

I am prepared to listen to you until 4.15 p.m.

MR. FORTIER: You give me 15 minutes now to speak, do you?

THE COMMISSIONER: Of course, Mr.

Fortier...si vous croyez qu'il n'est pas utile d'entreprendre le témoignage de votre prochain témoin pour quinze minutes, je vous laisse le soin de le décider.

Me FORTIER: Je crois que ça serait utile de commencer.

LE PRESIDENT: Parfait.

MR. FORTIER: If Brigadier-General Karwandy would step forward I think in 15 minutes we can initiate his evidence.

FRANK KARWANDY SWORN

THE CLERK: Please state your name.

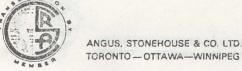
- A. Frank Karwandy.
- Q. Your age, please?
- A. Fifty-seven.
- Q. Your profession?
- A. I am a legal officer in the

Canadian Forces.

- Q. And place of residence?
- A. Ottawa.

EXAMINATION BY MR. YVES FORTIER

Q. General Karwandy, you have described yourself as being a legal officer, Canadian Armed Forces. Could you please tell the Commission what rank you hold in the Armed Forces?



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KARWANDY	, ex.	(Fortier)

- A. I am a Brigadier-General in the Canadian Forces.
- Q. How long have you been legal officer for the Armed Forces?
- A. In my present appointment, since the 10th of November, 1982.
- Q. What does your position consist of, sir?
- A. As the Judge Advocate General, I really have three jobs.

THE COMMISSIONER: I have not understood that. You are the Judge Advocate General?

THE WITNESS: Yes, I am, sir.

THE COMMISSIONER: Do not be too modest.

That was a reproach which was made to the preceding witness, as you know.

I am just wondering, Mr. Commission

Counsel, what you have told your witnesses in advance that they all be so modest.

MR. FORTIER: It is my mistake for not having posed to the witness the question which I should have posed.

- Q. As legal officer of the Canadian Armed Forces, what different positions do you occupy and what roles do you discharge?
- A. In my present position, I really have three separate and distinct roles. One of the most important roles that I have is to supervise



the disciplinary system that applies in the Canadian Forces to officers and men serving in the Canadian Forces and, in very limited circumstances, to civilians when they are subject to the Corps service discipline.

I am also the legal adviser to the
Canadian Forces, that is, I perform the normal
solicitor type of service to the Canadian Forces.

Lastly, I am the departmental legal adviser as
well, because in the Canadian Forces or in the
department, we have two separate organizations;
one, the department and the other organization is
the Canadian Forces. They are separate organizations.

Q. You are also the Judge Advocate General? How do you come by that position?

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A. The National Defence Act requires that the Governor-in-Council appoint a barrister or advocate of not less than 10 years standing to be the Judge Advocate General of the Canadian Armed Forces. I have been so appointed by the Governor-in-Council.

- O. In 1982?
 - A. Effective 10th of November, 1982.
- Q. Could you tell the Commission what the role of the Judge Advocate General or the JAG, as he is known in the Department, consists of?
- A. In the Department as opposed to the Canadian Forces?
 - No, within the Armed Forces?
- Well, as I said, I have the three functions.
- Q. Yes, I am now addressing your position or your role as Judge Advocate General.
- Well, it includes three functions. Of course, I have a large office comprising approximately 63 lawyers to assist me in those three functions. The overseeing of the disciplinary system involves the provision of prosecutors, defence counsel to preside at Courts Martial and the appointment of Judge Advocates at Courts Martial. In addition to that, we provide ordinary legal advice respecting the laying of charges, the drafting of charges and that sort of thing to commanding officers, to those authorities responsible for the intiation of disciplinary proceedings within

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Karwandy, ex. (Fortier) the Canadian Forces.

In the case of Courts Martial, my responsibility includes the review of all Courts Martial, and to deal with any appeals that may arise from the conviction of members of the Canadian Forces by Court Martial, and ultimately, to appear before the Court Martial Appeal Court of Canada as counsel for the Respondent, which would be the Crown.

That, in a nutshell, is the responsibility that I have in respect of the disciplinary system that exists in the Canadian Forces.

- Q. So, you are the Senior Legal Officer for the Canadian Armed Forces?
 - That is correct.
- Did that position of Judge 0. Advocate General exist during the last war, World War II?
 - A. Yes, to my knowledge it did.
 - Did you, at the request of counsel Q.

for this Commission consult records of the Department of National Defence, as well as the Public Archives of the Government of Canada, the DND historian and other sources in order to determine the role played by the Department of National Defence in the investigation of crimes committed by Nazis during World War II and the prosecution thereof?

Yes, I have, to a limited extent, A. I must add that qualification.



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Q. Could you please tell the

Commission, before we come to the actual investigation
by the DND of crimes allegedly committed by Nazis
during the last war, whether or not you came across
a declaration entitled "St. James Declaration, January
1942"?

A. I have.

MR. FORTIER: I would like to file as P-5 a copy of the St. James Declaration, January 1942. It will be Exhibit P-5.

I give a copy to my friend here and I will even give a copy to Mr. Narvey. See how co-operative we are.

---EXHIBIT NO. 5: Document entitled "St. James Declaration, January 1942".

MR. FORTIER: Q. Could you, please, in a few words, explain to the Commission what is the pith and substance of this St. James Declaration?

A. The St. James Declaration was the first time that an attempt was made to put in concrete language political statements that had been made ever since 1940 concerning atrocities, alleged atrocities committed by the Nazis in Europe, in northwest Europe and in occupied territories.

Prior to the St. James version, there
had been a number of oral pronouncements or denouncements
by nations in exile in London concerning the activities
of Nazi forces in occupied countries, primarily Poland



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and Czechoslovakia. Those initial declarations or denunciations were followed up by declarations emanating from the leaders of the great powers, primarily Churchill and Roosevelt in 1941. References to the Polish and Czechoslovakian denunciations occurred about a year before that, about 1940, right after the commencement of the war. This was followed up by the oral pronouncements of Roosevelt and Churchill, that culminated in this St. James Declaration, to which counsel has referred.

It attempted, for the first time, to put in concrete material terms a system that would -- I am not sure that vengeance is the right word, that would ensure that at some stage or other war crimes be investigated, and those responsible be brought to justice.

Q. And the signatories to this

Declaration, as we know, were the Governments of

Belgium, Czechoslovakia, the Free French National

Committee, the Government of Greece, the Government

of Luxembourg, the Government of the Netherlands,

the Government of Norway, the Government of Poland and
the Government of Yugoslavia.

THE COMMISSIONER: Do I understand that, then, neither the United Kingdom nor the United States of America were party to this Declaration, though it appears to have been signed in London?

THE WITNESS: They were present, Mr.



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Commissioner. They were not signatories.

MR. FORTIER: And interestingly, the Commissioner will notice in paragraph 2 of the Declaration that note is taken of the Declaration made earlier by the President of the United States of America and by the British Prime Minister. We see that the signatories to this Declaration went on record as placing, and I quote:

> "...amongst their principle war aims the punishment, through the channel of organized justice, of those guilty and responsible for these crimes, whether they have ordered them or in any way participated in them."

- Q. Now, General Karwandy, was there created by the then United Nations, so-called, the subsequent year, in October of 1943, a body called the UN War Crimes Commission?
 - That is correct, there was. A.
- Q. Could you please explain to His Lordship, the Commissioner, the genesis of the UN War Crimes Commission?
- A. Well, the genesis included the items we were just speaking about. That is part of the genesis.

But subsequent to the Declaration of St. James, and again, if you pardon me, I have to use my notes in this because my recollection is not that



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good, there was a debate in the United Kingdom House of Lords concerning the establishment of a Commission to investigate war crimes and to bring to justice those persons considered responsible for them. Lord Simon initiated a statement or a proposal in the House at that time, and one aspect of his proposal included the establishment of the United Nations War Crimes Commission.

Q. What was meant by the "United Nations" in those days?

The term "United Nations" in those days included the allies. It had a different term than it has today. So, whenever the term "United Nations" is used in my presentation, it will refer to the allies of the last war.

That debate in the House occurred on the 7th of October, 1942. Approximately one year later, the Diplomatic Conference at the Foreign Office in London took place. An exact date for that Conference was the 20th of October, 1943. At that particular Diplomatic Conference, it was agreed, amongst the delegates there, that the United Nations War Crimes Conference would be an international body established for two primary purposes: one, to investigate and record the evidence of war crimes, identifying, where possible, the individuals responsible; and secondly, to report to the governments concerned cases in which it appeared that adequate evidence



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might be forthcoming.

At the conclusion of that Diplomatic

Conference, of course, an interim Chairman was

appointed and a secretariat was brought into being;

pay and important matters of that nature were

determined, and the Commission began its work.

- Q. Who was the Chairman of the Commission, sir?
- A. I have forgotten the first Chairman. The Chairman of longstanding was Lord Wright.
- Q. And was Canada represented on that Commission?
 - A. Yes, it was.
 - Q. Who was its representative?
- A. Vincent Massey, who was the High Commissioner to London, Canadian High Commissioner to London, was the initial member. Whether he remained with the Commission throughout its life, I am not certain. Perhaps one of the other witnesses could clarify that.
- Q. So, we have now reached October of 1943, and the United Nations War Crimes Commission is set up. In the course of your research, did you come across another declaration, this one by the members of the allied nations, in November 1943, which is commonly referred to as "The Moscow Declaration"?



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Karwandy, ex. (Fortier)

A. Yes, I have. My date indicates

30 October, 1943, but it could very well be an error.

MR. FORTIER: I have here a copy of the Moscow Declaration of November 1, 1943, General, which I would like to offer in evidence as Exhibit P-6, Mr. Commissioner.

---EXHIBIT NO. 6: Document entitled "Moscow Declaration" of November 1, 1943.



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MR. FORTIER:

- Q. Could you tell us, please, in essence, what the Moscow Declaration was all about and who were the signatories?
- A. It came into being as a result of a meeting of the United States, the United Kingdom and the USSR foreign ministers. It became essentially the guide for the United Nations War Crimes Commission, the Charter and Guide. It also, for the first time, provided for a return of war criminals to the place where the crimes were alleged to have taken place and to be tried in those places. That is the essential aspect of the Moscow Declaration.
- Q. And the signatories were Marshal Stalin, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill?
 - A. To my knowledge, yes.
- Q. We see the statement by these three then leaders of their respective countries that ---
- A. Can I interject, I am sorry. My recollection is that it was the meeting of the foreign ministers, so it would have been Molotov, Eden, I guess.
- Q. I am sorry for interrupting you, sir, but I invite you to see the introductory words to the Declaration on the document which I just



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Karwandy, ex. (Fortier)
gave to you:

"... the declaration made at the Moscow meeting of Marshal Stalin, President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill."

A. Oh, I see.

0. And we note the following paragraph: "At the time of the granting of any armistice of any Government which may be set up in Germany, those German officers and men and members of the Nazi Party who have been responsible for or have taken a consenting part in the above atrocities, massacres and executions will be sent back to the countries in which their abominable deeds were done in order that they may be judged and punished according to the laws of these liberated countries and of the Free Governments which will be erected therein. Lists will be compiled in all possible detail from all these countries, having regard especially to the invaded parts of the Soviet Union, to Poland and Czechoslovakia, to Yugoslovia and Greece including Crete and other islands, to Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, France and Italy."

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Karwandy, ex. (Fortier)

This, Mr. Commissioner, may be now the convenient time, if I am not imposing on the Commission, to adjourn until tomorrow morning.

THE COMMISSIONER: Fine, so we will.

Would you and everybody, however, take note that
tomorrow morning the Commission will start earlier.

We will begin our sitting tomorrow morning at 9:30 in
this same room; tomorrow morning at 9:30.

--- The hearing adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



---COMMENCING AT 9:30 A.M.

FRANK KARWANDY: Resumed

CONTINUED EXAMINATION BY MR. FORTIER

LE PRESIDENT: Maitre Fortier.

ME FORTIER: Plaise a La Commission, when we resumed yesterday evening, General Karwandy, you were informing the Commission about the Moscow Declaration and I bravely attempted to correct you by suggesting that the Declaration was signed on November 1, 1943, by the then heads of state of the USSR, the USA and the UK. I believe that mine was a very bold and unfounded suggestion.

Would you like to clarify the record, please.

A. My additional research reveals that, in fact, the Declaration was signed on the 30th of October and issued on the 1st of November, 1943. Again, my research would indicate that it was, in fact, the Foreign Ministers of the three nations who actually participated in the meeting in Moscow that led to the agreement.

- Q. After the Proclamation of the Moscow Declaration in October and November of 1943, what was the next significant official pronouncement by the Allies, by the United Nations, concerning the issue of war criminals.
- A. The first significant announcement was the very cumbersome title, "The Declaration Regarding the Defeat of Germany and the Assumption of Supreme Authority with respect to Germany".



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This is otherwise known as "The Unconditional Surrender of Germany" and that occurred on the 5th of June, 1945. It was issued by the four, what later came to be known as the occupying powers, Great Britain, the United States, the USSR and France.

A significant aspect of that

particular Declaration required the apprehension

and surrender of principal Nazi leaders specified

by the Allied representatives and all persons who may

may from time to time be named or designated by

those representatives, and to be turned over to the

Allied representatives.

THE COMMISSIONER: What was the date of the Declaration?

THE WITNESS: The 5th of June, 1945, approximately a month after hostilities ceased.

That particular aspect, the obligation to hand over Nazi leaders and other war criminals was again stressed in a document termed "The Protocol of the Proceedings of the Berlin Conference" otherwise known as the Potsdam Conference. That occurred on the 2nd of August, 1945.

Q. Is there another significant and very pertinent agreement which followed the Potsdam Conference, to wit, on August 8, 1945?

A. Yes. That is the London

Agreement and again it has one of those ponderous
titles that is perhaps more descriptive than the



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London Agreement. It is "The Agreement for the Prosecution and Punishment of Major War Criminals of the European Axis". That is otherwise known as the London Agreement.

MR. FORTIER: I would like to offer as Exhibit P-7, a copy of the London Agreement of August 8, 1945, Mr. Commissioner.

---EXHIBIT NO. P-7: Copy of the London Agreement dated August 8, 1945.

Q. Could you explain to the Commission, please, who the signatories to this Agreement were and what the purpose of the London Agreement was?

It had its genesis in a number of meetings prior to the actual formation of this particular agreement. It was primarily the responsibility of Mr. Justice Jackson, who later became the chief United States prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials. He was given the task by President Roosevelt to look into this matter. He organized the committee consisting of the British Attorney-General and appropriate French and Soviet authorities and after a considerable amount of work they formulated the Charter of the International Military Tribunal, subsequently more commonly referred to as the Nuremberg Tribunal which formed a significant part of this particular Agreement. The London Agreement, and incidentally include the Charter--the two have to be read together.

Q. The London Agreement includes

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the Nuremberg Charter?

A. Yes, the Charter of the International Tribunal. It set out the organization and jurisdiction of the International Military Tribunal. I think the significant aspect of the jurisdiction of the Tribunal includes the power to try and punish persons whether as individuals or as members of organizations who had committed either crimes against peace or war crimes or crimes against humanity.

I think it is also significant to note that the Agreement preserves the principle of the Moscow Declaration that major war criminals whose crimes had no particular geographic location would be punished by joint decision of the governments of the Allies. That is, of course, what the Nuremberg Tribunal eventually did, tried those major war criminals. The Agreement, itself, preserved the right of national courts to try those lesser war criminals that I mentioned in my testimony yesterday.

- Q. So we have a categorization --
- A. We have a distinction between major war criminals and lesser or minor war criminals.
- Q. The major to be entrusted to or turned over to the International Nuremberg Tribunal and the lesser to be left to the jurisdiction of individual countries.

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that is the Supreme Headquarters of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe, the title of the western Allies in Europe, had the responsibility of sort of funneling this information that was coming in to the various national groups, national military groups in the military organizations.

They soon realized that unless that some sort of a central pooling agency was developed chaos would result.

- Q. Was such a central agency created?
- A. Yes.
- O. What was it?
- A. The agency that was eventually created was known as the Central Registry of War Criminals and Security Suspects.
 - Q. Did it have an acronym.
- A. It had an acronym. The acronym was CROWCASS.

MR. FORTIER: CROWCASS, Mr. Commissioner, is a word that we will be using extensively during the hearing today.

Q. So who set up CROWCASS, again, General?

A. CROWCASS was essentially set up by SHAEF, the British and American forces, early in 1945, in the early months of 1945.

THE COMMISSIONER: What is CROWCASS?
THE WITNESS: It is the Central

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Registry of War Criminals and Security Suspects.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

THE WITNESS: The initial duties that were sort of imposed on this central agency were extensive, and again, I will have to refer to my notes because the duties consisted of six rather detailed functions, and I think it is important that the Commission be aware of that.

- Q. Please do, and if you would be so kind as to list the duties -- the intended purpose of CROWCASS, or the mission.
- A. Initially, the first duty was the reception of wanted reports from Allied nations.
 - Q. Wanted in the sense of--
- A. War criminals that were being sought for trial, together with, of course, data that would serve the purpose of identifying those particular individuals in order to make the tracing and apprehension possible because most of these people were not incarcerated at that time, they were still at large.

The second duty was the reception of detention reports and the finger-print cards.

Again, from all the authorities that had people under detention and that were suspected of possible involvement in war crimes, again, from the point of view of somehow preparing an exhaustive

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survey of the problem.

of information regarding persons detained as security suspects by the Allied authorities. Security suspects were those people that the Allies were concerned about as risky to the members of the Occupation Forces, so they were not technically war criminals in the sense that we are looking at war criminals. They were people who posed a risk to the occupying powers' troops in Germany and other occupied areas.

The fourth task was the processing of information regarding prisoners of war, and that is all prisoners of war.

The next duty was the publication of wanted lists compiled from wanted reports and their distribution to detaining authorities for the purpose of determining whether criminals were among detained persons and for the purpose of obtaining detention reports. It gets a bit complicated because of the terminology that the Agency adopted.

Finally, the publication of detention lists compiled from detention reports, and their distribution to all Allied nations concerned in the prosecution of war criminals.

Q. So these were the objects, if you will, of CROWCASS, its intended mission.



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In fact, did your survey and examination of historical data and official documents confirm that CROWCASS carried out its mission?

A. Yes. Initially CROWCASS had

the difficult job of establishing liaison and

contact with the various national groups and of course it

took some time. Initially the only information

they were getting was from the United States

Forces European Theatre and from the British,

and, to a lesser degree, from the French military

authorities.

- Q. Were the USSR part of CROWCASS?
- A. No, the USSR was never part of CROWCASS.
- Q. Were you able to satisfy yourself as to why that was?

A. There apparently were some political difficulties. I would be hesitant to indicate what those difficulties were. Throughout this period the Western Allies were hopeful that eventually the Soviet authorities would co-operate with CROWCASS and I gather there was some formal contact with the Soviet authorities by the Western Allies, but for official purposes, no, they was no regular contact with the Soviets.

Q. Do you know, General, if I may ask you an ancillary question, do you know whether the USSR had its own CROWCASS.



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- A. I cannot ask that. They had their own commission and with a bit of time--I have the name of that commission somewhere in my notes. But they had their own equivalent to our United Nations War Crimes Commission.
- Q. Maybe during the pause-repos

 later this morning you can search your files

 and produce the name of that commission, General.

 We would appreciate that.

I interrupted you, So the Soviets were not officially part of CROWCASS. Is Canada mentioned in the CROWCASS document?

A. Yes, Canada was one of the national entities that received reports from CROWCASS. Just to finish off CROWCASS--

Q. Yes, please.

A. --after the dissolution of SHAEF, that is after the surrender of Germany, of course, the quad-partite Allied Control Council for Germany assumed control in Germany. Those four countries were, of course, the four occupying powers, United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and France. CROWCASS, the office of which was initially in Paris was then moved to Berlin and that move took place some time in June, 1946.

However, as CROWCASS attempted to carry out its mandate it soon found out that there

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were certain of its tasks that were just impossible to perform.

The first of those tasks was the recording of the prisoners of war. They soon found out that there would be approximately eight million prisoners of war eventually detained by the Allied Forces in Europe and that in order to process that number alone would take CROWCASS ten years. We had no computers at the time.

- Q. That was before the age of computers.
- A. Strangely enough, they did have a newly designed mechanical system that eventually proved to be not effective and they had to go back to the old card index system. That proved to be effective. So they did have something, not a computer but something—
 - Q. Some mechanical device.
- A. Yes, for those days. Again, the finger-print cards proved to be of little use because they did not have finger-prints of the persons wanted so they had no way of reconciling those cards.

Finally, the publication of the security suspects as wanted was misleading because they were getting all sorts of letters in from people reporting security suspects. Investigation revealed later that some of those reports were

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incorrect and that basically no nation was interested in them. So that was an effort that wasted a great deal of the agency's time.

As a consequence of these facts coming to light, they realized that they had better restrict their activities to pure war criminals. After it moved to Berlin that was the full role played by the central Agency, or CROWCASS.

Q. To recapitulate, that role when the move was made from Paris to Berlin became exclusively the identification of war criminals.

A. Essentially that is it. It was shortly after they arrived in Berlin, but the only job that was left was the preparation of wanted and detained persons.

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- Q. Of war criminals?
- A. Of war criminals.
- Q. As opposed to prisoners of war in general?

A. That is right. I think that there is one point I should mention in respect of CROWCASS.

CROWCASS itself was not an investigative agency. It relied on others, national investigating teams and other sources of information on which to prepare its information banks.

Q. It was a name collection agency in effect?

A. A pool, a gatherer of information. They relied on others to do this. Part of their publicity campaign was to impress on national organizations the importance of feeding information to the central agency because without that there was no effective co-ordinator in existence.

Q. And to whom were the investigatory powers of war crimes committed by Nazis left?

A. My research reveals that those powers were left to national investigating teams.

back just a moment on this work that was being done by CROWCASS. On the one hand finally it was drawing up lists of wanted persons, on the other hand it was drawing up lists of detained persons. Was ever any comparison being made in between the two and by whom?

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THE WITNESS: Yes, that was CROWCASS, that was part of their job, that is where their value lay. They were the co-ordinating agency.

THE COMMISSIONER: And was result of that eventually being transmitted to the various countries involved including Canada?

THE WITNESS: That was the chief value of their work during the war.

MR. FORTIER: Q. They did this cross-reference?

For instance, I could indicate the distribution of the list and perhaps that would indicate the extent of their work. The lists of course were distributed to the United Nations War Crimes Commission for transfer to their respective governments, because as you remember from yesterday the Allies were represented in the United Nations War Crimes Commission. In addition to that, lists were distributed to all war crimes branches or groups and liaison teams on missions, to all British, American and French authorities having control over prisoners of war captured in Europe and the Middle East, to the British, American and French military governments in Germany, to intelligence, public safety and similar authorities in the British and American zones in Germany, to diplomatic missions or military authorities of the British Commonwealth including Canada, Australia, India, New Zealand and

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South Africa.

- Q. So this, General Karwandy, is the list of dissemination of the CROWCASS Report?
 - A. That is correct,
- Q. And that was done according to your notes at what time approximately?
- A. Well, from the time they moved to Berlin until CROWCASS were terminated in 1948. During that time they prepared and distributed a grand total of 20 wanted and 20 detention lists.
- Q. And these amongst other destinations were physically transmitted to Canada?
- A. Yes, eventually they found their way to Canada, at least one can assume that from the distribution initially made by CROWCASS.
- Q. We will be leading evidence, Mr. Commissioner, later on today about the citus of those lists in Canada.

THE COMMISSIONER: May I ask for the time being how many names roughly speaking that would mean?

MR. FORTIER: I am glad you are seated when you ask that question, Mr. Commissioner.

THE WITNESS: The figures vary somewhat.

My investigation revealed that 85,000 wanted reports

were produced. They classified some 130,000

detention reports from authorities actually holding

war criminals or suspected war criminals.

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MR. FORTIER: Q. You have alluded to the fact that CROWCASS was disbanded at a point in time. Do you have information as to when it actually was ended, its mission was ended?

A. I have 1948. I have not got any specific time in 1948.

Commissioner, which has been found in the Public Archives of Canada and it is dated August 6th, 1947. It is headed "United Nations War Crimes Commission, Committee 1, The Future of CROWCASS". I will ask the witness, General Karwandy, to have a look at this document and I will file it as Exhibit P-9 and I will be asking some questions of the General on the document, but also later on this morning or this afternoon we will be asking questions of Mr. Robert J. Hayward, Chief of the Access Section of the Federal Archives Division, Public Archives Canada, on that document. So Exhibit P-9, the "United Nations War Crimes Commission, The Future of CROWCASS" dated August 6th, 1947.

---EXHIBIT NO. P-9: Document entitled "United Nations War Crimes Commission, The Future of CROWCASS" dated August 6, 1947.

MR. FORTIER: Q. I wonder if we could with your assistance, General Karwandy, browse through this document, Exhibit P-9. On page 3, the Commissioner will note the reference which is made to the background on CROWCASS, all matters to which the witness has

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So there is a breakdown of the earlier figure, Mr. Commissioner.

On page 6 the author of this report poses a question -- the main issues which arise are these:

"To which organization or authority should the present CROWCASS records be handed, should the records be microfilmed and handed to the four occupying authorities, should not the present records be handed to the United Nations War Crimes Commission for eventual disposal to UNO together with their files and dossiers",

and the witness has in fact answered those questions earlier. And then we see the conclusions of that document on page 7, and I will ask General Karwandy if in fact the conclusions of the author of this report were actually implemented.

A. I am afraid I am not in a position to know whether documents were actually passed to the UNO although that is the first recommendation made. I have no information on which I could swear positively that that in fact happened. I can only assume that it happened.

Q. But the channels of communication seem to lead the CROWCASS records in particular to the United Nations Organization, which had by then

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been set up, been created, correct?

- A. That is right but again I am not in a position to say whether the documents actually went to the UNO.
- Q. We will now return to the European scene if we may. Earlier in your evidence you said that CROWCASS was not an investigative agency, that the investigation of war crimes and identification of suspects was left to individual participating nations. And I ask you the question whether or not Canada participated in that exercise of investigating whether or not crimes had been committed by Nazis and in the affirmative, how did that process evolve?
- A. Yes, Canada certainly was involved in the investigation of war criminals. During the SHAEF period war crimes were initially investigated by mobile courts of inquiry, consisting of officers and the necessary staff to do their job. These people travelled around and there are witnesses present here today who know a great deal more about this aspect of the investigation process than I do. However, these courts of inquiry initially performed this function. Subsequently in August 1944 a permanent court of inquiry was established for the purpose of investigating war crimes.
 - Q. By whom was it established?
- A. Again by SHAEF. This occurred during the SHAEF period.

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- Q. Oh, I see, we have not zeroed in on Canada at the moment, we are still --
- A. Canada was a part of the British

 -- we were in Europe and we were serving in the

 British zone and Canada had teams of investigators

 at that particular time.
 - Q. Working under the SHAEF umbrella?
- A. Yes, that changed in May 1945 when the Number One War Crimes Investigation Unit was established.
 - Q. This is in May of 1945?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And there was established,

 General, at that time the Number One Canadian War

 Crimes Investigation Unit. By whom was it established?
- A. Again, I have to assume it was established by the Canadian military authorities. I have not been able to track down the order that actually established that particular unit. I can only assume that it was done by appropriate senior Canadian military headquarters.
- Q. And could you please tell the Commissioner who was the commanding officer of this investigation unit?
- A. The first commanding officer is present in court here today, Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald.
 - Q. This is Lieutenant Colonel

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Macdonald over here, to whom you refer?

A. That is right. The investigation unit consisted of two detachments at that time, one in northwest Europe and the other in London. Again, for the purposes of the record one of the detachments was commanded by Wing Commander Durdin and the other detachment was commanded by an officer by the name of Campbell. I am not sure what his rank was, perhaps that information will come out later.

During the course of its life the unit investigator conducted approximately 171 investigations concerning war crimes. These investigations resulted in seven prosecutions of war criminals. All of these prosecutions related to the ill-treatment or the killing of Canadian prisoners of war by German nationals including in one case a German General, Kurt Meyer.

- Q. Did all the investigations also relate to miscellaneous war crimes committed against members of Canadian Armed Forces?
 - A. That is my knowledge.
- Q. So it is that narrow definition of war crimes whereof you are speaking now?
- A. I am speaking about war crimes in the sense of breaches of the laws of war or the usages of war, that narrow sense.
- Q. So there were 171 alleged war crimes which were investigated by this unit and there

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were seven trials, is that correct?

- A. That is correct.
- Q. Do you have a list of the persons who were named as accused in these seven trials?
 - A. Yes, I have.
- Q. Would you please read them into the record.
- A. The names of the accused are Burgomeister Jung, J.G. Schumacher, R. Holzer, W. Ossenbach, W. Weigel, J. Neitz and Kurt Meyer.
- Q. I will be questioning Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald, now Judge Macdonald, on these trials later on today, Mr. Commissioner.

Now, to whom did this Investigation
Unit of the Canadian Armed Forces report?

- A. The system, as I understand that was used was that these reports were transmitted to the United Nations War Crimes Commission where they were vetted, examined by the various committees, and eventually a report was returned indicating that the case was either a proper one for disciplinary action for trial or that it was not, that was the process that was used throughout to the best of my knowledge, throughout this particular period. The determining agency was the United Nations War Crimes Commission.
- Q. I understand that no prosecution could take place unless the UN War Crimes Commission said, I approve.

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- A. That is my understanding as well,
- Q. And for the record, do you know when that unit was disbanded?
- A. Yes, the unit was disbanded in 1947. Again, I do not have the month, perhaps that will come in later.
- Q. Are you familiar with a body called The War Crimes Investigation Section?
 - A. Yes, I am.
- Q. We have moved from the Number One Canadian War Crimes Investigation Unit, now to an animal or body called The War Crimes Investigation Section. Would you please tell the Commission what this Section consisted of.
- established in October, 1945, some six months after
 the formation of the Number One War Crimes Investigation
 Unit. It was established at Army Headquarters in
 Ottawa and its role was designed to act as a single
 agency for all aspects of work relating to war crimes.
 Previous to that, there were several independent
 organizations within Army Headquarters that dealt
 with war crimes and war criminals and they decided
 that that system was wasteful of effort and as a
 result a single section of the War Crimes Investigation
 Section was set up. Its duty, aside from co-ordinating
 these activities was also to assist in whatever way it

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could the Number One War Crimes Investigation Unit in its own work. It also was responsible for the shipment or the examination of witnesses here in prisoner of war camps and the return to places of trial of witnesses and that sort of thing. In other words, it was designed to help insofar as it could the process that was taking place in Europe. That organization submitted its last report on the 30th of August, 1947.

Q. I would like to file as Exhibit P-10, a copy of the final report of the War Crimes Investigation Section, Directorate of Administration, Army Headquarters, dated Ottawa, August 30, 1947, Exhibit P-10, Mr. Commissioner.

---EXHIBIT NO. P-10: Copy of final report of the War Crimes Investigation Section,
Directorate of Administration,
Army Headquarters, Ottawa, dated
August 30, 1947.

MR. FORTIER: Q. Will you please turn to paragraph 20 on page 4 of this Exhibit under the heading "Trial of Lesser War Criminals - Europe", and comment on this particular part of the report.

A. That particular paragraph indicates the action that occurred following the disbandment of Number One War Crimes Unit. The Canadian government at that time felt that it required representation in northwest Europe, and as a result a liaison officer, one squadron leader H.J. Jennings of the RCAF was attached to the War Crimes Section of the British Army

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on the Rhine, and he was the link between the British and Canadian government at that time insofar as investigation of war crimes was concerned.

- Q. I take it that at one point and none too soon the Canadian Armed Forces were repatriated, came back to Canada. This Number One Canadian War Crimes Investigation Unit was disbanded but there was some on-going work to be done, investigations, prosecutions, trials and this was referred for action to the British?
 - A. Yes, that is correct.
- Q. And this is the link whereof this paragraph speaks?
- A. Although the paragraph does not so indicate, I assume that one of Jennings' prime jobs was to prepare the Prosecution or assist the Prosecution in the preparation of these outstanding cases.

THE COMMISSIONER: I understand, General, upon reading the paragraph that towards the middle it refers to the seven prosecutions which you have outlined a moment ago.

THE WITNESS: That is correct.

from that moment that I understand, quoting from the report, some 14 accused were about to be tried, 16 were in custody and under investigation, there were 10 accused still at large and the object of search. So

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that was work still to be done --

THE WITNESS: And done by the British.

THE COMMISSIONER: Had the Canadian Armed Forces stayed in Europe at the time, had not that Unit been disbanded, would it normally have been its duty to continue with those prosecutions, 14 and

16 and 10 as they had done with the first seven?

in a lot of these prosecutions, at least my investigation would indicate that it depended on the nation whose interest was chiefly affected. It could have been a group of prisoners of war comprising British, French and Canadians that were shot by the enemy. There could have only been one Canadian, say two French and maybe 15 British. In those circumstances normally the British would have assumed responsibility of prosecuting the persons considered to be responsible for that particular act. That is why it is so difficult here to say whether the Canadians, had they remained in Europe and had the investigation unit remained there, would have prosecuted these individuals.

MR. FORTIER: Q. And here again we are always dealing with crimes committed against members of the Canadian Armed Forces?

- A. Correct.
- Q. Exclusively?
- A. Right.
- Q. Can you identify for us the

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meaning in that paragraph of HQS and the numbers which follow?

- A. Those refer to files, Headquarters' files, that is Army Headquarters' files.
 - Q. Canadian Army Headquarters?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Could you please turn now to the following page under the heading "Unfinished Matters". We read:

"There are several matters of some importance relating to the War Crimes Trials which has not yet been finalized and it is proposed to set them forth in detail."

And there then follows references to what I will call alleged offences committed in the Japanese theatre with which this Commission is not concerned.

Will you confirm that under this heading of "Unfinished Matters" under this rubric there does not appear to be any reference to war crimes which would have been committed on the European theatre?

- A. With the exception of sub-paragraph

 (h), the remaining portions of that paragraph seem to indicate crimes committed in a specific area.
- Q. And I invite you to turn to page
 7, paragraph 24, "Documents, United Nations War Crimes
 Commission". Since the last sentence of that paragraph



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concludes as follows:

"It is suggested that they ... "

These are the documents above referred to,

"...might be retained by the Directorate of Administration or pending final disposition passed to the JAG", the Judge Advocate General, your predecessor in

"for safekeeping."

I would invite you to please comment on this paragraph.

Those documents may have at one time, and they were at one time, I am certain were kept in our office. They are no longer there. I believe that the documents that are referred to are now in the Archives and possibly some of them in our Directorate of History but there are no documents at the present time in my office relating to this particular matter, referred to in paragraph 24.

Q. At the request of Commission counsel you have asked that a search be made at the Department of National Defence, and you have not been able to uncover these documents?

We have tracked documents in the Archives as well as our Directorate of History. Whether or not those documents are the same as the documents referred to in that sentence is another matter.

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- Q. So if we address the issue of the channel of communications of documents, originating documents including reports, originating with CROWCASS as well as the United Nations War Crimes Commission concerning Nazi war criminals, we see that this channel leads us inescapably to Canada.
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. Both of these organizations forwarded at some point in time after, or immediately before they were disbanded all of their reports to this country.
 - Q. One would hope so.
- A. Although again in that regard, my information has been that perhaps some of the documents may have gone astray, because this was a very confusing time and some of them may in fact have gone astray. But again, that is largely conjecture, I believe.
- Q. Excusez-moi, juste un instant.

 Two or three wrap-up questions, if I may, General.

 Have you ever heard the name of Squadron Leader J.H.

 Hollies?
- A. Yes, I have heard the name and I know the individual.
- Q. And he is with the National Parole Board I believe?
 - A. That is correct.
- Q. What role, if any, did he play into this investigation of war crimes committed by

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Nazis during the last hostilities?

- A. Squadron Leader Hollies appears on the list previously referred to as defence counsel in the Schumacher trial, and I know that he actually in fact was defence counsel at that particular trial.
- Q. Are you aware that he was also attached to the British Army of the Rhine?
- A. He so indicated to me but again, my only source of information would be him during a casual conversation and I hate to swear to that.
- Q. No, I need not pursue this any further. Have you ever heard of a Berlin Document Centre?
 - A. Yes, I have.
- Q. Are youable to tell the Commission what the Berlin Document Centre does?
 - A. No, I am not.
- Q. And finally, the UN War Crimes
 Commission, General, when was it wrapped up, when was
 it disbanded?
- A. I have forgotten right now the date that it was disbanded -- 31 March, 1948 is the date that I have in my --
 - Q. 31 March, 1948?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And when it was disbanded do you know how many lists it had prepared and disseminated of individuals allegedly responsible for the

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Commission of War Crimes?

A. My information indicates that 80 lists were in fact.

- Q. Eight-zero?
- A. Eight-zero, yes.

THE COMMISSIONER: Do I understand that those were lists that were issued by the War Crimes Commission?

THE WITNESS: They were lists of war criminal suspects and witnesses issued by the United Nations War Crimes Commission, yes. Again, I have other statistics that might be of interest in that regard. The Commission apparently dealt with 8,178 cases involving 36,810 accused or suspected war criminals and witnesses. Unfortunately the Commission lumped witnesses, and therefore those figures might be misleading.

Incidentally, I have now found the reference to the Russian organization. It was called "The Russian Extraordinary State Commission" and that was the counterpart to the United Nations War Crimes Commission.

MR. FORTIER: Thank you.

Q. Finally, in closing, General, I would like to ask you this question. We saw earlier that Canadian military courts prosecuted seven individuals whom they had charged or who had been charged with crimes against members of Canadian Armed

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Forces. To your knowledge are these the only persons who were ever tried for crimes committed during World War II by Canadian military courts?

A. As far as I am aware, yes.

THE COMMISSIONER: What about the 171 investigations.

MR. FORTIER: I will be leading evidence on that with Lieutenant Colonel Macdonald, Mr. Commissioner. These are all the questions Mr. Meighen and I have of the witness.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Whitehall, do you have any questions of the witness?

MR. WHITEHALL: I wonder if I can ask any questions that I may have after anyone else may cross-examine or examine the witness.

THE COMMISSIONER: As you wish. Maybe you would wish to sit down in the meantime, General. You have been in the box for an hour now.

MR. FORTIER: Mr. Spunt informs me that he has no questions to ask of the witness.

THE COMMISSIONER: All right, so I will return to Mr. Whitehall.

---EXAMINATION BY MR. WHITEHALL:

Q. Thank you very much. If you would turn to Exhibit Number P-10, just to clarify one point, sir, and then if you would turn to page 7 of that document.

THE COMMISSIONER: Do you know which is

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P-10?

MR. WHITEHALL: I am sorry, P-10 is the last document my friend was dealing with and that is the Final Report of the War Crimes Investigation Section Directorate. Do you have that?

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, I have.

MR. WHITEHALL: Q. And my friend drew your attention to paragraph 24 of that document, and in particular to the documents placed in the safekeeping of your predecessor. Now, if you just look slightly above in that paragraph, you will refer to HQS-8959-9-FD60. Do you see that, sir?

- A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And would I be correct in suggesting that those are the documents that were placed in the safekeeping of JAG at that time? Can you make that jump or do you know?
 - A. No, I do not think I can.
- Q. As far as HQS-8959-9-FD60 is concerned my instructions are, sir, those are documents that in fact have been placed in the custody of Archives.
 - A. I assume that that is correct.

THE COMMISSIONER: All right, so that is all Brigadier General. I thank you very much for your co-operation yesterday and today.

BRUCE J.S. MACDONALD, SWORN