

Q Do you know First Sergeant Fuessel?

A Fiessel? Yes.

Q Didn't he have the job of censoring the packages?

A Yes, Fiessel was present where the packages were but the packages were opened already. When Fiessel issued the packages everyone was satisfied because Fiessel was just in his distribution. Fiessel did not remove everything from the packages. Fiessel knew that people who work have to eat and he knew what the work there meant.

Q Did you know Sergeant Reichelt?

A Yes, I knew him.

Q He also had something to do with censoring the packages, didn't he?

A Yes, they were present but the packages were opened already.

Q Isn't it a fact that the prisoners themselves did the actual censoring of the mail at Gusen I?

A That is impossible. That is not true.

DEFENSE COUNSEL: No further questions.

PROSECUTION: No redirect.

EXAMINATION BY COURT

QUESTIONS BY PRESIDENT:

Q Do you know what was in the packages that you took to the jourhouse?

A In those packages we carried to the jourhouse were the better food stuffs that had been removed from the packages as fats, sausages, cakes, etc.

Berdzinski-Cross; Court

Q Now, you stated, I believe in your testimony, that these packages were opened at a Post Office behind the main Post Office, first, is that correct?

A Yes, when there were too many packages some were left behind there. That was already in the SS area.

Q Were those packages later on taken over to the Central of main Post Office?

A Yes, because I was down in two shifts and when there were holidays intervening.

Q Were the packages opened up first by an officer to censor the packages before anything was taken out of them?

A No, the packages were opened, the better things removed, and the rest distributed.

PRESIDENT: Any other questions by the court? There appear to be none.

Did you have a question, Dr. Kluge?

DR. KLUGE: Two or three questions only.

CROSS EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q How often in the five years of your stay in Camp Gusen I were you in the mail room?

A I received from home three to four parcels per week and for holidays I got extra parcels.

Q Can you state the names of capos, firemen, or so-called prominent people to whom food was given?

A I can't today state all the names any more. I remember the name of one fireman. His name was Gaertner.

Berdzinski-Court: Cross

Q Is it correct that the majority of the so-called prominent people in the camp were Polish inmates?

A The people who had a position in the camp were called the prominent ones, but the Polish prominent people did not have to go to the mail room to get food there because they, themselves, received parcels from Poland.

Q That is not really an answer to my question. All I asked was "Were a majority of the so-called prominent people in camp made up of Polish inmates"?

A Yes, that is correct.

Q You stated that the accused, Grill, was the right hand of the camp leader. That is a conclusion on your part. Can you support this conclusion with facts?

PRESIDENT: I don't think you asked the question in accordance with the testimony. As I recall, in the testimony he said the right hand man of the camp security officer, not the commanding officer.

INTERPRETER: It is security camp leader.

DR. KLUGE: I think I asked in the German language of the camp leader, lager fuehrer.

PRESIDENT: I think that is the way it was translated, camp leader.

INTERPRETER: Yes, it was.

LAW MEMBER: No, it wasn't.

INTERPRETER: I think I am right. It was camp leader wasn't it? I mean the translation just now?

REPORTER: Yes.

PRESIDENT: That is not in accordance with the testimony. If the counsel desires he can clarify this by asking if this man is the right hand man of the security commander or whatever it is, to straighten out the record.

INTERPRETER: Will the reporter please read the question?

(Whereupon the reporter read the question as follows:

Question: "You stated that the accused, Grill, was the right hand of the camp leader.--"

INTERPRETER: Please substitute right hand of the security camp leader.

(Whereupon the interpreter repeated the question as follows:

Question: You stated that the accused, Grill, was the right hand of the security camp leader. That is a conclusion on your part. Can you support this conclusion with facts?

THE WITNESS: I states so and my conclusion was based on the fact that he was against the inmates and tried to liquidate them.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q What was unusual in your mind about the opening of the packages behind the main mail room or central mail room?

A I meant it in this manner. The mail room within the camp was too small and the packages were just simply stacked and stored in the other mail room.

Q Do you remember who in the end actually handed the parcels to the receiver; who actually handed the parcels over to the individual entitled to receive the package?

Berdzinski-Cross

A The parcels which had already been opened and were parts of the contents had already been returned were distributed. Some of the distributors were Flessel and Reichelt. They merely controlled that the correct person received the package.

Q Is it correct then, that the Post Office personnel were not the ones who actually distributed the parcels, but personnel who had been sent from the camp to the Post Office for this purpose, but not actually connected with the Post Office?

A I don't quite understand the question. It is not quite clear in my mind.

PRESIDENT: It will make things less complicated if counsel will make two or three simple questions. You get more information out of it and so does the court.

DR. KLUGE: I withdraw the question and reframe it.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q Is it correct that special personnel not connected with the Post Office had the job of the final distribution of the parcels?

A What is meant? I do not understand the question. Of what personnel are you speaking?

Q I do not believe the question is quite clear, Mr. Berdzinski. For example, did the person Reichelt, did he belong to the post office?

A I stated already that he was present and only for the distribution of the parcels. I know him as an SS Tech Sergeant or SS Sergeant and he was there solely for the distribution of parcels.

DR. KLUGE: No further questions.

EXAMINATION BY COURT

QUESTIONS BY PRESIDENT:

Q I believe you testified in your direct testimony that the detail leaders would go with the camp commander and get drunk. Were you referring to June?

A No.

Q What detail leaders were you referring to?

A They were the camp commander and the roll call leader. It was night and we were afraid but I believe Grill was there too. There were also other persons present.

Q When was this?

A I don't remember the date very well. It may have been 1941. It may have been 1942.

Q How do you know they beat out the eyes of some of the prisoners?

A (Indicating) I heard that in block 10 or 12 the camp commander walked around drunkenly beating with his whip, as I showed here, and in doing so he knocked the eyes of a prisoner out.

Q Who was the camp commander?

A Schmielewski.

Q Did you ever hear where they got this liquor they were drinking?

A They came down already into the camp. They had gotten drunk outside. They knocked out windows and were noisy.

PRESIDENT: Any other questions by the court.

There appear to be none. Any further questions?

PROSECUTION: The prosecution has none.

DEFENSE COUNSEL: No further questions.

PRESIDENT: The witness will be excused.

PROSECUTION: Sir, may it please the court, this witness tells me that he is ill and would like to return to Austria. I wonder if the court or the defense would like to recall him.

PRESIDENT: Does the defense wish to recall the witness?

DEFENSE COUNSEL: The defense does not wish to recall the witness.

PRESIDENT: The court has no further need for this witness. He may leave.

(Whereupon the witness was excused and withdrew.)

PRESIDENT: The court will recess for thirty minutes.

(Whereupon the court at 1015 hours recessed until 1045 hours.)

(Whereupon the court reconvened at 1045 hours.)

PRESIDENT: Court will come to order.

PROSECUTION: May the record show all members of the court, the prosecution, the defense, the accused, the court interpreter, and the court reporter who were present at previous sessions are present now.

The prosecution calls as its next witness Kamienski.

JAN JANUSZ KAMIENSKI, called as a witness by the prosecution, being first duly sworn, testified through an interpreter as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q State your full name?

A Kamienski, Jan Janusz.

Q Where do you live?

A I now live in Augsburg.

Q What is your nationality?

A Polish.

Q What is your age?

A Twenty-seven years.

Q What is your occupation?

A At present I don't have an occupation. I am a student of medicine.

Q Were you a prisoner in Gusen 1?

A Yes.

Q From when until when?

A From the 6th of June, 1940, until the 9th of February, 1943.

Q What details were you on?

A The first two months I worked as a stone carrier. The next two months I worked in the cleaning detail in the camp. The rest of the time I worked in the stone quarry Eastenhof.

PRESIDENT: Just a minute. Does this witness understand German?

THE WITNESS: I do understand, but not everything.

PRESIDENT: All right, you may proceed.

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q Which one or ones of the accused do you know?

A The best I know the accused number 2, Grill, Wilhelm, SS Master Sergeant. The second one I know is Tandler, number 4, SS Sergeant. The third one I know is number 1, whom I know by the knick-name General Bauch, meaning Belly.

Q What was Grill's job in the camp?

A He was in charge or the chief of the mail room.

Q How did he administer the mail room?

A This work consisted mainly of censoring of the letters we wrote and the letters we received. Until the year 1942, he also checked the parcels we received on holidays, and commencing November, 1942, he censored all packages we received.

Q Did you ever see Grill mistreat any prisoners?

A Yes.

Q When did that occur?

A Mainly this is my own person about whom I am speaking.

Q What did he do to you?

A It happened in the year 1942 that because of the negligence of Grill we couldn't write letters for three months. My parents who feared for me wrote a letter to the headquarters in Gusen to inquire about me. For that reason I was called in June or July to the mail room to be interrogated by Grill. What it meant to be called to Grill to be

interrogated was well known to all of us. One had to be prepared to be beaten. When I arrived at the post office, Grill received me with the words, "You Polish swine, why didn't you write a letter home?" I quietly answered him that for three months we didn't write any letters. Then Grill beat me twice with his left fist so that I fell to the ground. I told him that we didn't write any letters for three months. When I got up he asked me a second time why I didn't write. My answer was the same. He thereupon beat me so hard that he broke off one of my upper teeth that had to be pulled later on because of that. He then kept on beating me so that my nose bled. He beat me so long that I finally had to admit that I hadn't written home because of my own carelessness. In the condition I was in, bleeding, I had to sit down at a table and write a letter to my parents. The letter had the following contents: "I am well, and I am healthy. Your letter I have received with great joy and I thank you very much for it. Your loving son."

Finally I received a few kicks behind the door, and that was the way Grill carried out the interrogation.

- Q Did you ever see Grill beat anyone else?
- A That Grill beat inmates was a daily occurrence.
- Q What did he beat with?
- A He beat inmates with whatever he had at hand.
- Q Did Grill tamper with the packages addressed to inmates?
- A So to speak, he pilfered from the parcels.
- Q Did you receive any packages?
- A Yes.
- Q Was anything stolen from them?
- A Of a package weighing approximately twenty-two pounds, I received

nothing but a bread and some marmelade, some of which had spilt also. That was all I received of the entire package.

Q When was that?

A It was in the first days of December, 1942.

Q Did you ever hear of the bathing of invalids, or did you know of your own knowledge of such bathings in Gusen 1?

A Yes.

Q When did such baths take place?

A These bathings took place from approximately September, 1941, until September-October, 1942, and I must mention that these bathings took place in large groups.

Q Was Grill connected with such bathing of invalids?

A Yes.

Q Tell the court what you know of these bathings of invalids, so far as Grill is connected with them, is concerned.

A I once saw Grill present when the invalids were bathing, but I take the liberty to state that it was well known to us that Grill participated in the bathing of the invalids often.

Q Did you ever see the invalids on their way to the baths?

A Yes.

Q How were they dressed?

A Naked.

Q In what physical condition were they?

A I do not have the words to describe their condition. They were walking skeletons.

Q Did you ever see Grill accompany them to the bath?

A Yes. That was approximately in March or April, 1942. I too, was sick at the time, but I was not in the hospital. I had edema. I had been on a weekday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, in the dispensary, because one