

THE BOOK-KEEPER OF AUSCHWITZ TO STAND TRIAL

NAZI WAR CRIMES TRIAL OF THE MAN WHO SORTED CONDEMNED JEWS POSSESSIONS DURING WW2

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(PLEASE VIEW THIS 1 MIN VIDEO BY OSCAR GROENING BEFORE PROCEEDING)

OSKAR GROENING – GERMAN SS PRIVATE AT AUSCHWITZ SENDS MESSAGE TO HOLOCAUST DENIERS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiuAM7zYhhs>



NAZI MURDER TRIAL: GERMANY IN ONE LAST PUSH TO BRING REMAINING WAR CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE BEFORE THEY DIE

INTRODUCTION

Only 43 of the 6,500 SS members who worked in the concentration camps have ever faced prosecution. Of those only 25 went to prison and the rest were acquitted.

During the summer of 1944, Oskar Groening was a young man dreaming of pretty girls, and beer halls back home, and then leaving to enjoy them.

But he had his duties to perform as a good German soldier and servant of the Third Reich - in the most terrible place on earth, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Nazi death camp in occupied Poland. Oskar Groening signed up for the Waffen SS and arrived in Auschwitz in 1942 at the age of 21

Between May 16 and July 11 that year, SS Unterscharfuehrer Groening witnessed 425,000 Hungarian Jews arrive aboard 137 trains.

About 300,000 were immediately sent to the gas chambers, the remainder were allowed to live as slave laborers under appalling conditions.

The condemned were dead in around two hours. Their bodies are incinerated in massive diesel-fed industrial ovens and their ashes tipped into pits and rivers.

Groening was responsible for sorting the pathetic possessions of the doomed - their clothes, shoes, money, valuables, and other very personal possessions.

His Second World War duties earned him a nickname: "The Book-keeper of Auschwitz"

THE STORY

On Tuesday (April 21, 2015) begins what may turn out to be the last great Nazi war crimes trial in history which seeks to bring a small measure of justice for the tragic victims and their families.



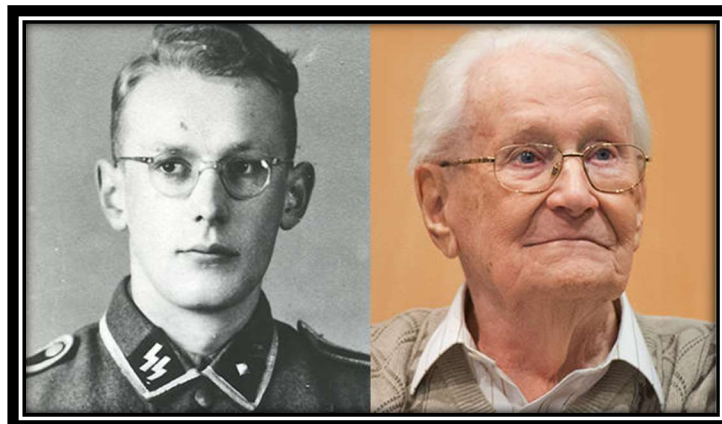
Groening in his "SS" uniform with the Skull Cap

Groening, who was cleared in 1948 of war crimes, is charged with being an accessory to 300,000 murders because his service records are entirely intact for that period.



Last journey: Jews arrive on the train

Groening was in Auschwitz as a guard for two-and-a-half years, **but prosecutors are charging him with complicity in the murders of 300,000 people over two months in 1944**



Left: Oskar Groening as a young man in an SS uniform in an undated photo; right: Groening in the dock of the court in Lueneburg, northern Germany

Now a frail widower, he bears little resemblance to the young soldier with thin glasses shown in a black and white wartime photograph, except for the shadow of a military tattoo on his left arm bearing his 'O' blood type.

Groening has said he volunteered for the Waffen SS in 1941 at age 20, drawn by wartime fervor and 'the elegance of the uniform'.

But he testified to his nightmares in interviews before he was charged. 'Every night and every day I remember it for the nightmare it was,' he said. 'It was in 1942 that my SS chiefs in Berlin ordered me there.

But he insists he has done no wrong and he is still haunted by the nightmares of what he witnessed at the human abattoir of Auschwitz.

"I was an official in the prisoners' possessions administration which involved removing the money, jewels, and other valuables from the inmates, registering them, and sending them back to Berlin.

"They had diamonds and gold worth millions and it was my duty to make sure all of it got to Berlin."

"It was completely understood by all that the majority were going straight to the gas chamber; although some believed they were only going to be showered before going to work. Many Jews knew they were going to die.

"One time a drunken SS man discovered a crying baby on the platform. He grabbed the waif by its legs and smashed its head against the side of a truck. My blood froze when I saw it."

"I went to my superior officers and made an application for a transfer to the front, to anywhere. "But he refused.

Former SS Sgt. Oskar Groening told a German court Tuesday that he helped keep watch as thousands of Jews were led from cattle cars directly to the gas chambers at the Auschwitz death camp where he served as a guard.

Down the years I have heard the cries of the dead in my dreams and every waking moment. I will never be free of them.

"It was becoming harder and harder to suppress everything I saw. On one night in January 1943, I saw for the first time how the Jews were gassed.

"It was in a half-built farmyard near to the Auschwitz-Birkenau camp. A gas chamber was built there. We were searching the wood nearby for prisoners who had escaped.

There were more than 100 prisoners and soon there were panic-filled cries as they were herded into the chamber and the door was shut.

"Then a sergeant with a gas mask went to a hole in the wall and shook Zyklon B gas pellets inside." The cries of the people inside rose to a crescendo, a choir of madness. These cries I have ringing in my ears to this day.

"I again made an application for a transfer and at the end of October 1944, I was shipped to the Belgian Ardennes where I served until capture. Down the years I have heard the cries of the dead in my dreams and every waking moment. I will never be free of them.

"I have never been back because of my shame. The guilt will never leave. I can only plead for forgiveness and pray for atonement. But guilty? I never killed or hurt anyone that is why I do not feel guilty."

If you are convinced that the destruction of Judaism is necessary, then it no longer matters how the killing takes place.

Oskar Gröning sat in front of the BBC's cameras for nine hours for the filming of a documentary about Auschwitz. The BBC wanted a former member of the SS, and the former member of the SS wanted forgiveness.

It was an experiment. The former SS member would say something, and the BBC would provide commentary.

For example, Gröning would say that Auschwitz was a good deal for the SS people, more pleasant than fighting against the Red Army on the Eastern front. The documentary portrayed Gröning as the person he was, grease in the machine of mass extermination. The BBC also offered no exoneration.

However, his bureaucratic job did not shield him completely from physical acts of the extermination process: as early as his first day, Gröning saw children hidden on the train and people unable to walk that had remained among the rubbish and debris after the selection process had been completed, being shot.

GROENING'S VIEWS ON THE HOLOCAUST DENIALS

Groening has said he first opened up about his past in 1985 when a member of his stamp collectors' club handed him a book written by a Holocaust denier.

Gröning led a normal middle-class life after the war. A keen stamp collector, he was once at his local philately club's annual meeting more than 40 years after the war, when he fell into a conversation about politics with the man next to him.

The man told him it was "terrible" that Holocaust denial was illegal (no more) in Germany, and went on to tell Gröning how so many bodies could not have been burnt, and that the volume of gas that was supposed to have been used would have killed all living things in the vicinity.

Gröning said little in response to these statements replying only: "I know a little more about that, we should discuss it sometime."

The man recommended a pamphlet by Holocaust denier Thies Christophersen. Gröning obtained a copy and mailed it to Christophersen, having written his commentary on it, which included the words "I saw everything," he writes. "The gas chambers, the cremations, the selection process. One and a half million Jews were murdered in Auschwitz. I was there."

Gröning then began receiving phone calls and letters from strangers who tried to tell him Auschwitz was not a place for exterminating human beings in gas chambers

It became apparent that his comments condemning Holocaust denial had been printed in a neo-Nazi magazine, and that most of the anonymous calls and letters were, "From people who tried to prove that what I had seen with my own eyes, what I had experienced in Auschwitz was a big, big mistake, a big hallucination on my part because it hadn't happened."

As a result of such comments, Gröning decided to speak openly about his experiences, and publicly denounce people who maintain the events he witnessed never happened.

I have seen the crematoria, I have seen the burning pits and I want you to believe me that these atrocities happened. I was there.

And he states today without any reservation....

I see it as my task, now at my age, to face up to these things that I experienced and to oppose the Holocaust deniers who claim that Auschwitz never happened. And that's why I am here today. Because I want to tell those deniers: I have seen the crematoria, I have seen the burning pits—and I want you to believe me that these atrocities happened. I was there.

He went on to write a memoir for his family, shared his recollections with the German press, and appeared in a BBC documentary.

In an extensive interview with German magazine Der Spiegel in 2005, Groening said he felt nothing when he saw Jews being taken to the gas chamber.

Groening lives at Lueneburg Heath near Hamburg - the place where his SS boss Heinrich Himmler is buried.

During one interview in Germany, lost in memories, he sang a song from his youth: "And when Jewish blood begins to drip from our knives, things will be good again."

He said later: "Back then we didn't even think about what we were singing." He told how he saw the extermination as "a tool of waging war. A war with advanced methods".

Groening has always denied any involvement with the mass murder at Auschwitz - just a small fragment of Hitler's evil Holocaust which claimed six million lives.

Since the war, he has lived a comfortable life. He married, had two children, and worked as a wage accountant in a glass factory after being released from a POW camp.

Groening will enter the court in Lueneburg town at 10 am to answer for his role in history's greatest crime. (April 21st)

Watching him will be 49 pairs of eyes - relatives of some of those Hungarian Jews turned to ash while he was on duty 71 years ago.

Among them will be Judith Kalman, (See picture and story below) a 61-year-old housewife from Toronto whose sister Evika was six when she arrived at Auschwitz and was gassed - as all small children were because they could not work.



Judith Kalman

Judith says of her sister: "She never grew up. She will be a six-year-old child forever.

"A talented girl who taught herself to read. She was gassed 75 days after her sixth birthday on June 3, 1944."

"I don't feel resentment or hatred when I think of Groening. I believe him when he says he never laid a hand on a Jew. He is unsure himself of his guilt. He wants to have peace of mind and to justify himself, but he knows there can be no justification.

"I will be there for Evika and for all the others who were murdered. I want to understand."

A co-plaintiff in the case is Max Eisen, 86, who also lives in Canada. Originally from a small Hungarian town, he was a small boy when he was crammed into a cattle car and shipped with 80 other people to Auschwitz. He arrived at the camp in the middle of the night but it was bathed in floodlights and so he saw everything. As the door to the railway truck swung open an inmate said to the 13-year-old Max: "Say you are 16."



German Gas Chamber

His brothers Shmuel, 12, and Moishe, eight, sister Judith, nine months, and mother Ethel, 40, were separated from Max and his father. They were never seen again, gassed, and burned within two hours.

Max says: "I was shocked. The first one they killed was a man from my village. We were crammed into a shower room. This naked man dropped his glasses and stooped to try to find them. The SS overseer was so angry he kicked him in the head. Then he kicked him to death. I could hear how his ribs broke one by one."

A day later Max asked other inmates where their families were and they pointed to the smoke belching from the crematoria chimney.

Kurt Schrimm, who heads Germany's sole Nazi hunting agency, prepared the case against Groening.



Kurt Schrimm

Three more are pending against former Auschwitz personnel but age and infirmity seem likely to derail those proceedings before they begin.

The judiciary, post-war, was stuffed full of former Nazis. So were the prosecution authorities, the police, and the civil service. At one point, for example, it was estimated that 70% of the CID in postwar Dusseldorf was composed of former Gestapo men.

It was one big bad old boy network trying to protect their verminous pals from being rounded up as they had once rounded up the innocents.

But Germany has since discovered its conscience - through the actions of men like Kurt. He says: "We owe it to the victims and their families. I want to do my job well for as long as it takes. The dead and the families of the dead deserve nothing less than to see justice done."



Groening stands proud in his SS uniform during the Second World War

Groening may point to the fact he has never tried to mask his service in the camp, never lied that he was somewhere else.

His defense has always been: "I was there, but I killed no one." Such a defense worked in Germany before 2011.

But no longer - as the trial of Sobibor death camp guard John Demjanjuk showed. He was tried and convicted for being stationed at the camp where 250,000 Jews were liquidated without a single shred of evidence linking him to a crime.

There was no one left alive to testify at his trial in Munich for his role in the extermination of 28,000 Dutch Jews.

No one could say whether Demjanjuk slaughtered with his bare hands, cleaned the toilets, baked bread, or bayoneted babies.

He was convicted, for the first time in history, simply because he was there. - and that is why Groening now has his appointment with justice.



Between May 16 and July 11, 1944, he was on duty when 450,000 Hungarian Jews were transported there, with 300,000 being gassed just after arrival. Pictured, Auschwitz survivors

MORALLY GUILTY

FORMER WAFFEN SS GUARD, WHO ARRIVED IN AUSCHWITZ IN 1942, ASKS FORGIVENESS FOR NAZI WAR CRIMES



- ▶ Oskar Groening (93) accused of being an accessory to the **murder of at least 300,000 Jews**
- ▶ Known as the "bookkeeper of Auschwitz", Groening served at the Nazi concentration camp between May and June 1944
- ▶ About 425,000 Jews from Hungary were detained and at least 300,000 almost immediately gassed to death

during this period

- ▶ Groening was allegedly responsible for counting banknotes confiscated from prisoners; if found guilty he could face three to 15 years in prison
- ▶ Seventy years after the liberation of the camp, most of those responsible have died
- ▶ Groening's trial will be among the last of its kind

**I ask for forgiveness. I share morally in the guilt but whether I am guilty under criminal law, you will have to decide — OSKAR GROENING**

- It was not until he heard people denying the Holocaust had ever happened, decades later, that he suddenly felt the need to speak up
- However, he says he did not take part directly in the killing, and described his role as "a small cog in the gears"



To me this is not about a jail term for him, but about researching and dealing with the crime
— EVA KOR (81). Romanian-born Auschwitz survivor

One has had the feeling that justice has not been served. This provides a sense of satisfaction
— EVA FAHIDI-PUSZTAI (90). Hungarian Auschwitz survivor

Source: BBC, AFP

'I lost 49 members of my family in the Holocaust,' said Eva Pusztai-Fahidi, 89, from Budapest. 'He must have been there, on the ramp, witnessing the suffering. Now I want to look into his eyes and see him recognize his guilt.'



Eva Puztai-Fahidi, 89

*'The Holocaust was made of small men like him, little cogs in the machine. It wasn't just big fish; it was people like Oskar Groening. **It doesn't matter what his punishment is, but the verdict.** The Holocaust deniers can always say a little old Jewish woman told lies. But they will not be able to deny the words of a single SS man who admits he was there.'*



Groening sits opposite Auschwitz survivors Hedy Bohm (left) and Eva Puztai-Fahidi (right) in the courtroom in Lueneburg



Hedy Bohm 87

Hedy Bohm, 87, traveled from Toronto, Canada, with her daughter to bear witness to her lost family. She too lost numerous family members, her father, and his sister, together with her small baby, on the day they arrived



Eva Kor as she points to herself as a child in Auschwitz

Auschwitz survivor Eva Kor said that Groening 'is a murderer because he was part of the system of mass murder'. **But check the below article written and photographed at the trial.**



TWO OLD PEOPLE REACHING OUT: AUSCHWITZ SURVIVOR EVA KOR' HUGS AUSCHWITZ WORKER OSCAR GROENING.

Eva Mozes Kor is a Holocaust survivor who was subjected to dangerous medical experiments while imprisoned at Auschwitz. Oskar Groening is a former Nazi bookkeeper on trial for 300,000 counts of accessory to murder at the concentration camp where she nearly died.

But for a brief moment when Kor embraced the man who participated in her imprisonment, they were just **"two old people reaching out", Kor said.**

The exchange was a rare tale of humanity to come out of the trial for 93-year-old Groening, whose job was to count money and belongings stolen from the people killed at Auschwitz. Kor, an advocate for survivors of Nazi experiments, was in court to testify against him.

But she also wanted to meet Groening face to face, she said in a blog post – to see what might happen when a victim and a perpetrator shook hands.

She got her answer a moment later when Groening kissed her on the cheek.



Two old people reaching out": When Eva Mozes Kor met Oskar Groening

SOME GENERAL COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC CONCERNING THE TRIAL

He's being put on trial simply because he wore an SS uniform and because he was THERE. Oskar Groening shares in the collective, moral guilt of that generation of Germans (whether they wore a uniform or not) but I have yet to hear of any evidence of him DIRECTLY killing or torturing prisoners. I have heard him being interviewed many times and he is always contrite and never denied working at Auschwitz. If you put this man on trial now, you may as well round up every surviving German of that era. Groening was a cog in the machine but so was everyone else.

At least he was given the chance to become frail and old. Thousands did not. Do not let his age or frailty fool you; sentence just as you would any other war criminal. He will at least die smiling in a comfortable jail, not screaming in horror like his victims.

Does that mean that Tony Blair will be put on trial one day for being part of the war that caused 500,000 deaths in Iraq?

Isn't it time we forgive them for what they did? The people who orchestrated the death camps are long gone and we've moved on to hunting bookkeepers. This isn't justice, it's witch-hunting. How about we focus on making Jew's lives better today, rather than focusing on hunting the people who made it worse a long time ago?

Pointless in prosecuting this old man!

Eva Pusztai-Fahidi, who lost relatives including her parents and sister, told the Lueneburg state court Tuesday that seeing former SS Sgt. Oskar Groening in court is "a kind of satisfaction," the dpa news agency reported.

From an outsider's point of view, I would say he certainly didn't have a choice in the matter and would have been joining them in the gas chamber had he disobeyed but that is exceptionally easy for me to say when I haven't seen my 6-year-old sister, father and mother die and haven't had my new baby murdered in front of me - very hard one to call. I just wish people like him would be more vocal about the atrocities and condemn those atrocities that are happening to Jewish people today!

My father was a WWII vet and served in the Pacific. He knew quite a few other vets from his era, including those who served in Europe. One man we knew participated in the Normandy landings. So when the 50th anniversary came up and the news reported how a lot of Normandy vets would be visiting for the ceremonies, my father asked the man if he was going. "No way," was his reply. Then he told us a very sad story. He explained that during the first 2 to 3 days of fighting on French soil, many German soldiers surrendered. Some of the American companies felt that they didn't want to be bogged down with processing German POWs; there was a lot more fighting that needed to be done and "wasting time" with POWs would allow the German military to send reinforcements. So the German soldiers who surrendered never became prisoners of war. Wanna guess their fate?

Before WW II Germany was in deep debt and wasn't allowed to do squat Militarily speaking. Then along came Hitler who promised them the world and told them how much better they were. He eliminated most job unemployment in a few years while bolstering the GDP of Germany. This man like many others either saw the military as a job or as a sense of national pride. Once enlisted you have a few years of service to carry out. During those years you can be called upon for wartime duty. For the enlisted men of the German army, there was no quitting nor opting out. Quite the opposite. There was a draft in place and if you refused to do your orders you would be killed and replaced. Sending this 93-year-old to jail for just keeping records of the events going on around him is as dumb as trying to convict a Jewish former prisoner who held a camp job such as shaving the camp commander's throat and not killing him.

The meticulous record Groening kept was essential as evidence in the earlier trials. Without that evidence, there might still be lingering questions as to whether or not the Holocaust happened. Some might still deny the Holocaust occurred. The evidence he provided is proof it did. While I condemn the Holocaust, he is to be commended for his help in accounting for and preserving the evidence that it did occur. If he had not done so, he might have been cremated in those ovens. It is time for the healing process to begin.

Groening will serve no jail time and his testimony and cooperation will likely close the book on these investigations. The time to hunt and catch Nazi vermin was post-WWII to 1975. Unfortunately, many of the SS were then on the payroll of American and British intelligence services. Operation Paperclip is one such ant-communist snafu that taxpayers funded unwittingly. The smiling old "bookkeeper" will add to the record and hopefully render denial of the holocaust a little more difficult for fascists with an ax to grind.

Groening still lives with the memories of the atrocities he witnessed there. Whether he participated in them or not, is certainly debatable and only he knows that. As a bookkeeper, he certainly was an accessory to theft, which can be proven. It seems to me to be cruel and unusual punishment to put a 93-year-old man in prison no matter what he did. His life is nearly over at this point and he certainly is not a threat to anybody. *(continued on next page)*

He certainly has been humiliated and prodded throughout these proceedings which should be enough punishment already. Get over it and move on people, it is the 21st century after all.

NEW YORK TIMES 2005 INTERVIEW WITH OSKAR GROENING



Oskar Groening in 2005

To read a full article about Oskar Groening's life written by Mathias Geyer, entitled "**The Bookkeeper from Auschwitz**" which was in the 9 May 2005 edition of the New York Times, go to the below link:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/05/09/international/europe/09spiegel.html?pagewanted=print>

COMMENTS CONCERNING THE TRIAL WRITTEN BY

Rabbi Benjamin Blech



Rabbi Benjamin Blech, a frequent contributor to Aish, is a Professor of Talmud at Yeshiva University and an internationally recognized educator, religious leader, and lecturer. Author of 14 highly acclaimed books with combined sales of over a half million copies. [See his article directly below.](#)

THE TRIAL OF OSKAR GROENING – JUSTICE IS NOT BEING SERVED

By Rabbi Benjamin Blech

There have been thousands of comments from people all over the world concerning this trial and the necessity for it. One of the most common examples of the articles written is the one below. It seems to summarize the opinions and thoughts of many people including the German people and very similar to the thoughts of some of the Holocaust survivors.

Seven decades after the Holocaust, in a small courthouse in Luneburg Germany, a trial that is probably the last of its kind is making headlines around the world.

Oskar Groening is being tried on 300,000 counts of accessory to murder, related to a period between May and July 1944 when around 425,000 Jews from Hungary were brought to the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex in Nazi-occupied Poland and almost immediately gassed to death.



Groening, known as “the accountant of Auschwitz”, faithfully fulfilled his duty as SS-Unterscharführer, collecting the cash that doomed Hungarian Jews carried with them to the place of their extermination and seeing to its shipment to Berlin to give financial backing to the final solution of genocide. ***For his role, this now 93-year-old faces 6 to 15 years if convicted.***

I must make a painful confession. Much as I rejoiced at the capture of Eichmann and his execution in Israel and much as I found a great measure of satisfaction in the past by verdicts of guilt and punishment - admittedly all too few - for those involved in the barbaric crimes of the Holocaust, ***I am troubled by the rationales now being stressed for the importance of this particular trial.***

Does it make any sense to be told that we need again to hear the testimony of witnesses as well as the admission of the defendant to refute the claims of Holocaust deniers? To continue an argument with those who refuse to accept the historical fact is to grant an undeserved measure of truth to an absurdity as if it were worthy of debate and further discussion.

Deniers are no better than a spokesman for the Flat Earth Society who deserves only laughter, not a public hearing that grants them legitimacy as worthy intellectual opponents.

Yes, Oskar Groening publicly admitted, “I saw everything. The gas chambers, the cremations, the selection process. One and a half million Jews were murdered in Auschwitz. I was there.” But we did not need him to tell us that. Indeed, Ursula Haverbeck, one of Germany’s more infamous Holocaust deniers, was in court for Groening’s initial testimony and after listening to his detailed description of what happened in the camp, not unexpectedly commented, ***“He’s been turned.”***

For those interested in truth, the facts have long ago been established; for those motivated by an irrational hatred of Jews and Israel, no amount of irrefutable proof will suffice to open the closed minds of haters.

To be gratified by Groening’s confessions to the horrors that took place at Auschwitz is almost as if one were previously unsure of the truth previously documented by hundreds of survivors and eyewitnesses.

But there is another and more important reason being trumpeted as cause for rejoicing for this long-delayed trial. At last, we are told, we can feel that justice is finally being done in the country responsible for one of the most unspeakable crimes of history. It will serve; it’s been suggested in several articles, as a fitting closure to the Nazi sins of the twentieth century.

6500 members of the SS worked at Auschwitz. To date, only 49 have been convicted of war crimes

That is precisely why I feel so devastated by this implicit insult to the memory of the six million.

The Groening trial is being showcased as a vivid demonstration of Germany’s concern for bringing the guilty to punishment. Yet what it proves sends precisely the opposite message.

The year is now 2015. The legal action against Groening somehow never found its way to the court for countless decades.

Seven decades after the Holocaust, in a small courthouse in Luneburg Germany, a trial that is probably the last of its kind is making headlines around the world.

Oskar Groening is being tried on 300,000 counts of accessory to murder, related to a period between May and July 1944 when around 425,000 Jews from Hungary were brought to the Auschwitz-Birkenau complex in Nazi-occupied Poland and almost immediately gassed to death.

All the while, records indicate that about 6500 members of the SS worked at Auschwitz - and that was merely one of the many factories of death that carried out the fiendish designs of the final solution. Of those, to date, only 49 have been convicted of crimes.

Remarkable, too, is the nature of the crimes attributed to Groening in comparison to those who somehow have escaped judicial notice, having lived out their lives in serenity and all probability blessed prosperity.

Groening pleads that he was not actively involved in the murders, the beatings, the gassing, and the tortures of Auschwitz. He admits that he shares in the moral guilt but feels that does not make him culpable under the law. *True, by all accounts, even his reflections on his past, he is not an innocent.*

But should we not ask what happened to all the others who somehow escaped the scrutiny of the courts, the inquiries of the authorities, the investigations of the legal system charged with bringing to justice not simply those who bureaucratically assisted the machinery of evil but who brutally carried out its heinous cruelties?

Is it not a travesty of the very word justice if the most that German courts can succeed in accomplishing after these many years of indifferent pursuit of the truly guilty is to convict a 93-year-old concentration camp accountant while the many tens of thousands of sadistic beasts who carried out the horrific acts which defined Nazi cruelty and inhumaneness never paid a price for their sins?

And if Groening is found guilty and sentenced, while all those who carried out the crimes of the death camps escaped judicial notice, would not the greatest tragedy of all be for the world to offer its final judgment on the Holocaust with the false pronouncement that in the end justice was served? (End of Article)

THE VERDICT & RESULTS

On the date this article was finished (*May 3, 2015*) the trial was still in process so no verdict had been reached. If he is convicted and serves the maximum sentence of 15 years he will undoubtedly die in prison.



Former Nazi SS officer Oskar Groening listens to the verdict of his trial on *July 15, 2015*, at court in Lueneburg, northern Germany.



JULY 15, 2015

LUENEBURG, Germany — The 94-year-old former guard known as the "accountant of Auschwitz" **was convicted** Wednesday on 300,000 counts of accessory to murder.

Oskar Groening was sentenced to 4 years in jail by the state court in the northern German city of Lüneburg, where a small group of protesters stood outside carrying a white "Don't forget Auschwitz" banner.

Presiding judge Franz Kompisch noted the importance of such prosecutions even after decades had passed.



Mar 13, 2018

A former Nazi SS guard known as "the bookkeeper of Auschwitz" **has died before serving a four-year jail term**, authorities in Germany said. He passed away on March 9th.

Oskar Groening, 96, **was sentenced for being an accessory to murder in 2015** but never went to jail due to a series of appeals for clemency on grounds of old age and ill health.

He died in a hospital on Friday, according to Spiegel Online. The Hannover public prosecutor's office said it had been informed of Groening's death by his lawyer.

Groening was found guilty of being an accessory to the murder of 300,000 people at the Auschwitz death camp in Nazi-occupied Poland during World War II.

He was accused of counting the cash found in the belongings of new arrivals at the camp and sending it to Nazi headquarters in Berlin.



PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT EVEN THOUGH THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN TAKEN
FROM WEBSITES/SOURCES THAT APPEAR TO BE AUTHENTIC, I CAN NOT ENSURE THAT ALL THE
DATA IN THIS ARTICLE IS ACCURATE AND CORRECT