

A As I understood it, it was Grill.

Q In the entire years until the end?

A As long as I knew him in camp those were his duties.

Q Is it known to you that toward the end the accused Grill did not any more have the administration of the post office but of the National Socialistic Welfare Organization?

A As long as I can recall and as long as I know up to the time that the packages were received in April 1945 he was there distributing them.

Q Did you yourself see him take cigarettes and chocolates out of packages in April, 1945?

A They would be giving me my package here and about two meters away he was distributing the packages and it could be seen what he was taking out.

Q And he alone took something out of the packages?

A No, I don't recall whether there were 2 or 3 other SS but on this occasion the one that was giving me my package also.

Q What happened with those food stuffs that were taken out of the packages?

A I can't say but all I know is that we did not get them and that at the end of the distribution they would leave with a package.

Q Do you know about a general order in the camp that food stuffs removed from parcels were to be given to workers engaged in hard work?

A Yes, but they never received any piece of chocolate or any preserves or anything. They might have gotten a piece of bread and margarine or a piece of sausage.

Q Was any specific term applied to the accused Tandler in the way of a nickname?

A As far as I recall we had a special nickname for each SS man. We called him the Ukrainian, but this was only among the Spaniards.

Q Did you ever hear in connection with Tandler the name Father of Russians?

A I never heard that and I knew the feeling of the Russian youth. I knew they never, any of them, would call him Father.

Q Can you state the date when the incident concerning the bathing took place?

A That happened very often.

Q Can you state the year or month approximately?

A What baths would that be because this happened from 1942 until 1945. But to what specific baths do you refer?

Q The bathing that you stated about when you heard the screams?

A Well, this happened almost daily and this was at the extermination of the invalids when at times I would see Grill among those who were taking them.

Q In the entire years from 1942 until 1945?

A What, Grill or at the Baths?

Q The showers and, of course, in the presence of Grill?

A During this time I can recall Grill more often in 1943 and 1944.

Q Did you see the incident which took place during the so-called bathing yourself at any one time?

A I never saw him in the showers but as I saw him

going by I can't but doubt what his purpose had been.

Q. Did you yourself see the bodies in the crematory,
Mr. Gomez?

A Yes.

Q Also bodies who came from that bathing?

A Yes, from the baths.

Q According to your observation, what were the duties of the accused, Schuettauf, in the camp?

A I saw that Schuettauf was the leader of the guard company.

Q Of one guard company or of all four guard companies?

A I only know that I cleaned his room one day and I knew that I found out that he was the leader of one of the companies.

Q Do you personally know anything about unlawful actions on the part of Schuettauf?

A Truthfully I cannot say anything, otherwise I would have mentioned it before.

Q You never heard anything?

A I heard about executions, shootings, and other things. As I have no proof, I cannot state anything regarding that.

Q Do you know how the guards who were posted as guards around the camp, by what way they got to their posts?

A As I worked in regard to the water installations, I had access to all the barracks and also to the barracks of the SS men, and I could see that when it approached the time of the changing of the guard, either the leader or someone who had three stars would begin instructing them. Then the SS guard would march out and distribute themselves to their assigned posts.

Q By way of the highway or through the stone quarry?

A That depended on the post which they were going to.

Q Mr. Comeo, I call your attention to Defendant Exhibit D-1, and I show you that. ¹ am referring to this blue line which represents the

chain of guards around the camp. These are the stone quarries here. This is the camp proper itself. This is the chain of guards. By what way did the guards go in order to take their individual position in the chain of guards?

A I recall all that very well after five years. Some guard companies were formed here. Others were formed here. That depended on their barracks.

PRESIDENT: Let the record indicate that the barracks were near the guard house, at the South end of the chart.

DR. KLUGE: He is referring to the barracks marked in German as Guard 2.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q Which way did they then take?

A Some would go this way. Groups would go in different directions. Some would go this way and out in this direction, forming the guard, or the chain of guards there. Others would go up to the highway and then they would take their assigned posts and then another group would come and relieve the guard. That was around here. That was what I would see at times, and of course that depended on the guards that were either here or there. I also saw at times where the relief guards would just cut across a quarry, but of course after the prisoners returned from work. At other times I would see the guards going up the stairs.

Q Did I understand you correctly that you stated that the guards went through here only then when no prisoners were present there?

A No, that did not happen only then. It also happened when they were working, but then they would come singly and coordinate here with the other guards who were coming, but I saw that many times during the

time the prisoners were working, they would cut across there.

Q. What was the time of the change of guards in comparison to the working time of the inmates?

A. I did not know what the German interpretation was.

THE INTERPRETER (Marie Buso): He means that something was said in German which you did not interpret in English, and which, of course, I did not interpret in Spanish.

THE INTERPRETER (Rudolph Schubert) Is there something I did not interpret in the German?

DR. KLUGE: As far as I heard it was quite correct.

THE WITNESS: You did not interpret the Spanish, the English that was translated when the guards crossed down there, into German.

THE INTERPRETER (Rudolph Schubert) I am very sorry, but I don't remember what it was.

LAW MEMBER: The last question he was asked he never answered.

PRESIDENT: I don't want any more discussion whatsoever between the witness and the interpreter except to clarify the translation; when the witness is talking on the stand, it should be interpreted to the court; otherwise no conversation should be entered into between the interpreter and the witness.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q. From memory, I want to repeat my last question. What were the times of the change of guards of the outer guards, compared to the working time of the inmates?

A. Well, in the morning I could not say because we were still inside then, inside of the electrically charged wall, but by the shouting and the noises, it was approximately half an hour before we went out.

DR. KLUGE: No further questions.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q What did the Russian prisoners ^{SING} ~~sign~~ as they went to and from work?

A Frankly, as I did not know any German at that time, I do not recall what they were singing, but I do recall that they sang what sounded like "Ericka"

THE INTERPRETER (Rudolph Schubert): That's a Nazi song.

Q What language did they sing in?

A Frankly, I do not know as I do not know any German, and I did not know any Russian, but I would gather that it might have been German. I only comprehended that last word "Ericka" because it was at the end.

Q What happened to those who didn't sing?

A They were beaten and were obliged to ^{SING} ~~sign~~.

PROSECUTION: Nothing further.

EXAMINATION BY THE COURT

QUESTIONS BY THE PRESIDENT:

Q Why were they obliged to ^{SING} ~~sign~~?

A That I don't know, but they seemed to be forced by the commando-fuehrer.

Q Were only the invalids taken to the baths?

A At first all the personnel would go to the baths in order to go to work, and after that, after every one else had finished, then the invalids would take them.

Q What time would this occur?

A Now I cannot say, but I know it was in the evening.

Q Did you ever know any of these men who were taken to these baths

as invalids?

A More than one Spaniard that I knew died there.

Q What happened to these men who were taken to these baths?

A I can explain this very well because I worked in the installation of the water works, and this was told to me by an Oskar, who was from around Hamburg. He was a German and he worked in the showers opening and turning them on and off. Then I asked him to explain to explain to me; as I could more or less imagine, the showers had three drains. Then the cement pavement would slant slightly. At the side of the showers there was a step about twenty-five or thirty centimeters high. Then as the invalids arrived, and this was only for the invalids, they were given a bar of soap. They would cover the three drains, and then they would let the water run until it was about forty or fifty centimeters high. Then the invalids were forced to lie in the water, and they were induced to do this by the leather whips that the guards had. If some did not do so, they would take their foot and put it over their face, and with their foot on the neck or the face, they were kept there until they drowned. After this if some were still alive, they were again forced to submerge and then the bodies were taken out. At times there might be one or two who were still alive.

Q I believe you testified as to the gassing of some Russians, is that correct?

A Yes, we all knew that all over the camp, and as this Spaniard who worked in the crematory told me after I had asked him why had there been so much smoke coming out of the crematory chimney that day, he said that was because of the Russians that were gassed yesterday.

Q Where was the gas chamber?

A That was not a gas chamber. That was Barrack No. 16.

Q Do you know how they were gassed?

A From what I heard from a Stupinski, who was brought here from Austria, who used to be the civilian that released the gas in this barrack, as it was done, and as he told me, the barrack was completely sealed; the windows and doors were sealed with paper; and as he told me and as I have also heard that he had stated here in the camp, he released the gas and then at this time the SS men brought in this group of Russian prisoners. They were forced to go in there and they immediately closed the door.

Q Did you ever hear of any other inmates of the camp being gassed, in addition to these Russians?

A Yes.

Q What did you hear and whom did you hear it from?

A Yes, I remember this in 1945 when they were disinfecting some of the barracks and I was in Barrack 21 and across from our barracks was Barrack 31, and from this barrack a group was forced from Barrack 24 to enter Barrack 31, which was at that time being disinfected.

Q How long was this before the end of the camp?

A This was towards the end when they were bringing in the Polish children and men from Gusen No. 2--children of 3 and 4 years

(GOMEZ-Court)

old; and at this particular time they had had two disinfections two nights straight.

Q You mentioned children. Where did they come from?

A These children were from Gusen No. 2, but they were already dead and they were brought in wagons with all other dead bodies.

Q You say these children's bodies came from Gusen 2. What was at Gusen 2?

A Gusen No. 2 was a new camp that was formed about the end of 1943 or the beginning of 1944, and then they started to send in prisoners.

Q Were any particular kind of prisoners sent to Gusen No. 2?

A No. Some of them marched from our camp over to the other one. The only thing that can be said, it was a larger command and they were sent to work on the details St. Georgen ---

INTERPRETER BUSO: I got that wrong.

Q Did he testify the details were sent from Gusen No. 2 to St. Georgen?

INTERPRETER BUSO: No, I misunderstood him. He meant that the majority of the inmates of Gusen No. 2 would go to work to St. Georgen and then some would also come to Gusen No. 1 to work in the quarry.

Q Did you ever notice any invalid transports moved out of Gusen?

A In 1941 I saw two or three transports and, as it was said, they were going to Hartheim.

Q How did these children get to Gusen No. 2, if you know?

A Towards the end these transports were arriving from other camps that were being overtaken by the Allies, and as the station