



NORBERT MOSKOWICZ

On 26 September in Kraków, a member of the Kraków District Commission for the Investigation of German Crimes in Poland, Municipal Judge Dr. Henryk Gawacki, upon written request of the first prosecutor of the Supreme National Tribunal, this dated 25 April 1947 (file no. NTN 719/47), in accordance with the provisions of and procedure provided for under the Decree of 10 November 1945 (Journal of Laws of the Republic of Poland No. 51, item 293), in connection with Art. 254, 107, 115 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, interviewed the former Auschwitz concentration camp prisoner specified below as a witness, who testified as follows:

Name and surname	Norbert Moskowicz
Age	25
Religious affiliation	Jewish
Citizenship and nationality	Polish
Occupation	trader
Place of residence	Kraków, Dietla Street 48, flat 10
Testifies freely.	

On 14 March 1943, I was transported to the camp in Birkenau (Auschwitz) in the group of about 500 Jews selected from Ghetto B in Zgody Square, Kraków. I stayed in Birkenau until 18 January 1945 and due to the evacuation of the camp was then transported to the camp in Sachsenhausen near Berlin, where I stayed until the end of my detention.

Our entire group of Jews was placed in Birkenau in block 27, where we stayed for three days. We later learned that we were meant to be gassed. After three days, our hair was cut and we were bathed, clothed in striped uniforms, and tattooed. I was given number 108498. Prior to that, we were inspected by some commission consisting of high-ranking

SS men whom I didn't know. Later, I went through a three-week quarantine, and during that time a number of prisoners from our group was sent to the gas chamber as a result of examinations. I was then assigned to a labor detail which was building crematorium III (by the railway ramp) and worked there for 6–8 weeks. I then worked for about 2 months in *Planierungskommando 2* [planning squad], in what later became the camp for women – the FKL [*Frauenkonzentrationslager*]. I was then assigned to a bigger *kommando*, *Kartoffeln-Bunker*, where I worked transporting and sorting potatoes. When transports of Hungarian Jews started arriving in April 1944, I was assigned to a *kommando* consisting of prisoners who loaded the items brought by these Jews and the Jews who arrived at Birkenau later. I worked in this *kommando* for about six months and then went back to transporting potatoes. I worked in this manner until the end of my stay at Auschwitz.

When I worked sorting potatoes, swedes and cabbage, I met SS man Lorenz, whom I recognize on the photograph that was presented to me. Lorenz drove the truck onto which we loaded potatoes, and was often the passenger of such a truck when someone else was driving. Sometimes the overloaded truck sank in the ground and the potatoes scattered around. Lorenz would then whack the working prisoners all over the body with a fork used for loading potatoes. While we loaded the truck, Lorenz was waiting and kicking prisoners in order to push them to work faster, or simply just for fun. He beat them with his hand.

Only Jews were assigned to work loading items previously owned by the Jews who arrived at Birkenau by railway transports. Our labor detail had to wait for the arrival of a transport. Once it came, we were not allowed to communicate with the newly arrived Jews even through the slightest move while they were being unloaded onto the platform. Once the selection was over and the Jews were transported to the gas chamber or to the camp – in which they were assigned to work – we could begin our task. Grabner often came to the ramp. He was an SS man of medium height, who would come on a motorcycle, bringing a wad of documents (I don't know their content) which he handed over to the head of the crematorium, Moll or – in his absence – to his assistant. Grabner once mercilessly beat and then kicked a prisoner who was at that point lying on the ground as punishment for trying to communicate with some Jew from the transport from Łódź.

At this the report was concluded, read out, and signed.