AFTERNOON SESSION

(The hearing reconvened at 1345 hours, 9 April 1948)

THE MARSHAL: All persons in the Courtroom will please take their seats. The Tribunal is again in session.

JUDGE DIXON: The defendant Adolf Ott.

ADOLF OTT

SS-Lieutenant Adolf Ott began his career in an administrative office of the German Workers Front in Lindau. He joined the NSDAP in 1922 and became a member of the SS in 1931. In 1935 he entered the Security Service.

There are no complications about the case of Adolf Ott, except perhaps the meaning he intended to give to the word "execution". In his pre-trial affidavit he said that his kommando carried out 80 to 100 executions. At the trial he stated that, by the word execution, he meant the death of but one person. The context of the affidavit would logically convey a contrary view because, immediately after speaking of the "80 to 100 executions", he says: "I remember one execution which took place in the vicinity of Bryansk", and he then proceeds to describe this execution which involved "corpses". The affidavit also says that the valuables collected from "thesecpeople" were sent to Einsatzgruppe B.

The whole purport and tenor of this affidavit are to the effect that the word "execution" is used in the sense of a multiple killing. However, for the purposes of the ascertainment of guilt or innocence it matters little whether, by "80 to 100 executions", Ott meant the killing of only 80 to 100 people or a multiple of 80 to 100, which multiple, in view of the evidence in this case, would increase the number of the slain to many hundreds at the very least.

According to his affidavit, Ott was assigned to