

Q And in the evening after duty hours, what was your contact?

A In the evening we usually lived two or three comrades in one room and stayed there.

Q Did you go to the club of the non-commissioned officers?

A Yes. The evening meal was served in the club.

Q Were all of them sitting at the same table, or were there groups?

A Mostly all of them at the same table.

Q And later on after dinner was served, the party broke up in small groups?

A After dinner everybody went after his own hobby and interests.

Q During the evening meals, could you ever observe a more definite group assembled around the camp leader?

A No, I didn't stay in the club of the non-commissioned officers for more than just the meal.

Q Mr. Heisig, in each group community it is common one talks about the other people -- members of the group or community. How was it in your case as far as the men are concerned who were in personal contact with the camp leader?

A With the camp commander usually only the roll call leader was together and the leaders of the guard companies.

Q What rank were these? Were they officers or non-commissioned officers?

A They were all officers.

Q Did also some of the non-coms join them from time to time?

A No.

Q Did you hear anything about orgies which took place in the officers' club or other places in the evening by Chiemelowski? Will you please make a distinction between the time Chiemelowski was there and he left?

A When I came to headquarters staff Chiemelewski was not there.

Q Did you know him?

A Yes, I knew him as a guard.

Q Did you see him later on again in 1944 or 1945?

A No, I didn't see him any more.

Q So it was something new to you when it was testified here in court that shortly before the end he returned once more to camp for two short stays and not as camp leader?

A No, that was not new to me. I had heard this already in Gusen.

Q Were you able to make any observations about the kind of life which the accused Grill was living in camp on duty as well as personally?

A I had no contact with Grill at all. When I had some business to take care of at the post office there was always an SS corporal or sergeant at the window.

Q Did you eat with him at the non-commissioned officers' club in the evening?

A No, I never saw him there.

Q Did you ever ask him what happened?

A We all knew that the married men were not fed there.

Q Did you know where he lived?

A Yes.

Q Where?

A In St. Georgen.

Q How far away is that away from Gusen?

A Might be four kilometers.

Q Mr. Heisig, you heard the testimony of the prosecution witness Kowalski, but first, who among all the prosecution witnesses identified you here in court from the witness chair?

A Kowalski, Kamienski, Gomez. The name of the other I do not remember right now.

Q Szulc?

A Yes, Szulc.

Q Is it true that Berdzinski and Szamura did not recognize you?

A Yes, probably not, otherwise probably they would have said something about me.

Q Did you know any one of these witnesses?

A I cannot remember a single one.

Q Mr. Heisig, Kowalski testified about an incident during the winter of 1944 when water was poured on weakened prisoners. What do you have to say about that?

A There is not a word true about this incident.

Q Is it perhaps true that during the summer time when prisoners fainted on the work detail, water was poured on them in order to revive them?

A I never did anything like that myself and I never saw any capo doing it either.

Q You worked in the stone quarry?

A Yes, as auxiliary leader I was there.

Q Was there any water for drinking in the neighborhood?

A There was no water in the stone quarry.

Q If you try to remember, where was the next source of water supply for the stone quarry?

A At the time I was there all water trenches which came from the mountains were covered.

Q Where was the next water supply?

A The next water trench was alongside the fence which surrounded the non-commissioned officers' club.

Q You are supposed to have participated in death baths which were given to prisoners. Do you know anything about death baths at all?

A I heard about these baths, but that happened only during the time when Chiemelowski was camp leader.

Q Which year?

A Might have been 1941 or 1942.

Q And where were you at that time?

A In the 3rd Company.

Q And during the entire time you were in camp only once?

A Yes.

Q How do you explain the fact that the witness Gomez just called you the worst man in camp, whereas other witnesses call Grill or Jungjohann the worst men in camp?

A I cannot recall I had any arguments with Gomez at all.

Q How do you explain the fact that the witness Szulc just once having seen you during these death baths just remembers you?

A I cannot tell myself how Szulc is just thinking of me.

Q Were you ever in the shower room for the prisoners inside the camp?

A I had nothing to do with it.

Q Did you ever see it at all?

A I passed several times the bathhouse but I never entered it.

Q Furthermore, you are supposed to have participated in these death baths by standing outside and preventing the prisoners from leaving.

A I heard for the first time about gassings here during my interrogations. Before that I didn't hear about it.

Q Did you hear anything about gassings of the barracks in order to delouse them?

A Yes. At that time our company barracks were gassed too.

PRESIDENT: About what time?

WITNESS HEISIG: '41 and '42.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE (cont'd):

Q That means in the barracks of the guard companies where you were stationed in August 1941 and 1942?

A I didn't understand.

Q That means in the barracks of the guard companies outside the camp there were gasings too?

A Yes, for the purpose of delousing.

Q But now when for the first time you had duty inside the camp in August 1943, did you then see any gasings for the purpose of delousing?

A Yes, some individual barracks were gassed.

Q Do you still remember perhaps how such a gassing took place, what the conditions for it were?

A Yes. From time to time the block eldest had to make reports about lice and other vermin and then the barracks which were full of lice were gassed individually.

Q Were there talks in camp about the question where the vermin came from?

A Yes.

Q And?

A There were many prisoners who didn't think it necessary to wash every day. For this purpose some of the block eldests handed out food stamps every morning and these food stamps the prisoners received only after they washed themselves and then they could get breakfast.

Q That referred to the real prisoners. How about the Russian PWs, if you were able to make any observations in this respect?

A At the time I was with the headquarters staff, I didn't know a thing about the PWs.

Q Will you please continue with your story about the normal procedure which took place when a barracks was gassed?

A When a block was gassed all men on this block had to move to another block. Their clothes and blankets had to remain, then all openings in the block were covered and then the men who take care of the gassing job went inside there.

Q During these occasions, did you also see men wearing gas masks?

A Yes, civilians who took care of the gassing job had their own gas masks.

Q According to your observations, was it possible such a gassing of a barracks was misunderstood and some people saw not only the barracks were gassed but also the people in there?

A I think it possible.

Q Did you have any indication, any statement, any remark which was made to you?

A The same way as it is now during our imprisonment that latrine rumors are coming up, it was the same at that time in this camp.

Q But now you are supposed to have been present during these death baths, whereas other witnesses have testified about other accused that they, the witnesses, saw that these accused took prisoner invalids to the bathhouse.

A At that time I had no authority whatsoever to enter the protective custody camp because I was still a member of the guard company.

Q Now, right from the beginning of course, this bathhouse was intended to be a real shower room for prisoners. Did you ever participate in real showers taken in the bathhouse?

A No.

Q Was this one of your duties at all?

A No, that was a duty of the block eldest.

Q Now, when you were on an out detail either in the stone quarry or at the Steyr factory, what part of the day was taken up with the duties of a detail leader? I am talking about the time which was needed during the day?

A We were on a detail from morning until evening. Exactly, from 7:00 o'clock in the morning when the prisoners marched out until 5:00 when they returned to camp again.

Q Can you say about yourself Mr. Heisig that in any way you violated any rules and regulations or committed crimes while in camp?

A Yes, I admit I have beaten prisoners but this never caused the death of any prisoner.

Q What was the reason for such beatings?

A The reason for such beatings was usual criminal acts committed by a prisoner. That jackets were stolen from the civilian formen, tools were stolen, rubber hoses were damaged, potatoes were stolen.

Q How large, approximately, was the percentage of criminal prisoners, if you were able to make any observations in this respect?

A I can't say anything about that.

CROSS EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q What did you beat these prisoners with?

A With my hand and a rubber hose.

Q Have you ever beaten them with a stick?

A That happened very seldom.

Q You have described the preparations of barracks for gassings.

Where did you observe these preparations?

A These preparations I knew already from my time with the company.

Q Did you ever see these preparations inside the camp?

A No.

Q Did you ever hear of them inside the camp?

A Yes.

Q In what year or years did you hear of that?

A Might have been in 1943 or 1944.

Q Did you ever hear of gassings in 1945?

A No.

Q And what did you hear about these gassings in 1943 and 1944?

A That some individual barracks were gassed on account of vermin.

Q Did you ever hear of inmates being gassed inside the barracks as well as vermin?

A No.

Q What did you hear about the bathing of invalids?

A About the bathings, at that time we as guards heard from the prisoners.

Q Did you hear many people died in these baths?

A Yes. The people in the details talked about it.

Q Did you ever hear the screaming while the bathing was going on?

A No.

Q How many people died daily in the quarry while you were detail leader there?

A From the stone quarry I never came back with a dead man.

Q And all the time you were at the stone quarry, nobody died there?

A No.

Q How many prisoners collapsed there daily?

A Accidents happened and they were brought back to camp right away.

Q With the exception of accidents, how many prisoners collapsed daily?

A I don't know.

Q You mean to say all the time you were a detail leader you never saw a prisoner collapse?

A No, I never saw it.

Q How were conditions in the camp so far as the prisoners living conditions were concerned?

A About three hundred prisoners lived in one block.

Q Would you describe conditions as very bad?

A At my time it wasn't so bad any more, not as bad as during the time of Chiemelowski.

Q Would you consider that at all times conditions were terrible?

A Prisoners confirmed to me in 1944 after Chiemelowski left, conditions improved.

Q Did you ever see dead bodies there?

A Yes.

Q Did you ever see prisoners shot?

A No.

Q Did you ever hear of prisoners shot?

A Yes.

Q Did you ever see prisoners on the electric fence?

A I saw it once.

Q Did you hear of prisoners very frequently being killed on the electric fence?

A No.

Q Under what circumstances did you hear of prisoners being shot?

A Through executions and by trying to escape.

Q Did you see any executions there?

A No.

Q Who composed the execution squads?

A I cannot say because I did not see it.

Q Who did you hear composed the execution squads?

A Will you please repeat the question.

(Whereupon the interpreter repeated the question, "Who did you hear composed the execution squads?")

A Yes, I heard about execution squads, the prisoners told me about that but I was never told who was present there.

Q What class of SS men composed the execution squads. Were they guard, detail leaders, block leaders?

A Executions through shootings were taken from these various guard companies.

Q And at various executions there were guards from each of the guard companies, is that correct?

A Yes, that is what I assume.

PROSECUTION: No further cross.

EXAMINATION BY THE COURT

QUESTIONS BY THE PRESIDENT:

Q You heard the testimony of one of the witnesses, did you, that you beat one of these men for taking potatoes from a wagon and there was blood spurting from his face?

A Yes, I heard it.

Q Is that correct?

A No. The witness has testified that this happened on a Sunday and on a Sunday potatoes were never brought to camp.

Q Did you hear the testimony of Gomez, "We all feared him as he was well known as one of the worst men in camp?"

A Yes.

Q How do you account for that testimony?

A There were always prisoners who tried to avoid work and they