

FRANCISZEK SZEWCZYK

On 19 September 1947 in Mikołów, the Municipal Court in Mikołów, First Branch, with Municipal Judge A. Lipiński presiding and with the participation of a reporter, Trainee Judge T. Pollak, interviewed the person specified below as a witness. Having advised the witness of the criminal liability for making false declarations and of the significance of the oath, the Judge administered the oath pursuant to the provisions of Article 108 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. The witness then testified as follows:

Name and surname Franciszek Szewczyk

Date and place of birth 15 August 1916, Urbanowice

Parents' names Piotr and Zofia, née Golda

Place of residence Wilkowyje, Mikołowska Street 5, Pszczyna district

Occupation mechanical fitter

Criminal record none

Relationship to the parties none

I was arrested on 9 May 1940 when I was crossing the Czech-Hungarian border, and from August 1940 until the evacuation of the camp in February 1945 I stayed in the penal camp at Auschwitz. During this whole time I worked as a blacksmith in the forge. Consequently, I saw Georg Bayer (no. 3 on the list) in the spring of 1941, when the newly arrived transports of Jews were being unloaded and their belongings were being taken away. He beat prisoners who were approaching the cart with a stick. I got 25 lashes for walking up to the cart. I also saw him fire his revolver, often wounding prisoners. I never saw him kill anyone, and I don't know the victims.

Heinrich Josten (no. 37) escorted work details and was in charge of *Luftschutz* [air-raid defence] during my detention. He often beat prisoners with his hand or a stick, but I don't remember any specific incidents.



Hugo Müller (no. 65) was *Blockführer* [block leader] at first, and in 1943 he started working at *Arbeitseinsatz* [work deployment office]. As a *Blockführer* he abused us in the same manner, beating us with a rubber hose and kicking. He escorted prisoners to executions in block 11.

I suspect that Augustyn Olek, residing in Kochłowice, could provide more information, because he was a member of the *Rollkommando* [mobile squad]. I don't know his exact address. He used to manage a restaurant.

The report was read out.