

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735027

CONFIDENTIAL
For The WAR CRIMES OFFICE

Judge Advocate General's Department -- War Department
United States of America

In the matter of the removal of American and British prisoners of war from Koncentration Lager, Buchenwald * Perpetuation of Testimony of Stratton M. Appleman, O-673709, 2nd Lt. *

Taken at: Dorchester Hotel, Miami Beach Service Base, Miami Beach, Fla.

Date: 8 August 1945

In the Presence of: Green H. Cleveland, Special Agent, Security Intelligence Corps, Fourth Service Command

Reporter: Mary L. Moore, Clerk-Typist, Miami Beach Service Base, Miami Beach, Fla.

Questions by: Green H. Cleveland, Special Agent, Security Intelligence Corps, Fourth Service Command

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

A. Stratton M. Appleman, 2nd Lt., O-673709, P. O. Box 267, Aransas Pass, Texas.

Q. What were you engaged in prior to entering service?

A. Student of Journalism at University of Texas.

Q. When did you join the Army?

A. 21 January 1942.

Q. When did you first become a prisoner of the Germans?

A. 6 June 1944.

Q. During what period were you at Buchenwald?

A. 20 August 1944 to 19 October 1944.

Q. How many American and British prisoners of war were taken to Buchenwald along with you?

A. Approximately 160.

Q. Were you among the group of American and British officers who were removed from Buchenwald 19 October 1944?

A. Yes.

Q. Were all of the 160 American and British officers removed?

CONFIDENTIAL

A. Twelve remained there at the time, and they were hospitalized. Later ten of these men were brought to Stalag Luft 3 at Sagan, Germany where the rest of us had been taken.

Q. Were the following American officers with you at Buchenwald, and also taken to Stalag Luft 3?

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>ASN</u>
2nd Lt.	Appleman, Stratton M.	0-673709
2nd Lt.	Carr, Frederick	0-818597
2nd Lt.	Chalot, John	0-223068
2nd Lt.	Coffman, J. D.	0-693634
1st Lt.	Crouch, Jr., Marshall	0-744050
2nd Lt.	Dauteuil, Donat	0-747759
1st Lt.	Deary, Ralph	0-696689
2nd Lt.	Denaro, Joseph	0-703963
2nd Lt.	Granbery, William L.	0-698953
2nd Lt.	Hilding, Russell D.	0-57199
2nd Lt.	Horwege, Glenn	0-763607
1st Lt.	Kay, William	0-821621
1st Lt.	King, Myles A.	0-2045227
2nd Lt.	Mitchell, Gerald E.	0-699945
1st Lt.	Moser, Joseph	0-755999
1st Lt.	Petrich, Michael	0-684039
1st Lt.	Phelps, Byron	0-743083
2nd Lt.	Powell, William	0-808137
1st Lt.	Ryherd, William	0-666356
1st Lt.	Sypher, Leroy-Henry	0-804067
1st Lt.	Vance, Ira E.	0-812332
1st Lt.	Vratny, Frank	0-743141
1st Lt.	Wojnicz, Raymond	0-761487

A. Yes, there were other American officers there also, but I cannot recall them, however, I prepared a list of all the American officers there and gave it to the Senior American Officer, Capt. Larson (FNU) who was a Squadron Operation officer for a P-38 Squadron, also 1st Lt. Joseph Moser, 0-755999, a member of Capt. Larson's squadron could give information on this subject.

Q. Were any of the 160 American and British officers killed by the Germans?

A. No.

Q. What became of the two men who were left behind at Buchenwald?

A. Lt. Beck, whose first name I do not know, remained at Buchenwald because he was suffering from pneumonia - he died after we left. 1st Lt. Michael Petrich received a note from someone at Buchenwald stating that Lt. Beck died. I believe Lt. Petrich can give more details concerning the death of Lt. Beck.

Q. Do you know whether Lt. Beck received the best available medical attention?

A. I know he was taken to the hospital about 3 days after he was taken sick, but do not know what sort of medical attention he received.

Q. Who was the other officer left at Buchenwald, and what happened to him?

A. The other officer was British, by the name of Harvey, however, I'm not sure this name is correct. He also died of some respiratory disease which affected his spine. Lt. Petrich could probably give more information about this man's death.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 735027

CONFIDENTIAL

Stratton M. Appleman
Stratton M. Appleman, 2nd Lt., AAF

State of Florida)
County of Dade) SS

I, Stratton M. Appleman, of lawful age, being duly sworn on oath, state that I have read the foregoing transcription of my interrogation and all answers contained therein are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Stratton M. Appleman
Stratton M. Appleman, 2nd Lt., AAF

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17 day of August 1945.

Glenn C. Massnick
Capt A.S. Summary Court

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 735027

CONFIDENTIAL

CERTIFICATE

I, Green H. Cleveland, Special Agent, Security Intelligence Corps, Fourth Service Command, certify that Stratton M. Appelman, O-573709, 2nd Lt., personally appeared before me on 8 August 1945, and testified concerning War Crimes; and that the foregoing is an accurate transcription of the answers given by him to the several questions set forth.

Green H. Cleveland

Green H. Cleveland
Special Agent, Security Intelligence
Corps, Fourth Service Command

DECLASSIFIED
Authority MND 735027

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D. C.
4th Ind.



APPLEMAN, Stratton M.
SPIIB
(6 Jul 45)

SPJGI 12-811
HEADQUARTERS FOURTH SERVICE COMMAND, ASF, Atlanta 3, Georgia, 24 August 1945.

TO: Director, War Crimes Office, 4732 Munitions Building,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Forwarded in compliance with request contained in basic communication.

2. Attention is invited to the fact that inclosure #5 is improperly executed. An attempt was made to have Subject properly sign this deposition, but it was ascertained that he had already been transferred to ATSC, 4020th AAF Base Unit, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio. In view of the fact that the deposition is valuable mainly because of the leads it contains it was not deemed necessary to send it to the Fifth Service Command for correction.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

CALLIE H. PALMER,
Colonel, GSC
Director, Security &
Intelligence Division

5 Incls: d by Walter S. Joy, Special Agent, CIC, and a forwarding letter
#1-2 n/c the Staff Judge Advocate, ETO, are inclosed to assist the examiner.
#3-5 - n/c (1 cc ea w/d)

3. In view of the apparent importance of this matter, it is requested that the interrogation be expedited as much as possible.

4. If Lieutenant Appleman has left your area, this request should be forwarded to the headquarters of the service command in which he is located, directed to the attention of the Director, Security and Intelligence Division, and information regarding the reference should be communicated to this office.

FOR THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL:

Martin G. White

2 Incls
2 letters as stated

MARTIN G. WHITE
Colonel, JAGS
Deputy Director
War Crimes Office

CONFIDENTIAL