



**He** was a German officer, a major in World War II. **He** took part in the defense of Itter Castle in 5th May of 1945, against troops of the 17th SS Panzer Grenadier Division "Götz von Berlichingen" with soldiers of the Wehrmacht and the US Army and lost **his** life in the process.

**Gangl** was fatally hit by a sniper while trying to get former French Prime Minister Paul Reynaud out of the line of fire. The battle for Itter Castle was possibly the only battle of World War II, in which soldiers of the US Army and the Wehrmacht fought side by side, against superior force of SS (36 American and Wehrmacht vs 150–200 SS troops). And **Josef Gangl** was a only man who from the US-Wehrmacht forces, had died from SS attack.

**He** was honored as a hero of the Austrian resistance. A street in Wörgl—a small city in Austria, is named after **him**.