



## STANISŁAW ŻYCHOWSKI

Warsaw, 7 December 1945. Investigating Judge Mikołaj Halfter interviewed the person named below as a witness. The witness appeared unsummoned. Having advised the witness of the criminal liability for making false declarations, of the obligation to speak the truth, and of the significance of the oath, the Judge took an oath therefrom, following which the witness testified as follows:

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Name and surname	Stanisław Żychowski
Date of birth	17 November 1903
Parents' names	Władysław and Janina
Place of residence	Boernerowo near Warsaw, Łączności Street 8, flat 1
Occupation	turner
Religion	Roman Catholic
Criminal record	none

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On 24 September 1939, I was taken prisoner by the Germans as a soldier of the Polish Army. Until 26 June 1940, I was detained in various prisoner-of-war camps, whereafter I was transferred to the labor camp in Luckenwalde, located 60 kilometers south of Berlin. I remained there until 22 April 1945, when the Russians captured Luckenwalde. Throughout my period of imprisonment I worked as a turner.

On 30 August 1941, all the laborers of the camp (Poles), some 800 in total, were taken outside the city to a square that was surrounded by German policemen. From there we were led to a sports field, and thence to an area located nearby, where we saw a man hanging from a tree. We were stopped near this tree. Those of us who were unable to look at the hanging man and, for example, closed their eyes or turned their heads away, were pulled

out of the row and beaten by the Gestapo men; thus, all of those gathered were forced to watch the sight. The victim was a youth, some 19 years old, and his surname was Łata (I do not know his name, nor where he was from). When we were standing there, an interpreter, a Volksdeutscher by the surname of Gremajzer (they said he was a teacher from Tomaszów Mazowiecki), explained to us in Polish that Łata had been hanged for engaging in sexual intercourse with a German woman. He was a Pole and had worked in one of the labor camps near Luckenwalde. I was told by other Poles who worked with me in Luckenwalde that they knew the German woman with whom Łata had had sex. According to them, he worked for her. They said that the woman was some 40 years old. We were of the opinion that it was not he who had seduced her, but rather she him.

In April 1942, we were forced to look at the victim of another hanging, also a Pole. He was a barber (or so it was said), aged around 25 – 26. He too, as the interpreter clarified, had been hanged for having sexual intercourse with a German woman. I do not know his surname.

I would like to add that Gremajzer (I do not know his name) treated us Poles terribly; he also worked for the police. His brother had a bakery in Luckenwalde, at Bussestrasse.

I would further like to add that I personally did not witness any more hangings such as those described above. However, my friends who worked in the labor camp told me that there were considerably more instances of death sentences being passed against Poles for maintaining sexual relations with German women.

I heard that a great many people were executed for this "crime" in Potsdam near Berlin.

The report was read out.