

Testimony of HANS FRANK, taken at Nuremberg, Germany on 3 October 1945, 1030 - 1215, by Lt Col Thomas S. Hinkel, IGD, OUSCC. Also present: 1st Lt. Joachim Stenzel, Interpreter, and Pvt Clair Van Vleck, Court Reporter.

COL. HINKEL TO THE INTERPRETER:

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

A I do.

COL. HINKEL TO THE WITNESS THROUGH THE INTERPRETER:

Q What is your name?

A Hans Frank.

Q You have heretofore been interrogated?

A Yes.

Q At that time, you were placed under oath?

A Yes.

Q Do you realize 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 You recall during the course of our previous discussions, that we touched on the subject of the various art treasures in the General Government of Poland. Do you remember that?

A Yes.

Q Do you recall issuing a decree ordering the confiscation of

these art treasures?

A Yes; as State property.

Q Do you recall when this decree was issued?

A That I cannot say exactly. May I say something on that subject?

Q Yes.

A As far as I can recall, this decree was made to protect art treasures from getting out of the General Government of Poland, so that I could hold them for the State. I thought that by saying that all these treasures were property of the State, I could safeguard them, and I think that I succeeded in safeguarding them for the State. The General Government had a treasury of its own, a budget of its own, separate from the Reich budget. For that reason too, I handled the remainder of the very last art treasures and brought them to the Director of the Munich Museum, Dr. Johannes Buchner, in order to safeguard these treasures for the State.

Q What policy was followed by you in carrying out this decree that you issued regarding art treasures?

A Well, it was merely that a State office was created that made an effort to register all these art treasures and store them in camps. In the course of this, a certain number of camps were established and the camp, whose name I could not remember the last time, is at Wilanow near Warsaw. I add this merely because I could not remember it. On the subject of all the art treasures, a great book was compiled. This book was distributed to the various offices and was

also passed on to the offices of the Reich.

Q As a matter of fact, there were two decrees issued, were there not, with reference to art treasures?

A Well, I really cannot say, because I do not recall the details, but I only know that we safeguarded the art treasures for the State. If the Colonel wants to ask a more detailed question, I might remember.

Q Was there not a decree issued on or about 16 December 1939, pertaining to the confiscation of public art treasures in the General Government of Poland?

A Yes. That is the one I meant, in order to safeguard these art treasures, so that they would pass on to the State.

Q Was there not a second decree issued on or about 24 January 1940, pertaining to the confiscation of private property, including art treasures?

A Well, that is possible; that is quite possible. If it is mentioned in the book of decrees, then I just can't remember it.

Q Don't you remember now that you had power to not only confiscate public art treasures, but also those belonging to private individuals?

A I personally did not make any use of that decree. That would have been the public office that had charge of it.

Q That may be; I am not saying that you personally went around to pick up art treasures, but you issued a decree, did you not, under

which an office was established for that purpose?

A That is perfectly possible. If it was mentioned in the book of the decrees, then it was made. I couldn't exactly say whether I ought to say confiscated, or merely safeguarded.

Q We won't quibble with words. My purpose now is to ascertain your best present recollection of whether or not a decree was issued pertaining to public art treasures, and another decree was issued pertaining to private property, including art treasures.

A I remember this only because the Colonel says it now, because from my own, I would not recall it. If it is mentioned in the Law Review, then my name is under it and it shows it.

Q Well, it is mentioned all right in "Das Recht Des General Gouvernements".

A Then certainly it is true.

Q Do you recall whether or not these decrees provided for imprisonment for those persons who concealed works of art?

A That I don't remember. It must all be in the book of the decrees, but I certainly can't remember all of these details.

Q Don't you have any present recollection regarding the decrees that you signed?

A The Colonel should perhaps look at the book called "The Laws of the Government General. There are actually three volumes. It would be absolutely impossible to remember all the Laws that were in it.

Q That may be, but you were, particularly, interested in art-collecting, were you not, because you placed in your quarters, in the

palace at which you lived in Cracov, a large amount of this art, did you not?

A They were hanging there already when I came.

Q Yes; and didn't you also establish a room, or a number of rooms, in which art was placed, more or less as a small gallery?

A No, not rooms. I set aside basement rooms, which were particularly fitted due to their thick walls to be used as storage rooms for these art treasures.

Q That is what I say, so you had this art with you, and you should know of it.

A The art treasures that were up in the castle remained in the castle, because it always had been a sort of museum and nothing was changed in there.

Q What was the effect of these decrees to which we have referred? Were substantially all the art treasures in the General Government of Poland collected thereunder?

A We have made very many exceptions. Wherever a collection, as such, was already formed, we merely registered that and left the thing intact. For instance, the very largest collection of all was a collection of Count Prodotsky in Landshut, and this very large collection we left absolutely intact.

Q Did you not safeguard it, as you call it?

A No; we did not safeguard it. We merely made a catalog of it, for the purpose of the decree was principally to curtail the limitless



or "wild" gathering of art treasures in the General Government, and the safeguarding of collections.

Q Would you say that substantially all the art treasures in the General Government of Poland were either collected or registered?

A Yes; art treasures that had any sort of high value, that is, that would have museum status, because naturally there were a lot of pictures that would never have been worth registering at all. Well, if the decrees had been issued earlier, then we might have been able to save quite a few other things too, for instance, the altar of St. Mary's at Cracov, which, on the order of the Fuehrer, was taken away by the SS and brought into the Reich.

Q You referred to "wild" art collecting. Did you mean by that the activities of Goering and Rosenberg; if not, what did you mean?

A I wouldn't say the art collecting of these gentlemen, but I said to myself that if we made these decrees, then at least we have a guarantee that the art cannot be considered as simple loot.

Q Isn't it a fact that these --

A That was also the reason why I circulated the book of the art treasures, so that everybody would realize that there is nothing to be gotten from the General Government.

Q Did Goering and Rosenberg continue their art-collecting activities after you issued these decrees?

A Officially I don't know anything about this, but I do recall that, for instance, in the case of the occupation of Lemberg in the year 1941, even before we got there, a special envoy of Goering had arrived there, who had taken away some drawings of Duerer. All of the things

that might have been taken away by the Army or by other military units, that I certainly do not know, and my principal purpose in shaping this decree was to prevent it.

Q Do you recall the Royal Castle at Warsaw?

A The Royal Castle in Warsaw, when I first got there, was ruined.

Q By whose order was it ruined?

A It had been bombed in the war. It did look frightful.

Q Did you cause any search to be made in the ruins of the castle for any art treasures that might have escaped destruction?

A Oh, yes, naturally.

Q What were the results of that search?

A We did find a few things, not only I, but also the Governor Fischer has done that, for I personally didn't have anything to do with Warsaw. When I say personally, I mean Governor Fischer.

Q Governor Fischer was acting under your supervision and control, was he not?

A Under my control, yes.

Q What disposition was made of these art treasures rescued from the ruins of the Royal Castle?

A The Art treasures from the Castle? Well, that was mostly pictures and furniture and they were used, that is, if they were fit for museums, they would be put in a museum, but the furniture was mostly placed into offices that were being created and, naturally, a very close count of all the objects, that were taken out, was taken.

Q Do you know where they are now?

A Where they are now? They are probably in the hands of the Russians.

Q Didn't you cause a large amount of art to be moved before the advance of the Russians?

A We tried, but that was in the Summer of 1944. Those were not from the Royal Castle, but they were from some other palace, and whether they ever got out of Poland, I do not know. They might have gotten stuck there before they ever got out. At any rate, whether they were actually saved, whether they got out, I really do not know. I remember that in the uprising in Warsaw everything was terribly confused. There were a lot of people who got shot, amongst others a guardian by the name of Liebetrau.

Q Do you recall collecting art treasures from museums in Cracov and Warsaw?

A I, personally?

Q Well, your organization.

A The State?

Q Yes.

A Well, yes, that is part of the general framework of the decree that I mentioned.

Q Isn't it a fact, that when you left Cracov, that is, you personally left Cracov, you took along a number of works of art? When I discussed this with you before, you described, I believe, that you took this art to prevent its falling in the hands of the Russians and



it was taken by you to the place where you were finally captured.

A Well, I mentioned that already last time, but I would like to point out that these treasures were not actually in my house, but they were in a place next door. They were in the house of a Swiss citizen by the name of Pellezieur, who made the collection of these treasures. These treasures were taken in order to be turned over to the Americans, and I remember at that time I was discussing the entire problem, not I personally, but Professor Buchner, was discussing the advisability of getting more of these things out and the entire question was very difficult because of the danger of the American bombings. That is, I correct the report I made last time. These art treasures were not, as I said, in my office, but they were in the bomb-proof shelter of Mr. Pellezieur.

Q Do you remember whether or not, included in these treasures, was Leonardo da Vinci's "Portrait of a Lady with the Ermine"?

A Yes; that is the one I was talking about last time. That was exactly the treasure that we were trying to save. That was the main purpose of our action.

Q Was that picture taken over by the outfit that captured you?

A Yes; I immediately referred to the list because naturally, all these things were mentioned in the large book of the public treasures. On the evening of the 3rd of May, when the gentlemen took me -- Today it is exactly five months since I have been imprisoned -- I remember telling the gentlemen that "Here I have some art treasures that

I am passing on to you. I am very glad to give them to you."

Q Do you remember now what these treasures included besides the da Vinci picture?

A No. The entire matter was handled by Mr. von Paellezieur and I have never seen these art treasures separately. I have never seen them, because all of the things were packed or crated and I never opened them. I cannot remember ever seeing them at all, but on all of these objects of art, Mr. von Pallezieur made a special separate list and he was also present when I was taken prisoner.

Q Do you remember whether or not this list included six "Views of Warsaw" that were made by Canaletto?

A No. There had been a lot of pictures catalogized of Canaletto, but I do not remember whether these particular ones were among the treasures, but I don't believe so because he does not represent a very high international value. There are two Canalettos, the father and the son, and both of them were charged by the King of Saxony to paint Warsaw, but I don't believe that their reputation is such as to warrant their being included in this group.

Q We will go into another subject now: that dealing with the educational system in the General Government of Poland.

A May I, in conclusion, make just one more remark of a general nature in regard to these art treasures before we go on?

Q Yes.

A I would appreciate very much if all these matters were checked

on with Secretary of State Muhlmann, and also with Mr. von Paellezieur, who was acting on my behalf in regard to the art treasures. Furthermore, all the treasures that were in the castle, I delivered in an orderly fashion, together with a complete list, to the Poles at the time of my capture. During the entire period of my administration, I had a staff of Polish specialists working with me on the museum. One of them actually had his office right in the castle. I am sure that with the skill of these specialists, we saved quite a few art treasures that otherwise would have been lost.

Q With respect to the education in Poland, was that under your supervision and direction?

A Yes, but, naturally, at all times continuously influenced by the Reich and by the Fuehrer.

Q That may be. My question is, whether or not you were charged with the supervision and control of the Polish education.

A I had a chief division, my main division for education, and the chief of this division was under the chief of the government, that is, State Secretary Buehler, and this State Secretary was under me.

Q With respect to Polish universities, is it not a fact that the most prominent of them were closed and never re-opened?

A These universities were already closed when we came to the country. They were not closed by us. By a special decree of the Fuehrer, their re-opening was forbidden.

Q Did those universities include the one at Cracov, at Warsaw, Lublin, and Posen?

A Posen was not under me.

Q The other three, however, were, in the General Government of Poland?

A Yes; the other three belonged to the General Government of Poland.

Q What happened to the faculty at the University of Cracov?

A I have already referred to that in my last conversation. I came to Cracov on the 7th of November, and one or two days earlier the SS had arrested the members of the faculty of Cracov and had taken them away. It took me three months of work to get these men released.

Q Where were they taken?

A That I don't quite know. I presume that they were taken away into a German concentration camp, most likely Oranienburg.

Q Did you ever see them at Oranienburg?

A No; I never was there. I have so passionately opposed that, that I finally said if I can't get these men released, I cannot continue in my job, for that was a very violent and personal blow to me.

Q By whom were these professors arrested?

A That was one of the vilest steps that the SS ever took in the country and, particularly, against me because it was exactly at the moment when I was not yet in the country.

Q How many professors from the University of Cracov were deported to the concentration camp?

A I can't exactly recall. I always demanded that all had to come back.

Q How many were there? What is your best present recollection?

A I cannot exactly say it. I certainly cannot recall, but my personal guess would be between sixty and eighty, but I can't say it exactly.

Q Where is Oranienburg located?

A That is somewhere near Berlin, I think, towards the north, but I don't know exactly.

Q Do you ever hear, after these professors were released, at your insistence, what happened to them while they were in Oranienburg?

A Yes. I have heard a good deal about it and I also charged my State Secretary Buehler to make an investigation. I am absolutely convinced that these men would have been killed, murdered, if I hadn't continuously made the demands for their release.

Q What did you hear regarding their treatment at Oranienburg?

A That they were beaten and had been tortured and that they had been very badly housed and boarded, but, naturally, all these things I did not hear from the SS. I heard them around, and when one hears the word "concentration camp" one more or less imagines that those sort of things would happen. Himmler, naturally, has publicly stated that the prisoners in the concentration camps are treated in a moral fashion.

Q What did the investigation by Staatssecretary Buehler disclose?

A Well, merely, the confirmation that these men had suffered the typical concentration camp treatment.



Q Isn't it a fact, that fifteen of these professors had died while at Oranienburg?

A That I do not know. I was glad that I got the others released. I was very happy to accomplish it.

Q Isn't it a further fact, that at least two of them went insane while at that concentration camp?

A That I do not know.

Q Isn't it a further fact, that the ones who were released, were no longer capable of any scientific or educational work because of their condition?

A No. We used some.

Q Did you use all of them?

A That one could not do. Those men received a pension, a retirement salary. I must say that I was proud that I succeeded in getting those men out, because there were hundreds of thousands of people in Germany that did not get out of the camps.

Q Did you ever make the statement that Polish lands are to be changed into an intellectual desert?

A Never.

Q Did you ever say that the Poles do not need any universities or schools?

A On the contrary; it was I who re-opened the courses in the universities, for we needed very urgently medical and legal men and specialists of all sorts, and because of those academic courses I had

the biggest fight to carry on with Berlin.

Q It is your present statement now, that you never stated, in words or in substance, the two statements about which I have just told you; is that correct?

A Never, no. My deeds contradict these statements. I had the greatest interest in re-activating the intellectual activity, but that was the greatest difficulty with the Reich, because they wanted to curb all intellectual activity. For me, it was difficult because the Reich always pointed out that the university at Prague also was closed. For me, therefore, it was most important to save the library in Cracov, and that we succeeded in doing, the famous university library in Cracov, with 400,000 volumes. For that, we erected a separate building, and that library was saved without any exception. In general, it was exactly the way it always was at the beginning. These institutions were closed, and then gradually one realized the need for them, just exactly like the University of Heidelberg that is now being opened, as I have been told.

Q I would like to ask you some questions regarding the treatment of Polish children. What diet was provided for children in the General Government of Poland?

A Well, the diet, 75% of all Poles are taking care of their own food. They are the small farm homesteaders. Therefore, the principal problem was always in the cities. As soon as we had established a system of nutrition, we endeavored to maintain the standard of rations and to distribute them.

Q What standard was set up for the distribution of rations?

A The standards naturally depended on what was on hand and what could be distributed.

Q Did the Polish people receive as much as the German people?

A No.

Q What difference was there?

A The Germans had to receive what they were receiving in the Reich, and the Poles received what was allotted to them and what was available.

Q Why was there a difference made?

A Naturally that developed gradually, because at the beginning everything was very terrible. There was nothing, not even for the Germans. I mentioned already the last time that the problems were extremely difficult, that the Governor General was a very poor and impoverished country and, for instance, in Warsaw we had to feed the population for nine months in public kitchens. There had been many days when we issued 400,000 meals in one day. Our own trains had to be sent with supplies from the Reich.

Q Let's get back to my question: Why were the Poles treated differently from the Germans with respect to the amount of food allowed them?

A We had to do it that way because there simply wasn't enough food supply, but later this was not necessary any more. The German Reich had to ship in 600,000 tons of grain stuff per year, and it had to import such things as sugar. I have talked about that once before.

Q How do you justify the difference between the food ration given German citizens, and the food ration given the Poles?

A I myself have asked that question quite a few times when I was Governor General, and my food specialist said, "Well, we can justify that by realizing that the German must feed his Polish help right along with himself", and thus I justified it.

Q You don't seriously contend, do you, that the Poles got as much food as the Germans, that is, those of each nationality who were living in the General Government of Poland?

A That I not only maintain, but I am absolutely sure that during the course of time, it developed like that.

Q What do you mean, during the course of time?

A When I say in the course of time, I mean that we entered the General Government of Poland in a state of complete ruin, and in the course of time means, for instance, that I got some sort of general survey survey of what was on hand, and I got the trains to run again. I got the roads to go again. I managed to obtain the necessary reserves. I did stop the military from confiscating blindly all sorts of staple stock and safeguarded the food on a large scale.

Q My question still is this: how do you justify giving the Germans in the General Government of Poland more of the available food than was given the Poles?

A That question I have answered?

Q Is that the answer you want to make to it?

A Naturally, it is very frightful that I am asked here in such vein, as if I found Poland in a state of complete paradise, and that

seems to be the thought of the Colonel. I request that I not be charged with responsibility for a lot of crimes, or a lot of measures that had been taken, not by me, but by hundreds of others, for which I could not take any responsibility.

Q I am perfectly willing to accept your statement regarding the conditions which existed at that time.

A Then how could I administer the country? I did not have any police. I did not have any railroads. How could I administer a country and feed them all?

Q I think in view of your excited condition, we had better suspend for five minutes while you calm down.

(Short recess taken).

Q Do you feel all right to resume?

A Yes.

Q I don't want you to get excited about anything that I might ask you. I am seeking information and I am seeking statements regarding the matters concerning which you had responsibility. Do you understand that?

A The Colonel, for instance, asked me whether I had made a statement regarding the elimination of Polish intellectual life. How could he then combine with that the fact that I, a non-Pole, was the first one to create a Chopin museum in Cracov? I had documents collected all over Europe, to put into this museum, in order to commemorate the memory of the great Polish composer.

Q I am asking you questions regarding information we have re-



ceived. If the information that we have received is incorrect, you have the privilege of stating that. That is why I ask you these questions. Somebody said you made these statements, or if information is received, that you did certain things. We want to find out from you your position in the matter. That is why I ask you about them. You are a lawyer. You have had legal training, and you know it is a proper question.

A The main difficulty was that I made the title of Governor General and that, therefore, I was considered responsible for all the things that happened and in five years, all over the world, the assumption had become common that the Governor General is actually the responsible person.

Q That may be, but the thing I am particularly interested in at the moment, with reference to the food question in the General Government of Poland, is why the German population thereof was given a larger and better food ration than the Polish population?

A To set up food standards for Germans and Poles was possible only once we were established and had taken a general view around, in order to be able to appraise our situation. To this must be added, and here I answer the question of the Colonel, that I would like to answer it a little more widely. Combined with this, was the fact that in the larger cities there was no system of public nutrition that we could take over from the Poles, because no method had been devised by them. The situation was always this, that the Polish peasant drove into town with his foodstuff and that the Polish population in the cities bought what they needed. This had been for centuries like that and there was no

way of changing it and, in fact, there was no reason for changing it. Therefore, we said to ourselves "The Poles have done this for centuries, or for many, many years. They know the language. They have connections on the farms. They can either buy in the cities or they can go out and pick it up from the farmers and, therefore, we cannot worry about them now. On the other hand, the German who is coming in, is new. He has no connections and, therefore, we must try to import for him whatever we can and give him that standard that is suitable." And yet, I must admit, that even for the Germans this standard was not always possible to be maintained.

Q The fact of the matter is, is it not, that the Germans did have a bigger and better diet than the Poles?

A This difference was only formal, but it was not actually so in practice.

Q What do you mean by that?

A Especially because we had established in Poland the system of popular aid, and a system of people's kitchens, and so forth, in order to feed the children, because they could not handle the problems themselves any more. There was a Polish Aid Committee, which had its representatives in every city, town or village of the country, and which was subsidized by millions and millions of marks from the budget.

Q My question simply is this: why were the Germans in the General Government of Poland better fed than the Poles?

A No; they were not fed any better. That is merely a formal, or official standard. On the contrary, I think that we have raised the

nutritional standards, the dietetical standards of the Poles. The Colonel might attempt to imagine a country that had no dairies, it was we who set up the dairies. We had established, literally, hundreds of dairies; not only that, that is merely an example, but we also imported cattle. We imported cattle for feeding purposes and we made a lot of contributions to actually raise the standard of the Polish agricultural economy.

Q My question still is: why were the Germans in Poland better fed than the Poles themselves?

A On that I can only answer as I did once before, that that was not actually the case. That was a formal or official standard, which I have attempted to justify and, furthermore, these different standards were, in the course of time, actually equalized.

Q Is it your statement that the Germans in the General Government of Poland were as under-nourished as the Poles themselves?

A The Poles were not under-nourished.

Q That is your official statement, given under oath?

A At the beginning there was a lack of balance and lack of organization, but compared to a lot of other countries stricken with disaster, the situation in Poland was not bad and there was no under-nourishment.

Q That is your official statement, given under oath, that there was no under-nourishment in the General Government of Poland?

A As much as I had responsibility and could bear the responsibility for it, there was no such thing in Poland.

Q You had the complete responsibility, didn't you?

A Naturally, I admit that under the conditions of war at the very beginning, the situation was extremely awful.

Q Didn't you have the complete responsibility for the feeding in the General Government of Poland?

A Would the Colonel call it responsibility, if the war was going on at all times, when there were several hundreds of thousands of soldiers to be fed, and when the demands from the Reich were coming in almost daily?

Q It is not what I call it. It is what you did as Governor General.

A I have given an example of what was demanded from me in the Summer of 1942.

Q That may be true. I am not interested in what was taken out of Poland at this moment. What I am interested in, is the distribution of the food that remained there, and I still would like to know how you justify the difference in the diet between the Germans and the Poles, who remained in General Government of Poland?

A That resulted from the reasons that I indicated already earlier in this discussion.

Q And the best reason that you advanced, so far as I can recall, is that the Germans were new to the country, and that they didn't have the sources available, as the Poles did, and, therefore, you considered they should be better treated. Is that the reason, that you would like to have the record state, for the difference in treatment?



A I would like to refer to all of the different details that were mentioned earlier, and which were thoroughly extensive, because, otherwise, I would have to repeat all these in order to place the responsibility.

Q But that was the principal reason you advanced, was it not?

A The situation in Poland, actually improved and became good only when we had obtained Galicia, and then things were pretty good. I always had to receive food supplies from the Reich, but I had to furnish something in exchange.

Q Isn't it true that the rationing system in the General Government of Poland extended only to the larger towns and cities?

A There existed only a need for actual administration, because the Poles in the country actually were self-sufficient, but wherever in the country a man was not capable of supplying himself, he naturally had the right to the card system.

Q What provision was made to supplement the diet of rural Poland in those situations where excessive demands were made on the food supply?

A We had a very peculiar situation, or system. For first of all, money, and second, also bonus goods. Thus, they could acquire such things as clothing and cigarettes and hardware and things of that sort. The requirements made by the administration were always set up according to standards of percentage. That is, if a man, for instance, had to furnish a certain quantity, then 10% of that he would retain for himself and he would deliver the remaining 90% to maintain the quota.



Q I am speaking of the situation as to the food supplies left in the rural areas, through the demands that were made, (and as you have referred to them) by the Wehrmacht and by this organization and by that organization; that is the situation of which I am speaking. What provision was made to supplement the provisions of the rural areas when that condition occurred; that is, when too much food was taken away?

A Well, if he ran short, he would apply to the Chief of the village for some supplies to keep him going and, naturally, not only was he left with all that was necessary in order to feed him, but he also had the seed grains, and in that case he would, for instance, consume part of the seed grains to feed himself and then afterwards he would apply to obtain replacement in order to insure the future crops.

Q Did that system really work out?

A Anyway, cases of this nature are not generally known to me.

Q There are not?

A No.

Q Isn't it a fact that you observed the results of malnutrition in all the cities and towns and in all the rural areas of Poland, in the course of numerous inspection trips that you made?

A Oh, yes.

Q What did you do when you observed that?

A Yes. In our inspection trips we observed these things and we tried immediately to remedy the situation, with the aid of the

Polish Aid Committee, and we re-supplied. We sent in extra supplies and tried to meet the emergencies, but then, naturally, the principal damage was normally done by the resistance movement. For instance, during one night in the district of Warsaw, I happen to remember, 110 dairies were burned down.

Q Isn't it a fact that such large quotas of agricultural products were exacted from the peasant class, that insufficient food was left them to carry them throughout the entire year?

A There were very few complaints from the farmers. I myself talked with farmers. I traveled around a lot and I opened up agricultural exhibitions and so forth, and in general the farmers actually made some terrific profits with cattle, for instance. Just to give you one example, in one instance we imported 200,000 pigs from Denmark. Then we told the farmer, "You keep the first pig, and when they have little ones, you keep the first two, you give the third one to the government, the fourth one you keep yourself, the fifth you give to the government, and so forth", and in that way we tried to raise the pig-raising situation in General Government of Poland. We imported artificial fertilizer, which was in Poland almost completely unknown. Naturally, we tried to improve the agricultural situation but, naturally, in 1941 the war with Russia began and everything was thrown out of balance again. There was not enough time. Actually, the practical aspects of the thing were so utterly different from the theory, as it is laid down in documents, that I am astonished that the Colonel even asks some of these questions.

Q I am astonished at some of the answers that you give, considering that evidence we have is to the contrary of some of the statements that you have made. However, we will discontinue now in view of the fact that we are approaching your lunch time.

APPROVED:

INTERROGATOR

*Joachim A. Hays*

INTERPRETER

*Choir Van Vliet*

COURT REPORTER