

PRESIDENT: You shouldn't ask by number. Ask if he knows any accused in the docket.

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q Do you know any of the accused in the docket?

A Yes.

Q Which one or ones do you know?

A I know No. 6; No. 4; No. 3; No. 2.

Q What is No. 2's name?

A I know him by the name of Grill.

Q Who is No. 3?

A I know No. 3 by the name of Jung.

Q What is the name of No. 4?

A I know him by the name of Tandler.

Q What is the name of No. 6?

A By the name of Weisig.

Q When did you first meet Grill?

A I knew him from the first day I arrived at camp until I left.

Q What were Grill's duties at camp?

A He was, as is known in German, the detail leader and took care of the mail and the packages in the Post Office.

Q Were invalids ever bathed at Gusen?

A Yes.

Q Did you ever see Grill in connection with such bathings?

A I saw him as we went from my block and we went by and he was taking the invalids to the baths.

Q What year was that?

A If I recall correctly it was in 1943 or 1944.

Q Tell the court what you saw in connection with Grill in that bathing of invalids?

A As far as I recall and as truthfully as I can say, from Barracks 12 and Barracks 13 I saw Grill and other of the SS men going in the direction of the baths. After that we could hear the screams of all the invalids of different nationalities, there were Spaniards and all nationalities screaming in their native tongue as if in pain. After that silence and then we could see the SS return from the baths.

Q Was Grill ever among those SS men?

A Several times I saw him pass with them.

Q Did any invalids die as a result of these baths?

A Yes.

Q How do you know that?

A In the crematory there was a Spaniard named Marino and as he knew Spanish he would tell me in my native tongue.

Q What time of the day or night did these baths take place?

A The times that I saw Grill going towards the bath was in the evening just before we went to bed.

Q Did you see ever corpses taken out of the bathroom?

A I would see them in the crematory the next day and they would tell me: "These are the corpses from last night."

Q Who would tell you that?

A The Spaniard who worked in the crematory.

Q Do you know anything about Grill so far as his duties in the post office are concerned?

A Yes.

(Gomez - direct)

Q Tell the court what you know of him in that connection?

A I saw him many times in Barracks 2 where the mail was distributed. There were packages, the greatest part were for the Polish, and out of these packages they would give the Poles, I can say exactly, but half of the contents more or less. After this they would call some of the SS specialists, like the mechanics, the electricians, and they would give them an extra ration of bread or butter. We were standing at the door by commandos in order to get our piece of bread or whatever we were to get and then we would go out through another door. As everyone was suffering from hunger in the camp many would push and crowd and strive in some way to get another piece of bread in order to keep from starving to death.

PRESIDENT: I wish you would bring out the time and date he is testifying to.

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q What year or years did this take place?

A I always remember it by the time that the packages were allowed to be sent, and if I remember correctly it was from 1942, from 1943, and then until about the middle of 1944, when no more packages were received by the Poles. As we were standing there Grill and other SS men turned in fury and grabbed whatever they could find in their hands and started striking all the people standing there, just hitting left and right no matter what they struck.

PRESIDENT: I wish the interpreter would speak just a little louder, if you can, so that the court can hear you better.

WITNESS GOMEZ: That is all I can recall about Grill but at times they would come out with a bloody nose or blackened eyes. Then about April, 1945, a shipment of red cross parcels from France were received. These parcels were for the French men. There was a large number and after all the French had received theirs they called the Spaniards and I saw this and I know this because it happened to me that out of the majority of the packages they would take out the best.

QUESTIONS BY PROSECUTION:

Q Who would take out the best?

A The SS men and Grill. From these packages there were such things as chocolate and cigarettes and what we most wanted we would never receive and Grill and the other SS men, after having distributed the packages, would leave and they each had a nice parcel tucked in their arms.

Q What was Jungjohann's job in the camp?

A I have something else about Grill I would like to say?

Q What is that?

A A Spaniard used to work with Grill whose name was Cinca. This Spaniard would endeavor to read the press about any news of the front because we were all very interested in that. One day he had just finished writing down the names of all the towns that had been overrun in Russia. Grill entered and the Spaniard tried to put the paper into his mouth but Grill grabbed it from him and took the paper away from him and looked at it. Then he struck him with his hands and kicked him with his feet. After that he took him to the camp commander and then he told the camp commander what had happened and again he was beaten. After that the camp

commander told the Spaniard that he did not want to see him the next day, that he would have to die. After that the Spaniard returned to where we were, very nervous and frightened, and asked what he should do, and so we told him to try to ask the camp eldest to intercede for him. The camp eldest then went to the second in command of the camp, Beck, who was in our estimation a good man. As a result of this intercession by the camp eldest the second camp commander only punished him with 25 lashes. After that he was put for 3 days in confinement and then he was sent to the punishment camp. That is all.

Q Is there anything more about Grill you want to tell the court?

A I do not remember anything else.

Q What was Jung's job in the camp?

A Jung as I recall was in charge of the masons at Gusen.

Q Did you observe his treatment of prisoners?

A Yes, as I worked in the water installation I had access to most of the parts of the camp. I would go with my box of tools and I could observe what was going on. At times I saw Jung maltreating a prisoner. Sometimes he would be just hitting them with his hand and at times with his boots.

Q What year or years did this take place?

A Approximately 1944.

Q What was Tandler's job in the camp?

A Tandler was in charge of the young Russians. He was also interpreter and block fuehrer of the block where the young Russians lived.

Q How old were the young Russians?

A About 13, 16 or 17.

Q Did you observe how he treated them?

A Yes.

Q How was his treatment of them?

A I saw him beat them when they would not march in good formation or when they would not sing. He would have them marching almost continuously as punishment. I can also say, because I spoke to some of them, that many died as a result of the hard treatment they received and the hard work they had to do and the lack of nourishment. The work that they had to do was in the rock quarry. They had to crush rock and if anyone knows about this work he knows it induces tuberculosis. As they were of a young age and because of the work they had to do they were to get an additional meal in the barracks where they were, but as their block leader was not interested or did not wish it, this supposedly extra food never reached their barracks. In fact they would often steal the portion that they did get.

Q Who would steal it?

A Usually the ones that participated would be the block fuehrer and those in charge but there would also be other block leaders, also I mean that the room eldest was also a prisoner, but the SS I personally saw especially on Wednesday when they would leave with a package of margarine.

Q What year or years was Tandler in charge of the young Russians?

A As long as I was there and as long as I knew him and if I recall correctly that was when the Russians first came there about the end of 1941.

Q What was Heisig's job?

A At one time he was in charge of the firemen and at another time he was in charge of the messerschmitt factory.

(Gomez - direct)

Q Did you ever see him mistreat any prisoners?

A Many times I saw him. We all feared him because it was well known that he was one of the worst men in the camp. He would strike anyone for not removing his hat, or for having a couple of potatoes in his pocket, or just for anything that displeased him. I recall one incident in particular, I believe it was in February one Sunday.

Q What year was that?

A In January or February, 1945. It was on a Sunday and the entire camp was in formation waiting for the roll call. As we were waiting for the roll call a wagon pulled by prisoners loaded with potatoes entered the gate. As we were waiting there for the roll call the wagon started by and I recall this fellow, he was a foreigner, probably Polish by the look of his face, reached up and grabbed two or three potatoes with one hand, as many potatoes as you can grab in one hand. Heisig was standing by the gate, I noticed this, and called the boy to come over and the boy went over there and took the potatoes out of his pocket and then he struck him on the face, and as he was wearing the gloves of the SS and then he struck the face of this boy, whose face was drawn with the cold weather, the blood started spurting from both sides of his face. After Heisig had struck him the boy returned to his block and later after roll call he was again called to the place where evidently he was to receive 25.

PRESIDENT: Court will take a 30 minute recess.

(Whereupon at 1505 hours the court recessed for 30 minutes.)

(Whereupon at 1535 hours the court reconvened.)

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 previous session are present now.

I would like to ask a couple more questions.

(Pedro Gomez, 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 Do you know of any gassing of Russians that took place in Gusen?

A Yes.

Q When did that take place?

A As far as I can remember it was in February, 1942.

Q What was the source of your information on that?

A Well, we felt something like this throughout the camp because they had a disinfection throughout the entire camp. Besides this the Spaniard who worked in the crematory mentioned that there was quite a bit of work at the crematory because besides the victims from the disinfection there were also a great number of Russians who had been gassed. Due to the length of time I don't recall whether he said 147 or 164.

PROSECUTION: Your witness.

CROSS EXAMINATION

QUESTIONS BY DEFENSE COUNSEL:

Q Why were you in the concentration camp?

A Well, truthfully it must be said that none of the Spaniards knew the real reason, the reason why we were sent

to the concentration camp, not exactly.

PRESIDENT: Will you speak a little louder, please, the interpreters. We can't hear you up here. It is very important that we hear all your translation. That is the only way the court has of getting the evidence. I think you had better move up a little bit. Just repeat your last statement to the question.

(Whereupon the interpreter repeated the last answer.)

WITNESS GOMEZ: We were working in France after having fought in Spain and then when the Germans entered France we were promised work in Germany as free workers and we were brought to the concentration camp.

QUESTIONS BY DEFENSE COUNSEL:

Q Which side were you on in the Spanish Civil War?

A On the side of the Republic, my government.

Q You say that you saw Grill beating prisoners. Would you kindly go into detail and explain to the court just how he did it?

A As I have said before that in fury he would strike with his feet, his fists, or whatever happened to be at hand regardless of who he struck or where.

Q Did he strike with both fists?

A No, as I have always known that one of his hands is not good he could not hit with both hands.

Q Were you present when the details from the camp left in the morning?

A Yes, we all went out to work.

Q Did you ever hear those young Russians singing on the way to work?

A Certainly, and I saw it.

(Gomez - cross)

Q Did you hear them singing when they returned in the evening?

A Yes.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q Mr. Gomez, did you ever hear anything in the camp that something was done with human skin?

A I know for example that they would make soap from the oils of the human body and also that others who had tatoos on their skin would have it removed and it was preserved and also that the gold dental work was also removed.

Q Did you hear the name of any of the accused in this trial in connection with any of these things you just related?

A No, directly I could not say.

Q Did you ever hear of the case of a Russian who supposedly was slain in a coal car?

PROSECUTION: I object to that on the grounds that it is irrelevant, incompetent, immaterial and it isn't a subject of the direct examination. There is no evidence in this case that there was any Russian slain in a coal car.

PRESIDENT: Subject to objection by any member of the court, objection sustained.

QUESTIONS BY DR. KLUGE:

Q When did the young Russians leave the camp for work and return from work in comparison to the work time of the other details?

A The Russians, Russian youths, left $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after we left. They were supposed to come in $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before we were but often times they would come in at the same time as we.

Q Do you know anything about who was in charge of the post office throughout those years?