

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:05,590

2

00:00:05,590 --> 00:00:07,694

(film slating)

3

00:00:07,694 --> 00:00:10,327

4

00:00:10,327 --> 00:00:11,920

Most certainly,  
they did not have

5

00:00:11,920 --> 00:00:13,930

to belong to the Nazi party.

6

00:00:13,930 --> 00:00:17,110

And in many cases, they  
did belong only nominally,

7

00:00:17,110 --> 00:00:19,180

paying their dues but  
having really nothing

8

00:00:19,180 --> 00:00:22,150

to do with the party  
structure as such.

9

00:00:22,150 --> 00:00:25,300

The Nazi party was the  
most recent manifestation

10

00:00:25,300 --> 00:00:27,710

of major organized  
activity on the scene.

11

00:00:27,710 --> 00:00:31,390

It was the last of the four  
major blocs, or hierarchies,

12

00:00:31,390 --> 00:00:32,920

that came.

13

00:00:32,920 --> 00:00:36,190

And it found itself with  
not all that much to do.

14

00:00:36,190 --> 00:00:38,950

It arrogated itself the  
task of Menschenführung,

15

00:00:38,950 --> 00:00:42,280

a rather vague  
term which denoted

16

00:00:42,280 --> 00:00:43,810

formulation of the mood--

17

00:00:43,810 --> 00:00:46,510

of the Stimmung-- of the people.

18

00:00:46,510 --> 00:00:49,090

Of course there were  
party bureaucrats.

19

00:00:49,090 --> 00:00:51,940

Of course they preoccupied  
themselves with such questions

20

00:00:51,940 --> 00:00:54,110

as heredity and the like.

21

00:00:54,110 --> 00:00:56,740

But in the end, except  
within certain regions

22

00:00:56,740 --> 00:01:00,370

and occupied territory,  
party men were left out.

23

00:01:00,370 --> 00:01:04,660

The main task was  
entrusted to those who were

24

00:01:04,660 --> 00:01:08,110  
producing goods or services.

25

00:01:08,110 --> 00:01:10,030  
That is to say,  
industry and banks

26

00:01:10,030 --> 00:01:11,800  
and financial institutions.

27

00:01:11,800 --> 00:01:15,400  
Or to the time-honored  
ministerial bureaucracy,

28

00:01:15,400 --> 00:01:18,910  
which was familiar  
with and knowledgeable

29

00:01:18,910 --> 00:01:22,780  
about various problems  
which had to be solved.

30

00:01:22,780 --> 00:01:27,010  
Or, of course, since it was  
war, to the armed forces.

31

00:01:27,010 --> 00:01:29,440  
And this is where  
the action was.

32

00:01:29,440 --> 00:01:31,690  
The party, to be sure,  
came into the picture

33

00:01:31,690 --> 00:01:33,950  
because, when all  
is said and done,

34

00:01:33,950 --> 00:01:37,900  
the SS, in particular, started  
out as a party formation.

35

00:01:37,900 --> 00:01:43,520  
But even in the SS, the budget  
of the Reich had to be engaged.

36  
00:01:43,520 --> 00:01:45,310  
The party could  
not, through dues

37  
00:01:45,310 --> 00:01:47,200  
collected from its  
members, support

38  
00:01:47,200 --> 00:01:49,060  
such a vast organization.

39  
00:01:49,060 --> 00:01:53,230  
Even here, the finance  
ministry, the interior ministry,

40  
00:01:53,230 --> 00:01:56,410  
the armed forces  
became enmeshed with

41  
00:01:56,410 --> 00:01:59,200  
and amalgamated with the SS.

42  
00:01:59,200 --> 00:02:03,550  
And from that standpoint, one  
cannot speak of an ideological

43  
00:02:03,550 --> 00:02:08,650  
or party impetus, let  
alone a party monopoly,

44  
00:02:08,650 --> 00:02:10,784  
in any kind of drastic action.

45  
00:02:10,784 --> 00:02:12,400  
This means that you  
would say that it

46  
00:02:12,400 --> 00:02:15,280  
was a self-working machinery.

47

00:02:15,280 --> 00:02:18,820

I would say that, inasmuch as  
we do not find in Nazi Germany

48

00:02:18,820 --> 00:02:22,120

a legislature that made the  
laws, inasmuch as there really

49

00:02:22,120 --> 00:02:25,450

was no constitution, the  
bureaucracy as a whole

50

00:02:25,450 --> 00:02:27,970

was a self-regulating mechanism.

51

00:02:27,970 --> 00:02:32,140

When they moved ahead too far in  
a particular area of activity,

52

00:02:32,140 --> 00:02:34,930

they had to come into agreement  
with others would hold them

53

00:02:34,930 --> 00:02:35,860

back.

54

00:02:35,860 --> 00:02:39,580

But other than that, you  
see, the basic procedure

55

00:02:39,580 --> 00:02:43,810

was to forge ahead, to make  
agreements, to set out tasks,

56

00:02:43,810 --> 00:02:46,240

and to solve problems  
step-by-step.

57

00:02:46,240 --> 00:02:50,800

58

00:02:50,800 --> 00:02:54,310

- Now can we talk  
about the IG Farben.

59

00:02:54,310 --> 00:02:59,980

- IG Farben is a typical example  
of a rather major component

60

00:02:59,980 --> 00:03:01,300

in one of these hierarchies.

61

00:03:01,300 --> 00:03:06,400

Namely, IG Farben is, of  
course, one single company

62

00:03:06,400 --> 00:03:10,360

that controlled up to 80% of  
all production of chemicals.

63

00:03:10,360 --> 00:03:13,000

It was involved in  
synthetic rubber.

64

00:03:13,000 --> 00:03:15,880

It was involved in  
pharmaceuticals and in film.

65

00:03:15,880 --> 00:03:19,600

It was involved in the  
nitrogen-based industries.

66

00:03:19,600 --> 00:03:22,450

In short, a very  
large enterprise

67

00:03:22,450 --> 00:03:25,300

with some 50 different plants.

68

00:03:25,300 --> 00:03:29,350

We find IG Farben in at  
least three manifestations

69

00:03:29,350 --> 00:03:31,900

of the destruction of the Jews.

70

00:03:31,900 --> 00:03:34,030

Already early on,  
in the 1930s, they

71

00:03:34,030 --> 00:03:35,590

were involved in Aryanizations.

72

00:03:35,590 --> 00:03:37,990

In the acquisition, let's  
say, of the [GERMAN] Fabrik,

73

00:03:37,990 --> 00:03:42,400

which was a subsidiary of  
Creditanstalt in Vienna.

74

00:03:42,400 --> 00:03:43,120

- A Jewish--

75

00:03:43,120 --> 00:03:44,530

- Jewish enterprise.

76

00:03:44,530 --> 00:03:47,320

Again, when the German  
armies move into Poland,

77

00:03:47,320 --> 00:03:49,953

IG Farben people survey  
the Polish chemical scene.

78

00:03:49,953 --> 00:03:51,370

There isn't very  
much doing there,

79

00:03:51,370 --> 00:03:53,050

but they're interested  
in acquisitions

80

00:03:53,050 --> 00:03:55,000

of any Jewish firms.

81

00:03:55,000 --> 00:03:59,290  
More importantly, IG Farben is  
an employer of Jewish labor.

82  
00:03:59,290 --> 00:04:01,330  
It is, after all,  
the one company

83  
00:04:01,330 --> 00:04:03,010  
that builds its own campus.

84  
00:04:03,010 --> 00:04:06,640  
It were within Auschwitz,  
and employs tens of thousands

85  
00:04:06,640 --> 00:04:10,400  
of slave laborers in  
that particular area.

86  
00:04:10,400 --> 00:04:14,590  
And, finally, IG Farben  
is in some control,

87  
00:04:14,590 --> 00:04:18,970  
through a subsidiary, of the  
production of the cyanide gas--

88  
00:04:18,970 --> 00:04:20,120  
hydrogen cyanide--

89  
00:04:20,120 --> 00:04:23,230  
which is being used to  
kill the Jews in Auschwitz.

90  
00:04:23,230 --> 00:04:25,870  
So here you see a  
single company which

91  
00:04:25,870 --> 00:04:28,990  
is involved, in three  
different stages,

92  
00:04:28,990 --> 00:04:31,030

with the destruction  
of the Jews.

93  
00:04:31,030 --> 00:04:33,520  
Which is to say, a  
whole lot of people

94  
00:04:33,520 --> 00:04:37,720  
in different aspects of  
IG Farben management,

95  
00:04:37,720 --> 00:04:41,620  
in different localities  
and in different positions,

96  
00:04:41,620 --> 00:04:45,160  
and yet they also,  
in every case,

97  
00:04:45,160 --> 00:04:49,060  
make their contribution  
to the final solution,

98  
00:04:49,060 --> 00:04:50,560  
in one way or another.

99  
00:04:50,560 --> 00:04:53,140  
Even IG Farben, even  
a company does that.

100  
00:04:53,140 --> 00:04:58,980

101  
00:04:58,980 --> 00:05:01,280  
So, in this sense,  
you see you can

102  
00:05:01,280 --> 00:05:05,960  
see in individual companies,  
and you can see in the military,

103  
00:05:05,960 --> 00:05:08,900  
and you can see in the

ministerial bureaucracy,

104

00:05:08,900 --> 00:05:14,030

you can see centrally and on  
the local level, a participation

105

00:05:14,030 --> 00:05:20,125

of every office which has  
some contribution to make.

106

00:05:20,125 --> 00:05:23,320

But they gave up and  
moved in Auschwitz.

107

00:05:23,320 --> 00:05:25,450

It certainly did.

108

00:05:25,450 --> 00:05:28,930

It had a rather large  
operation within Auschwitz.

109

00:05:28,930 --> 00:05:31,900

It employed tens of  
thousands of slave laborers.

110

00:05:31,900 --> 00:05:34,870

It paid the wages to the SS.

111

00:05:34,870 --> 00:05:38,950

It had its-- as so many  
companies, incidentally,

112

00:05:38,950 --> 00:05:41,140

in occupied Europe--

113

00:05:41,140 --> 00:05:43,730

had their own guard  
forces, Werkschutz.

114

00:05:43,730 --> 00:05:46,780

115

00:05:46,780 --> 00:05:50,110

And it was, of course,  
singularly responsible

116

00:05:50,110 --> 00:05:54,770

for the deaths of tens of  
thousands of people, as well.

117

00:05:54,770 --> 00:05:56,115

And that, it's--

118

00:05:56,115 --> 00:05:58,780

It was a huge concern, a huge--

119

00:05:58,780 --> 00:06:00,140

It was a huge--

120

00:06:00,140 --> 00:06:01,330

yeah.

121

00:06:01,330 --> 00:06:03,670

I would say one reason,  
you see, that IG Farben

122

00:06:03,670 --> 00:06:06,370

is conspicuous is that,  
in the first place,

123

00:06:06,370 --> 00:06:08,440

it's a very large enterprise.

124

00:06:08,440 --> 00:06:10,960

And secondly, they happen  
to be in Auschwitz.

125

00:06:10,960 --> 00:06:12,940

Not every company was  
in Auschwitz, of course.

126

00:06:12,940 --> 00:06:15,333

They happened to  
be at Auschwitz.

127

00:06:15,333 --> 00:06:16,750

There were any  
number of companies

128

00:06:16,750 --> 00:06:18,070

that employed Jewish labor.

129

00:06:18,070 --> 00:06:21,040

They decided to build  
a factory in Auschwitz.

130

00:06:21,040 --> 00:06:23,140

They decided to build  
it because, you see,

131

00:06:23,140 --> 00:06:26,050

in Auschwitz there was a  
concerted effort by the SS

132

00:06:26,050 --> 00:06:30,370

to attract industry to the area,  
to make use of the heavy inmate

133

00:06:30,370 --> 00:06:32,800

population-- which  
was not only Jewish--

134

00:06:32,800 --> 00:06:34,780

so that profit could be made.

135

00:06:34,780 --> 00:06:37,720

The SS would be paid  
for each employed Jew.

136

00:06:37,720 --> 00:06:39,700

The Jew wasn't paid, naturally.

137

00:06:39,700 --> 00:06:42,340

And thus, the SS was  
trying to balance its books

138

00:06:42,340 --> 00:06:45,160

a little bit by having  
that industry right there.

139  
00:06:45,160 --> 00:06:49,000  
The SS also wanted to  
appear as a contributor

140  
00:06:49,000 --> 00:06:49,940  
to the war effort.

141  
00:06:49,940 --> 00:06:53,800  
And by becoming the host of  
industry, it could do so.

142  
00:06:53,800 --> 00:06:58,060  
Now, IG Farben, in turn,  
by sending its engineers

143  
00:06:58,060 --> 00:07:01,810  
and by sending its personnel  
and by making its investment

144  
00:07:01,810 --> 00:07:05,630  
to Auschwitz, took full  
advantage of this fact.

145  
00:07:05,630 --> 00:07:07,480  
And, may I say, it  
was in Auschwitz

146  
00:07:07,480 --> 00:07:09,160  
with a plant employing labor.

147  
00:07:09,160 --> 00:07:12,190  
It was in Auschwitz with the  
pharmaceuticals which were

148  
00:07:12,190 --> 00:07:13,790  
used in medical experiments.

149  
00:07:13,790 --> 00:07:15,910  
And it was in  
Auschwitz with the gas.

150  
00:07:15,910 --> 00:07:20,860  
So here is IG Farben, you  
see, in a rather conspicuous--

151  
00:07:20,860 --> 00:07:25,210  
with a hydrogen cyanide,  
which was a special product,

152  
00:07:25,210 --> 00:07:28,150  
you see, because it had--

153  
00:07:28,150 --> 00:07:31,630  
it was a solid in canisters.

154  
00:07:31,630 --> 00:07:33,940  
It would be placed  
into the gas chamber.

155  
00:07:33,940 --> 00:07:34,960  
It would sublime.

156  
00:07:34,960 --> 00:07:38,410  
It would go from the solid  
state to the gaseous stage

157  
00:07:38,410 --> 00:07:40,690  
without going through  
a liquid state.

158  
00:07:40,690 --> 00:07:42,400  
And that was the  
special property

159  
00:07:42,400 --> 00:07:45,070  
of this particular gas.

160  
00:07:45,070 --> 00:07:47,800  
And, may I say,  
even this, you see,

161  
00:07:47,800 --> 00:07:52,540

shows how technology is involved  
in the destruction of the Jews.

162  
00:07:52,540 --> 00:07:54,700  
Not only is the gas  
a special product,

163  
00:07:54,700 --> 00:07:58,330  
but the filter that has  
to be used in a gas mask

164  
00:07:58,330 --> 00:08:00,160  
by the person  
administering the gas,

165  
00:08:00,160 --> 00:08:01,850  
has to be a special filter.

166  
00:08:01,850 --> 00:08:03,820  
In other words,  
even here you'll see

167  
00:08:03,820 --> 00:08:06,010  
the repercussions of  
every measure requiring

168  
00:08:06,010 --> 00:08:08,390  
special attention.

169  
00:08:08,390 --> 00:08:12,740  
And, once again,  
chemicals are involved.

170  
00:08:12,740 --> 00:08:17,853  
So we find, in whichever  
way we examine the situation

171  
00:08:17,853 --> 00:08:19,270  
and from whatever  
vantage point we

172  
00:08:19,270 --> 00:08:24,910  
look at it, indeed, a very

large organization which,

173

00:08:24,910 --> 00:08:28,870

incidentally, boasts

eminent scientists as well

174

00:08:28,870 --> 00:08:33,250

as prominent managers

and financiers.

175

00:08:33,250 --> 00:08:35,620

And is therefore not

readily identified

176

00:08:35,620 --> 00:08:39,850

as riff-raff, low-class

ideologues of some sort,

177

00:08:39,850 --> 00:08:41,590

involved in this action.

178

00:08:41,590 --> 00:08:44,410

And there is a trial

on record of IG Farben

179

00:08:44,410 --> 00:08:46,440

personnel at Nuremberg,

which reflects this--

180

00:08:46,440 --> 00:08:50,800

Yes, it is absolutely

unbelievable, but it's true.

181

00:08:50,800 --> 00:08:53,140

They were-- the

directors were appointed

182

00:08:53,140 --> 00:09:00,100

to lead a factory in

Auschwitz, the Buna factory.

183

00:09:00,100 --> 00:09:02,200

This means that

they knew, not only

184  
00:09:02,200 --> 00:09:04,330  
that they were  
using slave labor--

185  
00:09:04,330 --> 00:09:05,815  
Why, why, of course, of course.

186  
00:09:05,815 --> 00:09:06,940  
And you see, the normalcy--

187  
00:09:06,940 --> 00:09:09,910  
--but they knew everything  
about the extermination.

188  
00:09:09,910 --> 00:09:13,690  
The normalcy of these  
careers is, I think,

189  
00:09:13,690 --> 00:09:17,890  
illustrated when I happened to  
look up in Wer ist Wer, which

190  
00:09:17,890 --> 00:09:23,080  
is the Who's Who of Germany,  
in the post-war Who's Who,

191  
00:09:23,080 --> 00:09:26,560  
the name of Kurt Eisfeld,  
who was an IG Farben

192  
00:09:26,560 --> 00:09:32,260  
official in Auschwitz, in charge  
of Division II, the chemicals.

193  
00:09:32,260 --> 00:09:36,940  
And he's now written up in the  
Who's Who of Germany today,

194  
00:09:36,940 --> 00:09:42,160  
in the late 1960s, in  
Volume 15, for example,

195  
00:09:42,160 --> 00:09:47,190  
as a person who simply is a PhD.

196  
00:09:47,190 --> 00:09:47,967  
He's a scientist.

197  
00:09:47,967 --> 00:09:50,050  
He's a member of the  
executive committee and board

198  
00:09:50,050 --> 00:09:53,320  
of directors, Dynamit Nobel  
and Chemische Industrie Werke,

199  
00:09:53,320 --> 00:09:54,640  
Troisdorf.

200  
00:09:54,640 --> 00:09:57,220  
And he was born in 1904.

201  
00:09:57,220 --> 00:09:59,890  
He was educated in Jena.

202  
00:09:59,890 --> 00:10:01,210  
And he has a hobby--

203  
00:10:01,210 --> 00:10:02,680  
hunting.

204  
00:10:02,680 --> 00:10:03,340  
Hunting.

205  
00:10:03,340 --> 00:10:04,120  
Hunting.

206  
00:10:04,120 --> 00:10:06,460  
Well, everybody has  
to have a hobby.

207  
00:10:06,460 --> 00:10:09,055

Hans Globke, the  
man that is perhaps

208  
00:10:09,055 --> 00:10:10,930  
responsible for the  
first anti-Jewish decree,

209  
00:10:10,930 --> 00:10:13,090  
has numismatics as a hobby.

210  
00:10:13,090 --> 00:10:19,960  
And Rudolf Rahn has as a  
hobby Talleyrand, music, golf.

211  
00:10:19,960 --> 00:10:22,060  
This is the Who's Who of today.

212  
00:10:22,060 --> 00:10:23,290  
Why of course it is.

213  
00:10:23,290 --> 00:10:24,040  
And this is what--

214  
00:10:24,040 --> 00:10:26,920  
And they don't  
say a word about--

215  
00:10:26,920 --> 00:10:27,910  
About Auschwitz?

216  
00:10:27,910 --> 00:10:28,690  
Yes.

217  
00:10:28,690 --> 00:10:30,680  
Why would you expect them to?

218  
00:10:30,680 --> 00:10:31,530  
Well, of course not.

219  
00:10:31,530 --> 00:10:33,160  
Of course not.

220

00:10:33,160 --> 00:10:34,990

No, I have gone  
through the Who's Who.

221

00:10:34,990 --> 00:10:39,130

And I'm sure this is a  
process that one can easily

222

00:10:39,130 --> 00:10:41,650

pursue, if not with  
great pleasure,

223

00:10:41,650 --> 00:10:44,890

to find any reference  
to the wartime careers.

224

00:10:44,890 --> 00:10:47,020

There is the gap,  
the familiar gap.

225

00:10:47,020 --> 00:10:49,480

But I emphasize this  
description because I

226

00:10:49,480 --> 00:10:55,670

want you to realize  
how absolutely normal

227

00:10:55,670 --> 00:10:57,530

this career pattern is.

228

00:10:57,530 --> 00:11:01,490

And the fact that, at one  
point between 1943 and 1945,

229

00:11:01,490 --> 00:11:04,130

this particular  
individual is in Auschwitz

230

00:11:04,130 --> 00:11:08,760

is treated no differently than  
if at one point in his career

231

00:11:08,760 --> 00:11:11,845  
he had been in Dusseldorf,  
Mannheim, or some other place.

232

00:11:11,845 --> 00:11:12,345  
OK.

233

00:11:12,345 --> 00:11:17,060

234

00:11:17,060 --> 00:11:20,120  
The presence of IG  
Farben in Auschwitz

235

00:11:20,120 --> 00:11:23,840  
is an example of industry  
involvement in the very center

236

00:11:23,840 --> 00:11:27,000  
of their destructive operation.

237

00:11:27,000 --> 00:11:30,140  
In fact, of course, the  
SS was attracting industry

238

00:11:30,140 --> 00:11:31,970  
to its camp, in  
order that it might

239

00:11:31,970 --> 00:11:34,400  
make a profit from the labor.

240

00:11:34,400 --> 00:11:37,370  
And as early as the  
beginning of 1941,

241

00:11:37,370 --> 00:11:41,120  
Otto Ambros, who was a  
high official of IG Farben,

242

00:11:41,120 --> 00:11:44,570  
was visiting in Auschwitz

and discussing the problem

243

00:11:44,570 --> 00:11:47,660  
of establishing a plant there.

244

00:11:47,660 --> 00:11:50,960  
Finally, that plant  
was built. And it

245

00:11:50,960 --> 00:11:55,760  
became so large that one  
part of Auschwitz became,

246

00:11:55,760 --> 00:11:59,728  
in essence, IG Auschwitz.

247

00:11:59,728 --> 00:12:01,770  
As a matter of fact, there  
were two plants there.

248

00:12:01,770 --> 00:12:03,740  
One was the acidic acid  
plant and the other

249

00:12:03,740 --> 00:12:05,900  
was the synthetic rubber plant.

250

00:12:05,900 --> 00:12:10,460  
Overall operation was in the  
hands of a man called Durrfeld.

251

00:12:10,460 --> 00:12:14,990  
Now the synthetic rubber  
plant and so-called Buna plant

252

00:12:14,990 --> 00:12:18,140  
was in the hands of Dr. Eisfeld.

253

00:12:18,140 --> 00:12:20,990  
And the plant itself--

254

00:12:20,990 --> 00:12:24,200

the entire investment,  
I should say--

255  
00:12:24,200 --> 00:12:27,890  
was quite large, considering  
that some \$700 million

256  
00:12:27,890 --> 00:12:33,260  
Reichsmark were expended in  
its construction and operation.

257  
00:12:33,260 --> 00:12:37,340  
The number of inmates  
that passed through it

258  
00:12:37,340 --> 00:12:40,910  
was in the vicinity of 35,000.

259  
00:12:40,910 --> 00:12:42,740  
The estimates are,  
on the part of those

260  
00:12:42,740 --> 00:12:47,480  
who led this enterprise, that  
up to 25,000 may have died.

261  
00:12:47,480 --> 00:12:52,130  
And this in one complex alone.

262  
00:12:52,130 --> 00:12:54,380  
There were also, I might  
add, two coal mines

263  
00:12:54,380 --> 00:12:59,780  
being operated by IG Farben  
in the vicinity, which

264  
00:12:59,780 --> 00:13:02,750  
was a favorite way  
of doing business.

265  
00:13:02,750 --> 00:13:04,970  
Namely, having

independent coal mines

266

00:13:04,970 --> 00:13:08,660  
for the support of  
industrial operations.

267

00:13:08,660 --> 00:13:11,330  
And the death rate  
in the coal mines

268

00:13:11,330 --> 00:13:13,730  
amongst the Jewish inmates  
was extraordinarily high.

269

00:13:13,730 --> 00:13:17,570  
The life expectancy was  
extraordinarily low.

270

00:13:17,570 --> 00:13:21,950  
IG did add its so-called  
Buna soup to the Jewish diet,

271

00:13:21,950 --> 00:13:26,030  
but clearly that bit  
of soup didn't keep

272

00:13:26,030 --> 00:13:28,760  
all that many people alive.

273

00:13:28,760 --> 00:13:33,080  
We know from statements made by  
Hoess, commander of Auschwitz,

274

00:13:33,080 --> 00:13:37,350  
that the relations between  
the SS command and IG Farben

275

00:13:37,350 --> 00:13:40,460  
management was rather  
cordial, that Hoess

276

00:13:40,460 --> 00:13:45,620  
had invited IG managers to

his home, Eisfeld included.

277

00:13:45,620 --> 00:13:49,040

And we also know that the  
operation lasted long enough

278

00:13:49,040 --> 00:13:51,750

for certain social  
bonds to have formed,

279

00:13:51,750 --> 00:13:54,170

and for knowledge  
to have sunk in,

280

00:13:54,170 --> 00:13:57,920

that here was IG Farben  
inside the very center

281

00:13:57,920 --> 00:14:00,890

of the Nazi death machine.

282

00:14:00,890 --> 00:14:04,580

And they did feel sufficiently  
at home there to continue.

283

00:14:04,580 --> 00:14:06,860

And they did feel  
relations were cordial

284

00:14:06,860 --> 00:14:09,200

enough so that they could  
speak of the arrangement

285

00:14:09,200 --> 00:14:11,870

as having paid  
dividends, in a business

286

00:14:11,870 --> 00:14:14,900

sense and a political  
sense, to their company.

287

00:14:14,900 --> 00:14:17,550

And they knew, of course,

everything about extermination,

288

00:14:17,550 --> 00:14:18,050  
about--

289

00:14:18,050 --> 00:14:20,880

They could not help knowing  
it because one inmate

290

00:14:20,880 --> 00:14:24,710

even overheard a visiting  
team of directors

291

00:14:24,710 --> 00:14:27,560

remark about some  
slowness of work,

292

00:14:27,560 --> 00:14:31,310

and indicated that if  
some of the inmates

293

00:14:31,310 --> 00:14:33,170

would not be  
working faster, they

294

00:14:33,170 --> 00:14:36,270

could die in the gas chambers.

295

00:14:36,270 --> 00:14:39,830

It would appear that,  
right on the scene,

296

00:14:39,830 --> 00:14:46,550

even the wording of such remarks  
was unconcealed and open.

297

00:14:46,550 --> 00:14:50,750

This is to say that the visiting  
team of pretty high IG Farben

298

00:14:50,750 --> 00:14:54,780

dignitaries were obviously fully  
aware of what was going on.

299

00:14:54,780 --> 00:14:57,470

What did they say exactly?

300

00:14:57,470 --> 00:14:59,430

Well, in the affidavit  
that we have,

301

00:14:59,430 --> 00:15:05,470

which was made by one of the  
survivors, they simply said--

302

00:15:05,470 --> 00:15:06,940

one quote-- [GERMAN].

303

00:15:06,940 --> 00:15:09,850

304

00:15:09,850 --> 00:15:11,710

And another quote, [GERMAN].

305

00:15:11,710 --> 00:15:15,640

306

00:15:15,640 --> 00:15:16,720

And this is a statement--

307

00:15:16,720 --> 00:15:17,762

Which means, which means?

308

00:15:17,762 --> 00:15:19,930

If they can't work  
any harder, then

309

00:15:19,930 --> 00:15:23,352

let them perish in  
the gas chamber.

310

00:15:23,352 --> 00:15:25,090

The Juden Sau.

311

00:15:25,090 --> 00:15:26,710  
Juden Sau is a Jewish pig.

312  
00:15:26,710 --> 00:15:29,020  
This Jewish pig could  
work a little harder.

313  
00:15:29,020 --> 00:15:33,520  
This Jewish pig could  
work a little harder.

314  
00:15:33,520 --> 00:15:36,970  
Now the sheer tempo  
and the sheer language

315  
00:15:36,970 --> 00:15:39,760  
which we see in  
IG Auschwitz does

316  
00:15:39,760 --> 00:15:43,150  
suggest that in the  
atmosphere and environment

317  
00:15:43,150 --> 00:15:47,050  
of the concentration camp,  
IG Farben management could

318  
00:15:47,050 --> 00:15:49,750  
behave just like the SS did.

319  
00:15:49,750 --> 00:15:54,250  
And that, I think,  
is not insignificant.

320  
00:15:54,250 --> 00:16:02,250  
Eisfeld-- in the Who's Who  
which is published today,

321  
00:16:02,250 --> 00:16:04,810  
the two years that  
Eisfeld spent in Auschwitz

322  
00:16:04,810 --> 00:16:11,200

as director of the Buna  
plant, simply doesn't appear.

323  
00:16:11,200 --> 00:16:12,220  
It's erased.

324  
00:16:12,220 --> 00:16:12,810  
Erased.

325  
00:16:12,810 --> 00:16:13,310  
Yes.

326  
00:16:13,310 --> 00:16:17,650  
As is in all the descriptions  
that former perpetrators write

327  
00:16:17,650 --> 00:16:20,960  
for inclusion in the  
German Who's Who,

328  
00:16:20,960 --> 00:16:23,050  
the time that was  
spent in the war

329  
00:16:23,050 --> 00:16:26,680  
is a blank page  
and simply omitted,

330  
00:16:26,680 --> 00:16:29,200  
so that Einfeld's  
presence in Auschwitz

331  
00:16:29,200 --> 00:16:31,060  
is not even mentioned.

332  
00:16:31,060 --> 00:16:33,670  
What do you think  
of Germany today--

333  
00:16:33,670 --> 00:16:36,520  
of the Germany of today, I mean.

334

00:16:36,520 --> 00:16:38,260  
Of course, the  
Germany of today has

335  
00:16:38,260 --> 00:16:42,710  
a generation born after the  
completion of these events.

336  
00:16:42,710 --> 00:16:47,390  
I suspect that perhaps the most  
important division in Germany

337  
00:16:47,390 --> 00:16:51,170  
is not the division between  
East Germany and West Germany,

338  
00:16:51,170 --> 00:16:53,150  
prominent as it is.

339  
00:16:53,150 --> 00:16:55,490  
But, at this moment,  
it is the division

340  
00:16:55,490 --> 00:17:00,580  
between an older generation  
and another, which is younger.

341  
00:17:00,580 --> 00:17:04,660  
I cannot imagine full and free  
conversation between these two

342  
00:17:04,660 --> 00:17:06,099  
generations.

343  
00:17:06,099 --> 00:17:08,829  
And this means that people  
who are in their 20s,

344  
00:17:08,829 --> 00:17:13,359  
who are in their 30s, cannot  
converse with their own father

345  
00:17:13,359 --> 00:17:16,690

about some of the most  
crucial events that took place

346  
00:17:16,690 --> 00:17:20,859  
in their father's life, cannot  
get free-and full-flowing

347  
00:17:20,859 --> 00:17:25,450  
information, cannot find out  
what it is that transpired

348  
00:17:25,450 --> 00:17:28,180  
in the psyche of their parent.

349  
00:17:28,180 --> 00:17:31,330  
This must make for an  
enormous gulf between the two

350  
00:17:31,330 --> 00:17:36,580  
generations, one which makes it  
necessary, almost, for Germany

351  
00:17:36,580 --> 00:17:39,550  
to live in the present,  
to be a country

352  
00:17:39,550 --> 00:17:41,900  
without at least a recent past.

353  
00:17:41,900 --> 00:17:44,740  
Though everything is being  
attempted to conjure up a more

354  
00:17:44,740 --> 00:17:47,590  
distant past, which  
is believed to be more

355  
00:17:47,590 --> 00:17:50,140  
compatible with the present.

356  
00:17:50,140 --> 00:17:53,230  
There is, in that sense,  
a one-dimensional Germany,

357  
00:17:53,230 --> 00:17:57,040  
at least so far as I can see it  
in my occasional visits, which

358  
00:17:57,040 --> 00:17:59,950  
are limited to my research.

359  
00:17:59,950 --> 00:18:03,310  
And it is the most prominent  
feature that I can see there.

360  
00:18:03,310 --> 00:18:06,250  
Do they recognize  
this recent past?

361  
00:18:06,250 --> 00:18:11,960  
I mean the Nazi one, as a  
part of their own history?

362  
00:18:11,960 --> 00:18:12,880  
I think they do.

363  
00:18:12,880 --> 00:18:18,340  
Because in my conversations  
with some new German bureaucrats

364  
00:18:18,340 --> 00:18:22,420  
in their 30s, I have  
even encountered

365  
00:18:22,420 --> 00:18:24,550  
the phenomenon of somebody  
introducing himself

366  
00:18:24,550 --> 00:18:28,720  
to me by age, making  
sure that I understood

367  
00:18:28,720 --> 00:18:32,080  
that he was born in  
1938, or that he was not

368

00:18:32,080 --> 00:18:35,950

older than 38 years, or  
something of this kind.

369

00:18:35,950 --> 00:18:38,500

And in one particularly  
sharp discussion

370

00:18:38,500 --> 00:18:41,950

I had with a member of the  
German customs administration,

371

00:18:41,950 --> 00:18:45,130

and I chanced to make  
some remarks which

372

00:18:45,130 --> 00:18:51,100

indicated my familiarity with  
Germany of old, his reply was,

373

00:18:51,100 --> 00:18:53,650

[GERMAN].

374

00:18:53,650 --> 00:18:56,290

That was another generation.

375

00:18:56,290 --> 00:18:58,840

And one cannot be more  
graphic than that,

376

00:18:58,840 --> 00:19:00,025

in the Germany of today.

377

00:19:00,025 --> 00:19:04,126

378

00:19:04,126 --> 00:19:07,010

(film logistics - cut)

379

00:19:07,010 --> 00:19:30,000