



Report of survey of the Klooga concentration camp held by the Office of Public Prosecutor of the Estonian SSR

September 29, 1944

Public Prosecutor of the Investigatory Department of the Office of Public Prosecutor ESSR 2nd class attorney EGI, at the presence of the Public Prosecutor of the Office of Public Prosecutor ESSR VASILIEV and witnesses TIRUSK and RAUS, held a survey of the Klooga concentration camp in the Harju Uyezd in the Kejla Volost.

The Klooga [concentration] camp is located to the south of the railway Tallinn - Paldiski, its area is fenced by barbed wire of 2.4 m. in height. Barracks where the prisoners lived are situated in the camp area, and also a number of workshops and a sawmill (see Appendix. The Map of the Camp).

A two-storey stone building is situated at the front entrance on the right side, also fenced by a barbed wire fence, with an area in front of the house of about 1, 279 square meters.

Both the ground and the top floor are cluttered by 2-storey plank beds, closely put in 9 lines with three narrow aisles. In total, there are 180 2-storey plank beds for 360 people on the ground floor.

Corpses of men and women randomly lay in front of the door in the premises of the ground floor of the building, and also in the first and second aisles between plank beds. The bodies in the aisles lay with their faces down in two-three rows lengthwise the aisle, one on another, like a tile roof; heads of the top corpses lay on the middle of the body that is bellow, with their legs towards the doors.

There are 79 corpses in total, with their outer clothing on. Prison clothes are on corpses of three men and one woman. On clothes of six corpses, numbers are sewn on the left side of the chest. The corpses have bullet wounds in the nape; all bodies are in the stage of decomposition with a strong putrid smell.

There are clothes and bedding everywhere scattered in disorder. 200 meters away from the camp, to the north from the railway, near a ditch, there is a burned down building with a stone base and two pipes remaining. At a corner of the base on a stone the date of 7/21/1944 is engraved. The base is 45 centimeters high. On the site of fire, in ashes, there are plenty of burnt skulls, vertebrae, and other bones and remains of corpses. Most of the corpses were completely burned down that is why it is not obviously possible to define the exact amount of corpses. Only 133 of the burnt corpses, which are 13-15% of the total, can be possibly recognized. On the southern side of the house, outside of the base, two 29 female corpses lay. The burnt head of one corpse and burnt feet of the other are directed towards the base.

At the east side, 15 meters away from the burnt-down building, among ridges of cabbage, lies a corpse of a man with a bullet wound in his nape.

On the same side, 30 meters away from the burnt-down house, lies a corpse with scorched clothes and strong burns on his hips and on the bottom part of his stomach. The corpse has an entrance bullet wound on the right side of his back and an exit wound on the right side of the chest. On the western side, 5 meters away from the burnt-down building, lies a corpse of a man with two bullet wounds on the left side of the chest.

Between the burnt-down building and the camp, in a ditch, at the distance of one meter from the road, from the left side, lies a corpse of a man with many bullet wounds on the right hand, on his neck and back.

700 meters to the north from the camp, on a glade that is 27 meters away from the wood road there are four fires situated 4 meters away from each other; one of them was only prepared, the other three were already burnt down. The area of the fires is 6 x 6.5 meters. The fires consist of 6 logs put on the ground with a number of poles with 75 cm pine and fir-tree logs on it. In the middle of the fire four poles are hammered by a quadrangle at the distance of 0,5 m from each other. Thin logs are rarely fixed on a pole, which, most likely, should represent a pipe. On the three burned down fires corners remained at the western side. On the bottom layer of firewood lie corpses with burnt-down bottom parts of the body. Corpses lay with their faces downwards, some of them with overhanging hands. Two corpses are with their faces closed by hands, the palms densely pressed to the face and eyes closed by the fingers. By the remaining parts of the corpses it can be said that there were 17 corpses put on the fire in one row, and there were 5 such rows, heads of corpses of the second and the following rows lie on the feet of the previous row. A layer of firewood is placed on the first layer of corpses and the second layer of corpses lies on it. On the second and on the fourth fire two layers of corpses are visible, and on the third fire - three layers. The middle and eastern parts of the fires have completely burnt down. On the remaining parts of the fires, it is possible to make out 254 burnt corpses that is 20-25% of the overall number of corpses that were laid on the fires.

At the northern and the northeastern side at the distance from 5 up to 200 m, 18 corpses of men with bullet wounds in the area of the nape, back and legs lie on the glade.

On the southwestern side of the glade, 15 m away from the first fire, plenty of outer clothing and kettles lie. Near the clothes, at the edge of the forest, there is an empty iron barrel with a smell of oil.

Public Prosecutor of Investigatory Department EGI, Public Prosecutor VASILIEV

Witnesses: TIRUSK and RAUS

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