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Col Williams

Testimony of HANS FRANK, taken in
Nuremberg, Germany, from 1030 to
1215 hours, 7 September 1945, by
THOMAS S. HINKEL, Lt. Col., inter-
rogator. Interpreter: Siegfried
Ramler, OUSCC. Reporter: Tec 4
R. R. Kerry.

TO THE INTERPRETER BY COL. HINKEL:

Q What is your name?

A Siegfried Ramler, OUSCC.

Q What is your present duty?

A I am an interpreter.

Q Do you solemnly swear you will interpret my questions from English
into German and the responses of the witness from German into English truly
and correctly to the best of your ability, so help you God?

A I do.

TO THE WITNESS THROUGH THE INTERPRETER:

Q What is your name?

A Hans Frank.

Q You have heretofore been interrogated?

A Yes.

Q And at that time you were placed under oath?

A Yes.

Q Do you understand that you are still under oath and that you have
promised to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so
help you God?

A Yes.

Q At the close of our session yesterday, we were discussing ghettos
in Government-General Poland, do you remember that?

A Yes, but it wasn't called General-Government Poland.

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Q I used that phrase to distinguish the part of Poland over which you had been placed in charge as distinguished from the part which was incorporated into the German Reich and the part which was occupied by the Russians. If it had some particular name which you would rather use, you may give it to me and I shall use that.

A It was just called the General Government. At first it was called the Polish-Occupied Territories.

Q When was the name changed to General Government?

A At the moment of my nomination to General Governor.

Q When was that?

A On the 26th of October.

Q 1939?

A Yes.

Q We were discussing in particular the Warsaw Ghettos, do you remember that?

A Yes.

Q Do you have any statements that you want to make in amplification of or in substitution of any statements you made yesterday with regard to either ghettos in general or the Warsaw ghetto?

A Yes.

Q Proceed.

A I want to tell the Colonel at first that I didn't go into the matter enough yesterday of what relation the SS and the police had to these ghettos. Does the Colonel know that Heinrich Himmler had quite completely apart from the General Government his own organization of police, and does the Colonel know that Himmler had built up in the German Reich a complete

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SS state?

Q Yes, I know about both of those things.

A The conclusion is that I did not organize the ghettos but that I merely coordinated them into the structure of the Reich. The SS and police had long before I came into the country formed Jewish advice counsel. Will the Colonel remember that the war started on the 1st of September, 1939, and that the police and SS came into the country together with the Wehrmacht, and that I entered the country only later, in November, and may he remember how difficult it is to build up an administration in a country that is already administered by other forces; and I am certain that the false opinion that has been in the world about me for the last years can be cleared up.

Q Is that all?

A I just want to tell the Colonel that according to my opinion he goes far too much into detail, and that I would like to talk in general about the administration of the General Government. And all the time while I was in prison a great number of witnesses on me must have been interrogated, such as Staat Secretary Buhler and Staat Secretary Bobbler. I was asked yesterday about a letter I had written to the Governor of Warsaw. I can not remember the letter, to the best of my ability.

Q You were the Governor-General of Poland, and as such the administration of that area was under your jurisdiction, and while you no doubt would prefer to discuss the situation in general terms, nevertheless I am impelled to ask you concerning the details thereof.

A No. First I am not Governor-General of Poland, which I want to repeat, and then so many parts of the administration of Poland were not in

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my hands.

Q .That may be. In those situations where you think you were not charged with the responsibility for what occurred, you say so, but don't tell me any lies about it because we know.

A What do you mean lies? When? For what? I take the responsibility for all this that happened under my charge, but I do not take the responsibility for all that the SS and the police have done and the other organizations in the Reich which worked inside the General Government. It is unfortunate about the title of General Governor because that suggests totalitarian powers.

Q Well, to get back to the Warsaw Ghetto, I believe you stated that you have no recollection of ordering the Governor of the City of Warsaw to complete the transfer of the Jewish population of Warsaw into the particular area set aside for the ghetto by 15 November, 1940, is that correct?

A That I had no recollection?

Q Yes.

A Dr. Fischer would know that far better than I.

Q If somebody said, however, that you did issue such an order, would it be the truth or would it be a lie?

A That would have to be checked. Yesterday it was a letter. Today you talk about an order.

Q Well, a written document of some kind.

A Signed by me?

Q A written document from you to the Governor of Warsaw.

A I think it is highly improbable that I have written such a thing because these things have not been dealt by me personally.

Q How about an oral order, do you remember that?

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A No, I don't remember.

Q And if somebody said that this order was an oral order, to the effect that I have just stated, would you say that that was wrong?

A Yes.

Q In other words, you issued no kind of order to the Governor of Warsaw with respect to moving the Jewish population into a ghetto?

A Certainly. This situation would have to be cleared up. All the men would have to be present and one would have to talk.

Q Was there a commissar for Jewish affairs appointed in Warsaw?

A The Governor of Warsaw might have done that.

Q Don't you know whether he did or not?

A That I don't know, but I think so.

Q Yes, you know he did.

A It must have been necessary in order to check the administration.

Q Of course. as a matter of administrative policy, he would have to have a representative of that kind?

A No, that has nothing to do with administrative policy. It is a matter of food and water and so on.

Q Well, I won't debate whether or not it is an administrative policy or administrative procedure or anything else. I merely ask you is it not a fact that there was a representative appointed either by you or by the Governor of Warsaw to handle Jewish affairs?

A Certainly not by me. It must have been by the Governor, who was the competent authority.

Q Now, you stated yesterday that the administration of ghettos was

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handled by a counsel or body of Jews which in turn met with a representative of the city administration, which in turn was under your direction, is that correct?

A No, the representative of the city met the governor. Then the city was under the jurisdiction of the governor.

Q Yes, that is what I mean.

A And all these questions about clothing and food, it was just a continual conference between the representative of the Jews and the city.

Q Yes, but the city, the administration of the city, was under your general direction, isn't that correct?

A In the sense that the whole country was under my jurisdiction. Then I would be responsible for every village.

Q Yes, that's right. You were, weren't you?

A Naturally. The Colonel should not have the impression that I want to get away from my responsibility. I am quite clear about my fate.

Q Do you remember the removal from Warsaw of a large number of Jews in 1942?

A When should that have been?

Q During the period 22 July to 3 October 1942.

A This might have been reported to me later on. Was this during the time of the ghetto rising?

Q You know whether or not it was reported to you that a large number of Jews had been removed from Warsaw during a period in 1942?

A I have understood the question. The Staats Secretary Buhler would know it. I know that a conference had taken place between the City and the Staats

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Secretary, but I had not taken part in this conference.

Q Well, wasn't the result of the conference reported to you?

A No, the competent authority was in Warsaw.

Q Is it your statement that as Governor-General of Poland, you didn't know that a large part of the population of Warsaw had been removed therefrom?

A Certainly I got to know it. That's quite clear.

Q That is my question to you. Wasn't it reported?

A It certainly was not told me by Staats Secretary Buhler to whom the report was directed. If a report had been issued, perhaps it was by Governor Fischer, who was personally in Cracow.

Q I am not trying to quibble with you on words. When I say report, I don't mean necessarily that a formal written document was presented to you concerning these matters. What I mean generally is were you not informed by one means or another whether orally or in writing of these events?

A The question about the transportation of Jews has certainly been directed to me not only from Warsaw but other sources.

Q What other sources?

A Out of the whole Reich.

Q What instructions, suggestions, or anything else did you receive out of the whole Reich?

A There was never any written formulation, but we always heard in the Reich this and that is going on.

Q From whom did you hear this?

A Staats Secretary Buhler, for instance, told me about it.

Q Where did he hear it?

A He heard it in Berlin.

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Q From whom did he hear it in Berlin?

A Certainly from some gentleman in the Ministry of the Interior.

Q You are not trying to tell me that you would listen to a report from Staats Secretary Buhler or anybody else without knowing the source of the authority?

A That I don't understand. If the Staats Secretary Buhler speaks to somebody in Berlin--

Q Yes, if he speaks to somebody in Berlin, you want to know whom he spoke to?

A Perhaps he found it out in a conference with Lammers.

Q Or perhaps he could find it out in a conference with anybody. Who did he find it out from?

A That one has to ask Buhler.

Q Didn't Buhler tell you who told him about these things?

A Not only Buhler spoke about it, but also Staats Secretary Bobbler spoke about it, and besides that, this was a general plan where always the names were mentioned because this was a problem that affected the administration all over Germany, but what we did know was that Himmler was the Reichs Commissar for Jews. Only once a written document came into my hands from Lammers in which was written that all affairs in the Reich and all occupied territories of the Reich are under the jurisdiction of the Reichs SS Commissar Himmler. This document has been repeated in various forms. Once it came in a connection where the police alone could dispose of the property of the Jews; that all the property that belonged to Jews who were being evacuated came under the charge of Reichs

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Commissar Himmler and not in the charge of State authorities, and this also applied to the General Government.

Q I still say that as Governor-General of Poland, when reports were made to you by your subordinates regarding instructions that they had received from Berlin while they were in Berlin, that they must have told you from whom these instructions were received and who these people were that gave the instructions that you refer to.

A I think the best man who would know about this is SS Gruppenfuehrer Kruger.

Q That may be, but I am asking what you know about it.

A I know that what has been reported to me.

Q And what was reported to you?

A That the Jews on the order of the Fuehrer should be transported towards the east in stages, that this plan was not discussed very often because we often administered those things ourselves and there was a different town, and there was also a different town, Theresienstadt, which was also taken into consideration, but that had not been notified to us in writing.

Q Now, you said that your subordinates, including Buhler, on occasion told you about instructions which had been received concerning the treatment to be accorded the Jews or other matters in connection with the Jews, and I want to know from whom your subordinates received these instructions.

A First the word "instruction" is far too honorary a word. It was not really an instruction. It was just the result of conversations and rumors. Himmler had never expressed his plans so clearly, and what I have said and done then was just the result of beliefs which were quite clear to me.

Q Didn't your subordinates tell you from whom they had received these suggestions and these rumors that you refer to?

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A It is possible that Staats Secretary Buhler found it out from Staats Secretary Stuckhart.

Q As I told you before, anything is possible. What I want to know is what happened.

A I can not say. Whenever Buhler was in Berlin and reported anything like that to me, he was most of the time with Staat Secretary Stuckhardt.

Q Is it your statement then that the suggestions, or however you may describe them, regarding the treatment of Jews were transmitted to you by your subordinates, especially Buhler, who in turn received them from Stuckhart?

A What suggestions?

Q You told me that you took action on the basis of these suggestions, and I want to know whether or not these suggestions were transmitted to you by one of your subordinates as coming from somebody in authority in Berlin, particularly Stuckhardt.

A What do you mean by "taking action"?

Q What do you mean by "taking action"? You are the one who said it.

A The Colonel asked me.

Q The question is this: Did you or did you not take action in response to the message that you received from one of your subordinates as to what the people in Berlin wanted you to do with the Jews?

A In no case have I had anything to do with the transportation of Jews from Warsaw, which was a clear internal affair of the SS.

Q What connection did you have with the Jews?

A I had no competent authority on this particular field. I had a few

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Jews in the castle with me as workers, but I personally had nothing to do with the Jews.

Q You stated that after you talked with Buhler that you took action with reference to the suggestion that Buhler told you about as coming from Berlin. What were these actions to which you refer?

A I have not said that I took action.

Q What did you do?

A I don't know what you mean by action, but I often talked to Dr. Fischer, and it is a fact that the transportation of Jews from Poland to different places was very bad for the economy. We have gotten in touch with the Chief of the SS, with the Oberkommando of the Wehrmacht Keitel, and the Reichs minister to prevent Jews being transported away from Warsaw, who worked so well producing uniforms. My point of view was that it was crazy to do such a thing in the middle of the war when one must have every button of every uniform. We had armament officials that came to us and begged us to leave the Jews because their factories would have to stop.

Q What did you do about that?

A I had done everything to help this sensible suggestion.

Q What did you do?

A I was in Berlin and I talked personally with those that had authority.

Q With whom?

A With Funk.

Q Who else?

A We talked to Speer.

Q Who else did you talk to?

A I personally talked to the representative of the Wehrmacht at Cracow, with the generals, with the representatives of the 4-Year Plan, who

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had big interests, and everything went directly to the Fuehrer's headquarters.

Q How do you know that?

A That I know because I had the answer which came to Keitel that this order of the Fuehrer has to be carried out under any circumstances.

Q What order are you referring to now?

A This order that is always being talked about, that is, to transport Jews toward the East, because this order must have been the basic order of the whole movement.

Q You know it was, isn't that right?

A That I don't know because I have never received this order. We have felt the effect.

Q As a matter of fact, when you talked to Hitler before you became Governor-General, didn't he tell you that that was what was going to happen?

A When should he have told me that?

Q When he talked to you before appointing you Governor-General.

A He only received me once. It was in his special train in Silesia. We talked together for a quarter of an hour. He told me that I had to take care of all the administration that was going to be set up and to see that the people worked and that everything was to be reinstated that was destroyed during the war.

Q And didn't he tell you about the Jews too?

A No.

Q Not one word was said during that conversation about Jews, is that right?

A It was a day when Hitler was very busy and a day when there was very

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hard fighting, when he said all special questions would have to be postponed until later.

Q Did you or did you not discuss with Hitler about treatment to be accorded the Jews?

A No.

Q Did you ever discuss that with him?

A I have later discussed with him--not discussed but had a conference which was in 1943--I think it was 1943--no, because at that time I reported to Adolf Hitler that the Jewish production was excellent. That must have been in 1940. That was the only conference that I had with him in the year 1940.

Q My question is did you ever discuss with Hitler about the treatment to be accorded the Jews.

A I have just now answered this question.

Q How about after 1940.

A I have told you that just now too.

Q Tell me exactly what occurred in this conference in 1940.

A That was no conference.

Q Well, whatever it was.

A It was a talk that I had with Hitler where I tried to bring the economy of the territory onto a healthy basis.

Q What did Hitler tell you about the Jews and what did you tell him about it?

A About the Jews he asked how they behaved, what did they do.

Q And what did you tell him?

A Something like that; of course I can not repeat it word for word.

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Q That is not necessary, just what you remember about it.

A According to the sense?

Q Yes.

A I told him that the special thing about the Jews in Poland was that they were a different class of people from what we had in Germany. In Germany the Jews are the rich ones. In Germany they are not manual workers; they are not people who stand in factories and work. In Germany they have been bankers, doctors, trade exchange people. In Poland on the other hand, the Jews are the small manual workers. They are the bootmakers, the tailors, and not only that, they are also semi-skilled workers in industry.

Q What else was said.

A And then I also told him that they are really quite well off, that they are very industrious and behave well, and that we can not dispense with them in Poland because the Pole has not the nature that the German Jew has. The Jew in Poland was the man that brought the trade into the village because the transportation of the country was so very bad. There were no railways, and that was terribly important.

Q What did Hitler say to all this?

A That interested him but he did not talk about it further.

Q Did you tell him about how the Jews were being treated?

A That I could not tell him because nothing especial had happened to the Jews.

Q What happened after that?

A That you know.

Q Will you tell me what you know about it?

A Yes, what I told yesterday?

Q You didn't tell everything yesterday. Just tell me all over again.

A My God!

Q Go ahead. Tell me about it.

A Repeat again?

Q Yes.

A Yes. My God! I had the whole population of 10½ or 11 million people, I can't say exactly. I entered the country on the 7th of November. Then I found the Jewish population in most cases in the old form of life. One saw them everywhere standing about in their clothing, in their long robes, and with their curls. They were spread out all over the country. There were big parts of cities which they had occupied. In these parts of the cities, many of them lived under terrible conditions. In all my life, I have not seen as much of dirt and need as in these Jewish parts. It was this picture that came in front of my eyes for the first time because if one came out of Germany, one had a completely different picture of Jews. It was also interesting to see the racial build-up of Jews. And then I told the Jews in my proclamation that they can carry on living under the very same conditions. That was my only intention. It is not right to charge me with any intentions of any inhuman acts toward the Jews.

Q What happened?

A The Colonel must remember that I came with very few men into a completely alien country. From the 7th of November it took me a quarter of a year until I occupied all my service posts, until all these posts were able to communicate with the central post or orders from the central post could be given to the different administrative sections. Besides I had in the country the Wehrmacht commander, who had nothing to do with me, who was not under me at all, and who was not responsible to me for any reports, and they had

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already been in the country since the 1st of September. The SS and police had already been in the country, as I said before. It is my personal opinion, although Adolf Hitler never told me in the course of all this time, that Himmler influenced Hitler to make a very great anti-Jewish campaign, using the reason that the Jews were guilty of the war against Germany. This of course contributed in ever-increasing measure to the more difficult problem of the Jews. The SS never allowed any of my workers to get involved in their Jewish campaigns. At first they started to gather together the Jews, saying that anyway the Jews had their own parts of the town in every town they lived, and it was then we tried through the formation of ghettos to keep things in order at least in the bigger cities. In these ghettos all Jews were to be rounded up together; they were to be under the protection of the police; they were to have their own administration there. I want to point out that the order we talked about yesterday about the forced labor of Jews, that those orders had actually never gone into effect, that the SS acted under their own orders and declared that the General Governor had nothing to order.

Q What happened to the Jews?

A We already talked about today that these ghettos came into their greatest difficulties, especially Warsaw, where food was concerned. And then in accordance with the general plan, the general transportation of Jews towards the east was carried out.

Q What was your participation in that?

A That I fought against that until the very last moment, as I said before.

Q Then what did you do at the last moment?

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A I went to the highest authorities of the different departments in order to interest them in my opinion, but I got the decision of the Fuehrer from the Oberkommando of the Wehrmacht Keitel, who told me himself that the Fuehrer wanted the transportation of the Jews to the east carried out under any circumstances.

Q After your opinion was overruled, what did you do?

A I have already told the Colonel before that eight times I have offered my resignation.

Q My question is after your opinion with respect to the transportation of Jews was overruled, what did you do?

A I offered my resignation as often as possible.

Q Yes, I know that, but your resignations were refused, according to your statements, is that correct?

A My last resignation was offered by me in October of last year.

Q What was your participation in the transportation of the Jews after your protestations were overruled?

A I said that this was a general order of Hitler with which I had nothing to do, and then I made my big speeches about humanity. I raised this flag for the first time in Munich on the technical high school before a huge audience of students and with the presence of all the press. I spoke against the SS state inside the state under the theme, "The Technique of the State."

Q As the Governor-General of Poland, what did you do to participate in the transportation of Jews from Poland?

A First, the transportation was not under me at all. The eastern railway was not in my charge. This was in charge of the Reich Transportation Minister. The police was not under me.

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Q What did you do? Don't tell me the things you didn't do.

A I am telling you why I could not do more than this. The Colonel should tell me what I should have done.

Q I wasn't Governor-General. You were.

A Colonel, it is easy for you to ask. You come from a country where laws are being adhered to. I had to carry out a position which caused me difficulties day and night. I had to stand as an officer carrying out orders.

Q You had laws to enforce. You were in a country, and you were the law-making body and the law-enforcing body, weren't you?

A I have not given orders nor have I enforced them.

Q What did you do?

A I have repeatedly said it.

Q Your statements are that you did nothing.

A If that is not sufficient, the Colonel should tell me what I should have done.

Q I am not concerned with what you should have done or should not have done. I want to know what you did.

A Please don't speak so loudly. I hear very well. We want to examine the things in quietness again.

Q Yes, let us just discuss them quietly.

A First, the Colonel should tell me what he is talking about. Is he talking about the policy, just policy, or the transportation of Jews from Warsaw.

Q I am now talking about your activities as Governor-General of Poland with reference to the transportation of Jews.

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A Good. I have neither ordered this transportation nor have I received an order for this transportation from anybody else nor has this transportation been carried out by any authority of which I was in charge nor any authority that has been under me has been informed of this procedure. It seems that every leaf that falls from a tree and every fire that breaks out in the country is being attributed to me. It is just so that I could not control everything that has been under me. Himmler was competent. This was not a movement that only concerned the General Government alone. This transportation obviously went on all over the Reich. Naturally you can see that no plan could have been carried out by me because I had the biggest interest in keeping the Jews. For hours we had discussed what we could do to keep the Jews, and we were all in the same position, the Wehrmacht, the armament people and so on and the 4-year Plan; we had the biggest interest.

Q Now, I would like to know what you did with respect to the treatment of the Jews before they were transported.

A The treatment of the Jews? The treatment of the Jews was that we had done our best to give them work and bread. I set a good example to the country. I had in the castle in Cracow 20, sometimes even 30, Jews, and not in subordinate positions. They had regular businesses there. They had their tools and they had their work, and this example has been adhered to generally in the country from our authority; and just like that the country in Kasinos had given employment to the Jews, and so it could have remained until the end of the war. The orders were forced upon us from the outside against our will, against our suggestions, against reason, against humanity, and we have been run over by it completely. I want to tell the Colonel in this connection when, he always asks for what have I done, that at least I and my authorities

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had decided to live peacefully together with the Jews.

Q Now, going back to the transportation or the removal of Jews from Warsaw, I believe you stated that you were informed thereof by one means or another by one of your assistants, is that correct?

A May I have a glass of water?

Q We will suspend for five minutes.

(A short recess was taken.)

THE WITNESS: It is not in my memory to have gotten knowledge about the transportation of the Jews from Warsaw especially. I only knew that this was part of the general movement which happened all over the Reich which Buhler told me about.

Q As a matter of fact, isn't it true that some 300,000 or more Jews were moved from Warsaw in about a 3-month period in 1942?

A That I can not say.

Q Well, you must have known about that because these were people working in the various factories over which you had jurisdiction.

A I did not have the jurisdiction over the factories. What other things should I have had? I have not been able to deal with all little details personally. Naturally I got to know about the transportation of the Jews from Warsaw just as I got to know about the transportation of the Jews from Silesia. This must have happened sometime after the start of the Russian war. This was a terrible time because at that time the whole east was razed, and Himmler received new responsibilities in the east, and that is why there was always the talk about transportation towards the east because one had those vast territories.

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Q I am speaking now of a movement of a large number of Jews from Warsaw.

A I too.

Q Do you remember being in Warsaw any time during the period 19 April, 1943, to 16 May 1943?

A So long? No, that is impossible.

Q Any time during that period?

A That may be, but I can not say exactly.

Q Do you recall anything that happened during that period with reference to the ghetto?

A I don't know if I was there all that time. I would have to find out from my diary.

Q Where is your diary?

A That has been given to the Americans.

Q Do you remember which American you gave it to?

A To those that arrested me at Tegernsee.

Q Where is that?

A In upper Bavaria.

Q Do you remember the Warsaw ghetto being razed, destroyed?

A I don't know the time. When was that?

Q I say do you remember it being destroyed?

A I know that there was a report once that fights had occurred in the Warsaw ghetto and that the police and the Wehrmacht had big fights.

Q Didn't you hear that the Warsaw ghetto had been destroyed?

A Before? No. During the fights I was told in a way that the Warsaw

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ghetto had been shot up and destroyed because of the fights. We had last summer a big rising.

Q When was that?

A That was in December 1944. That was a very big rising, but that was connected with the advance of the Russians.

Q Wasn't there a destruction of the Warsaw ghetto in 1943 too?

A I told before it had been reported to me that in connection with the fights, the ghetto had been destroyed.

Q Was that during the period 19 April-16 May 1943?

A I absolutely could not state the date.

Q How many Jews were killed or liquidated during that 1943 period?

A In the rising?

Q Yes.

A The number has never been told to me. I once asked Himmler to show me the photos of the ghetto but that was not shown to me. Nobody could enter this territory. It was shut tightly. It had been declared a military wartime restriction, and the civilian administration was kept outside completely. I just had a very superficial report with no exact information, and whenever I had a question, I just received the answer that the question hadn't been cleared up. It was always very difficult to ask questions because the police and the Wehrmacht said, "Mr. General Governor, what have you to do with that question? You should sit in the castle and be a representative."

Q Did you hear that more than 50,000 Jews had been killed or captured or liquidated one way or the other?

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A This number I am hearing for the first time. I have not heard any numbers, but I heard it was thousands. I was also told that the losses of the German police and Wehrmacht had been very substantial.

Q What action, if any, did you take in connection with the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto in 1943?

A I asked for reports from the Wehrmacht and the police, and it was reported to me that there was really a big rising with weapons, with cannons, machine guns of all kinds, that it was an internal civil war.

Q Now, we have been discussing the Polish Jew and ghetto situation. What about the Poles apart from the Jews? How were they treated?

A I want to come back to a question and say a few things about it.

Q What question?

A I was accused in the foreign press that I was part of the Lublin destruction system. I have the following to say to that: I swear to God, the Mighty One, and I want to point out that I am a believing Christian, that I neither on the planning nor on the preparation nor on the build-up of this procedure nor on the running of this procedure have taken part directly or indirectly. When I was arrested in Tegernsee, I was greeted there straightaway as the Lublin Jew burner and gasser of Jews.

Q That was in connection with the extermination of the Lublin ghetto?

A What do you mean, extermination of the Lublin ghetto?

Q Is your statement in connection with that?

A This is a thing that appeared for the first time last year in the foreign press about a camp near Lublin where I had been accused of the liquidation. This has been the camp near Lublin. The name does not come to me right

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now. The Russians have occupied this country, and I think already four SS leaders have been hanged because of this camp.

Q What about the treatment accorded to the Poles who were not Jews?

A Is this question a general one? In that case I would have to answer generally.

Q Yes, that's right.

A Then I must say the following: That the Polish population had suffered in this war very badly. It is so that I had a population of $9\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 million Poles. The Polish population had suffered in the following way: It is important to say that I came in the country at the beginning of November, and the first thing that I noticed was an exceptional uneasiness inside the population. At that time there were hundreds of thousands of Poles on the march. In all parts of the General Government, there were movements from east to west and from west to east. That was in connection with a dividing line that had been drawn between the Russians and the Germans so that one part of the Poles was escaping into the German part and the other part escaping from those parts which had been destroyed by the war, and there were parts that wanted to go over to the Russian territory. So this movement was the most important problem, the problem standing in the foreground. But in ever-increasing measure a confidence was built up, and the crowning of this achievement was last year when 380,000 Poles and 200,000 Germans built together the defensive wall against Bolshevism. I promised to the Poles at that time their lives according to their own ways. I intended no Germanization, and my main job and my main intention was to bring the workers into their work places and the farmers into their fields and peace and quiet in their lives. The biggest organization of

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the Poles was with me, the Polish representative of the Cultural Commission. Ever since 1940 I worked together with this commission, which had 24 members who always had access to me, and we always had conferences together. This was my section. Heinrich Himmler was Reichs Commissar for the assembling of the people, in charge of measures for making the people firmer.

Q We will have to suspend now so that you can get back for your luncheon, and we will resume at some later time.

A This afternoon?

Q Perhaps.

A Because of my hand I have to go to the doctor.

Q Then we will postpone to some other time.

Thereupon at 1215 hours, 7 September 1945, the interrogation was adjourned.

APPROVED:

INTERROGATOR

W. R. Keary

REPORTER

G. F. Rauler

INTERPRETER

SECRET