For the WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department--War Department

United States of America

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In the Matter of the Shooting of
Jewish Political Prisoners between
Mauthausen and St. Georgen, Austria
on 16 April 1945.

Perpetuation of Testimony
of STANLEY J. VAUGHAN, T/Sgt.,
ASN 39022554, 3522 Atwater Avenue,
Los Angeles, California.

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Taken at: 216 Rowan Building, 458 South Spring
Street, Los Angeles, California.

Date: 20 August 1945

In the Presence of: Franklin S~idensticker, Jr., Special
Agent, SIG, SCU 1923, NSC, Los Angeles,
California.

Questions by: Franklin S~idensticker, Jr.

Q. State your name, rank, serial number and permanent home address.

A. STANLEY J. VAUGHAN, T/Sgt. ASN 39022554. Permanent address: 3522 Atwater Avenue, Los Angeles, California.

Q. Who is the householder at 3522 Atwater Avenue, Los Angeles, California?

A. My father, Dale G. Vaughan.

Q. Have you recently returned to the United States?

A. Yes, I arrived at New York City on 12 June 1945.

Q. Were you a Prisoner of War?

A. Yes, I was captured by the Germans on 30 December 1943, and was a Prisoner of War until 3 May 1945, when I was liberated.

Q. State the dates and places of your internment.

A. I was held at Rheims Hospital from 31 December 1943, to 7 January 1944. I was held at Dulag Luft, Frankfurt, Germany, from 8 January to 18 January 1944, and I was held at Stalag 17 B at Krems, Austria, from 21 January 1944 to 8 April 1945. Between 8 April 1945 and 3 May 1945, we were on the road between Krems and Braunau, Austria.

Q. Do you have any knowledge of the shooting and killing of Jewish Political Prisoners by the Germans?

A. I saw fourteen Jewish Political Prisoners who had been shot by the Germans in Austria.

Q. State what you know of your own knowledge concerning this incident.
The incident occurred during the time we were on a forced march between Stalag 17 B at Krems, Austria, and Braunau, Austria, On 16 April 1945, while we were marching along a road between Mauthausen and St. Georgen, Austria, we passed a group of 500 or more Jewish Political Prisoners who were being marched in the opposite direction along the road. These prisoners were in a horrible condition. They were very weak from starvation; their clothes were in rags, and only about one out of ten had shoes. They were dressed in black with a yellow star and the word "Jew" over their breasts. As we passed this crowd of Jewish Political Prisoners, I saw some of our men throw cigarettes to them. The Jews went crazy in an effort to get the cigarettes and their German guards clubbed them to prevent them from picking them up. I saw the bodies of at least fourteen Jews who had been shot and killed. They had been shot in the head and body and their bodies were lying uncovered along the edge of the road. Later on, at noon, we stopped for a rest at a point about one-half mile beyond the column of Jewish prisoners and during the time we were stopped, I heard machine gun fire coming from the direction of the column of Jewish prisoners. The guards of these prisoners were armed with sub-machine guns. I believe the guards were SS Troops, although their uniforms are similar to the Wehrmacht uniforms and it is sometimes difficult to distinguish them.

Q. Can you identify any of the deceased Political Prisoners you saw lying around the road?

A. No, I cannot.

Q. Can you name or describe any of the guards of the Jewish Political Prisoners?

A. No, I cannot.

[Signature]

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