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By HOMER BIGART Special to The New York Times.

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Court Hears Story of Woman Who Was Buried Alive in Common Grave—Atrocity Documents Submitted

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JERUSALEM (Israeli Sector), May 8—Israel told Adolf Eichmann today she would grant immunity to two of his former Nazi comrades if they wanted to come here to testify.

Freedom from arrest was promised Dr. Willi Hoettl, a former lieutenant colonel and one-time deputy head of the foreign intelligence section of Reich Security Headquarters, and a former S. S. (élite guard) colonel, Walter Huppenkothen. Dr. Hoettl now runs a boarding school in Austria and Herr Huppenkothen lives in West Germany.

Attorney General Gideon Hausner has threatened to arrest eight other former Nazis if they set foot in Israel as defense witnesses. Of Dr. Hoettl and Herr Huppenkothen, Mr. Hausner said: "We do not know of any crimes committed against the Jewish people by them."

Today's testimony at Eichmann's trial for responsibility in the murder of 6,000,000 Jews provided a ghoulish account of the mass execution of women and children.

Account of Terror

Mrs. Rivka Yosselevska, who was buried alive in a common grave near Pinsk in White Russia, told in a choking voice of how she had struggled upward through a pile of corpses. Her face ashen, she told of dying victims who were "biting at my legs and trying to pull me down."

Documents, which the prosecutor said proved Eichmann's connection with atrocities in Eastern Europe, were submitted by Mr. Hausner. Among these was a letter from Dr. Ernst Wetzel of the Ministry for Occupied Areas in the East.

This letter, which Dr. Wetzel sent Oct. 25, 1941, to the Reich Commissioner of the Eastern Territories, told of arrangements

to supply apparatus to exterminate people with poison gas.

Dr. Wetzel wrote that he had coordinated matters with Victor Brack, an official in Hitler's Chancellery, who had a leading role in the Nazis' "euthanasia" program for the chronic sick and mentally ill. Brack later became technical adviser on gas chambers in concentration camps.

Nazi Pilot Project

Eichmann, who was in charge of the Gestapo (secret police) section assigned to the extermination of Jews, had agreed to a pilot project for gas chambers, the Wetzel letter said. Eichmann noted, the document said, that camps for Jews were to be set up in Riga and Minsk.

"As the matter stands, there are no reservations about getting rid of those Jews incapable of work by means of the Brack method," the letter added.

Mr. Hausner told the court that Eichmann, confronted with the document during earlier police interrogation, had confirmed that "everything in it was true." The prosecutor said that attached to the letter was a handwritten document initialed by Eichmann, suggesting that the gassing of Jews was preferable to mass shootings.

Mr. Hausner recalled that Eichmann had said he had seen Jews killed in poison-gas trucks near Chelmnow in Poland before gas chambers were built. Later there was much correspondence over camouflaging the trucks to look like little cottages with windows so that Jews would enter more willingly, he said.

Other documents told of Eichmann's unrelenting efforts to prevent the escape of Jews who had foreign passports from eastern territories. He advised the German Foreign Ministry to resist pressure from Argentina, Italy and Rumania on behalf of



United Press International Radiophoto
TELLS HORRIFYING TALE: Mrs. Rivka Yosselevska on witness stand yesterday at trial of Adolf Eichmann. She told of Nazi slaughter near Pinsk in White Russia.

their nationals, warning that these Jews, once free of Nazi control, would spread atrocity stories about Germany.

Mr. Hausner, in announcing Israel's willingness to receive Dr. Hoettl and Herr Huppenkothen, said the only thing he knew against them was their membership in the élite guard, which was designated a criminal organization by the Nuremberg war crimes trials.

Immunity Is Pledged

Although this would make them liable to seven years' imprisonment under Israel's law for the punishment of Nazis and Nazi collaborators, Mr. Hausner pledged that they would not be brought to trial in Israel.

This assurance was not quite enough for Dr. Robert Servatius, Eichmann's West German defense counsel. Dr. Servatius inquired politely whether Dr. Hoettl and Herr Huppenkothen would be able to leave Israel,

"even if, in cross-examination, some incriminating point might appear."

"No, they will not be brought to justice for anything they did in the past," Mr. Hausner said.

Judge Benyamin Halevi noted that the two former Nazis were not technically defense witnesses. Dr. Servatius wants them brought here for cross-examination on declarations they made fifteen years ago at Nuremberg.

The judge made this point after Mr. Hausner said he had been told by the defense that Dr. Hoettl was the "most important witness" for Eichmann. Dr. Hoettl's affidavit at Nuremberg was considered important by Mr. Hausner because it attributed to Eichmann the statement that 4,000,000 Jews had been killed in extermination camps and that 2,000,000 others had been shot by the Einsatzgruppen, the Nazi operational units that slaughtered Jews, gypsies and Communists.

Herr Huppenkothen, a former Gestapo officer in charge of counterintelligence, had said in his affidavit that Eichmann had exercised power exceeding his modest rank and had often received personal instructions from Reichsfuehrer Heinrich Himmler.

Dr. Servatius had objected to the admission of Nuremberg testimony by Dr. Hoettl and Herr Huppenkothen, contending that their statements had been made under pressure and implying that they would talk quite differently today.

Mrs. Yosselevska's testimony was the most searing yet in the four-week-old trial. As they listened to her tale of unrelieved horror, spectators in the packed courtroom sobbed or squirmed uselessly. She is a little woman, middle-aged, with a gaunt and tragic face.

A heart attack kept her from testifying Friday, but she recovered over the week-end and her physician said she was well enough to take the stand today.

Once she had started her narrative, the words came with a rush. With a strength born of madness, she said, she had clawed her way out of the tangle of corpses. Later, realizing that she was alone in the world and that her young daughter had been buried in the pit, she returned to the grave and clawed at the fresh dirt that had been thrown over it.

"I was digging with my fingernails, trying to join the dead in that grave," she cried.

"I dug with my fingernails, but the grave would not open. I did not have enough strength. I thought: 'Why didn't they kill me? What was my sin? I saw them all being killed—why was I spared? I had no one to go to.'"

She began her story by recalling how the Jews of Zagrovski, a White Russian village of 500 Jewish families near Pinsk, were driven to a mass execution in the autumn of 1942.

"Some fled to the woods," she said. "From the woods we heard firing in the village. By dawn the firing ceased and we again began to move back. In town the rabbi's wife told us what had happened."

"She said the Germans came to take the rabbi, told him to put on his prayer shawl, then ordered everyone to assemble in the market place.

"There they ordered the rabbi to preach a sermon and then they started beating the people

and driving them to a cemetery where a shallow grave was ready."

"The Jews were forced to lie down in fours in the grave and were shot dead," Mrs. Yosselevska said. "But this was only the first action against Jews. The real horror was to come later."

With trembling lips the witness recalled the holocaust that befell her village on the first day of the Hebrew month of Elul.

"Germans poured into the ghetto and ordered us out of our homes," she said.

"Suddenly a large truck appeared and Jews were thrown into it. When there was no more room in the truck, others were ordered to run behind it.

"I ran, carrying my daughter in my arms. There were other mothers running with two, three or four children. Those who stumbled and fell were shot."

When they had run about three miles, they reached their destination—a meadow freshly scarred by a trench, the witness said. Jews from the truck had already been lined up on a mound of dirt above the trench.

They had been ordered to disrobe and were standing naked, awaiting execution.

"I turned my head and saw that about twelve people already had been shot," she said. "My daughter said: 'Mother, why did you make me wear my Sabbath dress? We are being taken to be shot.'"

"And when we were near the grave she cried: 'Why are we waiting? Let us run!'"

"Some of the young people did try to escape, but they were caught immediately and shot on the spot.

"It was difficult to hold on to the children. They could not understand why we were all pushing nearer the grave, nearer the end of torture for us and the children."

The witness told how her father and mother and grandmother had been shot down, and of how her sister had been shot after she had pleaded to be spared.

"Then my turn came," Mrs. Yosselevska said.

"We reached the edge of the pit and the German said: 'Whom shall I shoot first?'"

"I didn't answer. I felt him tear the child from my arms.

The child cried out and was shot immediately."

Mrs. Yosselevska sobbed. Then she went on.

"He grabbed me by the hair and turned my head around. I heard a shot and fell into the pit.

"Then I felt I was suffocating. People were falling on top of me. I discovered I was alive."

After she crawled out of the grave, Mrs. Yosselevska, who had been wounded in the head, was sheltered by a farmer who took her to a forest, where she joined a group of partisans.