Appendices

Appendix 1

1a.

Source 1

Letter of complaint from Mrs. Eleonore Gusenbauer of Ried, the village above Mauthausen, September 1941:

"Inmates of the Mauthausen concentration camp are constantly being shot at the Vienna Ditch work site. Those who are badly struck still live for some time and lie next to the dead for hours and in some cases for half a day.

My property is situated on an elevation close to the Vienna Ditch and therefore on often becomes the unwilling witness of such misdeeds. I am sickly in any case and such sights make such demands on my nerves, that I will not be able to bear it much longer.

I request that it be arranged that such inhuman deeds will cease or else be conducted out of sight."

Source: Horwitz, J. (1990) In the Shadow of Death - Living Outside the Gates of Mauthausen. New York: Free Press. p.35.

Source 2 From the diary of Felix Landau, SS officer and member of Einsatzgruppe (Task Squad) C: 12 July 1941

"At 6:00 in the morning I was suddenly awoken from a deep sleep. Report for an execution. Fine, so I'll just play executioner and then gravedigger, why not?... I was detailed as marksman and had to shoot any runaway. We drove one kilometre along the road out of the town and then turned right into a wood. There were six of us that point and we had to find a suitable spot to shoot and bury them... The death candidates assembled with shovels to dig their own graves. Two of them were weeping. The others have incredible courage. What on earth is running through their minds during those moments? I think that each of them harbors a small hope that somehow he won't be shot... Strange, I am completely unmoved. No pity, nothing. That's the way it is and then its all over....l came back dog-tired but the work went on. Everything in the building had to be straightened up. And so it went without respite. In the afternoon the car came from Radom unexpectedly. Like a small child I couldn't wait to get my mail. That was my first question...Apart from anything else Trude (his friend) wrote that she doesn't know whether she can keep her promise and whether she will be strong enough. Why does this have to happen to me with a person I love so much? I have to see her and talk to her, then my little Trude will be strong again. She must come here."

Source: Steinfeld, I. (2002) How Was It Humanly Possible? A Study of Perpetrators and Bystanders During the Holocaust, Jerusalem: Yad Vashem. p. 63-64.

Source 3 Socha Leopold

During the occupation of Lwów, Leopold Socha, a petty thief, found employment as a city cleaner. He worked there with Stefan Wróblewski. Among their duties was maintaining the sewerage system within the ghetto area. In May 1943, within the sewers, they met Icchak Chigier, whose idea it was to hide there to avoid the approaching liquidation operations. The ghetto was located nearby the underground Pełtwa River, which was covered by a vault and into which flowed tributary canals carrying waste from the entire city. Icchak Chigier, together with a few other Jews, had dug a tunnel from the basement of a barracks within the ghetto, all the way to the Pełtwa canal. They planned to hide there. The canal workers met them just as work on the tunnel was almost finished. The Jews told them of their idea and asked them for their help. Of greatest interest was when Leopold Socha took them along the tunnel to the basement in the ghetto where the Chigier family was hiding - his wife and two children - seven-year-old Krysia and four-year-old Paweł.

"(...) He saw my wife and the children hunched by their mother. You could tell that it touched his heart greatly. He began talking with us, asking about everything (...). It was apparent that he had some sort of internal conflict. He was greatly moved, writes Chigier in his memoirs.

On the night of 30th May 1943 the ghetto liquidation began. A group of twenty one people hid in the canals. Ten of them survived, among them, Icchak Chigier with the wife and children. They spent fourteen months below ground. Leopold Socha and Stefan Wróblewski brought them food and clothing. At first, they bought them using money provided by the Jews. Later, they used their own resources. Leopold brought them a prayer-book which he had found in the ghetto ruins. One of the Jews, Mrs Weinberg, gave birth to a child in the canal. When the child died shortly afterwards, Leopold organised his burial...

Lwów was liberated by the Russian army on 27th July 1944. Those who had been saved celebrated the end of the War together with Socha and Wróblewski. Shortly after, Leopold Socha left for Gliwice. He died there, on 13th May 1945, having been run over by a Russian lorry.

Source: Aneta Szeliga (2011, November). Story of rescue – Socha Leopold. Retrieved from https://sprawiedliwi.org.pl/en/stories-of-rescue/story-rescue-socha-leopold

Source 4

In September 1942 Chaim Rumkowski, the head of the Jewish Council of the Lodz Ghetto, was ordered by the Nazis to round up the children of the ghetto in preparation for their deportation. The children were all aged 10 years or under. Some believed that his compliance of this order was proof of his status as a Nazi collaborator. Others said that he had no choice and that the children would have been deported regardless of whether he complied or not. Seemingly no one in the ghetto was willing to support Rumkowski and as a result he had to make the following plea:

"A grievous blow has struck the ghetto. They are asking us to give up the best we possess - the children and the elderly. I was unworthy of having a child of my own, so I gave the best years of my life to children. I've lived and breathed with children, I never imagined I would be forced to deliver this sacrifice to the altar with my own hands. In my old age, I

must stretch out my hands and beg: Brothers and sisters! Hand them over to me! Fathers and mothers: Give me your children!... I understand you, mothers; I see your tears, alright. I also feel what you feel in your hearts, you fathers who will have to go to work in the morning after your children have been taken from you, when just yesterday you were playing with your dear little ones. All this I know and feel. Since 4 o'clock yesterday, when I first found out about the order, I have been utterly broken. I share your pain. I suffer because of your anguish, and I don't know how I'll survive this – where I'll find the strength to do so. You may judge as you please; my duty is to preserve the Jews who remain. I do not speak to hot-heads! I speak to your reason and conscience. I have done and will continue doing everything possible to keep arms from appearing in the streets and blood from being shed. The order could not be undone; it could only be reduced..."

Source: C. N. Trueman "Give Me Your Children" (22 May 2015. 6 Aug 2016.) Retrieved from http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/world-war-two/holocaust-index/give-me-your-children/

1b.



Less negative emotions (1)

high-intensity negative emotions (5)

1c.

