouTube

