

A I cannot state the exact date but it was in the summer of 1944 after the air attack on Vienna-Schwechat.

Q Do you remember the date of the air attack?

A No, I do not remember but I do know that it was in the summer of 1944 and directly after the attack we were sent to Floridsdorf.

Q In which capacity did you get to know the accused Schuettauf there?

A Mr. Schuettauf was the security camp leader.

Q Was he there from the very beginning when the camp was opened?

A From the very beginning when the camp was opened and Schuettauf was camp commander there.

Q How long did he stay there as far as you can remember?

A Not quite three months.

Q Do you by any chance know whether it was also the month of June, 1944?

A Whether this was the month of June or July I cannot say for sure.

Q What can you say about the person of Schuettauf himself and the way he conducted his duty there?

A I can only say as a prisoner who has been in prison for many years that Schuettauf was very correct. He saw that the food was given out correctly and that everyone got the same amount of food, whether he was French, Russian, everybody got the same amount.

Q What reputation did Schuettauf have amongst his own people?

A We only had four to 5 SS guards there and the other guards belonged to the Navy and all five SS guards, if I can express it this way, were hated by the Navy guards.

Q I am now talking about the reputation Schuettauf had amongst his own people?

PRESIDENT: Advise the witness just to answer the question put to him.

WITNESS FOERSTER: Amongst Navy men, everybody granted his presence there, but they held it against him that he asked too much duty from them.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q Amongst his men was he known as a pleasant man, or as a very strict man?

A During his tour of duty he was strict.

Q And what was the reputation amongst the prisoners?

A Amongst prisoners I must say Schuettauf was well liked because he did not mistreat anyone.

Q And what was his reputation as far as his sense of justice was concerned?

A Schuettauf was very much against beating prisoners. Prisoners talked amongst themselves at night and they said: "Well, we finally have a camp commander who is decent to us and will live up to our rights."

Q Did you yourself have any advantage as far as Schuettauf was concerned while you were a prisoner?

A No.

Q What type of work did you do?

A I worked in the shoe shop from 7:00 in the morning until 10:00 in the evening.

Q And where was your shop located, Mr. Foerster?

A If this would be the entrance to the camp (indicating) to the right of the entrance was the shoe shop. It had very high windows.

Q And what can you say about the things you noticed through those windows?

A Once a prisoner who was a Pole escaped during an air raid alarm. After three days had passed this Pole was brought back to the camp by the police. When the prisoner was brought back into the camp Schuettauf was not present in the camp at that time, only the roll call leader was there. The roll call leader walked up to the Pole and he asked him why he had run away and the Pole did not give an answer. Hence, since he did not give an answer, the roll call leader slapped the prisoner in the face. The camp commander Schuettauf came into the gate at that time and he grabbed the roll call leader on his sleeve and he told him that he had no right at all to beat any prisoner and he placed the camp off limits to the roll call leader and told him that the only people who were allowed to punish prisoners were the people of the headquarters staff at Mauthausen. The next day Schuettauf had that prisoner transferred to Mauthausen because he was under suspicion of escaping again.

Q Did you have any other experiences when you could judge the sense of justice of Schuettauf?

A In this defense factory I once spoke to an engineer who delivered the material for the work shop. The engineer told me that in the plant food was always left over. I asked Schuettauf whether he would be opposed to the fact that we would like to get the food which was left over in the kitchen over to our place. He granted us that request and he was present right there every time that extra food was given out to the Poles, Russians, Germans or Yugoslavs.

(Foerster - direct)

Q Did Schuettauf bother about the quality or the quantity of the food which was given to the prisoners?

A Schuettauf was daily in the kitchen several times in order to inspect the food. Whether Schuettauf complained about the food in the kitchen or not I don't know because prisoners were not allowed to enter the kitchen. I only know that Schuettauf was very much concerned with the fact that the food which was sent over to us by the plant, the extra food, was mixed among the food which was to be cooked for the prisoners.

Q Did Schuettauf have a nickname in the camp?

A Yes.

Q What was that nickname?

A He was called the "chief capo".

Q And why was he called the "chief capo"?

A Because Schuettauf always did go through the plant and he did make his rounds in order to inspect the guards and the prisoners.

Q And in what manner did he especially watch the prisoners?

A He would often shout at the guards because they would drive the prisoners as far as working was concerned and also when there was an air alarm the guards would sometimes drive the prisoners, and always he said that everybody would get shelter in time, and everybody always did.

Q Was he also concerned as far as the air raid protective laws in the camp were concerned?

A Schuettauf saw to it in such a way that he detailed 20 prisoners especially for the only thing to keep the air raid protective tools in shape. It was like that, that the

prisoners had to go out approximately one-half hour into the fields in order to take shelter from grenade splinters or bomb splinters.

Q Are cases known to you, death cases or mistreatments while Schuettauf was commander there?

A As long as Schuettauf was camp commander there wasn't one single case of death nor was there any case of mistreatment or injury.

Q Was he transferred in the line of duty from Floridsdorf or were there other reasons?

A As a former prisoner I can only say one thing that is known to me. Whenever there was an SS member who was decent to the prisoners he would never keep his job very long. He would always be released very quickly.

Q Were the prisoners sorry that he left?

A All prisoners always said this: "We will never get a better commander."

CROSS EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q You were not at Gusen 1, were you?

A No.

Q You knew the accused Schuettauf for just three months,
isn't that so?

A Only during my time in Floridsdorf.

Q That was three months, wasn't it?

A Almost three months, yes.

PROSECUTION: That is all.

PRESIDENT: Questions by the court? There appear to be none.
The witness will be excused.

(Whereupon the witness was excused and withdrew.)

DEFENSE COUNSEL: If the court please, the defense calls as
its next witness the defendant Schuettauf. His rights have been ex-
plained to him and he desires to make a sworn statement.

(Whereupon the accused Schuettauf approached the bench.)

PRESIDENT: You may make a sworn or an unsworn statement on
which you may be cross examined. You are advised that the court may
draw such inferences as the circumstances justify from your refusal to
answer or from your failure to take the stand in your own behalf. Are
you now willing to testify?

ACCUSED ERICK SCHUETTAUF: I would like to testify under oath.

PRESIDENT: The witness will be sworn.

ERICK SCHUETTAUF, an accused, voluntarily took the stand in his
own behalf and being first duly sworn, testified through an interpreter
as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q State your name, your age, your residence, and your profession.

(SCHUETTAUF-Direct)

A Erick Schuettauf, 60 years of age, born in Dresden, technician.

Q Were you serving in the last World War?

A Yes.

Q What type of schooling did you have?

A I first went to public school; then I went to high school in Vienna.

Q When did you stop going to school?

A When I was 18 years of age.

Q What profession did you choose then?

A I further studied to be a technician and I worked on various technical projects.

Q As an employee? Or did you have your own business?

A The last 25 years I worked as a technician in charge of a chocolate factory.

Q When did you serve during the first World War and what rank did you hold?

A From 1914 to 1918 with the Engineers.

Q What rank did you have when you left the Army?

A As a non-commissioned officer.

Q And what did you do between the years of 1918 and 1933?

A First I worked as technician in steel plants, heating plants, and since I became interested in the manufacturing of chocolate I found a position and I worked there as an installation engineer for chocolate factories. And in 1920 I joined a chocolate factory as technical leader of such a factory.

Q And what did you do until 1939?

A I was working until 1939 in this chocolate factory.

Q Were you then drafted again during the second World War? If

yes, when?

A I was then drafted within 24 hours, even though the factory complained about that, and I myself complained about it, because I was not in the best of health any more. I had a rupture and besides I had gland trouble, and at that time in 1939 my weight was 103 kilos.

Q Starting before 1933, did you take part in any military training?

A I never took part in any military training, nor did I belong to any military organizations. I would like to add that I belonged to a motor company of the General SS.

Q What rank did you hold and to what unit were you drafted after 1939?

A On the 31st of August 1939 I was drafted to do duty in the concentration camp of Flossenburg.

Q I suppose that was after you had a physical examination whether you would be fit for duty?

A We did not have a physical examination, and I reported to the physician immediately and I complained about my physical condition.

Q How old were you at that time?

A At that time I was 54 years of age.

Q Your complaints didn't do any good?. And where did you come to then?

A My complaints weren't even noticed and I was sent to the guard company in that camp.

Q In what camp?

A To Camp Flosserburg.

Q And you stayed there until what date?

A I stayed there until December 1941.

Q In what capacity?

A As an SS Tech Sergeant of the guard company.

Q And where were you transferred to then?

A From there I was transferred to Mauthausen, and then to Gusen No. 1. I would like to add something here. The transfer was carried out because I had reported sick several times. I was then checked up by a specialist and I was found to be unfit for duty. This was not granted and I was transferred to Gusen No. 1.

Q Were you still an SS Tech Sergeant at that time?

A No, I became an SS Second Lieutenant.

Q In other words, you became an officer. When was that?

A That was during April or May 1940.

Q How come you were promoted?

A The Reich's leader came to Flossenburg and inspected the camp there and he asked to be introduced to the two or three eldest men of the guard company. I just was placed as a guard at the main entrance of the camp, and there I was introduced to the Reich's leader, and right there he promoted me immediately to a Second Lieutenant.

Q Did you ever go to Officers Candidate School?

A No.

Q When did you come to Gusen 1?

A In December 1941.

Q And you stayed there until when?

A I stayed there until the end of April 1945.

Q With the exception of an interruption as the witness first had said?

A From June 1944 until August 1944 I was transferred to Vienna in order to install a camp for the Afa.

Q Then the testimony the witness first has given is right as far as time and as far as the matter itself is concerned?

A That was between June and August, as first I said, and those prisoners were transferred to me from Schwechat and not from Mauthausen.

Q Who gave you that job to do at Floridsdorf?

A The commander of Mauthausen, Colonel Siereis.

Q Is it known to you whether there were special reasons that you were picked for that job?

A In Gusen I again reported to the physicians because in the meanwhile I developed a heart disease. Upon that I was examined by the troop physician and I was sent to a specialist at Linz. In Linz the specialist sent a report back to the troop after I had been examined for two days and he stated that I am completely unable to perform duty and that I am almost unable to do any type of work. The commanding officer who received that report refused and didn't even acknowledge the report at all and he said, "You still have a head; you still can run." In other words, "You can still pull duty."

Q Mr. Schuettauf, can you answer in shorter terms? Can you tell me why you came to Floridsdorf?

A Upon that, I came to Floridsdorf.

Q And why did you return from Floridsdorf?

A In that camp once three prisoners escaped, once one prisoner escaped from me, and once six to seven prisoners escaped from me. I didn't take any further steps. I just reported it. And all of a sudden I was transferred from there.

Q In other words, in 1941 you came to Gusen I in the capacity of an officer?

(SCHUETTAUF-Direct)