

of the wardmen there was an acquaintance of mine. When I left the dispensary and wanted to pass through the gate that was between Block 27 and Block 28, I was not permitted by the gate-keeper to go through. At that moment I observed the inmates whom came from the Block 32, accompanied by the SS Technical Sergeant Brust. There was approximately fifty to sixty inmates in that group. Behind this group walked the block eldest of Block 43. His name was Schrengle, Karl, and the SS Master Sergeant Grill. The entire incident took place within my view because I stood at the exit of the dispensary and I could observe everything.

As the invalids arrived at the bathhouse, SS Master Sergeant Grill stood at the entrance to the bathhouse. The invalids were aware of what would happen to them within the next few minutes. The invalids were forced to enter the bathhouse, being beaten with sticks by the SS Technical Sergeant Brust and the Block Eldest of Block 32. In the entrance to the bathhouse stood Grill, and he beat the invalids with his stick which he carried in his left hand, and he also kicked them with his feet. One could hear the hollering and screaming of the invalids. They hollered, "Mother Maria, Jesus," and so on.

While one part of them were already in the bath house, another part of the group remained lying in front of the bath house. The invalids lying in front of the bath house were dragged into it by the SS Sergeant Brust and the block eldest of Block 32. When the street was emptied, I fled from the dispensary after an hour of such bathing during which time one could hear the whining and groaning from the bath house throughout the entire camp. SS Tech Sergeant Brust and SS Master Sergeant Grill left the bath house alone. About a half hour later the bodies were carried out of the bath house. The ones who were still alive were led by the block eldest of Block 32 to that block. The bodies, or so to speak, the skeletons were taken to the wash room of Block Number 22. The bodies numbered 25 to 30 approximately.

Q Do you know the immediate cause of their death?

A I was not present during the bathing but I can tell you how it took place. The bath house was a covered building. In the center of the floor was a depression approximately 50 centimeters deep. The sides were cement walls. During the bathing the drainage was closed so that the water rose to the edges. The invalids were forced to go into the water. They were beaten; they fell down and drowned because of the beating.

Q Was drowning the immediate cause of all their deaths?

A First of all, the people were weak, undernourished, then they were beaten. They drowned because they were not able to withstand.

Q Is there anything more you know about Grill?

A Grill beat people. For example, he beat people if they wrote one more word than Grill allowed them to. This beating took place in Block Number 3.

Q What were they beaten with?

A With an ox tail.

Q What was Schuettauf's duty in the camp?

A Is that number 1--I do not know his name?

Q What do you call Number 1?

A I know him as General Bauch, that is, meaning "belly".

Q What were Number 1's duties in the camp?

A He was the commander of one of the companies in Gusen.

Q Was that a guard company?

A Yes.

Q Did you ever see or hear him instructing the guards?

A It was well known to us that if General Bauch gave instructions to the guards terrible beatings would take place by the guards.

Q Did you ever hear Number 1 make any comments so far as the prisoners working in the quarry were concerned?

A Yes.

Q When did you hear those instructions being given?

A That was in the Spring of 1942. At that time I worked at the stone quarry Kasternof as a clerk. I remember very well one day when General Bauch appeared in the lower quarry. The detail leader at the time was SS Sergeant Feist. General Bauch said the following words to this SS Sergeant, "Don't you see those criminals down there, that they are not doing any work? If they don't start to work immediately I will make a report against you." The detail leader immediately called all head capos and capos together. Then they all went back to the places about which General Bauch was talking, and a terrible beating started then, and this beating General Bauch watched personally. That was the detail Kiepe 2. They worked in sand. The consequences of the beatings we saw in the evening when we returned to the camp. Most of the persons working in this detail were Russian prisoners of war. Of the detail I just spoke of, 35 to 40 bodies were carried into the camp in that evening.

Q Were these people dead?

A Yes, they were dead. I would like to remark that the detail

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Kastenhof was the worst of all the details in the camp. It happened on some days that as many as 150 bodies were carried into the camp after a working day.

Q Is there anything more you know about Number 1?

A From personal knowledge I cannot say anything else about him. What else I could say about him would be heresay.

Q What did you hear about Number 1?

A That he told the guards when giving them instructions that if one of the guards shoots an inmate, you will receive cigarettes and a furlough for it. That I learned from SS men.

Q Do you know the name of Number 4?

A Yes.

Q What is his name?

A Tandler.

Q What were his duties in the camp?

A When Russian prisoners of war arrived in Camp Gusen in November or December 1941 he took charge of the prisoner of war camp.

Q How many prisoners of war arrived at that time?

A The first transport consisted of approximately 2,000 prisoners of war.

Q Were they all put under Tandler's charge?

A Yes.

Q How many of them survived over the winter?

A I remember that these prisoners of war went to war for the first time on the 2nd of January 1942, and of the entire transport only a few who had been in a dispensary were alive in March.

Q Have you ever seen Tandler beating any of these prisoners?

A Yes.

Q Under what circumstances?

A These Russians worked in the same quarry in which I worked. Tandler had sole control over all the prisoners of war although they worked in other details. He translated into Russian the instructions of the foremen in those details where the Russians worked. I know that Tandler does not speak Russian very well, and I conclude that from the fact that the Russians apparently did not understand the instructions and did not carry out the work in the manner they were instructed and because of that Tandler beat these Russians in a terrible manner and kicked them with his feet. I especially observed the mistreatment on the first day these Russians went to work. The Russians who had to remain in quarantine for a period of six weeks received only about half as much in food rations as we received. One couldn't be surprised that everyone of them looked around on the way trying to find something to eat.

PRESIDENT: The court will take a recess until 1:30.

(Whereupon at 1155 hours the court recessed until 1330 hours.)

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AFTERNOON SESSION

(Whereupon the court reconvened at 1330 hours.)

PRESIDENT: Court will come to order.

PROSECUTION: Let the record show that all members of the court, prosecution, defense, accused, court reporter and interpreters that were present before are present now.

I believe the witness had not finished his answer at the close of the last session. Does the court desire this question and the partial answer read?

PRESIDENT: Please read the partial answer.

(Whereupon the reporter read the previous partial answer as directed.)

(Jan Janusz Kamienski, recalled as a witness by the prosecution, resumed the stand and being reminded that he was still under oath, testified further through an interpreter as follows:)

DIRECT EXAMINATION (continued)

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q Please continue.

A When the work details left the camp on the left hand side there was a place where the leftovers from the kitchen were put. Among other things there were also potatoes that had come from the kitchen that had been mixed up already with dirt. When the prisoners of war passed by there they would jump over to this place in order to get as much of the leftover food as they could into their hands. At this occasion the Russians used to get beaten very heavily and Tandler always was present at those instances. I do have to mention here that at that time I had been already for 2½ years in Gusen but I had never seen people who had been run down as badly as that nor that looked as badly as that before. I saw such incidents that prisoners of war, driven by hunger or starvation had been eating manure.

Q Did you see ever the Russians beaten while they were at work?

A Yes.

Q Were any of them killed as a result of these beatings?

A This is a fact that I hadn't mentioned already before, on the 2 January 1942 the Russians went out to work. That was a number of 2,000 Russians. Out of that group only a few remained by March, 1942.

Q How were the dead ones taken away from the place of work?

A All these Russians used to work on the ground of these stone quarries and these work details used to be connected with narrow gauge railroads and in these narrow gauge railroads they used to carry earth. One-half hour before finishing work and before the roll call these dead bodies that were lying around there were placed into that railroad and they were brought up to that Kippe as I have mentioned before. On these narrow gauge railroad carts the dead bodies, the corpses and the bodies of those that were still half alive were placed and were brought up to the camp where these carts were turned over and thusly the bodies dumped. I draw the conclusion that this was a planned extermination for the following reasons. When these bodies were dumped and thrown off the wagons thusly down there was already a vehicle with rubber wheels and they picked up the bodies. Whenever these bodies were placed on that vehicle Tandler was always present there and he ordered that those bodies, those people who were still partly alive had to be placed on the bottom of the wagon and the corpses had to be placed on top of them. These were his orders. It was a terrible sight when this vehicle drove into

the camp through the gate. From this vehicle the heads of those Russians that were still alive were hanging down and you could see their mouths still working, trying to catch air, but at that time they were being mistreated by the SS officers. In those scenes the most terrible things happened. You could see the block leader walk up to them and kick the live people in their heads with his boots and hear the following things: "Look at that dirty pig. He is still alive." Such incidents took place daily, as a matter of fact twice a day at noon and in the evening, and they continued on until March.

PRESIDENT: Was that March of 1942?

WITNESS KAMIENSKI: Yes.

QUESTIONS BY THE PROSECUTION:

Q Was the camp deloused in 1942?

A Yes.

Q What month or months was it in 1942?

A Today I cannot tell you exactly when it was. It was in the winter but it could have been February, the end of February.

Q Were any inmates gassed within the blocks at that time?

A Yes.

Q What block or blocks were they?

A These people were gassed at Block 16 and 90% of these people were from Block 16. They were sick people.

Q What was the nationality of these people who were gassed?

A 90% of them were Russians.

Q Do you know whether or not Tandler was present at any executions of Russians?

A Yes.

Q When did those executions take place?

A On the 20 July, 1942 a Russian officer was hanged at a lamp post at the side of the SS kitchen.

Q How many executions did you see that Tandler took a part in?

A Tandler took part in three or four executions by shooting, probably as an interpreter.

Q Is there anything more you know about Tandler?

A Yes.

Q Tandler was the camp leader of the Russian camp. I would like to tell the court why the Russians died so rapidly on account of hunger. The personnel for the camp such as block eldest and room eldest were especially selected and they consisted of the worst criminals. These personnel would steal one-half of the portions that the Russians were receiving and they in turn only received one-half of the portions that we were receiving. If I can have the permission of the court I would like to cite an example.

PRESIDENT: I think he started to tell us why these Russians were being exterminated so fast and he just said he would continue that in answer of the question.

PROSECUTION: Continue.

WITNESS KAMIENSKI: One of the block eldest, I do not recall his name any more, he is one who wore a green triangle and was from Block 15, gave a loaf of bread to a friend, to somebody he knew. When the evening came the Russians had to line up in front of their Blocks in order to receive their bread rations and because of the reason that the block eldest had issued the bread rations before that already there were 15 portions of bread missing and the  
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block eldest who was the Lord above life or death put out 15 of the weakest prisoners. He brought them over to the washroom and told them to undress completely naked. He lined up these Russian prisoners in front of a tank full of water. Then the following thing took place. The second Russian got the order to put the head of the first Russian underneath the water so that he would drown. The third Russian received the order to do the same thing with the second one, the fourth one to the third one, and it continued until only the 15th remained and the 15th was drowned by the block eldest himself. This took place in the presence of the room eldest and block eldest of the Russian camp.