

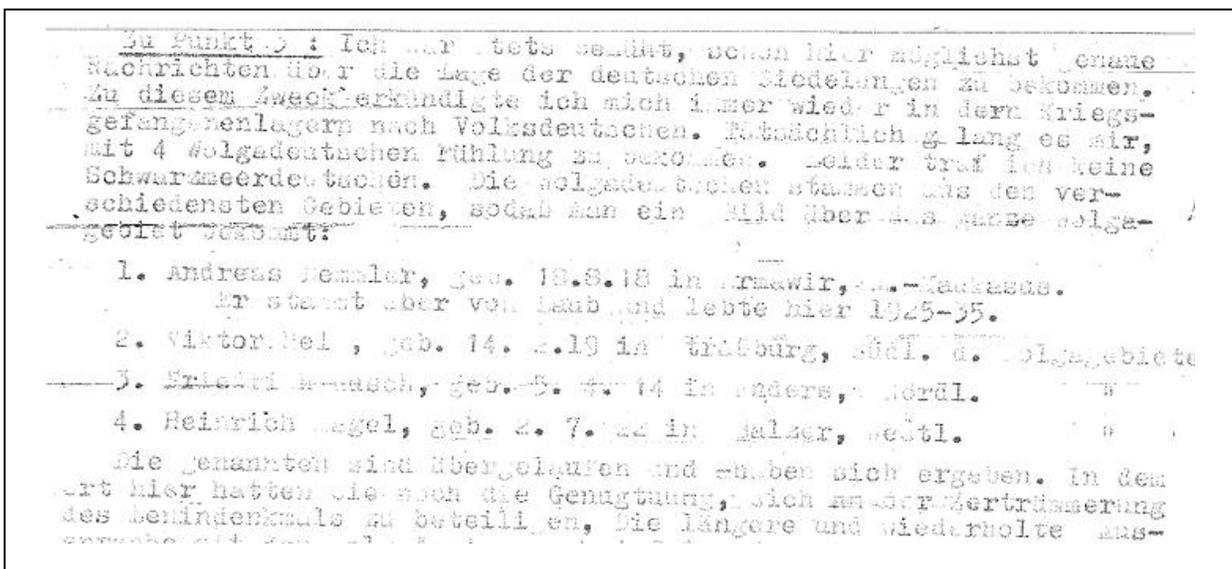
Stumpp Report #2 of 7

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At the outbreak of World War Two in 1939, the German Reich was invading Poland and annexing various Central European nations while the Soviet Union was busy annexing various parts of the Balkan nations. A Non-Aggression Pact was signed 23 August, 1939 which allowed for each country to extract their ethnic people from the territories annexed by the other. Then, on 22 June, 1941, Hitler invaded the Soviet Union, whose armed forces pushed their way across the Volhynia and Volga Regions on their way to the outskirts of Moscow. Since these two regions had been populated by ethnic Germans for a couple hundred years, the German Reich appointed Karl Stumpp to head a task-force to investigate the condition of the ethnic Germans who had been living under communist rule.

What now follows is my attempt to translate the reports Karl Stumpp drew up as he and his entourage travelled through German occupied land within the Soviet Union. Unaware of whether his reports are already translated into English, I decided to struggle with the documents preserved in the DAI collection. As you can see from the photo below, the typed pages are difficult to read. If the typewriter keys were not cleaned of ribbon residue, and the carbon paper for duplicates and triplicates was over-used, what copies I had to read were in poor condition. So there will be times when I may have misread a letter, or could only determine a portion of the blurred word, or just had to leave a blank in the typing, but try to come up with a translation of the unknown word which best fit the context of the sentence. Words within [square brackets] are those of the translator.



[Translation Begins]

Report #22
of the Ethnic German Department of Division VII,
Special Leader Dr. Stumpp.

In the mainly Jewish city of Borditschew, 26 German families have so far been identified. Most of them come from Volhynia, 2 families from southern Russia. Of these 26 families, 5 are mixed marriages: 2 with Czech women and 3 with Polish. 3 German girls have married Polish [men]. The following families are represented: Linnich, Bormeister, Risske, Eggeri, Melzer, Roder, Ehmann, Seltmann, Ullmer and Leibbrandt.

A large part of them work in the local leather factory. In addition, shoemakers, iron turners (*Eisendreher*) and wheelwrights are represented. In most cases, unfortunately, only Ukrainian is spoken. The children speak almost only Ukrainian. This is due to the fact that in recent years only Ukrainian has been taught at school and the speaking German at home was also banned. Things German of this place was strongly suppressed and persecuted. Of the 26 families, 13 men and 5 sons were exiled in 1936-1937, one named Leibbrandt, 2 months before the outbreak of war. 5 family fathers have mostly died in the starvation years, the rest are sick or they are young married men. There are only 7 heads in the 26 families. It is especially difficult for the women, as they do not know where their husbands are and whether they are still alive. The widows struggle hard through life with their children. The statement here has confirmed what has already been established so far:

1. The most numerous banishment of the "kulaks" (rich farmers) took place in 1929, that is, in the year of the introduction of the collective.
2. The most terrible years of hunger were 1933 and 1934.
3. The most numerous banishments for political reasons took place at the end of 1936, throughout 1937 and partly in 1938.

A local Ukrainian teacher told me that the then Minister of the Interior, Niklai Jeshow, was a psychopath and a demonic person (*Teufelsmensch*). He had all influential men, especially from the intelligentsia and especially those who were suspected of being somehow connected with foreign countries, arrested. For example, almost all sailors were arrested. It is known that in these years a large part of the German teachers were banished.

The Germans in Borditschew live for the most part in poor conditions. They have to come to a German environment, otherwise they will be lost to things German.

The most interesting case, which really shows an ethnic German fate, was the encounter with Mrs. Dormeier. She comes from Matildendorf, Bessarabia. In 1914, she came to Kasawurt, Causasus; in 1918, to Guldendorf near Odessa, from here to Freidorf, in 1931, her husband was exiled to Berditschew, where she followed him with her 7 children. She was also arrested here and served 9 months in prison. 220 women were squeezed into a room and languished here. Mrs. Dormeier was tormented and was always supposed to confess that her husband was against

the Red Army. In 1937, the husband was banished along with the 2 oldest sons. Where he is and whether he is still alive, she does not know. Mrs. Dormeier still speaks an unadulterated "colonist German" and has only one wish which is to get out of the current environment and to be able to live among Germans, preferably in Germany. Her descriptions of the experiences in the current war were touching. She had dug a hole in her barn to store food supplies for her cow. She used this hole as protection during the heavy fighting here. She was hidden there with her daughter, daughter-in-law and a small child for a few days and nights. Red soldiers appeared and she heard the soldiers cursing as they were looking for her. The child had to be silenced and was close to suffocating. The Reds set up a machine gun in the barn and a tough fight took place over their heads. Finally they heard tanks on the street. The soldiers wanted to flee, but the commissar threatened to shoot them. Then Germans appeared and freed them from their situation.

Impressions about the Conditions and Mood with the Ukrainian Population

A conversation with 2 officials at the town hall in Staro-Konstantinow gave an insight into the economic and social conditions of the civil service. The chairman of the *Rayon* [low-level territorial and administrative subdivision for rural and municipal administration] received 1,200 rubles per month, his deputy 900. The head of Staro-Konstantinow (about 12,000 inhabitants) 750 rubles, his deputy 550 rubles. The department heads of the district (health care, culture, roads, etc.) each 800 rubles. Only the head of finance receives 1,000 rubles. On the other hand, these following prices: simple fabric suit 310 to 350 rubles, good suit up to 1,200 rubles, boots with rubber soles 40 to 50, with leather soles 120 rubles. Knee boots cost 600-700 rubles, that is a month's salary. One kilogram [2.2 pounds] granular sugar 10-15 rubles. In general, one must make a strict distinction between the prices in cooperatives (*Kooperati*) and black market (*Schleichhandel*). In general, it is claimed by the officials and employees that they almost never received anything in the cooperative, but always had to buy at expensive prices. The Jews, whose hands were in the trade, had everything and also provided for their racial comrades. Thus, an official tells a characteristic anecdote: A Jew is in the cooperative and receives a salary of 120 rubles. He is offered another job with a salary of 500 rubles. He refuses with the remark that he cannot exist with it. Explanation: In the cooperative, he earns several times through speculation. If, for example, 20 pairs of boots come in, he sells 10 of them in a prescribed manner (*pro Forma*) at the prescribed prices. The rest is sold privately by a good friend at many times the price. This is all done in top secret. The buyer also keeps quiet, as he is glad to have a pair of boots. Thus the people were deceived and exploited.

One official also told me that he had the order to go to the villages to set on fire the kolkhoz before the German invasion. He stayed in hiding for 4 days and nights and did not carry out his mission. On the one hand out of inner conviction, on the other hand the farmers would have beaten him to death if he had done so. Before their withdrawal, however, the Bolsheviks destroyed what they could, especially the agricultural machinery and tractors. In Staro-Konstantinow, I visited the large shops in which airplanes, cars and tractors were made. They were completely destroyed. In one room, hundreds of trunks laying around in the greatest disorder. The walls are decorated with pictures of the leading Bolshevik men. Here and there is a open (*weißer*) spot. Here, in between, was a disgraced leader. The walls are inscribed

everywhere with sayings, all of which culminate in the sentence: If you do this and that or do not do, you serve the enemy.

Very interesting was a visit to the exceptionally good-looking farming village of Awina. It must be a healthy community, because the houses look quite acceptable and relatively well maintained. I talked to the kolkhoz blacksmiths. They gathered together and wanted to know a lot, especially whether private property would be reintroduced. Of 360 kolkhoz horses here, the Bolsheviks took 300 with them, leaving only the poorest 60 behind. The farmers are concerned about how to bring their grain home and, above all, how to cultivate the autumn seeds. The church is still standing. Even a cross is still on it. When one was taken down, there was an uprising in the community. As in many cases, the church served as a grain storage place. Now everyone is going back to church, including the youth. However, the pastor is no longer allowed to enter the church. The congregation rejects him because he had renounced religion. "We pray alone now," the farmers said.

The mood about the achievements and sacrifices of the German soldier and his Führer [Hitler] is expressed in a transcript of a Ukrainian teacher, which reads in literal translation: Women, mothers, sisters and daughters of the German soldiers!

I address you on behalf of all women, on behalf of our children, on behalf of the entire Ukrainian people. Many of you have now lost your most dear loved ones and are in deep sorrow. But we Ukrainian women envy you. We would be happy if our men could die with the rifle in their hands for the most holy cause, for the cause of the fatherland. We are more unhappy than you because our men, disarmed and defenseless, shot by the thousands in dull prisons, destroyed and burned alive in locked chambers. Only the luckiest of them in the Front can expect to be shot by their Commissars in the retreat. In full recognition of his powerlessness, the Bolshevik (*Kolch*) demands millions of victims. These will be his last victims. For the senseless attempt to build a communism based on the stupid theory of Jewish miscarriages, millions of people paid for the "land of socialism." There was no better way to prove the harmfulness and hopelessly incapable theory than to apply it in practice.

The whole system could only survive through cruel persecution and oppression. Now it trembles and decays due to the blow from the outside. But for the complete and final destruction of this system, all people must fight to wash away the Bolshevik disease with its blood. The German people have started this struggle and are therefore now writing the most brilliant page of their history.

German women, allow us to participate in your grief and to bow our heads before the dead with you. Eternal glory to the heroes who lost their lives in this fight!

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At the same time, I take the opportunity to address the Führer and meritorious son of the German people, Sir Adolf Hitler. Recently I had the opportunity to see you driving through the streets of our city. The feelings of flattery are foreign to me. But at that moment I wanted to stop your car with my body and express through personal words inside the feelings of infinite gratitude for the

liberation that we would never have achieved on our own. All Ukrainians share this feeling today and look to you as the one who brought us liberation and happiness. Take our best wishes with the assurances that the Ukrainians will never forget the sacrifices made for them by the German people.

Hail to the victorious leader of the German people,
Salvation of the resurrected Ukraine!

Note: The husband of this teacher is banished and probably no longer alive.

On 6 August 1941, the Führer drove through the hometown of this teacher.

Signed: Dr. Stumpp
Special Leader (*Sonderführer*)

[Translation Ends]