

Eichmann's Trial

Translated by Hadar Galron

The play was inspired by real events that took place during the Eichmann trial in Israel and Germany, but it is not a documentary reconstruction of them. However, the discrepancies between the real events and the events in the plot were created for dramatic purposes only. The characters that appear in it are also dramatic adaptations of characters who were involved in the trial, but they are not an exact reflection of them. The play was first produced at the Bucharest National Theatre in 2024 directed by Mihai Calin.

Characters

1. Adolf Eichmann (55) – Born in Germany. In 1932 he joined the Nazi Party and the SS. In 1938 he was appointed head of the Department of Jewish Affairs and directed the extermination of European Jewry.
2. Gideon Hausner (46) – Attorney General in Israel and prosecutor in the trial.
3. Gabriel Bach (34) – Deputy State Attorney and Hausner's assistant.
4. Teddy Kollek (50) – Director General of the Prime Minister's Office. Ben-Gurion's confidant.
5. Dr. Hans Globke (63) – Director General of the Chancellery in Bonn. He was the legal advisor of the Ministry of the Interior during the Third Reich.
6. Rolf Vogel (40) – German intelligence officer, son of a Jewish mother and Catholic father. Sent to Jerusalem by Dr. Globke to supervise the conduct of the trial.
7. Dr. Robert Servatius (72) – Eichmann's defense attorney. He served as an artillery officer in the Wehrmacht. At the Nuremberg Trials, he defended the Minister of Labor in the Nazi government.
8. Adv. Lisa Grude (30), assistant to Dr. Servatius.
9. Moshe Landau (49) – The presiding judge.
10. Benjamin Halevy (51) — Judge.¹
11. Yitzhak Raveh (55) — Judge.
12. Vera Eichmann (52) – Eichmann's wife.
13. Witnesses at trial, police officers, court bailiff - will be played by the ensemble.

Space

The space is abstract and minimal, allowing for plot in parallel and in different locations. Center stage is the courthouse with the judges' seat, the prosecution and defense benches, and the defendant's glass booth. In the foreground and on its sides are the prosecution and defense offices, Kollek's office, Globke's office, and the meeting room in the prison where Eichmann is imprisoned. Deep inside the stage there is a screen for projecting slides and documentary videos that correspond with the plot of the trial.

¹ Halevi and Raveh are silent characters, and they will be played by the ensemble.

Plot

The plot proceeds in accordance with the progress of the hearing in the District Court, but for the sake of clarification, Eichmann's cross-examination takes place simultaneously with the testimonies and not after them.

Documentary materials

During the play, documentary clips depicting the extermination of European Jews, will be screened on the backstage screen, in correspondence with the plot of the trial.

List of witnesses**Act I:**

Benno Cohen (66)
 Arna Peretz² (50)
 Moshe Beisky (39)
 Rivka Yoselevska (45)
 Esther Goldstein (42)
 Yehuda Bakon (31)
 Yechiel Dinur (51)

Act II

Zivia Lubetkin (46)
 Georges Wellers (55)
 Joel Brand (54)
 Aviva Fleischmann (40)

² Fictitious character. Her testimony is based on the testimony of Dr. Aharon Peretz.

Act I

1. Court. Day. The prosecution and defense teams are waiting in their seats. Ben-Gurion's voice is heard in the background.

Ben-Gurion: I hereby announce to the Knesset that some time ago the Israeli security services discovered one of the greatest Nazi criminals, Adolf Eichmann, who was responsible, along with other Nazi leaders, for what they called the "Final Solution of the Jewish Problem," that is, the extermination of six million European Jews. Adolf Eichmann is already in detention in Israel, and will soon stand trial in Jerusalem, in accordance with the law for prosecuting Nazis and their aides from 1950.

Toward the end of his speech, two policemen put Eichmann in the glass booth.

Bailiff: All rise!

Those present in the court stand. The judges enter and take their seats. Everyone sits.

Bailiff: **(To Eichmann)** Get up, please. **(Eichmann gets up)**
 Landau: Adolf Eichmann, are you Adolf, son of Karl Eichmann?
 Eichmann: Yes, sir.
 Landau: Are you represented in this trial by Dr. Servatius and attorney Grude?
 Eichmann: Yes, sir.
 Landau: You are accused of causing the death of millions of Jews between 1939 and 1945, as the person responsible for carrying out the Nazi plan to exterminate the Jews of Europe. To this end, you acted in Germany and the territories occupied by it in the following ways: deporting the Jews and transporting them to labor camps, closing them in ghettos, and killing them in extermination camps. Do you understand the indictment?
 Eichmann: Yes, sir.
 Landau: Do you or do you not plead guilty?
 Eichmann: Not guilty.
 Landau: Please, Mr. Attorney General.

Light on Teddy Kollek at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem, and on Dr. Hans Globke and Rolf Vogel at the Chancellery in Bonn. They listen to the radio broadcasting Hausner's speech.

Hausner: Where I stand before you, judges of Israel, to prosecute Adolf Eichmann, I am not alone. Along with me stand six million prosecutors. But they are not able to point an incriminating finger at the glass booth and call out to the person sitting there: I accuse. Because their ashes were piled up between the hills of Auschwitz and in the fields of Treblinka and washed away in the rivers of Poland. Their blood cries out. But their voices cannot be heard. I will therefore be their mouth, And I will say on their behalf the terrible indictment... Murder, your honor, is not a new phenomenon in human history. It has been known to us since the days of Cain and Abel. But in the twentieth century, a new kind of murder has emerged before our eyes. An industrial murder planned by an entire government. An enormous criminal conspiracy hatched by murderers behind desks, involving many thousands at all levels. Not towards one victim, but against an entire nation condemned to extermination... **(Darkness in court)**

2. Chancellery in Bonn. Globke and Vogel. Globke turns off the radio.

Globke: That's out of the question, Vogel. He's not just blaming Eichmann. He's blaming the whole of Germany.

Vogel: I have already spoken with the Director General of the Prime Minister's Office there. This trial will not deal with us. It is designed to shape their historical memory.

Globke: The prosecutor said explicitly: Eichmann did not act alone. The entire Reich government was at his disposal. "A massive criminal conspiracy involving thousands at all levels." "Murderers behind desks" he called us...

Vogel: Dr. Globke, this is a declarative speech. Survivors in Israel need it to rehabilitate themselves.

Globke: I see that your visit there resurrected the Jew in you. Maybe I should send someone else in your place.

Vogel: We don't have to fear this trial, sir. On the contrary...

- Globke: For fifteen years we have been making an enormous effort to forget the crimes of the Reich and return to the family of nations. This trial could destroy all our achievements. Explain to them, that if the prosecutor continues pressing charges against us, they will pay a very heavy price.
- Vogel: Absolutely, sir. But if I may, as a German, I think that our recognition of the crimes of the Reich will be accepted by the world as proof that we have changed. This is also the assessment of the American intelligence that I submitted to you this morning.
- Globke: This assessment was written by a Jew.
- Vogel: I still suggest taking it into consideration. What shall we do about the accusations that Eichmann made against you in his interrogation?
- Globke: I'm not worried. I never met him. I never spoke to him.
- Vogel: He probably didn't say anything new, and the police won't recommend that the prosecutor summon you for testimony.
- Globke: Leak to them that they should better not summon me. I was never a member of the Nazi Party. My hands are clean. My summons will create a diplomatic incident that will harm them far more than they realize. Clear?

3. Ramle Prison. The defense meeting room. Eichmann, Dr. Servatius, and Lisa Grude.

- Eichmann: The prosecutor doesn't even know how the Reich's extermination machine worked. He read the transcripts of the Nuremberg trials and was deceived by the testimonies of the SS leaders. He doesn't understand that they blamed me for the extermination to save their skin. Should I stand trial instead of the Führer? Instead of the Reichsmarschall Goering? Instead of the Reichsführer Himmler?
- Servatius: The judges will not consider the testimonies in Nuremberg. Testimony that cannot be challenged in cross-examination is weak testimony.
- Eichmann: But if all the heads of the SS say that I was responsible for the extermination, the judges will be convinced that I was.
- Grude: These are professional and experienced judges...
- Eichmann: They are Jews who fled Germany before the war. I saw how they were swept away by the prosecutor's pathos.

They've already sentenced me to death. It'll be a pity to waste my family's money on you. I'm better off defending myself.

- Servatius: Take a moment to think before dismissing us. Our line of defense could save you. If you consistently declare that you were a mediocre, middle-ranking official, simply following orders without any initiative of your own, it will likely convince the judges that your role in the extermination was minimal.
- Eichmann: They know I wasn't a mediocre official. They have minutes of meetings I attended with the most senior echelons.
- Grude: In most of these meetings you hardly speak. You don't argue. You don't demand. You don't suggest.
- Servatius: No one has ever been executed for being mediocre. Don't let your pride send you to the gallows.
- Eichmann: **(Furiously)** I'm a German citizen. I've worked all my life for Germany. If I must be prosecuted, let Germany do it. You can still demand that Dr. Globke request my extradition.
- Servatius: That's the last thing he'll do. If you are prosecuted in Germany, he'll have to prosecute hundreds of SS officers and government officials. Himself included.

4. Teddy Kollek's office. Night. Kollek, Hausner and Bach.

- Kollek: With all due respect to your legal knowledge, Gideon, Ben-Gurion has a broader historical vision. You should at least consider his requests.
- Hausner: I think I accepted them all.
- Kollek: He asked you to make a distinction between today's Germany and Nazi Germany. You referred in your speech to Germany during the war and did not call it Nazi Germany.
- Hausner: All right, Teddy. I'll be more careful.
- Kollek: And regarding Dr. Globke, Director General of the Chancellery, Ben-Gurion requests not to mention him in the trial.
- Hausner: He said that?!
- Kollek: It could damage our relations with Germany.
- Hausner: I have documents linking him to Eichmann.

- Kollek: Chancellor Adenauer granted approval for security and economic aid for us, with the understanding that we remain mindful of his domestic challenges.
- Hausner: Teddy, I'm aware of Ben-Gurion's concerns, but we must be cautious. The world is following this trial. It must not be seen as a spectacle orchestrated by the Prime Minister.
- Kollek: Ben-Gurion doesn't mean it.
- Hausner: That's why he can't send me instructions. I informed the government of my decision to conduct a thorough historical trial, encompassing all facets of the Jewish extermination. My decision was unanimously approved, marking the conclusion of the government's role in this matter.
- Kollek: Gideon, this isn't an ordinary criminal trial. The government decided about it; it carries political implications. Therefore, we will continue to supervise it.

A secretary enters.

- Secretary: Mr. Vogel has arrived.
- Kollek: Please let him in.
- Bach: Teddy, you should come to court, to see with your own eyes that there is no need for supervision. We are conducting the trial in adherence to the principles outlined by the government. Perhaps even Ben-Gurion himself should attend one of the hearings.
- Kollek: If Ben-Gurion comes to trial, the whole world will be sure that he's conducting it.

Vogel enters. Kollel shakes his hands.

- Kollek: Welcome. Please take a seat. Allow me to introduce Mr. Vogel, Chancellor Adenauer's special envoy. Mr. Hausner. Mr. Bach. I invited Mr. Vogel to join us so that you can directly hear the Chancellor's stance on the progress of the trial.
- Vogel: Thank you. The Chancellor firmly believes that the trial will adhere to the rules accepted in modern nations. This is a trial of one defendant, not an entire society.
- Hausner: Absolutely, sir. Indeed, we have only one defendant, but we will point out many others who collaborated with him.

- Kollek: **(To Vogel)** According to our law, the court hears only the defendant before it.
- Vogel: The Chancellor would also like to remind you of the Israeli government's promise not to discuss Eichmann's accusations against Dr. Globke, the director general of his office.
- Hausner: **(To Kollek)** Did the Israeli government make such a promise?!
- Kollek: You're already aware of the Prime Minister's opinion Gideon...
- Hausner: It seems to me that only I have the authority to make promises regarding the conduct of this trial.
- Vogel: Nevertheless, I suggest you consider the Chancellor's request.
- Hausner: Dr. Globke was the legal advisor of the Ministry of the Interior in the Reich government. His interpretation of the Nuremberg Laws provided the legal basis for Eichmann's actions. I have to summon him to testify.
- Vogel: I truly hope you won't.
- Kollek: Can't you find another jurist who provided an interpretation of the Nuremberg Laws?
- Hausner: I will not accept any interference by the government in the selection of witnesses!

Hausner leaves. Bach follows him. Silence.

- Vogel: Mr. Kollek, I'm a Jew, a camp survivor, and I'll do everything to help you. I know Dr. Globke well. If he's mentioned in this trial, he will act against you on matters that are crucial to your interests. I won't go into further detail.

A collage of documentary footage showing the actions against Jews in Germany in 1933-1939.

5. Court. The judges are already in their seats. The prosecution and defense on their benches. The defendant is in the glass booth. On the back wall is a slide: the testimony of attorney Benno Cohen from Berlin, chairman of the Zionist Organization in Germany.

Benno Cohen: Then, on January 33, Hitler became prime minister. We knew who he was, but we thought the constitution would guarantee democracy. A month later, the Reichstag building was set on fire. Hitler abolished the laws that protected human rights, freedom of the press, freedom of association. The government began to exert heavy pressure on us to emigrate. Jews were fired, their businesses confiscated, their books burnt, and every day hundreds were arrested and sent to camps. I could have escaped, but I had connections in the Justice Department. I thought I could help. In 35, the Nuremberg Laws were passed: A Jew cannot be a citizen. Can't hold public office. Can't marry a German woman. Can't even have relations with a German woman. The flight of the Jews increased. On November 38, Kristallnacht took place. Hundreds of synagogues were burnt, thousands of businesses looted. Tens of thousands were sent to concentration camps. Now Jews flocked to embassies en masse to obtain visas, but most countries in the world closed their doors. Only one official at the British Embassy issued a few visas to Palestine. In March '39 I received an invitation from Eichmann. When I entered his office, he screamed: I'm the head of the Center for Jewish Emigration. You will provide me with Jews with visas, and I will arrange for trains to get them out of here. I said we only had a few visas from the British Embassy. He was furious: If you don't get visas, you'll end your life in Dachau, Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen. I saw that there wasn't much I could do. I went to the British Embassy, got a visa and fled.

The prosecutor moves on to interrogate Eichmann. The investigation is already ongoing.

Hausner: In light of the testimony that we heard, it seems that the immigration center that you headed, carried out the forced deportation of most German Jews. Correct?

- Eichmann: No, sir. It was a planned migration. To this day, I regret that it was impossible to continue it even after the outbreak of the war.
- Hausner: Didn't you force the Jews to emigrate through arrests, torture, killings?
- Eichmann: On the contrary, sir. The community leaders asked me to help them with emigration.
- Hausner: Did the Jews want to emigrate?! After all, whoever emigrated, all his property was confiscated.
- Eichmann: Their property was confiscated according to an Interior Ministry regulation.
- Hausner: That you used to rob them.
- Eichmann: I used it to convince Reichsführer Himmler that Jewish emigration brings economic profit to Germany, and therefore it is worthwhile to increase it.
- Servatius: Mr. Eichmann, did you initiate the emigration of German Jews?
- Eichmann: Emigration was part of the Führer's plan to solve the Jewish problem.
- Servatius: And what was your position on it?
- Eichmann: I hoped that the Jews would come to the Land of Israel. I thought it was a human solution for a people without a homeland, so that they would stop wandering. I saved tens of thousands in this way. I would have been very happy if I could have sent many more to the Land of Israel, but unfortunately, the British did not give them visas.
- Hausner: Your Honor, that's a despicable lie. Suddenly this man's become a Zionist? I ask that the defendant point to one Jew whom he saved...
- Landau: Mr. Hausner!

6. Prosecution Office. Night. Hausner and Bach.

- Bach: Benno Cohen's testimony about the deportation of German Jews was very important, Gideon, but only Dr. Globke can testify as to how the decisions about this deportation were made at the Interior Ministry.
- Hausner: Don't worry. We will summon him.
- In you: When?
- Hausner: When Ben-Gurion softens a little.

- Bach: Maybe we can meet with him and explain? It was Globke who drafted the regulations that forced us to flee. I was a child in Berlin, but I experienced them firsthand. I couldn't sit on a bench next to the house. I couldn't go to the cinema, to the swimming pool. I had to give my dog to the neighbors.
- Hausner: You're right, but let's be smart. The defense wants Globke to admit that Eichmann acted in accordance with German law, and therefore he's innocent. We'll wait for them to summon him, and spare Ben-Gurion a confrontation with Adenauer.
- Bach: We've just started the trial! Are we already giving in to his pressure?
- Hausner: We're not giving in. If the defense doesn't call him, we will. He'll have to stand here and explain how he was swayed by Hitler's demagoguery and lost his moral judgment. We won't compromise on this.

7. Visiting room at Ramle Prison. A guard ushers Eichmann in, while another brings in Vera. They place a glass panel between them and remain to monitor their conversation. The dialogue occurs on both sides of the glass panel, facilitated by microphones and headphones.

- Eichmann: How are you, Vera? How was the flight? Are they treating you respectfully?
- Vera: Nobody knows who I am. I checked in at the hotel with my maiden's name. How are you? How're they treating you?
- Eichmann: All right. Yesterday, they changed the lenses of my glasses. My sight deteriorated a bit. How are the children?
- Vera: The little one asks about you all the time.
- Eichmann: When he learns to write, ask him to write to me.
- Vera: The big ones are very proud of you. They wear a swastika on their arm at every opportunity. Your friends in Buenos Aires are proud of you too. They believe in your innocence.
- Eichmann: I'm not sure, Vera. Jewish judges won't acquit me.
- Vera: Officers of your rank in Nuremberg, were sentenced to two or three years.

Eichmann: These judges have relatives who were killed. I might sit here for twenty years. What will happen to you and the children?

Vera: You won't sit for twenty years. I pray for you every night.

Eichmann: Dozens of witnesses will appear in this trial. What they say may hurt the children. Maybe they should change their names. You too. If you want, I'll release you from our marriage.

Vera: I know you better than anyone in the world. I won't leave you, and the children will not change their names.

Eichmann: It will also be difficult for you to hear these witnesses.

Vera: You did what it took, Adolf. The Jews started the war. They forced it on us. The Führer himself said they wanted to destroy us. So we had no choice but to destroy them. Every Nation has the right to defend itself.

A collage of documentary footage showing the actions against the Jews in Poland after its occupation by the German army.

8. Courtroom. The hearing is already underway. The judges, the defendant, the prosecution, and the defense have already taken their seats.

Hausner: Your Honor, this is the summary of a meeting held in Berlin with Heydrich, the head of the Reich Main Security Office, in September '39. During this meeting, the decision was made to confine Polish Jews to ghettos as part of the preparations for their extermination. This document proves that the defendant was aware of the plan to exterminate European Jews right from the beginning of the war. **(Turning to Eichmann)** Yes, or no?

Eichmann: No, sir. This document is a summary of an internal meeting, and it did not come to my attention.

Hausner: Your Honor, this is the list of participants at that meeting. **(Hands the judges and the defense another page. A policeman gives a copy to Eichmann)** The name of the accused is listed in it.

Eichmann: Sir, I don't recall being at that meeting. Even according to the protocol, I didn't say a word there. My name may have been added to the list by mistake.

Servatius: Your Honor, this meeting took place over twenty years ago.

- Eichmann: And even if I were present, my job was to transcribe the minutes.
- Hausner: That's also a lie. You will not succeed in creating the impression that you were a mere clerk, a typist, with no influence on the policy concerning the Jews. You were one of the architects of the extermination. You knew that all the Polish Jews you sent to the camps would be murdered, and yet you sent them there, and therefore you are complicit in their murder.
- Landau: Thank you very much. The court will determine where and when the defendant lied.

On the back screen is a slide: Testimony of Dr. Arna Peretz, a doctor in the Kovno ghetto.

- Dr. Peretz: The moment we were imprisoned in the ghetto, our lives became very cheap. The Germans shot anyone they wanted, for no reason. Once a rabbi who did not lift his hat in front of a German. Once, someone who returned from forced labor and a potato was found in his pocket. Every day I had to sew up women's genitals after the Germans searched them for food. In 1942 they banned women from giving birth. I tried to argue with them. In the eighth month it is impossible to have abortions, but even in the sixth and seventh months it is a difficult operation. Women who gave birth secretly would burrow into pillows during childbirth so their screams wouldn't be heard. But the Germans discovered the babies and strangled them. When the children's Aktion began, the head of the Judenrat asked for mercy. The Germans shot him immediately. I saw a mother whose children were taken away by the Germans. She ran after the truck. She begged to give them back to her. The driver stopped, and asked: How many do you have? She said three. He told her, "You can take one." She climbed into the truck and after a moment got out alone...
- Landau: Dr. Servatius, do you have any questions for the witness?
- Servatius: No, sir, but I would like to draw to your attention that the witness did not mention the defendant at all.

On the back wall is a slide: Judge Dr. Moshe Beisky from the town of Dzialoszyce, Poland.

- Baisky: When the Germans occupied the town, they sent my parents to Belzec camp. I never saw them again. My brother and I were sent to the Plaszow camp. There, we loaded coal onto wagons from morning to night. Those who became too weak were beaten to death. When we returned to the camp, we walked along the path in front of the commander's barracks. He would sit in an armchair on the porch, rifle in hand, and snipe at us for amusement. Every night he killed two or three. Every day they hung a few people in the square to terrorize us. One day they hung a 15-year-old boy because they heard him singing in Russian. The boy was hanged, but the rope tore. He cried for his life. They hanged him again. And the camp commander shot him as he swung on the gallows.
- Hausner: Fifteen thousand prisoners stand in the square, facing a mere few dozen guards. Why didn't you attack them?
- Baisky: We were devastated by what we went through, sir. On the one hand, there was hope that the war would end. And on the other hand, the fear in front of their guns... In front of the boy hanging on the gallows... We couldn't react out of sheer horror... **(Pause)**
- Landau: Dr. Servatius, do you have any questions for the witness?
- Servatius: No, sir. But, again, I draw his attention to the fact...
- Landau: Mr. Hausner, you must guide your witnesses before testifying, so that they focus solely on events related to the defendant's actions. The question of why the Jews did not attack their guards belongs to the history books.

9. Ramle prison. The defense meeting room with Eichmann, Servatius and Grude.

- Servatius: I cannot convince the court that these atrocities did not occur. But we can insist that you did not know about them.
- Eichmann: They know that I toured Poland several times.
- Servatius: But they don't know what you saw. You can claim that all your meetings with the ghetto commanders took place in their offices.
- Eichmann: I was in Theresienstadt six times. Someone must have seen me there.

- Grude: Even if you hadn't been there, you knew that the Jews were being sent from the ghettos to death camps.
- Eichmann: Of course I knew.
- Grude: The prosecutor claims that if you organized the trains, aware that all the passengers would be murdered, you were complicit in their murder.
- Eichmann: I organized these trains according to the instructions I received.
- Grude: And he'll claim that you followed those instructions because you thought they made sense. He will insist on knowing why.
- Servatius: And you'll answer that you thought they made sense, because everyone around you thought they made sense.
- Grude: Because you heard Hitler repeating again and again that the extermination of the Jews was a glorious page in German history.
- Eichmann: I won't blame the Führer for anything.

10. Office of the prosecution. Night. Hausner is packing his bag. Bach enters in a hurry.

- Bach: Did you cancel tomorrow morning's witness?!
- Hausner: I had no choice. He didn't see Eichmann. He hadn't even heard of him before the trial.
- Bach: He saw SS men murdering children in the Krakow ghetto with their own hands.
- Hausner: Today we heard quite a similar testimony.
- Bach: He waited months for this moment, Gideon. He didn't work. Didn't sleep. He suffered from depression, from nightmares.
- Hausner: The judges can no longer endure hearing about the atrocities of the SS. They'll stop him after a minute.
- Bach: We need to show the world what atrocities human beings are capable of committing.
- Hausner: Didn't you hear the judge? After every witness recounts his sufferings, he scolds me as if I were a foolish student.
- Bach: Each such witness has a more impact on the judges than all the documents we've collected.
- Hausner: From now on we'll summon only witnesses directly related to the indictment. The others will have to tell their stories outside the court. **(Turning to exit)**

- Bach: Hold on. Let's give the judges one more try. They can see the audience in the hall. If they stop a witness, it could lead to a scandal.
- Hausner: If we insist, they might take revenge on us when they write the verdict.
- Bach: We need to give these witnesses a chance. Until now, no one wanted to hear them.
- Hausner: I want to give them a chance. When I interrogate them, I hear my family members who were murdered in Lviv. But I also want to win this trial. If we lose, the survivors will suffer a devastating blow. No one will believe the horrors they endured, and they'll never dare to speak about them.
(Exits)

11. Chancellery in Bonn. Globke and Vogel.

- Globke: The news from Jerusalem reaches every home in the world, Vogel. The chancellor had to apologize for them in every speech. Can't Israelis be pressured to shorten this damn trial?
- Vogel: As much as the Chancellor acknowledges the crimes of the Reich, the criticism of us wanes.
- Globke: I'm not convinced of that. By the way, he's deeply concerned about the rumor that the prosecutor there is going to summon me to testify. Several prime ministers have already demanded that he fire me.
- Vogel: Sir, Kollek is putting a lot of pressure on the prosecutor.
- Globke: I prepared a file for him. These are protocols of the Reich Interior Ministry. Without my efforts, the sanctions against the Jews would have been much harsher. If he's not convinced, we'll stop the reparations to the survivors who live there.
- Vogel: Stop the reparations?! That's impossible, sir. The survivors have already suffered enough. I have relatives there who live off these reparations. Taking such a step would prove that Germany hasn't changed.
- Globke: They'll continue to receive reparations as soon as my summons is cancelled. me. If it isn't, we'll suspend the arms deals we made with them.
- Vogel: Did the Chancellor approve it? They need tanks and artillery.

Globke: I'm not just thinking about myself, Vogel. When the Israelis point fingers at me, they implicate all state officials who served the Reich. These officials deserve to know that they are not war criminals. Their children read about the trial in the newspapers. They ask questions. They investigate. They denounce their parents, and their families fall apart. Mine too.

12. Visiting room at Ramle Prison. Night. Vera and Eichmann sit on opposite sides of the glass panel.

Eichmann: Your shirt button is open.
 Vera: They searched me at the entrance. **(Zips the button)**
 Eichmann: Bastards.
 Vera: How are you?
 Eichmann: I hope today's testimonies didn't depress you too much.
 Vera: Everyone around me was crying. One woman fainted. Why didn't Dr. Servatius try to prove that the witnesses lied?
 Eichmann: He thinks they were telling the truth.
 Vera: Did they tell the truth?!
 Eichmann: Didn't you know that Polish Jews were sent to camps?
 Vera: I knew what everyone knew. What was written in the newspapers. What the Führer said in his speeches. I always thought he was exaggerating. That newspapers write what he tells them to write. Suddenly, I see these Jews in court. Suddenly they have faces. You've never told me things like that.
 Eichmann: Of course I told you.
 Vera: When? I heard rumors in church. The neighbors were chatting behind our backs. I thought it was gossip. That they were jealous of the car. The driver. The gifts you brought for the children.
 Eichmann: I told you every time I came back from the East.
 Vera: Also about the elderly, the women and the children?
 Eichmann: I didn't always know the details.
 Vera: But you had nothing to do with those murders. Right?
 Eichmann: Of course I didn't. I never touched a Jew. I never killed. I stayed away from them as much as I could.
 Vera: I know. You're a good man. You're a good husband. A good father...

Eichmann: I want to be sure you're telling the truth, Vera. I need you on my side. No doubts, no suspicions and no accusations. I can't trust Dr. Servatius. Without you, I might do what the Führer did to evade trial.

Vera: Don't you dare even think about it. If they sentence you to prison, I'll come and live here. With the kids. Until you're released. The world looks at the Jews here with a magnifying glass. They can't stop us from visiting you.

13. Night. Defense office. Servatius and Grude.

Grude: Dr. Servatius, I'm not sure I can continue defending this man. The testimonies crush me. Today I almost got up and ran out.

Servatius: I see how hard it is for you.

Grude: When you offered me to join you, I thought he was a small official whose role in murdering Jews was limited.

Servatius: I told you everything I knew. I guess we'll find out a lot more.

Grude: So why do we continue to defend him?

Servatius: So we can expose his actions and ask how so many of us took part in them.

Grude: And do you have an answer to that question?

Servatius: I'm afraid I'll search for the rest of my life. Apparently, in my generation, the mechanism we call conscience went wrong. Everywhere in the world, conscience tells man, "Thou shalt not kill." Here it said: If you kill, you will be a good citizen. If you murder, you will serve the homeland. the race. The Führer.

Grude: Is that also what happened to my father? Did his conscience go wrong too?

Servatius: Your father was a judge. He certainly did not murder.

Grude: But he sent Jews who were walking in a public park to jail, Jews who sat in a café, who visited a museum, who listened to music inside their apartment.

Servatius: Nazi propaganda overwhelmed the judicial system, Miss Grude. It lost the ability to judge according to the law, and ruled according to the Party's instructions. If you want to know more, you need to stay here until the end of the trial.

A collage of documentary footage presenting the Einsatzkommando activities against the Jews in Eastern Europe in 1941-1943.

14. On the back screen is a slide: Testimony of Rivka Yoselevska from the town of Pohost, Poland.

Yoselevska: All day we stood in the square. No food. No water. The children cried in hunger. In the evening, trucks arrived. We were ordered to go up. Three kilometers from the town there was a hill with a pit next to it. When we arrived, we saw rows of naked Jews inside, who had already been shot. Then my daughter asked me: Why did you dress me in Shabbat clothes? I didn't answer. She kept asking: What are we waiting for? Let's run. But I'd already seen some young people trying to escape, they were shot immediately. Then they told us to undress. They shot my father. Then my mother and sister. Then it was our turn. I undressed. She also took off her Shabbat dress. The German asked: Who first? The girl or you? I didn't answer. He shot her. I felt her being ripped off me. Then he shot me. In the head. I fell into the pit. I thought I was dead. But I knew I was still feeling something. People fell on me. I started choking. I moved to find air. I had no strength. Still, I felt I was rising above the others. People below me were pulling me down. Beating. Scratching. And I, with the remainder of my strength, kept rising. When I got out, the Germans were no longer there. A few more people, women and children, came out of the pit. All covered in mud and blood. It was impossible to recognize them. All the time shouts kept coming from the pit. Pull me out ... Pull me out... I started calling my daughter. Markella ... Markella ... All night long I called her. In the morning the Germans came on horses, and started shooting the ghosts that came out of the grave.

Grude, sitting next to Servatius, can no longer hear her. She gets up and turns to the judges.

Grude: I'm sorry. I can't. I can't. I apologize. **(exits)**

Yoselevska: At night I went back to the grave. I wanted to go inside it and die. I dug with my hands, but the soil was already hardened from the blood...

She falls silent. There was heavy silence in the courtroom. After a moment, Landau comes to his senses.

Landau: Dr. Servatius, do you have any questions for the witness?

Servatius: No, sir. But I must point out again that the accused was not involved in SS activities in Poland.

Hausner: These are minutes of meetings in the SS in which he participated. All of them dealt with the deportation of Polish Jews. **(Gives a copy to the judges)**

Landau: Can the defendant explain his participation in these meetings?

Eichmann: Absolutely, sir. When the SS decided to transport Jews to the camps, I was assigned to coordinate the trains.

Hausner: But you knew very well that these Jews would be murdered in the camps, so the order to transport them there was illegal, and you should have refused.

Eichmann: In wartime, it's impossible to check the legality of every order.

Hausner: **(To the judges)** The defendant was an administrative officer, and he had plenty of time to check.

Eichmann: I acted under heavy pressure, sir.

Hausner: To murder more and more...

Landau: Mr. Hausner!

Eichmann: I have always opposed the murder of Jews. I always sought humane solutions, such as emigration. I felt a terrible revulsion at the mass slaughter of Jews near the pits: men, women and babies. With my own eyes, I saw jets of blood bursting out of such pits. When I saw Jews gassed, I begged my commanders: Don't send me there. Send someone more robust. I can't sleep at night.

Hausner: That's also a despicable lie. The defendant never protested the mass murders. He never tried to prevent them. There is no sign or hint of this. Not at a meeting about the deportation of the Jews of Warsaw or Gdansk, not at a meeting about the deportation of the Jews of Krakow, or Bialystok, or... **(Amazed)** Lviv... My hometown... Oh my God... At that meeting, he sent my family to the Belzec camp... All of them... My uncles... My aunts... Their sons and daughters... the grandchildren... The granddaughters...

Hausner sits down, struggling to continue. Landau hits his hammer.

Landau: Mr. Hausner? Mr. Hausner? (**Hints to the bailiff**)
 Bailiff: All rise!

15. The prison. Evening. The defense meeting room. Servatius and Eichmann.

Servatius: The judges were very impressed by your feelings near those death pits. Maybe this is an opportunity to soften their hearts. If you admit some guilt for the death of the Jews you sent to the camps, then maybe...

Eichmann: I will not admit any guilt.

Servatius: If you do, maybe the judges will be more lenient with your sentence.

Eichmann: You already believe I'm guilty, right?

Servatius: It doesn't matter what I believe. Consider what the judges think. Tomorrow the prosecution will question you about the Wannsee Conference...

Eichmann: The protocols don't prove anything.

Servatius: This conference decided to eliminate all the Jews of Europe. You participated in it. The judges won't believe you played no part in that decision.

Eichmann: I didn't.

16. Office of the defense. Attorney Liza Grude alone. Bach enters.

Bach: Good evening, Miss Grude. These are a few more documents that we collected for tomorrow's session.

Grude: Thank you. I'll read them right away.

Bach: By the way, I saw what you went through today during Mrs. Yoselevska's testimony.

Grude: Many people in Germany reacted as I did, when they saw her on the news.

Bach: I hope so.

Grude: The German society has changed a bit.

Bach: I'm not sure. (**Takes out a letter from his bag**) This is a letter of a doctor, the director of a breast milk bank. In 38 he discovered that one of the milk donors was a quarter Jewish, and he asked the police not to prosecute her, so as not to cause panic among mothers who took milk from the

bank. And he demanded that she be thrown into a concentration camp without a trial. Today this doctor runs a hospital.

Grude: My father was a judge then. He sent a young Jew to the camps because he had a relationship with an Aryan girl. He threw into prison an elderly Jewish woman who was traveling by train in a carriage intended for Aryans. He sentenced a Jewish woman who had an Aryan servant to life imprisonment. Today he is the president of a court. But still Germany is changing. Those who claimed they didn't know, admit now that they knew. They also admit that it's not just a few sadists from the SS that committed crimes against Jews.

Bach: Miss Grude, even if this change is already happening, your arguments in court don't contribute to it.

Grude: What do you mean? Do you think I'm defending Eichmann because I'm defending his actions?

Bach: You're not defending his actions, but unfortunately, to this day, I haven't heard you condemn them. More importantly, no German has heard you condemn them.
(Exit)

17. Kollek's office. Kollek, Hausner and Vogel, who holds the file he received from Globke. Their conversation is already underway.

Vogel: Mr. Hausner, these protocols make it very clear that Dr. Globke always opposed sanctions against the Jews, so there is no point in summoning him for questioning.

Hausner: Dr. Globke was one of the leaders of the legal system of the Reich. He will have to explain how a person in his position was captivated by Hitler's demagoguery and lost his moral judgment. Without the cooperation of senior officials like him, Jews would not have been deported to the camps.

Kollek: The Reich's legal system is not on trial here.

Hausner: But exposing its failures will prove to the world that a strong legal system that protects human rights can prevent atrocities like those committed by the Reich.

Vogel: For your information, Mr. Hausner, if you invite Dr. Globke to testify, the German government will stop reparations to survivors living in Israel.

- Hausner: Excuse me?! For your information, Mr. Vogel, the days when a German can threaten a Jew are over. Dr. Globke should also realize it. **(Exits)**
- Kollek: You're Jewish, Mr. Vogel. You are a camp survivor. You know that many of the survivors are unable to work. Many are being treated in all kinds of institutions. They won't survive without the reparations.
- Vogel: Mr. Kollek, I visit such survivors every time I come here. That's why I'm trying to secure their future. Unlike Mr. Hausner, who is willing to sacrifice them in order to settle accounts with Dr. Globke. Unfortunately, you're not trying to stop him. Apparently, the fate of the survivors is not so important to you, either. We have no choice. Reparations will be frozen. They'll be renewed at the end of the trial, only if Dr. Globke is not mentioned in it.

A collage of documentary footage about the Wannsee Conference.

18. Court. The judges, the prosecution, the defense and the defendant are already in their seats.

- Hausner: Your Honor, at the Wannsee Conference an official decision was made by the Reich government to exterminate all the Jews of Europe. The defendant took part in planning and the of this conference. He drafted the invitations to the participants and sent them.
- Eichmann: Your Honor, I had no part in planning the conference. At the end of 1940, the Reichsmarschall Göring saw that the countries of the world were refusing to accept Jews from Reich territory, and he instructed Obergruppenführer Heydrich to plan the final solution of the Jewish problem within the Reich.
- Hausner: You personally admitted to the police that you wrote Heydrich's concluding speech on the Final Solution: "We will deport all European Jews to labor camps in the East, where they will be given "appropriate" treatment".
- Eichmann: I didn't write that speech. I prepared background material for Heydrich. I presented him with information...
- Hausner: And the main information stated that there were 11 million Jews in Europe. You sat in front of the fireplace, in a villa on the lakeshore, snowflakes fell on the treetops, you ate

caviar, drank champagne, and decided to exterminate them in death camps.

Eichmann: I did not decide anything, sir. The conference participants were senior representatives of government ministries. My rank was lower than everyone else's. I didn't give a speech. I didn't ask questions. All I did was to write down the protocol.

Hausner: You just wrote down a protocol?! At the end of his speech, Heydrich says: "All problems that arise in the implementation of the 'Final Solution' should be referred to the head of the relevant department." You were appointed to be in charge of the "Final Solution".

Servatius: Your Honor, I would like to present a memorandum prepared by the Foreign Ministry ahead of the conference, in which it demands the deportation of all European Jews to the East. This memorandum shows that the deportation of the Jews was not initiated by the accused. It was the official policy of all government ministries.

Eichmann: Your Honor, my role at Wannsee was minimal. The government officials who attended the conference approved the "Final Solution" without any objections. If they found no fault with it, who am I to oppose it?

19. Kollek's office. Kollek and Vogel. Evening.

Vogel: Mr. Kollek, today the court heard explicit allegations that all Reich government ministries were involved in the "Final Solution." We will not tolerate such accusations.

Kollek: Those were arguments of the defense, sir.

Vogel: You should have demanded that the prosecution discuss only Eichmann's role in Wannsee. Not the role of government ministries.

Kollek: And ignore those director generals of government ministries around the table?

Vogel: Mr. Kollek, I thought that after stopping the reparations you would understand that we will not accept any harm to our interests. I must have been wrong. You leave us no choice. We are also forced to stop all arms deals with you.

Kollek: This step will harm our security greatly, sir. Any day a war could break out here...

Vogel: And this trial is harming our security. **(Turning to exit)**

- Kollek: Mr. Vogel, when we signed these arms deals, we promised to acknowledge that Germany has changed. That there's now a different Germany. If we don't receive the weapons, we won't be able to honor that commitment.
- Vogel: Are you out of your mind? Dr. Globke will not postpone the arms deals. He will cancel them. Help me to help you. If you respect our agreements, you will receive the weapons as soon as possible. You can't imagine how much I'm risking for you. The fact that I'm Jewish doesn't make it easier for me in the face of dozens of government officials who think they're still working for the Reich.

20. Visiting room at Ramle Prison. Night. Vera and Eichmann are already sitting on opposite sides of the glass panel. The conversation takes place through microphones and headphones.

- Eichmann: You can calm down, Vera. We had an excellent day in court.
- Vera: I hope so.
- Eichmann: Anyone who looks at Wannsee's minutes sees that I didn't say a single word during the entire conference.
- Vera: I know, but...
- Eichmann: But what?
- Vera: When I went to your friends in Buenos Aires to ask for money for the trip, they said all kinds of things about you.
- Eichmann: What things?
- Vera: That you proposed to pull out the gold teeth of Jews in the camps to cover their train travel expenses. That you suggested cutting the women's hair to make ropes out of it. The pastor at the church told me they were lies. But today, when I heard that Heydrich had put you in charge of the deportation of the Jews, I suddenly began to think there might be something in what they said.
- Eichmann: I wasn't responsible for the deportation of the Jews, only for their transportation. These stupid proposals came from the economic department of the SS.
- Vera: And they didn't ask your opinion?
- Eichmann: I don't understand. Are you interrogating me? When a rope is tied around my neck?

Vera: I'm not interrogating. I want to know who this man is, that I've lived with all my life, that I've raised my children with. I want to know if I was blind or naïve. If I cheated or deceived myself. The Jews forced this war on us?!

Eichmann: **(angrily)** I did not initiate the "Final Solution", Vera. The plan was imposed on me. I couldn't prevent it. I hoped that the war would end before we carried it out, or that someone higher up would intervene and stop it. Unfortunately, that didn't happen.

A collage of documentary footage showing the industrial extermination of Jews at Auschwitz.

21. Court. The judges, the prosecution, the defense and the defendant are already in their seats. On the back screen is a slide: Testimony of Esther Goldstein from Kosice, Hungary.

Goldstein: When the train arrived at Auschwitz, we got out of the cars shocked and frightened. During the three days of travel, we didn't eat or drink. We barely stood there on the ramp. My father and brothers are on one side. My mother, sisters and I are on the other. My married sister was holding her two children. Suddenly, the Angel of Death appeared on his bike. Dr. Mengele. He came to her and told her: Give the children to your mother. She said in Yiddish: They're mine. I won't give them away. He thought she didn't understand German. He called a prisoner to tell her in Yiddish. The prisoner told her: If you want to live, give the children to your mother. She refused. Mengele ripped the little girl out of her hands and gave her to my mother. He took her son by force and left. He was four years old. We never saw the children again. Nor my mother, or my father and brothers. They all died within two hours. Gassed. My sister is alive. I'm telling her story because she can't come here and tell it herself.

Landau: Dr. Servatius, do you have any questions for the witness?

Servatius: No, sir.

Hausner: I would like the defendant to tell the court how many times he visited the Auschwitz death camp.

Eichmann: About four or five times, sir.

Hausner: And what was the purpose of those visits?

- Eichmann: I had to report to Reichsführer Himmler about the execution of his orders.
- Hausner: And did you meet with Rudolf Hess, the camp commander?
- Eichmann: Yes, sir.
- Hausner: Did he take you on a tour of the camp from time to time?
- Eichmann: Yes, sir.
- Hausner: Did you see the killing in the gas chambers? The cremation of bodies in the crematorium?
- Eichmann: I didn't get out of his car, sir.
- Hausner: Did you discuss with him the absorption of the transports of the Jews?
- Eichmann: I guess so.
- Hausner: In his autobiography, he recalls an argument between the two of you. He wanted to get fewer trains - you wanted to send more.
- Eichmann: That description is implausible, sir. I didn't want to send more, and he didn't want to receive less. We both followed the Reichsführer's orders.

On the back screen is a slide: Testimony of Yehuda Bakon from the city of Morawska-Ostrava in Czechoslovakia.

- Bakon: When a transport arrived, they led the people to the gas chambers. There was a "bathhouse" sign outside. At first, they were brought into the dressing rooms. On the side were hangers with numbers. And the sergeant said: Remember the number of the hanger, so that later you will find your clothes. People asked for water. They were thirsty after the long ride in the closed carriages. So the sergeant said to them: Hurry up. Coffee awaits you in the block. And they rushed to the gas chamber. There were showers on the ceiling. But they had no holes for the water. They were designed to calm the people down. When the doors closed, another SS sergeant inserted the Zyklon B crystals through a tube from above. Half an hour later, the Sonderkommando would open the doors and carry the bodies out to the crematorium. Then we, the children, took the ashes out of the ovens with rakes. In winter, the Capo would tell us: Well, children. It's cold outside. Warm up in the crematorium. The spirits of the dead are already in heaven...

- Landau: Dr. Servatius, do you have any questions for the witness?
 Servatius: Your Honor, I protest these testimonies that the accused is not even mentioned in them. The prosecutor's sole purpose is to enrage the judges, who also fled the terror of the Nazis, to sentence the defendant regardless of the evidence against him.
- Landau: Dr. Servatius, the court rejects your protest. I suggest you focus on defending the defendant and not attacking the judges. We are all experienced enough, and we are able to make a complete separation between our biographies and the case before us. Please, Mr. Hausner.

On the back screen is the slide: Testimony of the writer Yehiel Dinur, born in Sosnowiec, Poland.

- Dinur: I was there for about two years. On the planet 'Auschwitz,' time does not flow as it does on Earth. Every fragment of a moment travels on different wheels of time. The inhabitants of this desolate planet had no names, no parents, and no children. They didn't wear clothes the way we wear them. They were not born there and did not give birth. They breathed according to other laws of nature. They lived and died by laws that are different from those of our world. Their name was their number "Ka Tzetnik"³. I stand here today before you, thanks to the oath I swore to them there, to tell their stories. I looked at them as they walked away, and our eyes were bearing this oath.
- Hausner: May you allow me, Mr. Dinur, to ask you some questions?
 Landau: Mr. Dinur, I suggest you answer the prosecutor's questions...
- Dinur: I see them. I see them walking. They look at me... I see them standing in line to the... **(Pause)**

Dinur faints. Hausner and Bach rush to him.

- Hausner: Mr. Dinur? Mr. Dinur? Do you hear me, Mr. Dinur?
 Bach: Mr. Dinur? Mr. Dinur?

Two policemen take Dinur out on a stretcher. Judge Landau is agitated. He hits his hammer.

³ Yiddish for "Concentration Camper"

- Landau: Mr. Hausner, I have to stop the hearing. I hope that Mr. Dinur will return to us soon. The next hearing will be held tomorrow.
- Hausner: I would like to wait another minute, sir. Mr. Dinur's testimony is very important.
- Landau: Mr. Hausner, the hearing is over!
- Hausner: Your Honor, you saw with your own eyes the tortured soul of the witness. He didn't have the power to make his accusations against the accused. It is my duty to be his mouth, and to make them in his place. And it is the duty of this court to listen to them. On behalf of the witness, I ask to continue the interrogation. **(Turns to Eichmann)** This is the report of the SS officer, who was in charge of producing Zyklon B gas, which Mr. Dinur wanted to testify about. According to this report, your deputy ordered a hundred kilograms of this gas from him. Did you know about it?
- Eichmann: No, sir.
- Hausner: Your Honor, the defendant ran his department as a dictator. His deputy would not dare to order death gas without his knowledge. The defendant forced his deputy to issue the order so that he could tell after the war that he did not know about it.
- Servatius: Your Honor, the defendant is not a signatory to this document.
- Eichmann: Your Honor, I never purchased gas for Auschwitz. The murder of Jews by gas is the greatest crime in the history of mankind. I knew about it, but I didn't participate in it. When I visited the Chelmno camp, I saw Jews crammed into a gas truck. The truck started driving. The screams were terrible. I had to get out of there. Had I been required to be an accomplice in this murder, I would have shot myself. I was responsible for the transportation. Only the transportation.
- Hausner: You didn't have to transport Jews to their deaths. You could have requested a transfer to another unit. But you didn't. You didn't because it was the most beautiful time of your life. That's what you told your deputy in Berlin. "Even if Germany is defeated in the war, I will gladly jump to my grave knowing that the death of six million Jews rests on my conscience..."

Landau: **(Angrily)** Mr. Hausner, you cannot lash out at the defendant's words, even if they infuriate you. We sit here every day and hear horrors that no human imagination can imagine. We see the terrible suffering of the witnesses, for whom the war is not over, and probably will never end. Nevertheless, we must adhere to the rules of the court with all our might. I won't let you deviate from them. The hearing is over!

Act II

22. Court. The prosecution and defense team take their seats. Two policemen put Eichmann in the glass booth.

Bailiff: All rise!

Everyone gets up. The judges enter and take their seats. Those present sit down.

Landau: I am opening session number 25. The prosecutor will continue questioning witnesses.

Hausner: I invite Ms. Zivia Lubetkin to testify.

On the back screen is a slide: Testimony of Zivia Lubetkin, one of the leaders of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising.

Lubetkin: In December '42 we learned that the three hundred thousand Jews who had been sent to Treblinka had already been murdered. Sixty thousand remained in the ghetto. The head of the Judenrat committed suicide. And we, the Zionist underground, decided that Jews would no longer board the trains. We started buying weapons on the Polish side of Warsaw, making Molotov cocktails, building bunkers. The Germans found out about this. On the eve of Passover '43, thousands of soldiers surrounded the ghetto, and the next day they entered it with their weapons. As they approached us, we threw Molotov cocktails and grenades, and shot with the only two rifles we had. Dozens of Germans were killed. They left the dead and wounded and retreated. We immediately collected their weapons. They came back again with artillery and tanks. We set a tank on fire with a Molotov cocktail. They retreated again. The battle lasted almost an entire month. We were happy to see German blood spilled in the streets. We were even happier that we were able to fight for our lives. When the Germans realized they couldn't overcome us, they set the ghetto on fire. About six thousand Jews were burned alive. Many jumped out of windows with their children and died. Those who survived were sent to Treblinka.

- Landau: Mr. Hausner, you are asked to guide the witness through questions.
- Hausner: Yes, sir. Mrs. Lubetkin, how did the rebellion end?
- Lubetkin: On May 8th, the Germans discovered our bunker. There were about 120 people in it. Most of them committed suicide with cyanide. Several dozen managed to escape into the sewers. We came out on the Polish side, weapons in hand, took control of a furniture truck and reached the forest.
- Landau: Mr. Hausner, we heard shocking things from the witness, but they are very far from the subject of the trial. Because of the respect she deserves, we didn't stop her. But your job is to extract from her testimony anything that is not part of the indictment.
- Hausner: Your Honor, the ghetto was created as part of the Final Solution for which the defendant was responsible...
- Landau: But he was not responsible for suppressing the uprising. Dr. Servatius, do you have any questions for the witness?
- Servatius: No, sir. The defendant does not deny her statements, but he had nothing to do with the creation of the Warsaw ghetto. The concentration of Jews in the ghettos was approved by senior officials in the Reich judicial system. Among them, for example, is Dr. Globke, the Director General of the Chancellery. This approval convinced the defendant that his actions were legal. I ask that the court summon Dr. Globke to testify.
- Hausner: The prosecution joins the defense's request. Indeed Dr. Globke's interpretation of the Nuremberg Laws created a legal basis for the concentration of the Jews in the ghettos, but we will prove that the defendant was forbidden to obey these laws.
- Eichmann: Your Honor, the concentration of Jews in the ghettos did not stem from the Nuremberg Laws. It was an explicit order of the Führer. Such an order was a supreme law, which could not be disobeyed.
- Hausner: There is no country in the world where a leader's order is a law.
- Eichmann: That's how it was in Germany, sir.
- Landau: The defendant will not intervene in the hearing unless requested! **(To the prosecution and defense)** I hereby approve the summon of Dr. Globke to testify.

23. Chancellery in Bonn. Globke and Vogel.

- Globke: I will not appear in a court in Israel. If they accuse me, they will accuse hundreds of officials in our government. This time, they'll pay a heavy price for their audacity. Tell Kollek that we are stopping the funding for the construction of their nuclear reactor in Dimona.
- Vogel: I think that's a step too far, sir.
- Globke: Ben-Gurion claims that the nuclear reactor will ensure their existence. If he wants us to fund its construction, he should cancel my invitation to testify.
- Vogel: The invitation hasn't been sent yet.
- Globke: Once it's sent, the damage will be irreparable. Anything else?
- Vogel: Dr. Globke, I won't inform them of the cessation of funding for the reactor, without the Chancellor's approval.
- Globke: Here it is. **(Shows him a document)**
- Vogel: I'd like to meet with the Chancellor. They need nuclear weapons. You know precisely why.
- Globke: The Chancellor is busy, Vogel. Keep in mind that if you force me to fire you, Israel's interests will be harmed. Have they gone out of their minds there in Jerusalem? They think I didn't see how the Nuremberg Laws paved the way to Auschwitz? Of course I did. But the cruelty of the Nazi Party was terrible. Those who spoke out against it were immediately sent to a concentration camp, interrogated, tortured, murdered. An entire society surrendered itself to propaganda about our racial supremacy and obeyed the Party. I did what I could. Had I retired, its legislation would have been much more monstrous. One day the Jews should thank me for what I did for them.

24. The prison. The defense meeting room with Eichmann. Eichmann, Servatius and Grude.

- Servatius: The judges have already understood that the role you played in the extermination was minimal. Now it's time for another move. You must stand up to them and put all the blame on Hitler and the Nazi party. You have to say that at the end of the war you saw the horror that their

ideology inflicted on Europe, so you sobered up and abandoned it.

Grude: Your disillusionment will make it easier for other SS men to sober up and express remorse. It will also make it much easier for Germany to accept you after you are released.

Eichmann: I have already said that the murder of Jews is the greatest crime in history.

Grude: You must testify who is responsible for it.

Servatius: The main culprit is the Führer. Say that at the end of the war you found out that he was mentally ill. A hysterical megalomaniac who suffers tantrums. That in every picture in the newspaper you could see in his eyes that he was living on hormones...

Eichmann: Is that what you think of him?

Servatius: It would be much easier for me to defend you, if you say in court that this is what you think, too.

Eichmann: I can't betray him. His death didn't free me from my loyalty to him. I can't disappoint millions of Germans who believe in him, who are still confident that Germany will conquer Europe again soon.

25. Office of the prosecution. Night. Hausner and Bach.

Hausner: The whole world thinks our evidence is convincing. Except for the judges. Eichmann might convince them that he, too, is a victim of Hitler. If we fail to convict him, we won't be able to convict any other war criminal. The murder of our families will be confirmed by this court that it was legal, and any genocide will be legal anywhere in the world.

Bach: We are in the midst of the trial, Gideon.

Hausner: What shall we say to the victims? What shall we say to the survivors? We couldn't even prove his responsibility for the extermination in Auschwitz. At the end of the trial, we'll have to ask him to forgive us for prosecuting him.

Bach: If you think that we didn't prove his part in the extermination at Auschwitz, we need to bring witnesses to testify about the torture they went through in the trains he sent, about those who died in the cattle cars...

Hausner: The judges are already tired of such witnesses.

Bach: We have a witness who was present in the transporting of children from Paris.
 Hausner: He also didn't meet Eichmann.
 Bach: We have documents linking Eichmann to these children.

Bach pulls out a file and takes out some documents. Enter Kollek and Vogel.

Kollek: Dr. Globke's summons to testify is cancelled at this very moment. Chancellor Adenauer ordered to stop the financing of the construction of the nuclear reactor in Dimona.
 Hausner: **(To Vogel)** The Chancellor ordered to stop the financing of the construction of the reactor?!
 Vogel: If you don't summon Dr. Globke, we'll renew it as soon as the trial is over.
 Hausner: I'm willing to write to the Chancellor. I'm ready to meet him. Dr. Globke's investigation will enable Germany to strengthen its legal system. To establish human rights...
 Vogel: Sir, the Chancellor doesn't need your advice on Germany's internal affairs.
 Kollek: **(Furiously)** Are you out of your mind? Don't you understand what will happen here if we don't have a bomb? We won't stop the construction of the reactor, even if we'll have to cancel this trial. Who even heard of Globke before it? Over my dead body you summon him for interrogation. **(Exits after Vogel)**
 Bach: I don't think the Germans would dare stop the construction of the reactor.
 Hausner: They will. But of course, we won't give up. If we don't investigate Globke in this trial, we'll investigate him in the next one, or the one after it. Until one day he will be accused and punished. Jurists should know that their mission is to protect human rights. Not to violate them.

A collage of documentary footage showing the deportation of French Jews to Auschwitz.

26. Court. On the back screen is a headline: the testimony of Prof. Georges Wellers from Paris.

Wellers: The Germans sent the parents to Auschwitz and the children to the Drancy camp near Paris. They got off the buses frightened, quiet with fear. The big ones held the hands of the little ones. They were housed in halls that had only dirty, bed bug-infested mattresses.

Hausner: How many children arrived?

Wellers: About four thousand. Since I was a doctor, I was allowed to see them. Many hadn't even learnt how to speak yet. We didn't know their names. We chose names for them and wrote them on notes that we hung around their necks. The sanitation conditions were difficult. They contracted diarrhea. We put pots in the corridors, but they were too big for the kids. The women destined for the next transports cleaned them with rags and water. They barely slept at night. When a child would start crying, all the hundred children in the room woke up and called out to their mothers. The crying was heartbreaking. We promised them that in a few days they would meet them. When I arrived at Auschwitz, a few months later, none of them were alive.

Hausner: Your Honor, this is a letter from the defendant's representative in Paris, dated July 10th, 42. The representative asks for urgent approval for the deportation of these children to Auschwitz. And this is the record of a telephone conversation between the defendant and the same representative ten days later, in which he confirms the deportation. These two documents testify that it was the defendant who decided to deport these four thousand children to their deaths.

Servatius: Mr. Eichmann, did you decide to deport these four thousand children to Auschwitz?

Eichmann: No, sir. During the ten days since I received the letter from Paris, I discussed it with Reichsführer Himmler several times. I called Paris only after he ordered me to carry out the deportation.

Hausner: Can the defendant present any evidence of Himmler's involvement in the deportation of these children?

Eichmann: Unfortunately, all my department documents went up in flames during the bombing of Berlin.

27. Ramle prison. The defense meeting room with Eichmann, Servatius and Grude.

- Grude: Are you sure Himmler ordered the deportation of these 4,000 children to Auschwitz?
- Eichmann: I wouldn't issue such an order on my own.
- Grude: Did you talk to him about this order? Did you meet with him?
- Eichmann: Of course.
- Grude: I looked at his biography. **(Shows him)** On these dates, between 10th and 20th in July '42, when you "met with him", Himmler toured the Eastern Front.
- Eichmann: Maybe I spoke to him on the phone.
- Grude: I don't believe that you spoke to him.
- Servatius: Miss Grude...
- Grude: I can't defend someone who sent four thousand children to their deaths.
- Servatius: The court will decide if he sent them.
- Grude: **(In tears)** This man has no compassion for human beings. Not even for helpless children separated from their parents. Therefore, he deserves no compassion. Although every criminal is entitled to defense, this man is not.
- Eichmann: Yes. I made the decision to send these children. I reported it before and after the execution. No one protested. No one objected. No one was sorry. No one regretted it.
- Grude: But how could you make such a decision without thinking about it yourself? You're a human being. A human being can think. Understand. Know. Therefore, he can distinguish between good and evil, even when his leaders try to confuse good and evil. Once you stopped thinking, you stopped being human.
- Servatius: Miss Grude, I suggest we continue this conversation later...
- Grude: And maybe you've stopped thinking too. You assume you're only defending him. But you're also defending all his partners. Millions of Germans who see you, say to themselves: If Eichmann is innocent, then my hands must be clean. **(Exits)**

28. Bach's office. Bach turns to leave. Grude enters.

- Grude: Good evening, Mr. Bach. Do you have a minute? I brought you a biography of Himmler. When Eichmann ordered the deportation of the children from Drancy to Auschwitz, Himmler was in the Eastern Front. He could not have given Eichmann any order.
- Bach: **(Looking at the book)** I see. Thank you. I knew that Eichmann was lying. Tomorrow we'll present the book to the judges. May I ask why you brought it to me?
- Grude: I resigned. I can't defend him anymore. I'm going home to demand that my father resign and retract his rulings.
- Bach: I wish you all the best, Miss Grude.
- Grude: You can help me. Your criticism of verdicts against Jews during the Reich will open the eyes of many.
- Bach: Miss. Grude, I was born in Berlin. When I was a child, I experienced terrible hatred of Jews. Even with our neighbors. Even with their children...
- Grude: We don't expect forgiveness. There is no forgiveness for what our parents did. But if you come to Germany, you'll see that we are different from our parents.
- Bach: I can see you're different, Miss Grude.
- Grude: Not just me. Many among us are trying to overcome the racism we grew up with, and to recognize human rights for every human being. You saw us in ghettos and camps. You can tell us what we don't know about ourselves.
- Bach: I'll not come to Germany in the next few years, Miss Grude. I will not sit in a restaurant where the waiter was a guard in Auschwitz. I won't sleep in a hotel where the receptionist was a bookkeeper, or the chambermaid was a clerk there. I won't take a bus where the conductor repaired stoves at the crematorium, or a train whose engine driver transported these four thousand children from Drancy...

29. Visiting room at Ramle Prison. Vera and Eichmann sit on opposite sides of the glass panel. The conversation is conducted through microphones and headphones.

- Eichmann: I want to see my children, Vera. I want to talk to them.
- Vera: We don't have enough money for their plane tickets.

- Eichmann: Call my friends in Buenos Aires. They know very well what I'll say about them if they don't give you enough.
- Vera: I've already spoken to them. We'll need every dollar for the appeal.
- Eichmann: You've already decided that I'll have to appeal? Why? Because I'm guilty? That's why you're not bringing the children? That's why you forbade them to write to me?
- Vera: I didn't forbid them.
- Eichmann: The trial hasn't ended, and you've already sentenced me. You've already decided that I'm a war criminal. I see you every day in the court. You don't even look at me.
- Vera: I haven't sentenced you. But the judges saw the documents about the transport of the children from Drancy to Auschwitz and about the supply of Zyklon B to the gas chambers.
- Eichmann: Don't you want our children to see how I refute these allegations?
- Vera: I want to protect them. I pray to God to give me strength.
- Eichmann: Protect them from whom?!
- Vera: The children adored you, Adolf. They imitated you from the day they were born...
- Eichmann: They are my children, and they will grow up as I raised them.
- Vera: They must know that if they grow up the way you raised them, they'll end up like you.
- Eichmann: Like me?! How like me?! **(Punches the glass wall)** How like me? **(She doesn't answer)** Get out of here. Get out immediately.
- Vera: I suggest you think a little...
- Eichmann: Get out!!
- Vera: Tomorrow the prosecution is questioning witnesses from Hungary. You know what the judges will decide after hearing them. You'll have to appeal, and you'll need a lot of money for it. **(Exits)**

A collage of documentary footage showing the actions against Jews in Hungary in 1944.

30. Court. The judges, the prosecution, the defense and the defendant are already in their places.

- Landau: We will now move on to discuss the extermination of the Jews in Hungary. Mr. Eichmann, what was your role in Budapest?
- Eichmann: Coordinating the schedule of trains departing to the East with the Hungarian Railways, sir.
- Landau: That's all?
- Eichmann: Yes, sir.
- Servatius: Did you have anything to do with the decision to deport Jews to Auschwitz?
- Eichmann: No, sir. The Führer gave a direct order to the Hungarian government.
- Servatius: And why was an officer from your unit present in every ghetto when a shipment was being deported?
- Eichmann: To count the Jews on the train, and make sure it leaves on time.
- Hausner: Did Rudolf Hess, the commandant of Auschwitz, visit you in Budapest?
- Eichmann: **(Hesitantly)** Yes, sir.
- Hausner: In his biography he writes: **(Reading from a page)** "The camp was unable to absorb the masses of Jews who came from Hungary. I went to Budapest to meet with Eichmann and asked him to reduce the number of trains to two a day. He insisted that he must send four trains every day.
- Eichmann: I acted according to the Reichsführer's orders, sir.
- Hausner: Have you received this order in writing?
- Eichmann: Yes, sir. But all the documents in my office went up in flames...
- Hausner: Your Honor, the accused cannot present evidence that he received such an order, because he did not receive such an order. He insisted on increasing the number of transports because of his lust for murder. Only an immoral person with no conscience could commit such a crime with such devotion.

31. The prison. Night. The defense meeting room with Eichmann. Servatius and Eichmann.

- Servatius: Don't fool yourself, Adolf. Your answers were not convincing. If the Auschwitz commander came to Budapest to bargain with you over the number of transports, then you were not a small official without authority.
- Eichmann: The biography of the Auschwitz commander is not worth much.
- Servatius: The claim that you were merely following orders no longer convinces the judges. We must look for another way to defend you. If the judges get the impression that you are admitting to the war crimes of our generation, so that the younger generation will change, so that it will reject fascism, racism, human rights violations...
- Eichmann: That's the reason you're defending me? So that the younger generation will change?
- Servatius: That way you might be able to save yourself from hanging. The evidence about the extermination in Hungary places heavy guilt on you. Insisting on your innocence is suicide.
- Eichmann: If I thought I was guilty, I would have committed suicide at the end of the war.
- Servatius: Of course you're guilty! You are guilty of all counts of the indictment! I knew this when I agreed to defend you. But I was willing to get dirty with your crimes to extract some kind of confession from you, hoping that maybe a few more high-ranking Nazis would confess and express remorse after you. But you cling to the Führer's crazy delusions and force me to defend them. I never imagined that I would stand in court and lighten the severity of your actions. After you're hanged, I'll have to hang myself too. No decent German would hire me. Until my dying day, I'll be forced to work only with despicable Nazis like you.
- Eichmann: If that's what you think of me, Sir...
- Servatius: If you want me to continue defending you, you will write a confession now. Do you hear? **(Gives him a paper and a pen)** Even if every word is a lie!

32. Hausner's office. Kollek, Hausner and Bach are already in the midst of a discussion.

- Kollek: I do not intervene in the conduct of the trial, Gideon. But the government insists that the silence of the Allies will not be mentioned in the discussion of the extermination of the Hungarian Jews.
- Hausner: How can we ignore it? Hungarian Jews sent desperate calls for help. The Allies did not even bother to send planes to bomb Auschwitz.
- Kollek: Eichmann is on trial now. Not the Allies.
- Hausner: Teddy, from the day Hitler came to power, the Allies saw the decrees against the Jews as an internal German matter, and therefore they did not intervene. Therefore, those decrees transformed into a systematic extermination. The world must understand that human rights violations are not an internal matter. It must come to the aid of every persecuted minority in every country. This is the most crucial lesson from this trial.
- Bach: If the Allies had agreed to take in Jewish refugees, many lives could have been saved. This is a lesson to all countries of the world to open their doors to refugees.
- Kollek: This trial is not about making the world a better place. We are responsible for the lives of two million Jews here, and for that, we need the support of the Allies. Other refugees will have to manage without us. Clear? **(Exits)**
- Bach: That's precisely what the Allies told the Hungarian Jews.
- Hausner: Don't worry. We won't accuse the Allies of anything. But our witnesses will, Joel Brand, for example.

33. Court. On the back screen is a slide: the testimony of Joel Brand, a member of the Zionist Rescue Committee in Budapest.

- Brand: The SS people in Budapest knew about our rescue committee. They knew that we were hiding Jews who had fled Poland and Slovakia and smuggling them to Romania. They also knew that most of our money came from American Jews, so they turned to us to establish a contact between them and the Americans.
- Landau: Why did the SS want a contact with the Americans?
- Brand: Himmler tried to reach a ceasefire agreement behind Hitler's back

- Landu: He had no way of contacting the Americans, but through you?
- Brand: The Americans refused to negotiate with Germany before it surrendered. Himmler planned to begin negotiations on rescuing Jews through us, and then continue political negotiations.
- Hausner: Mr. Brand, what deal did the defendant offer you on Himmler's behalf?
- Brand: When I walked into his office, he got up and said, "You know me, Brand. I solved the Jewish problem in Germany, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Greece. Now it's your turn. I'm willing to sell you a million Jews. From Hungary, Poland, Austria, Theresienstadt, Auschwitz. Anywhere you want. Take women who are able to give birth. Men who are able to procreate. Old people. Children. Blood for goods. Goods for blood. I asked: What goods are you interested in? Ten thousand trucks, he said. Where can we get ten thousand trucks? The World Jewry controls America. The Americans will give. Tomorrow you'll fly to Istanbul. The Jewish Agency will arrange a meeting for you with the American ambassador in Ankara. From tomorrow, twelve thousand Jews will be deported to Auschwitz every day. The agreement with the Americans is their only hope.
- Hausner: And what happened when you arrived in Istanbul?
- Brand: We immediately left for a meeting with the American ambassador in Ankara. When we got on the train, I was arrested by the police. The Turkish government decided to deport me to Hungary. I bribed an officer and remained in the hotel. I walked around the room like crazy. Every day, twelve thousand Jews are sent to Auschwitz. The American ambassador didn't even bother looking for me. Two days later, a telegram arrived from Moshe Sharett, head of the political department of the Jewish Agency: Come to Aleppo, Syria. I left immediately. I told him about Eichmann's proposal. He decided to fly to London to meet with Churchill.
- Hausner: Why didn't you return to Budapest to report to Eichmann?
- Brand: When the meeting ended, I was arrested by the British. They claimed I was a German agent and sent me to prison in Cairo. I immediately went on a hunger strike. A week later, the British Colonial Secretary, Lord Moyne, came to

visit me. I begged him to respond to Eichmann's offer. He replied: "There are millions of refugees in Europe. If the Germans give me a million Jews, what will I do with them? Where shall I put them?" **(Bursts into tears)**

- Hausner: Thank you very much, Mr. Brand. Can the defendant explain how the idea of liberating a million Jews in exchange for ten thousand trucks came about?
- Eichmann: The idea was mine, sir. I have always been in favor of solving the Jewish problem through immigration.
- Hausner: But if you truly wanted to promote the deal, why did you continue the deportations to Auschwitz, when you knew full well that these Jews were being murdered there?
- Eichmann: The decision on the deportations was made by the Reichsführer.
- Hausner: Did Himmler want to sabotage a deal that he himself authorized you to promote?!
- Eichmann: He didn't want to sabotage the deal, sir. It was the British and the Americans who sabotaged it. Apparently, Jewish lives were not so important to them.
- Hausner: Your Honor, the German ambassador in Budapest, who was present at the meeting between Himmler and the defendant, testified: "The Reichsführer scolded Eichmann for violating his orders: until now you murdered Jews, now I need them alive." This testimony proves that the defendant is lying again. The person who initiated the deal was Himmler, who was willing to free a million Jews in order to save Germany from destruction. The accused wanted to sabotage this deal. Therefore, he continued to send Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz, against Himmler's orders. And so they perished.

34. Visiting room at Ramle Prison. Night. Vera and Eichmann sit on opposite sides of the glass panel. The conversation takes place through microphones and headphones. A guard hands Eichmann a Bible.

- Vera: This is your father's Bible.
- Eichmann: Why did you bring it to me?
- Vera: For you to read it.
- Eichmann: Now?
- Vera: Yes. Now.

- Eichmann: I didn't know you cared so much.
- Vera: You are my husband, and I want you alive. The children need you too. If you read the Bible, you might begin to believe, and God will forgive you for what you did in Hungary.
- Eichmann: Your God is too big to deal with my problems.
- Vera: You're wrong. God does justice to His believers. Begin with Ecclesiastes chapter 12. **(quoting)** "For God will bring every deed into judgment".
- Eichmann: All my life I didn't believe in him for a moment.
- Vera: If you pray to him, he will soften the judges' hearts.
- Eichmann: Am I going to deceive myself now? **(Tearing up the Bible)**
- Vera: What are you doing?! How will you get forgiveness from Him?!
- Eichmann: You blame me for crimes in Hungary, without understanding what happened there. We all knew that the war was lost, and we couldn't bear the thought of Jews dancing on our ruins. So we sought revenge. Not just me. Every German who was there. The judges will never understand how difficult the defeat was for us. How difficult it is for us to this day.
- Vera: But God will understand. If you pray to Him, He will have mercy on you.
- Eichmann: This is not the time to pretend.
- Vera: Are you insisting that He sentence you to hell?
- Eichmann: Hell is an invention of Jews, Vera.
- Vera: If you're a good Christian, you'll be saved.
- Eichmann: **(Banging his fist on the glass panel)** Enough, Vera. In a few days they'll hang me. Don't drive me crazy with this nonsense now.

35. Court. On the back screen is a slide: Testimony of Aviva Fleischmann from Budapest.

- Fleischmann: On November 4th, Hungarians posted notices in the neighborhoods of Budapest. All Jews between the ages of sixteen and sixty were ordered to leave. The gendarmes led us on foot towards Austria, to "build fortifications for the Germans." We walked for eight days. In the cold and in the rain. My father was blind. My mother led him. On

the roadsides corpses with yellow badges were scattered. There were stains of clotted blood on the faces or chests. My cousin was eight months pregnant. She had trouble walking, they shot her on the first day. We walked from sunrise to dusk. In lines. With the last shreds of our strength. Four by four. We slept in the forests, under the open sky. In the evening, they gave us dirty water. They said it was soup. Because of this soup, many fell ill with dysentery. In the morning, we buried those who died at night. On the fourth day, they separated my mother from my father. They killed my father immediately. They killed my mother two days later. We reached the border exhausted. The gendarmes threw us in a factory warehouse. We died there until the end of the war. Only a few survived.

Hausner: Your Honor, it was the defendant who conceived these death marches. He wanted to complete the extermination of Hungarian Jewry, but the roads to Auschwitz were blocked. So he decided to send the two hundred thousand Jews of Budapest on foot to Austria to die of hard labor. According to the German ambassador: "Although the Hungarian government decided not to send any more Jews to the Reich, Obersturmbannführer Eichmann demands 100,000 Jews for the fortification effort in Austria, in order to complete the evacuation of Hungary from Jews." Eichmann was not afraid to admit that this was his goal. Here is the testimony of the Hungarian Minister of the Interior: "Eichmann demanded that I also deport children, women and the elderly." Himmler's deputy, General Jüttner, who was visiting Budapest, saw on his way the death marches, the stumbling, the dying, the piles of corpses by the roadsides, and ordered to stop these marches immediately. But as soon as he left Budapest, Eichmann renewed them. Here is Jüttner's testimony at Nuremberg. Himmler himself was furious with Eichmann for violating his orders and continuing to kill Jews. Eichmann's fervor for total annihilation in Hungary testifies to his passion for extermination throughout Europe. He was not an obedient official. He went above and beyond the orders he received. He is a monstrous man, poisoned with Jew-hatred. He fought with mad zeal, as if possessed, to murder every Jew he could get his

hands on. The assertion that he merely followed orders cannot absolve him. No legal system anywhere condones genocide. The moment he carried out these orders, he became an enemy of humanity, as did all his accomplices, whom we will capture, and put on trial. With that, I conclude the interrogation of the witnesses. I ask the court to sentence the accused to death.

Servatius: Your Honor, the prosecutor is distorting the truth. The defendant did not initiate the deportation of Hungarian Jews. SS headquarters in Berlin initiated it. The defendant had nothing to do with the death marches. It was the Hungarians who chose the Jews, and they led them towards the border. The defendant was a junior officer. He was unable to carry out the acts attributed to him, just as it is impossible to attribute to him the atrocities that took place in the death camps. He followed Himmler's orders. Had he refused, he would have been sent to prison. In the sick world where these orders were considered legal, he had no way of seeing that they were illegal. He was blind to their illegality, because he was a product of the anti-Semitism that prevailed in Europe for two thousand years. Because he carried out the will of the great majority of Germans...

Eichmann: Your Honor, I don't ask for mercy. I am willing to hang myself in public to deter anti-Semites around the world. Yes. I knew about the death marches in Hungary. I also knew about the extermination of the Jews at Auschwitz. But I was a captive of my oath of allegiance to my commanders. The claim that I was a bloodthirsty monster is a lie. It is a fact that I cooperated with the prosecution here. I wanted the world to know the truth. The rumors that I was responsible for implementing the "Final Solution" are groundless. They were distributed by the defendants in Nuremberg. They made me a scapegoat. My great sin is that I swore allegiance to those who were not worthy of trust. That I didn't have the courage to refuse the orders I received. But who in Germany had such courage? Everyone obeyed. Everyone. Anyone who swore to the Führer thereby gave up his personality, his common sense, his self-judgment. Had I received an order to send my children to death then, I would have carried it out. I did

not persecute Jews out of lust for their extermination. The prosecution failed to point to a single Jew I killed...

Landau: Thanks for the prosecution and defense. This concludes the stage of evidence, investigations, and summaries. The court will soon publish the date for the reading of the verdict.

Bailiff: All rise!

36. Chancellery in Bonn. Globke and Vogel.

Vogel: The Israelis accepted all our requests, sir. I think it's time to lift the sanctions we imposed on them.

Globke: I already authorized the release of reparations to the survivors yesterday.

Vogel: It's time to release the funds for their nuclear reactor as well.

Globke: Absolutely. But first they must commit that they will no longer hunt down Nazi criminals and will no longer conduct trials against them.

Vogel: Don't you think Nazi criminals should be prosecuted?!

Globke: These trials are an internal matter of ours. Not theirs.

Vogel: But to date, we have not prosecuted a single Nazi.

Globke: We haven't prosecuted anyone because we're not ready for those trials yet. Because we don't have proper legislation yet. Because...

Vogel: Or because we're afraid of what will turn out in these trials.

Globke: German society will conduct soul-searching according to the decisions of its government, not according to the decisions of the Israelis.

Vogel: I'm sorry. I cannot present to them such a demand.

Globke: Do you want me to send someone else to replace you?

Vogel: It's an unacceptable demand, sir. It stems not from the need to postpone our soul-searching, but from the fear that Mr. Hausner will order to hunt you down and put you on trial in Jerusalem.

Globke: I won't bear such insinuations from you, Vogel! **(Vogel turns to leave)** Wait a minute. If the Israeli government gives us this commitment, I'm willing to retire. I've already discussed this with the Chancellor. Many of the

senior officials who served in the Reich government would retire after me.

Vogel: They also want to secure themselves from prosecution in Israel.

Globke: I don't intend to shirk responsibility for my actions in the Reich government. If our prosecutor general decides to prosecute me, I will defend myself in a German court. I have no doubt that I'll refute all the allegations against me.

37. Visiting room at Ramle Prison. Day. Vera and Servatius On one side of the glass panel, headphones are already on their heads. Two guards drag Eichmann into the room and seat him on a chair on the other side of the panel. Despite his objections, they put headphones on him.

Vera: The judges asked for another extension, Adolf. They are still undecided. Not all is lost.

Servatius: The Führer's condemnation and the remorse for following his orders forced them to reconsider their decision.

Vera: You must take care of yourself. Your blood pressure is sky-high.

Servatius: If they do convict you, we'll appeal to the Supreme Court.

Vera: You must take the medicine. You must also eat.

Servatius: All over the world there are voices against the death penalty. Among them are many Jews. Here in Jerusalem, too. The philosopher Martin Buber wrote to their president.

Eichmann abruptly removes his headphones and tries to get up and get out. The guards seat him down.

Vera: I'll stay with you all the time, Adolf. We'll have at least a few months together. I'll visit you daily. I'll bring the kids here.

Servatius: The judges on the appeal will judge you for what you did. Not for what Germany did.

Vera: You can't be your own judge. Certainly not your own executioner. The last judge is God.

Eichmann: I can no longer live at the mercy of the Jews. I can no longer ask them for mercy. And I won't deceive myself. I have no chance to appeal. The Supreme Court justices are

also Jewish, and they will seek revenge like any Jew. I should have stuck a bullet through my head at the end of the war, instead of hiding and running away, I shouldn't be giving these damned Jews the satisfaction of hanging me.

38. Kollek's office. Hausner enters.

- Kollek: Congratulations on your closing speech, Gideon. The government thanks you for conducting the trial.
- Hausner: Thank you very much.
- Kollek: Ben-Gurion will write you a letter of appreciation.
- Hausner: For doing my duty? This sentence is just the beginning. **(Takes out a document)** We mentioned in the trial several other war criminals who participated in the extermination. At the top of the list is Dr. Josef Mengele, who is hiding in Brazil. We must prosecute him.
- Kollek: Unfortunately, Mengele is not our top priority today.
- Hausner: Mengele is the most horrific expression of human evil, Teddy. He made the selections at Auschwitz. Performed medical experiments on children. In twins.
- Kollek: Ben-Gurion prefers focusing on building the future, rather than probing the past.
- Hausner: I will raise the issue in the next government meeting. **(Gets up)**
- Kollek: Sit down. **(Hausner sits)** please. I shared with you only some of the pressures that the German government exerted on us during the trial. They decided to continue the funding of the nuclear reactor in Dimona, on condition that we stop hunting Nazi criminals and prosecuting them.
- Hausner: And you agreed?! I don't remember the government discussing it. It contradicts our commitment to the victims and the survivors.
- Kollek: It's necessary.
- Hausner: No way. We need to capture war criminals and put them on trial. These trials will oblige all the countries of the world to examine the evil within them, and the legitimacy they give it.
- Kollek: Israel is not concerned about the moral rehabilitation of the world. The Nazi criminals will die within a few years and be forgotten, and we will continue to fight for our

lives in this bloody Middle East. And in order to survive here, we need a nuclear reactor.

Hausner: Not just a nuclear reactor.

Kollek: You are the Attorney General, and you will act according to our instructions.

Hausner: I will fulfill my role as Attorney General to the best of my ability. But I will also fulfill my duty as a human being and as a Jew, even if it goes beyond my role. And even if it goes against your orders. Precisely because we have been victims of the most monstrous evil in human history, we have a greater responsibility to fight it.

Kollek: Don't force the government to fire you, Gideon.

Hausner: I'll continue fighting it even if you fire me. In a world where hundreds of Nazi criminals roam free, millions more will be murdered. We will be the first victims. We may also be persuaded by the evil they spread and kill in its name.

39. The court and the various offices. The prosecution team, the defense and the defendant are already in court. Kollek, Globke and Vogel follow the meeting from their offices.

Bailiff: All rise!

The judges come in.

Landau: The defendant will rise. Adolf Eichmann, this court finds you guilty of crimes against the Jewish people and humanity, and of war crimes. We have considered the punishment you deserve and concluded that in order to punish you and to deter others, you should be given the maximum punishment prescribed by law. In light of this, this court sentenced you, Adolf Eichmann, to death.

Bailiff: All rise.

Eichmann: Long live Germany!

Everyone gets up. The judges leave. The police take Eichmann out. He is followed by everyone present, except Hausner, who is left sitting alone, fearing that although he won the legal battle against Eichmann, he must have lost his main battle. Meanwhile, the news is broadcasted on the radio.

broadcaster: This is the voice of Israel from Jerusalem. Following the death sentence to the Nazi war criminal Adolf Eichmann, following the rejection of his appeal and the rejection of his request for clemency by the President of Israel, Adolf Eichmann was hung tonight in Ramle Prison. His body was cremated, and his ashes were scattered at sea by staff of the Israel Prison Service...

On the rear screen, the following subtitles appear:

Subtitles: Since the end of World War II, several trials of Nazi war criminals have been conducted, mainly in Germany, but thousands of Nazi war criminals were not investigated, prosecuted, or punished, including some of the most senior criminals. In the 1950s and 1960s, the Mossad conducted several hunts for Nazi war criminals, but apart from Adolf Eichmann, none were captured, and the hunts were stopped. In 1987, the trial of the Ukrainian war criminal John Demjanjuk was held in Israel, and the Supreme Court eventually acquitted him due to reasonable doubt.

End