

LAW MEMBER: The witness may answer if he can.

ACCUSED HARTUNG: Which question?

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q Read these questions and answers beginning with the place I have checked.

A Question: Did you ever shoot prisoners to death?

Answer: Yes, I shot one while trying to escape.

PRESIDENT: Have you introduced that exhibit as evidence yet?

PROSECUTION: No, sir, this is for identification.

ACCUSED HARTUNG:

Question: When was that?

Answer: That was in January 1945.

Question: Was that on the 16th of January 1945?

Answer: Yes, that was on the 16th of January 1945.

Question: What was the name of the prisoner?

Answer: I do not know anymore.

Question: If I give you now the name would you remember then?

Answer: Yes, sir.

Question: Was the name of the prisoner Leitzinger, Josef?

Answer: Yes.

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q Did you make these answers to these questions?

A Yes, but not in the way they are given here.

Q Are you stating to the court that you made different answers to these questions than are contained in this paper you have just read, P-177

A Yes.

Q But this is your signature, isn't that right?

A Yes, the German translation, yes.

(Hartung-Recross)

Q This entire exhibit is in German, isn't it?

A Yes, yes, it is all in the German language.

Q Didn't you read it before you signed it?

A Yes, I read it.

Q And these questions and answers that you have just read are not the questions and answers you read before you signed this?

A Yes, that's the way I read it but I always stress the point that Poweleit and I we both together got the order and in the statement which I made in Gusen it was also said that the non-commissioned officer Poweleit and I received the order.

Q But these are the answers you gave to the questions propounded to you at the time this statement was made. Is that right?

A Yes, that is correct.

PROSECUTION: No further questions.

DEFENSE COUNSEL: No further questions.

EXAMINATION BY THE COURT

QUESTIONS BY PRESIDENT:

Q You said you didn't know Kowalski?

A No, I didn't know him.

Q Would he have any reason to get up here before this court and perjure himself to testify against you?

A In any case I am telling the truth. What he said I don't know.

Q Did you know Scmura, Stefan Scmura?

A No, I saw him here for the first time.

Q You know of no reason why he would testify against you falsely?

A No, I don't know any reason.

(Hartung-Recross)
Court)

Q Did you hear Semura's testimony with reference to Willi Tuttas?

A Yes, I heard it.

Q He stated that Hartung led him away, referring to Tuttas, over the road that leads to the camp and on the way he kicked him with his feet. He was brought to the bunker. The American lost his life. He died of starvation. Did you hear that testimony?

A Yes, I heard this testimony.

Q Is that correct or not?

A I cannot be in any connection with this incident because at that time I wasn't in Kasthofen anymore.

Q This question was asked on the cross examination:

Question: Who was responsible for the killing of this man?

Answer: For this Hartung is responsible because he marched him away. If he had not marched him away this man would still be alive today.

Did you hear that testimony?

A Yes, I heard it.

Q Is that so or not?

A It can never be correct. I had nothing to do with his death or life.

Q Did you ever drive a truck around this camp?

A In Gusen there were two trucks, one truck for the fire brigade with seats for the fire-fighting crew and one truck for passengers, the same type of trucks which they have here in Dachau, and otherwise the motor pool and all other trucks were in Mauthausen.

Q You stated that you had a variety of duties. Were you assistant to the commanding officer of the punishment company?

A Never.

(Hartung-Court)

Q Did you ever make any investigations in the camp for the camp authorities?

A Investigations for the camp authorities? I do not understand that.

Q You were asked the question yesterday as to who kept the keys for the bunkers, were you not?

A Yes.

Q You said the officer generally kept these keys who was conducting an investigation, that prisoners would be locked in the bunker until they were wanted for the investigation, didn't you?

A Yes, the key for the bunker always was with the officer of the day.

Q Your duties in charge of the fire-fighting personnel permitted you quite a little latitude, didn't it, in driving any place you wanted to go in the camp, didn't it?

A There was nothing to drive around in camp.

Q I didn't say drive around, I said go around.

A Inside the camp we had only the water mains and the water pipes which sometimes were controlled even by prisoners and on the outside of the camp we had the garage and all other equipment.

Q Were you required to inspect the camp at all to see whether there were any fire hazards around?

A No, if something was broken or something had to be repaired the block elders themselves came to me and told me about it.

Q You depended on them to eliminate the fire hazards, did you?

A No, sometimes I checked myself because instructions were that in each barracks had to be a pail with water and a sandbox.

Q When did you make these inspections?

A I made them every two or three months.

(Hartung-Court)

Q Throughout the main camp?

A Yes.

Q You heard Kowalski testify to the fact that you were a detail leader in 1943 and 1944?

A Yes.

Q And treated PW's very badly?

A PW's? I didn't have any PW's.

PRESIDENT: Any other 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 Heisig. The rights have been explained to him and he desires to give his testimony under oath.

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 willing to testify?

ACCUSED HEISIG: Yes, I would like to testify under oath.

(Whereupon the accused Heisig was sworn.)

PRESIDENT: You might caution the spectators that no witnesses are permitted in the court.

(Whereupon the interpreter did as directed.)

ALFONS HUGO HEISIG, an accused voluntarily took the stand in his own behalf and after being duly sworn, testified through an interpreter as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY DR KLUGE:

Q Mr Heisig, give the court your full name, age, nationality residence and occupation.

A Heisig, Alfons, 40 years, German nationality, chimney sweeper, Neesen, Westphalia.

Q When for the first time were you drafted into the SS or the German Wehrmacht?

A On the 5th of November 1939, I was drafted by written order into the Waffen SS.

Q Was this your first contact with the SS?

A Yes.

Q You didn't have any military training before that?

A No.

Q Where did you come?

A I was sent to Brunn, Czechoslovakia, to the 7th SS regiment.

Q Did you volunteer or were you drafted?

A I was drafted.

Q Did you get basic training there?

A Yes.

Q How long did you stay there?

A Until the 20th of December.

Q Where did you go from there?

A Then we came to Ebelsberg near Linz, Austria.

Q To which unit?

A That was still the 7th regiment training.

Q What was your rank at that time?

A I was SS private.

Q How long did you stay there?

A Until the middle of January when we were transferred to Vienna, to the 13th regiment.

Q How long did you stay there?

A Until the middle of May.

Q What kind of duty did you have there?

A Still training.

Q And then where did you go?

A Then one company was organized which was sent to Gusen.

Q To which unit were you assigned there?

A As a 3rd guard company we were attached to the guard company, Gusen.

Q How long did you stay there on guard duty?

A I was working there as a guard until August 1943.

Q Will you specify once more the time. From when to when.

A From the 15th of May 1940 until August 1943.

Q During this period of time did you ever enter the protective custody camp?

A Yes, once.

Q Was it permitted to enter the protective custody camp or forbidden?

A On orders of the commander Ziemeis we had to fall out to be present at the execution.

Q Was the execution by hanging?

A Yes.

Q Where?

A On the roll call place in the prisoners' camp.

Q And otherwise it was forbidden to enter the protective custody camp?

A Yes.

Q So if I understand you right, in August 1943 you entered the camp for the first time on duty?

A Yes.

Q When you were ordered into the protective custody camp, did you go alone or with others?

A The entire guard battalion.

Q I am not referring to the execution. What happened after August 1943?

A Then I got the assignment of block leader and detail leader.

Q You alone got the assignment?

A No.

Q How many others came with you?

A Six men.

Q According to which viewpoint was this selection from the guard company?

A The active men of headquarters staff were transferred to active service, so a few men were transferred to headquarters staff.

Q You mean the ones active in the Waffen SS?

A Yes.

Q Where did you report?

A We had to report to the roll call leader who presented us to the protective custody camp leader.

Q Why to the roll call leader?

A Because the roll call leader you might say was the acting first sergeant of headquarters staff.

Q What other people did you see around the camp commander when you were introduced to him?

A The SS Tech Sergeant Schmidt.

Q What were his duties?

A He was a clerk of the protective custody camp.

Q Who else?

A The second protective custody camp leader First Lieutenant Beck; labor service leader Fissel.

Q Anybody else?

A No.

Q What duties were assigned to you?

A As auxiliary detail leader we were assigned to the various details.

Q And in this manner you were assigned to which detail?

A Stone quarry, Gusen.

Q For how long?

A In a chain of command.

Q Which other details did you get?

A Armament factory, Steyr. It changed always between these two details.

Q How many men were under your supervision as detail leader?

A One thousand to two thousand.

Q How was the disciplinary set up in such a detail? Who was there in addition to you as a detail leader?

A It was our duty to bring the work detail out to the work place. There we were assigned to the work details through the various civilian foremen and master mechanics.

Q Whom did you have with you in order to keep discipline on the way to the work place and back to camp?

A There were capos and assistant capos assigned and in the work shops there were masters of the work hall.

Q What was the position of the post office there in camp and what kind of relationship existed between the post office and headquarters staff, if you were able to make any observation?

A In fact the post office had nothing to do with the selection of the post office staff, only when packages came directly from Mauthausen these packages were handed out to prisoners directly in camp.

Q Which promotions did you receive until August 1943?

A In November 1940 I became Private First Class, in November 1941, SS Corporal and in January 1944, SS Sergeant.

Q Was this to be considered customary - usual promotions for the period of time November 1940 until January 1944?

A Yes, that was a normal promotion. If I had stayed with the company I might have been promoted even before that.

Q With similar ranks around the camp commander, did you have any direct contact with these people?

A No.

Q How did such a day go by as far as the personal relations between you and the others was concerned?

A In the morning we had to fall out in front of the protective custody camp.

Q The entire group of non-commissioned officers?

A Yes, the entire headquarters staff.

Q Then?

A And the roll call leader reported the strength to the protective custody leader.

Q He was in charge of the roll call?

A Yes.

Q What happened then?

A And then if something special had to be done, we were assigned to these special duties.

Q Was this your entire personal contact while you were on duty with the men around the leader?

A Yes, with the exception of instructions given from time to time.