

1 portions of them were killed and other part fled.

2 As one attacks the village, I mean of
3 course, in the wintertime, you can't see any
4 ditches there and so the graves might be thrown in
5 the buildings and as a result, also some civilians
6 may get killed.

7 Q. But usually when a German general was
8 killed --

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. Didn't the Germans make a reprisal action
11 against the cities or the villages that are near by?

12 A. I know what you mean, but I was next in
13 charge. All those Germans not --

14 (through the interpreter) Well, not only
15 he, not only the wounded general, but his entire
16 staff went back.

17 Q. So you were then in charge?

18 A. Right.

19 (through the interpreter) It was
20 unimportant to me whether the German general had
21 died or not, to us.

22 Q. Did you receive orders to carry out a
23 reprisal action?

24 A. (through the interpreter) Yeah, at that
25 time, of course, I could have retreated, but this



1 was not the thing to do, and we remained there and
2 captured the village.

3 Q. What happened to the residents of the
4 village?

5 A. (through the interpreter) We searched the
6 houses, there were some Red Army soldiers who were
7 hiding and they were captured, they were taken to
8 POW, and they were turned over to some German units.

9 Q. And weren't there some of the residents of
10 the village shot because the German general had
11 been killed?

12 A. Not as a reprisal --

13 (through the interpreter) Well, but it's
14 very possible that there were dead civilians, also,
15 because there was quite a battle.

16 Q. Was there anybody shot after the battle
17 was over by a firing squad?

18 A. That's not Latvian way to fight. That is
19 not my way. I'm army officer, you know.

20 If some Germans would be still there, I
21 know how Germans, you know, we have heard lots of
22 the war, we have seen too, but, if there were any
23 Germans, I was a chief. I was Latvian Army officer,
24 that's not -- Latvian army officers are not
25 fighting this way.



1 Q. So, after Stahlecker was killed, you took
2 over as the chief?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. And it's your testimony that no reprisal
5 action was carried out?

6 A. (Witness shakes head)

7 Q. Were there any gypsies who were captured
8 during this action?

9 A. No -- what are gypsies?

10 Q. Do you know what gypsies are?

11 A. I know gypsies, why gypsies?

12 Q. Well, I'm asking you, were there any
13 gypsies who were captured?

14 A. No.

15 Q. I'm sorry?

16 A. Are you talking during that action?

17 Q. During that action.

18 A. No, no. We are too busy, too tired.

19 (through the interpreter) Well, we had to
20 go to that place of combat for about fifteen
21 kilometers on skis.

22 (the witness) We were dead tired after
23 fighting.

24 (through the interpreter) As we
25 approached the village, we had to crawl.



1 (the witness) So, we were dead tired to
2 get gypsies.

3 Q. Can you remember the name of the village
4 now?

5 A. No, because like I say, it was dozens of
6 areas, dozens of those villages around.

7 Q. Does the name Zabolote sound familiar to
8 you?

9 A. No, I don't know.

10 Q. Did you participate in any actions in the
11 Osveja region?

12 A. Ozveja, that was oh, yeah, yeah, I heard.

13 Q. You were never there?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Mr. Kalejs, there are three documents that
16 you've seen, which are Exhibits 7, 8, and 9, which
17 state that you served in the Security Police, or
18 the Security Commando, and I've also talked to
19 several witnesses who tell me that you served in
20 the Security Police.

21 A. Who are those witnesses?

22 Q. Well, I'm going to ask you and I'm going
23 to remind you that you're under oath now, did you
24 serve in the Security Police at any time?

25 A. No, at no time.

1 (through the interpreter) It's possible
2 that the mix-up has taken place because of my
3 participation in that unit, and which was actually
4 under the police, and somehow the list included the
5 name.

6 (the witness) The names, maybe because --

7 (through the interpreter) Yeah, this was
8 a Latvian unit, but it's possible that somehow
9 later on, the list of this unit was given to
10 security.

11 And since this was -- we were under a
12 higher German police command.

13 (the witness) Yeah, only Latvian units.

14 Q. Okay. And it's your story that you used
15 these documents, Exhibits 7, 8 and 9, which say
16 that you served in the Security Police, only to get
17 into the University of Riga, and that the
18 information that you served in the Security Police
19 is not true?

20 A. Right, yeah. Plus one or two from --

21 (through the interpreter) Plus the one
22 paper from the Latvian partisan.

23 Q. Exhibit 10?

24 A. That's all, the correction, same
25 correction again, because I needed two or less each

1 year, two papers.

2 Q. And it's your testimony that you got these
3 documents which state that you served in the
4 Security Police from friends of yours?

5 A. Yeah, right.

6 MR. MAUSNER: Could you mark that Exhibit 11?

7

8 (Government's Exhibit Number 11 was marked
9 for Identification.)

10

11 Q. Mr. Kalejs, Exhibit 11 is a document
12 entitled Application for Immigrant Visa and Alien
13 Registration.

14 It's a photocopy of the document, and it
15 consists of four pages. I'd like to give that to
16 you.

17 A. To United States?

18 Q. Yes.

19 A. Should I read?

20 Q. Yes.

21 Okay. Mr. Kalejs --

22 A. I see what you got here.

23 Q. On Exhibit 11 there, is that a picture of
24 you that appears --

25 A. That's really like me.



1 Q. -- on the third page?

2 A. That's really like me, that picture, I
3 recognize, that's me.

4 Q. And is that your signature that appears on
5 the fourth page of Exhibit 11?

6 A. Yeah, looks like me.

7 Q. I'm sorry, what did you say?

8 A. It looks like me, yeah. Looks like mine.

9 Q. And do you recall filling in a document
10 like this at the time you applied to come to the
11 United States?

12 A. No.

13 Q. But that does look like your signature and
14 your picture?

15 Yes?

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Now, in this Visa Application, you stated
18 that from 1941 to 1944 you were working as a farm
19 laborer in Nurmurza, Talsi, Latvia. Is that right?

20 A. Yeah. This is what this said, is that
21 what you want to know?

22 Q. Well, yes. It's N-u-r-m-u-r-z-a.

23 A. Translation, I need somebody to help me.

24 Q. Go ahead, do it through the translator, if
25 you want.

1 A. (through the interpreter) It was in 1941.
2 I met couple of my friends, and they told me that
3 when they applied for immigration to some country,
4 perhaps United States, and they heard that if they
5 listed, mentioned that they had been soldiers
6 during the second war and they had been refused.

7 Q. This was in 1941, you said?

8 A. '49.

9 THE INTERPRETER: '49.

10 Q. '49, I see.

11 A. (through the interpreter) Well, I also
12 wanted to immigrate and especially that time, was
13 very hard for former soldiers to emigrate from
14 Europe to the United States.

15 Well, so, I thought I would apply for
16 immigration to Australia, but I would list my
17 occupation as a civilian. Then I thought later,
18 since my mother was also in United States, I would
19 try to come to the United States, under the Latvian
20 quota.

21 So, a number of years passed in Australia,
22 and I was ready to apply to come to the United
23 States. So, I had to fill out this application.
24 Since I had mentioned that thing, the same thing,
25 when I immigrated to Australia, there is nothing

1 else to do but to use the same story.

2 (the witness) Same story, that's the
3 reason.

4 (through the interpreter) If I had waited
5 longer, then perhaps I could have mentioned my
6 former status as a soldier, and would have been
7 admitted. Because many soldiers later on did come,
8 and permission was granted.

9 Well, my mistake was that I tried too
10 early, when they looked bad upon this kind of
11 status, former status.

12 (the witness) That's it.

13 Q. You were never, in fact, a farm laborer
14 during that time; right?

15 A. I have been, yeah. You know, because
16 during my studies, make my living.

17 Q. Uh-huh. When you were studying in Riga?

18 A. Yeah. You know, I got there and war time
19 is really hard, food, you know, the Russians first
20 rob it and then the Germans, they would rob it.

21 It's very hard. So, I would, for food, you know.

22 So, I went at times, you know, worked in farms, so
23 I could get some necessary food, you know.

24 Q. When did you work on the farms?

25 A. Small periods, small times, when it was

1 really bad times, we needed at home something, you
2 know, but for a week, to study --

3 (through the interpreter) During vacation
4 periods when I was a student.

5 Q. That was in 1941?

6 A. All time through, all time through.

7 Q. Well, were you a farm laborer when you
8 were in the Latvian Legion?

9 A. Legion, that's the end, at the end.

10 Q. You weren't a farm laborer in --

11 A. I wasn't a professional laborer, just in
12 order to get some food.

13 Q. You weren't a farm laborer when you were
14 in the police battalion?

15 A. I can't be one and the same, but I was
16 studying at that time.

17 (through the interpreter) Well, I didn't
18 remember that I submitted the information that I
19 had not been a soldier.

20 Q. Do you remember the names of the farms
21 that you worked on?

22 A. No, there were quite a few places.

23 Q. Do you remember the names of the owners of
24 the farms?

25 A. Because I know they're all either deported,

1 or what, you know, or maybe dead here or somewhere
2 in the world, going around, so I can't give you.

3 Q. What kind of work --

4 A. Back to that one place, where I was --
5 (through the interpreter) At that time
6 when I was a partisan at Litene, there I knew some
7 people and traveled around, I guess to work on the
8 farm.

9 Q. You were working on the farm near Litene?

10 A. Yeah, there was one place I remember for
11 sure.

12 Q. You didn't work on any farms when you were
13 in Riga, did you?

14 A. On the farms, you mean, as a laborer?

15 Q. Yes. Did you?

16 A. (through the interpreter) Well, I went
17 back to Kurland where I had been stationed with the
18 Red Army.

19 Q. Did you get paid for working on a farm?

20 A. That was the reason, that was the reason I
21 was going, just, you know, because there was
22 shortage of food.

23 Q. What kind of work did you do on the farm?

24 A. (through the interpreter) It depended on
25 the time of the year.

1 Q. Well, what kind of work did you do at
2 different times of the year?

3 A. (through the interpreter) I'm not a
4 professional farmer, so I did simple things.

5 Q. Like what type of tasks did you do?

6 A. (through the interpreter) During the
7 summer, the fall, gather up the hay, went to the
8 forest to gather wood. Since I had also been in
9 the cavalry, I took care of the horses, since I
10 liked horses.

11 Q. But you don't remember the names of any of
12 the people that you worked for?

13 A. No, because --

14 (through the interpreter) All of them
15 were big farmers, and I'm sure that none of them
16 are there, they must have been deported by now or
17 skipped.

18 Q. How much of your time did you spend doing
19 farm labor during the period 1941 to 1942?

20 A. I can't tell you.

21 Q. 100 percent?

22 A. (through the interpreter) When there was
23 opportunity and need, I went there.

24 So, it's not totally wrong or false, what
25 was stated in that application.

1 Q. But, you never told the immigration
2 official that you had been in the police battalion?

3 A. Yeah, yeah, right, because --

4 (through the interpreter) Well, another
5 reason was because they didn't permit those people
6 to immigrate.

7 Q. You never told them you had served in the
8 Police Battalion or that you had served in the
9 Latvian Legion; right?

10 A. According to the papers, yes. Don't
11 remember that.

12 Q. You remember, though, that if you had told
13 him that information, you wouldn't be allowed to
14 immigrate; right?

15 A. Yeah, that was a principle particularly
16 applied when I immigrated to Australia it was --

17 (through the interpreter) Well, the
18 situation was so bad in the camps, apparently --

19 (the witness) DPT.

20 (through the interpreter) DPT camps, but
21 people wanted to emigrate.

22 Q. Do you have anything you'd like to say or
23 add to what we've done?

24 A. I certainly have.

25 (through the interpreter) I had already

1 read in Latvian press that the chief of the
2 organization, which I assume is this organization,
3 had gone to search for some materials and the
4 Russians had supplied some of these materials. Not
5 that the people went on their own, but the Russians
6 invited, apparently, people from this organization
7 to visit them.

8 Q. Are you talking about Arajs now? Is that
9 who you're talking about?

10 A. I'm talking of immigration. Generally,
11 because I noticed, you know, even my old army --

12 Q. Oh, are you talking about a particular
13 person? You said the head of the unit?

14 A. No, no. I'm talking, just, was it you who
15 does this?

16 Q. Oh, you mean the head of the Justice
17 Department?

18 A. (through the interpreter) The Latvian
19 press had mentioned that Russia invited some
20 American governments officials to visit in order to
21 give them some materials.

22 Q. Uh-huh.

23 A. (through the interpreter) Since I saw
24 that the documents had some Russian writing, now I
25 understand why the Russians were happy to provide

1 this information, and it's clear that this
2 information is falsification.

3 (the witness) Yeah.

4 Q. Wait a minute, Mr. Kalejs. You told us
5 that you used these documents in order to get into
6 the University of Riga; right?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. But you told us that the information in
9 there is false?

10 A. For, let's say, honorable purpose.

11 Q. Okay. So, it was you who was doing the
12 falsification; right?

13 A. Yeah, okay, but for what? That's the
14 difference.

15 (through the interpreter) Well, I needed
16 this to get into university, but what is the reason
17 why Russians are doing this?

18 Q. Well, Mr. Kalejs, I'd suggest to you that
19 I don't think the information in here is false at
20 all. I think the information is true, and I'd also
21 like to tell you that some witnesses in the United
22 States have told me that you served in the Security
23 Police. Now, do you deny that fact?

24 A. Completely.

25 Q. And you're under oath, now.

1 A. Yeah, completely.

2 Q. You deny, under oath, that you served in
3 the Security Police?

4 A. No, not -- if you're talking, because like
5 I said, my unit, maybe finally they got the papers,
6 but the unit where I served was not security police.

7 Q. What was the name of the unit that you
8 served in?

9 A. The unit, my unit was just a company.
10 (through the interpreter) It was a
11 reconnaissance.

12 (the witness) Yeah. Only Latvian unit --
13 (through the interpreter) Latvian unit
14 under the German police headquarters in Ostland.
15 (the witness) Ostland, right.

16 Q. This document, which you signed and you
17 wrote, this is Exhibit Number 7, and I'm going to
18 hand it to you.

19 It says: I hereby inform you that I am in
20 the service of the commander of the Security Police
21 of Latvia and Sd in the Latvian Security Section as
22 a company commander.

23 A. Yeah, that's -- for what purpose I got
24 that.

25 Q. Were you in the Latvian Security Section?

1 A. No, no.

2 Q. You're telling us when you wrote that
3 information you were not telling the truth, and you
4 were just doing it to get into the university?

5 A. That's right.

6 Q. Why didn't you tell them that you had
7 served in the company which you claim that you
8 actually served in?

9 A. (through the interpreter) The first time
10 there was no such company, 1942 and '43, it was a
11 formality, and it was just continued.

12 Q. What do you mean there was no such company?

13 A. Where I served, in '41.

14 (through the interpreter) In '41, when I
15 was admitted, then it wasn't, it was only '42.

16 Q. What I don't understand is, why didn't you
17 tell them that you were in the company that you
18 said you served in? Why did you have to tell them
19 that you were in the Latvian Security Section?

20 A. (through the interpreter) First, the
21 papers were obtained by some friends. Then, there
22 was no such company.

23 Q. There was no such company as what?

24 A. (through the interpreter) The
25 reconnaissance unit. That was established only in

1 1942.

2 Q. I still don't understand what you mean.

3 Could you take these documents and explain
4 exactly what you mean? Use Mr. Redin, if that will
5 help you.

6
7 (Whereupon, there was an
8 off-the-record discussion.)

9
10 A. '41.

11 Q. You're referring now to Exhibit 8?

12 A. That's it.

13 Q. That's dated in 1941. Okay, now what is
14 your point concerning that?

15 A. At this time, it's '41.

16 (through the interpreter) At that time
17 there was no such unit.

18 Q. No such unit as what?

19 A. Which I was member.

20 Q. Oh, in other words, you're saying in 1941
21 you were not a member of a unit?

22 A. No, no. At that time I was studying in
23 university for a semester, '41, fall or winter.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. (through the interpreter) In 1942, again,

1 I received this from my friends, and this was a
2 time when I had the ulcer.

3 (the witness) Just formality.

4 (through the interpreter) Formality.

5 Q. Okay, but in 1942 --

6 A. That's '42.

7 Q. Okay, in 1942, why didn't you submit a
8 document saying that you served in the unit that
9 you really served in?

10 A. I don't remember why, just I forgetful,
11 friends, again --

12 (through the interpreter) I don't know
13 why. Again, I could get the same kind of
14 certificate from friends.

15 (the witness) For the next year.

16 Q. Couldn't you get a certificate saying that
17 you actually served in the unit that you say you
18 actually served in?

19 A. (through the interpreter) They were
20 Germans and it wasn't so easy to get any kind of
21 certificates, documents from the Germans.

22 (the witness) That's exactly the same
23 here, for '43. This is from that partisan outfit.

24
25 (Whereupon, there was a

1 recess in the proceedings.)

2
3 MR. MAUSNER: Back on the record. Do you
4 have that new tape in?

5 Q. All right, just to review your testimony,
6 could you tell me, very briefly, what your
7 occupation was during each period of time, from the
8 time the Soviets left Latvia until the end of the
9 war?

10 A. Uh-huh. When the Soviets left, okay.
11 (through the interpreter) The partisan
12 units.

13 Q. That was in the Litene area?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. Did you know a Captain Lietuvietis?

16 A. He was in the partisan units.

17 Q. Was he head of the self-defense unit there?

18 A. Yeah. The head was Aperats.

19 Q. Aperats was the head.

20 A. He was from the local, yeah, yeah. He was
21 there, yeah.

22 Q. He was in the local self-defense?

23 A. Yeah, because --

24 (through the interpreter) During peacetime.

25 (the witness) Served in army. He was