

Accused 'took' Jewish family

By NEIL CROSS

A Ukrainian man charged yesterday he had been alleged war criminal Miroslav Beronovsky and two German SS officers rounding up a Jewish family on the morning about 100 people from his village had been executed.

In the Adelaide Magistrates Court, Mr Miroslav Beronovsky, 77, said the woman and two children he had seen being taken had lived in his street and he had not seen them again.

Speaking through an interpreter, Mr Lipinsky told the court that in June 1945 there had been a massacre of Jews from his village.

He had seen a Jewish family in his street taken away "just like the others". But he said he had not seen any notes taken from their homes.

Mr Lipinsky claimed he had seen Beronovsky and two SS men "take the family away".

However, senior defence lawyer Mr Michael David QC claimed Mr Lipinsky had told Australian war crimes investigators last year that he had not seen Beronovsky on the morning of the roundup.

Adelaide prosecutor Miroslav Be-

ronovsky, 78, is charged with having been directly knowingly concerned or partly to the murder of about 100 Jewish people in Oranienburg between March 1 and July 31, 1942.

The prosecution has alleged Beronovsky was the same man who was head of the local police in the village and took part in organising a column of German Jews to a nearby German military camp where they were executed and buried in a mass grave.

The court was told Australian investigators last year had shown a selection of photographs taken around 1940 to Mr Lipinsky.

'Not in photo'

He had not spotted any photo and commented "It seems to me he is not here". However, a photo of Beronovsky had been included in the photo.

Despite objection from defence lawyers, Mr Lipinsky was allowed to take part in an in-court identification in which he pointed out Beronovsky and claimed he was the man who was head of police in Oranienburg.

After being asked who was taken by Beronovsky and the two Germans, Mr Lipinsky said "I seem

to me a wife and two children. I am not sure".

He said he had not seen the Jews outside the village concentration centre nor know what had happened to them after that.

"They came from his street and got returned," Mr Lipinsky said.

Later in his evidence, Mr Lipinsky claimed he had seen Beronovsky and another Ukrainian policeman, Gerd Gouva, in 1944 in a horse and cart during the German withdrawal.

Earlier, another Ukrainian witness, Mrs Nina Bohonok told the court the remembered Beronovsky well.

He said he had married while living in Oranienburg. Although she did not know the year and "only" from his wedding was a sensation.

However, Mrs Bohonok said she had not attended the wedding.

Later in his evidence, Mrs Bohonok mentioned the accused was the Beronovsky who had been head of police in Oranienburg. The court was told that last year she had also submitted a photo of him among a dozen picture taken around 1940.

The hearing, before magistrate David Curry, is continuing.

Hawke poll warning on GST

Row over excess water bill settled

A dispute between a Billingham and the P & W Department over a \$400 excess water bill has ended with both parties agreeing on a new water meter to be installed for \$2270.

The man, Mr Malcolm Phillips, challenged the account for his late father's property.

P & W spokesman Mr Peter Manos said yesterday the department had not known Mr Phillips had had a plumber disconnect the mains supply to a garage in favour of a bore on the property.

Mr Manos said it was common practice for P & W meter readers to be guided by previous consumption records.

Mr Phillips had been a very high consumer of water - averaging 13000 litres monthly over the past three years.

When the meter reader had checked the meter and found it read only 262L, he had assumed something had been wrong. Mr Manos said.

The department offered to reset the meter, which was found to be accurate and indicated that a use of 22kL was fairly typical of Mr Phillips pattern of water consumption in summer prior to the bore.

"We have agreed on a new account," Mr Phillips has accepted the reading as accurate," Mr Manos said.

The rate for excess water in this case was the per kilolitre.

Mr Phillips could not be contacted yesterday.

— Sylvia Krieger



Former prime ministers Mr Whitlam, Mr Fraser and Mr Hawke at the SBS interview.

Mr Hawke, who resigned in December after losing a leadership ballot to Mr Keating, said the Coalition would win the next election if it drops its proposed goods and services tax (GST).

"The Coalition will win the next election if it drops its proposed goods and services tax (GST)," Mr Hawke said in an interview to be aired on SBS Television's Face the Press at 7.30 tonight.

"We hear about this marvelous package. It is the certainty of Australian politics that it would be paid down the gullet" if the Coalition put down the GST.

"Now the question is whether the forces behind the Liberal Party will make that judgment. If they keep the GST, then the Coalition Labor Government is in with a chance."

Mr Hawke said he would never hurt the Labor Party when he stepped down after Mr Keating's successful debut in the campaign, also launched an attack on the republican debate, including the political agenda.

"I suggest it [Australia] could be a good country," Mr Keating had lost his post.

Mr Keating has probably altered the equation over the last three or four months," he said. "And he's doing this with a carelessness which I find quite strange."

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Baby clothes charge

BROKEN HILLS: A youth, 18, was charged yesterday with stealing baby clothes for his pregnant girlfriend in Broken Hill.

The girl, 18, was charged with receiving the clothes which police said were stolen from a house while the cover was away.

She also was charged with damaging the house by writing that Christian names and his initials on a wall.

The pair will appear in the local children's court on July 20.

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