

POLISH BORDER INCIDENTS OF 1939

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On 10 August 1939, Alfred NAUJOCKS was summoned into MEYERICH's presence and told that, as the Fuehrer was determined to attack Poland within a month, it would be necessary to stage some "frontier incidents" which would lead the world to believe that the first aggressive move had been made by the Poles and not by the Germans. For this purpose, it was proposed to take selected life-term prisoners from the concentration camps, kill them by means of hypodermic injections, dress them in Polish army uniforms and, having riddled their bodies with bullets, place them in carefully chosen positions in German frontier villages of Upper Silesia, so that it would appear, to the casual observer, that all parties of Polish troops had been carrying out abortive raids on Reich territory.

This plan was immediately put into effect, and NAUJOCKS states that the bodies were forwarded to the villages where they were required in such quantities as to be labelled "preserves". Some of the victims arrived at their destinations only half-dead, having been given inadequate injections, and these had to be put out of their misery before they could be used. The part played by NAUJOCKS in the affair was as follows:- In order to lend color to the "frontier incidents", MEYERICH and his friends decided to establish a story to the effect that the Gleiwitz broadcasting station had been attacked by Polish insurgents, and he (NAUJOCKS) was accordingly sent to that town with five or six men to make the necessary arrangements. On his arrival there, he arranged for a Polish-speaking German to take possession of the microphone "by force" and to begin broadcasting an appeal to his "countrymen" urging them to rise against the Germans. The broadcast was then abruptly broken off, shots were fired in the studio, and finally a corpse, with which NAUJOCKS had previously been provided, was left lying on the floor close to the microphone, riddled with bullets.

In this way Germany prepared for the "unprovoked" attack upon the Polish people. Thus were the incidents created which HITLER referred to in his radio speech of 1 September 1939 in which he expressed his anger at the "Polish frontier outrages" and assured his listeners that such insults could only be answered by the sword.