

AFFIDAVIT.

I, RUDOLF DOHNAU, born in Essen on 30 October 1909, after having been cautioned that by making a false affidavit I render myself liable to punishment, hereby, voluntarily and without coercion, state the following under oath:

1.) I have been employed by Krupp A.G. in Essen since 1927 and was transferred to the Berta Works in Breslau under the compulsory service decree. I made preliminary calculations pertaining to the organization of work. My department chief was Herr Girod, the technical director was Herr Sickmann and also Herr Girod. Formerly Herr Hupe was commercial director and Herr Wolf technical manager. These gentlemen passed daily through the plant and, therefore, knew exactly what was going on. Orders and instructions were carried out by certain people, from the managers on down to the foremen. Herr D. worked in the machine construction department 21 and took part in the work on the big guns. He had stated that hardly any foreign worker was employed in Essen. The first foreign workers to be employed in the machine construction department 21 were hired in 1943. However, he did not know how many foreign workers were employed in other departments. The foreign workers employed in the Berta-works Breslau were not segregated from the other workers, but worked on the machines side by side with German workers. The workers worked in day and night shifts, were led to work in closed groups, checked off, and were again marched back to camp after quitting time. He himself worked with a group of very efficient concentration camp inmates and thus his account can be relied upon. In the main this group included Czechs, Poles and toward the end also Italians. The concentration camp workers lived in closed and fenced-in camps. Toward the end the concentration camp inmates numbered approx. 4 to 5,000. The plant was sub-divided into 5 shops employing altogether approx. 10 to 12,000 workers. At one time or other he also had something to do with a go-between of the camp (Zwischenmann) but cannot remember his name (in handwriting: Herr Schwager) Herr Herbst was another go-between. He also knew the camp manager, Weiss, but cannot say anything about him personally. He had seen how the concentration camp inmates were brought to work and how they had been beaten by the chief Kapo (Prisoner foreman). For a time conditions were very bad for the inmates. Later on a system of merits was introduced and everyone having the required points was given vouchers, with which he could buy cigarets, etc, in the canteen. In his opinion, conditions were bad. The huts of the inmates were 20 metres off the railroad track and the inside of the camp could be seen from the train. The concentration camp inmates wore prisoner's clothing with various identification marks. He usually worked with a Jewish prisoner who did not show up for work one day. On his inquiry as to his whereabouts, another inmate told him: "Konrad Kaputt". They all complained how bad off they were. When they felt sick they were afraid to go to the hospital, because they took it for granted that they would not again leave that place alive. They were frequently beaten by SS-guards and Kapos. A concentration camp inmate was assigned to each machine to be trained and if he only once turned his head to look at something he was hit over the head by the Kapo. It is the opinion of Herr Dohnau that the managers knew of these occurrences.

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CONT'D

I have carefully read each page of this affidavit and signed them myself, I have made the necessary corrections in my own handwriting and countersigned them with my initials and I declare upon oath that in this affidavit I have said the full truth to the best of my knowledge.

(Signature) Rudolf Dohnau

Sworn to and signed before me this Thursday, day of 10 July 1947, at Kulmbach by Rudolf Dohnau, Kulmbach-Ziegelhuetten, Siedlung 8, known to me to be the person making the above affidavit.

(Signature) Emile B. Skraly
U.S. Civilian, AGO No. D-094236
Office of Chief of Counsel for War
Crimes, U.S. War Department.

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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION

I, G. Lauener, ETO 20 123, hereby certify that I am a duly appointed translator for the German and English languages and that the above is a true and correct translation of the document NIK- 7945.

Nuremberg, 13 November 1947.

G. Lauener.
ETO 20 123.