

about such orders. Himmler himself was quite often in the camp and saw the conditions there and gave his orders accordingly. Had we not carried out these orders we would have been subject to the most severe punishment by the SS Corps without any questions of consideration whatsoever.

Q The carrying out of what orders are you referring to, as far as you are personally concerned?

A The general orders about our conduct as soldiers and the special regulations and directives concerning censorship.

DR. KLUGE: Your witness.

CROSS EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY THE PROSECUTION:

Q Were there any such regulations on bathing invalids?

A I don't know anything about that.

Q You were active in the Nazi Organization from 1933 to 1945, is that correct?

A No.

Q From when until when then?

A I was in the Hitler Youth from April 1944 until April 1945. I was in the SS from April 1935 until March 1938 and then again I was in the SS from 10 May, 1940 until 5 May, 1945. I was a member of the NSDAP from the 1 May, 1937 until the end.

Q And from 1935 until the end in 1945, with the exception of that short period of time you were in the army, you participated in various concentration camps, is that correct?

A No, I was also in the labor service.

Q When were you in the labor service?

A From April 1938 until October 1938.

Q And when were you in the army?

A From the beginning of November, 1938 until the beginning of 1940.

Q Then from 1935 until 1938 you were in various concentration camps in some capacity and then beginning again from 1940 until 1945 you were in various concentration camps in various capacities, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q From your experience participating in concentration camps, give the court your opinion of the conditions in Gusen I?

A My general opinion when I came to Camp Gusen I and during the years I was there was that the persons confined there were there confined for the security of the German Reich and they had to work there for the German armament industry so that the war could be won. Such were the instructions which were given to us at all times.

Q How were living conditions in Gusen I?

A The living conditions as far as I could see and as far as I have heard were not the best until 1942. After 1942, because the prohibition and receipt of packages was lifted because additional food was allotted, the entire conditions began to get better.

Q From 1942 until the end how were living conditions in Gusen I?

A From 1942 until the end the living conditions could be classified as average.

Q You were in Dachau from May, 1937 until March, 1938, is that correct?

A Yes, that is correct.

Q Compare the living conditions in Dachau at that time with the living conditions in Gusen I after January 1, 1942?

A I can't state anything about conditions in Concentration Camp Dachau in the time from May, 1937 until March, 1938 because I never entered the camp nor ever had anything to do with the inmates. I was only clerk for one-half year and I was then ordered to the Ordensburg Sonthofen as an honor guard.

Q You have enumerated several causes of death in Gusen I. Do you know those causes all from hearsay or some of those causes do you know of your own knowledge?

A I know the causes for death in the camp as sickness, scarlet fever, death in the electrical wire, and so on, only from hearsay because I had nothing to do with the inner workings of the camp. I myself only saw two bodies of inmates who had been shot while trying to escape as they were carried past the postal office.

Q Then from November, 1940 until the end in 1945 you only saw two dead bodies in Gusen I, is that your testimony?

A Yes, I myself did not get into the camp and, therefore, I could not see anybody. However, I did hear that there were supposed to have been many bodies.

Q Who did you hear that from?

A The inmates who worked in my postal office told me so.

Q How long did the defense witness Krause work in your post office?

A Krause was in my postal office from 1941 until approximately the middle of 1943.

Q Did you hold any conversations with him?

A Conversations one would not call it exactly, but if one worked in the same room with the inmates certain things were talked about.

Q Did you talk about these deaths with him?

A He told me about those deaths in the camp and that is why I know of them.

Q Did he also tell you about SS men going through the barracks at night beating up inmates?

A Yes.

Q Did you hear his testimony in the court here?

A Yes.

Q Did you hear him say that your name was mentioned in connection with these beatings in the barracks at night?

A Yes, I heard that.

Q Who did you hear from that there deaths due to baths?

A I heard that from Krause who at that time worked in the postal office and also from Nogaj.

Q You never heard the screams that came from the bath house when these invalids were bathed?

A No, one couldn't hear that. If it happened during the daytime the noise of the work performed would have drowned it out, and if it did happen at night I couldn't have heard it because I wasn't there at night. I lived in St. Georgen and I also lived in Mauthausen in the beginning.

Q Did you hear Krause testify that as a member of the headquarters staff you had various night duties?

A I already testified that during my entire tour of duty I had been charge of quarters three or four times, else I was never on night duty.

Q Who did you hear about the gas from?

A Of the gassings I heard for the first time in 1945 when I was a prisoner in Glasenbach and I heard that there from a prisoner who told me about it, that is the former concentration camp inmates.

Q Did you hear about any delousings at Gusen?

A Yes.

Q Who did you hear about that from?

A I didn't hear that. I myself saw that because in all of the SS barracks as well as my own barracks they were being deloused because of the danger of contacting scarlet fever. I assume that in the course of this action the entire inmates camp was also gassed.

Q Did you see the gassing of the inmates camp?

A No.

Q Did any of the prisoners talk about the delousing of the inmates camp?

A It was at the time said that the inmates camp was also to be deloused. There was an order of the camp commander and the SS physician because the SS themselves suffered at that time 40 cases of death.

Q Did you ever hear of any of the prisoners talking about the delousing of the inmates camp?

A The inmates who worked for me spoke about it, that the inmates camp would be deloused just as it was done in our place, that is the area of the guard battalion. I suppose that it was carried out from the supervision of the doctor.

Q When was that?

A The delousing took place - I assume that the delousing was carried out - in the Fall of 1941.

PRESIDENT: Court will take a recess for 15 minutes.

(Whereupon at 1430 hours the court recessed for 15 minutes.)

(Grill - cross)

(Whereupon court reconvened at 1445 hours.)

PRESIDENT: Court will come to order.

PROSECUTION: Let the record show that all members of the court, prosecution, defense, accused, court reporter and court interpreter that were present at the last session are present now.

DEFENSE COUNSEL: If the court please, we would like to announce that all exhibits of the prosecution have been read to the defendants to date.

PRESIDENT: Let the record show that all prosecution exhibits have been read to the accused.

WILHELM GRILL, an accused, voluntarily took the stand in his own behalf and continued to make the following sworn statement through an interpreter as follows:

CROSS EXAMINATION (continued)

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q Were there any gassings that took place after 1941?

A Yes, gassings took place, delousings, not gassings.

Q Was this delousing by means of gas?

A That is not known to me because we weren't informed by what kinds of gas respectively these delousings were performed.

Q They were by gas, however, is that correct?

A That may be so.

Q Did you ever hear the prisoners speak about it?

A I already stated that I personally so how barracks in our area were gassed, however what was used or what other means were used for this delousing is not known to me.

PROSECUTION: If the court please, may I have the question reread and the witness directed to make a responsive answer to it.

(Grill - direct)

PRESIDENT: Will you read the last question, please.

(Whereupon the last question was read by the reporter as follows: Question: "Did you ever hear the prisoners speak about it?")

ACCUSED GRILL: Yes, once or twice in the next years gassings or delousings took place in the camp.

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q What years were those?

A In 1942 and 1943.

Q What did the prisoners say about that?

A That there were so many fleas and lice in the camp and that some action is undertaken to kill them.

Q Did they ever speak about it after the action had taken place?

A No, that was during and shortly after the action.

Q Did they also tell you that some inmates as well as lice had been killed?

A No, in this action only lice were killed.

Q Did you ever hear of any delousing action in which inmates as well as lice were killed?

A No, I stated already that I have heard of the alleged gassings for the first time here in Dachau.

Q You have stated on direct examination that your name and the name of the post office were synonymous, was that correct?

A Yes.

Q The prisoners knew you pretty well, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q There wouldn't be much chance then of any mistaken identity, would there?

(Grill - cross)

A No, mistaking of identity was hardly possible since the postal office and my name could be considered synonymous in the camp.

Q Will you tell the court again where the contents of the packages were removed?

A The contents of the packages were removed during the time that these packages arrived continuously in the censorship place within the camp.

Q And after the contents were removed, where were they placed?

A The person on duty put the food that was removed respectively the contents that were removed behind him on a table.

Q And then what happened to the remainder of the contents?

A The rest of the contents were apportioned and distributed to work details respectively to inmates who had a slip from the security camp leader authorizing them to receive a portion.

Q Are those the contents that you speak of that were placed on the table?

A Yes.

Q What happened to the other contents?

A The rest was given to the inmate that the package was addressed to.

Q When was it given to him?

A I do not understand the question, is that a question concerning time or is that a question concerning censorship?

Q I will withdraw that question. When a portion of the contents were put on the table and another portion put back

into the original container which was received, when was that original container which was received together with the portion of the contents which were not placed on the table given to the addressee?

A I beg permission to be able to explain this here. There was a table on which the package was placed. On one side of the table was the person on duty from the camp administration. On the other side the inmate was standing. Then the person on duty cut off some of the contents of the package, cut off parts of the bologna, bread, meat. The cut-off parts he placed behind him on a table, the rest was given to the inmate who was standing in front of the table.

Q Up until that time had nothing been removed from the package?

A No.

Q I read you from the testimony of the defense witness Krause. Question: "What happened in this censorship room?" Answer: "The inmate opened the package, the SS man checked the contents of the package for forbidden articles, than the part to be removed was removed, the other contents of the package returned to the package, and the package sent to the mail room for distribution." Is that correct?

A No, he can refer only to articles which were not allowed to be sent to the camp in accordance with regulations, as for example underwear, pictures and other things. Nothing was removed from the package before. Nothing was taken out of the parcels with the exception of forbidden articles until the distribution in the evening. Every person who was on duty would have had to see if something was lying on the table that

had been removed prior when he came on duty.

Q Who decided what portion was to be removed and what portion was to be returned to the inmate to whom the package was addressed?

A That was an order by the camp commander Ziereis to the security camp leader, who, in turn, advised the person on duty of the existing order. It was never up to the censor in question.

Q Who carried out the separation of those articles to be given to the inmate and those to be withdrawn from it?

A Of the remaining food stuff or of the entire package?

Q Of the remaining food stuff?

A The person who was designated to be on duty by the security camp. He made portions of those remaining food stuffs. He knew how many details would be entitled to additional food, whether there were 20 or 30 he would make the appropriate number of portions. Inmates would file in on one side, get their additional food and file out on the other side. It was never a matter of the postal employees.

Q Did you ever do that?

A No.

Q Were you present when it was done?

A Yes, during the first three months until I had worked in the censors and I was present under supervision of the main postal office leader when the security camp leader undertook the apportioning himself as he had to do so at the time. For the first two or three months the security camp leader, and the second deputy camp leader respectively undertook the apportioning and distribution personally on orders of the camp commander. However, later this job was delegated to persons