

Josef Holzberger, excerpt from the court decision, BG Erfurt, 30.10.1975

DDRJuNSV, serial no. 1026, page 687¹ (own translation)

1. From December 1941 to April 1943 the accused participated in 25 so-called "actions" for the mass extermination of Soviet citizens of Jewish nationality from the ghetto in Stanislaw. This ghetto had been established in autumn 1941. In it tens of thousands of Jewish citizens from the city and its surroundings were forcibly crammed together under inhuman conditions. In accordance with the directives of the Nazi leadership, several times a month a large number of them - including women, children and old people - were rounded up by members of the Gestapo and the Schutzpolizei and killed by shooting outside the city. They were transported there by open trucks. At the execution site, the victims had to remove all valuables and undress. Then they were led to previously dug pits and shot by charged Gestapo members including interpreters with carabineers and pistols. The members of the guard team - among them the accused - had to round up the victims in the ghetto and guard them at the so-called collection points and during the transports on the wagons; they had to secure the place of execution as a guard and lead the victims to the ditches after undressing; in a number of cases they also acted as shooters themselves after being ordered to do so by Krüger² or his representative.

In detail, the accused participated in the following mass exterminations of ghetto inhabitants in this form as a watchman, security post, handler and - as far as especially noted - also as a murderer:

1. and 2.) in December 1941 in two killing actions with at least 1,000 victims each,
- 3) in February/March 1942 in the extermination of at least 2,000 victims, whereby he himself shot at least 20 of them with his carbine rifle from the edge of the mine,
- 4) in March 1942 in the killing of at least 2,000 Jewish citizens,
- 5) in April/May 1942 in the murder of at least 3,000 victims, who were shot on a wooden plank that had been laid over the pit,
- 6.) In late April/May 1942 during the execution of at least 1,500 ghetto inhabitants, of whom the accused himself murdered at least 20 by pistol shots to the back of the head directly at the edge of the mine,
- 7th) in April 1942 in the killing of at least 2,000 citizens,
- 8.) in May 1942 in the shooting of at least 2,000 victims
- 9.) in May/June 1942 in the extermination of at least 2,000 ghetto inmates,
- 10.) in July 1942 in the killing of again at least 2,000 victims
- 11th) in July/August 1942 in the murder of at least 2,000 Jewish citizens,
- 12.) in August 1942 in the extermination of at least 1,500 victims, whereby the defendant himself killed at least 20 of them with pistol shots to the head,
- 13) in August 1942 in the killing of at least 3,000 ghetto inhabitants, whereby the shooting took place in front of a factory building and three Jewish women in undressed state had to watch the gruesome events,
14. and 15.) in October 1942 in the two murders of at least 1,500 victims each,
- 16th and 17th) in November 1942 in two shootings of at least 1,500 Jewish citizens each,
- 18.) in December 1942 in the killing of at least 1,000 ghetto inhabitants, whereby the accused, together with other Gestapo members, shot a fleeing man with a carbine gun,
- 19) in January 1943 in the extermination of at least 1,500 victims,
20. and 21.) in February 1943 in two shootings of at least 1,500 Jewish citizens each,
- 22nd and 23rd) in March 1943 in the destruction of at least 500 victims on two occasions, and
- 24 and 25) in April 1943 in two shootings of at least 500 Jewish citizens each.

1 Verbatim adoption of the list of actions from the judgment - without comparison with other historical literature!

2 Hans Krüger, SS-Hauptsturmführer, head of the border police commissariat (field office of the SiPo and SD) Stanislaw from 07/41 to 08/42. 1968 sentenced to life imprisonment by the jury court of Münster. Successor: SS-Untersturmführer Brandt