

PROCÈS  
DES  
GRANDS CRIMINELS DE GUERRE  
DEVANT  
LE TRIBUNAL MILITAIRE  
INTERNATIONAL

NUREMBERG

14 NOVEMBRE 1945 — 1<sup>er</sup> OCTOBRE 1946

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TEXTE OFFICIEL

ÉDITION FRANÇAISE

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TOME XXXIX

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DOCUMENTS ET AUTRE MATÉRIEL  
DE PREUVE

NUMÉRO RF-1218 à JN



## NOTE DE L'ÉDITEUR

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L'Éditeur du Procès-verbal.

**DOCUMENT UK-065.**

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**NOTE EXPLICATIVE:**

Le document UK-65 (cote d'audience GB-224) est identique au document C-157 et reproduit sous ce dernier numéro.

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**DOCUMENT UK-066.**

RAPPORT DE LA SECTION ANGLAISE DES CRIMES DE GUERRE PRÈS DU QUARTIER GÉNÉRAL DES TROUPES ALLIÉES, SUR LES MESURES ALLEMANDES DE REPRÉSAILLES CONTRE LES PARTISANS EN ITALIE ET SUR LES CRUAUTÉS COMMISES CONTRE LA POPULATION CIVILE, DE MARS 1944 À AVRIL 1945. CE DOCUMENT COMPREND LES ANNEXES SUIVANTES: DÉCRET DE KEITEL, DU 16 DÉCEMBRE 1942: PAR ORDRE DE HITLER, LA TROUPE DOIT AGIR SANS PITIÉ DANS LA LUTTE CONTRE LES PARTISANS, MÊME CONTRE LES FEMMES ET LES ENFANTS; AUCUN MEMBRE DE LA TROUPE NE PEUT ÊTRE PUNI POUR SON ATTITUDE LORS DU COMBAT. ORDRE DE KESSELRING, DU 17 JUIN 1944, SUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LES BANDES EN TERRITOIRE ITALIEN: KESSELRING COUVRIRA TOUT CHEF QUI AGIRA DUREMENT AU COURS DE LA LUTTE CONTRE LES BANDES. ORDRE DE KESSELRING DU 1<sup>er</sup> JUILLET 1944: LES MÉTHODES LES PLUS RIGOUREUSES DOIVENT ÊTRE EMPLOYÉES DANS LA LUTTE CONTRE LES BANDES; PRENDRE DES OTAGES ET LES FUSILLER EN CAS DE VIOLENCES COMMISES DANS LES ENDROITS INFESTÉS DE BANDES; AU CAS OÙ LES SOLDATS ESSUIENT LES FEUX D'UNE LOCALITÉ, LA LOCALITÉ DOIT ÊTRE INCENDIÉE; LES AUTEURS OU LES CHEFS DE GROUPE DOIVENT ÊTRE PUBLIQUEMENT PENDUS. PROCLAMATION DE LA KOMMANDANTUR LOCALE DE COVOLO, EN DATE DU 11 JUILLET 1944: POUR CHAQUE BLESSÉ APPARTENANT À LA WEHRMACHT, 50 HOMMES SERONT FUSILLÉS SUR LE LIEU DE L'ATTENTAT, ET POUR CHAQUE MORT, 100 HOMMES SERONT FUSILLÉS. (COTE D'AUDIENCE GB-274.)

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE:**

Certified by Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe, 19 Nov 1945; report typewritten; appendices photo copies with typed English trans; trans, not reproduced, except in case of "D", which orig. is Italian and not reproduced; each page of document stamped "War Office, A.G.3" (red ink) at lower right corner, except first page, which is stamped at top, right of center; 5 parts

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## Part I

The British War Crimes Section of the Allied Force Headquarters has investigated fully a number of cases of German reprisals for partisan activity in Italy, committed between April and November, 1944. In addition it has been established that information received from many sources on a further large number of atrocities committed between March 1944 and April 1945, is substantially correct.

A study of all these cases reveals that there is a striking similarity in the facts. The incident invariably opens with the killing or wounding of a German soldier or soldiers by partisans; reprisal activity is then initiated either by the troops immediately on the spot or in more serious cases, by the arrival of definite units and formations specially detailed for the purpose. There is no taking of hostages in the normal sense of the word, but a number of people are selected haphazardly from the local population and are killed by shooting or hanging, whilst whole villages or certain farms or houses are destroyed by fire. In a number of cases an announcement is then made to the population that the action taken was a reprisal for the death of a German soldier and will be repeated should further attacks on Germans take place.

A typical example is the CIVITELLA atrocity, one of those cases which has been completely investigated. Partisan Bands had been operating in the area, attacking lone German lorries and motor cycles. On JUNE 18th, 1944, two German soldiers were killed and a third wounded in a fight with Partisans in the village of CIVITELLA. Fearing reprisals, the inhabitants evacuated the village but when the Germans discovered this, punitive action was postponed. On JUNE 29th, 1944, when the local inhabitants were returning and were feeling secure once more, the Germans carried out a well organised reprisal, combing the neighbourhood. Innocent inhabitants were often shot on sight. During that day 212 men, women and children in the immediate district were killed. Some of the dead women were found completely naked. In the course of investigations, a nominal roll of the dead has been compiled, and is complete with the exception of a few names where bodies could not be identified. Ages of the dead ranged from 1 year to 84 years. Approximately 100 houses were destroyed by fire; some of the victims were burned alive in their homes.

On DECEMBER 16th, 1942, KEITEL issued an order relating to the combatting of Partisans. This order was captured in Crete. (A copy, with English translation, is annexed hereto and marked 'A').



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On JUNE 17th and JULY 1st, 1944, KESSELRING issued orders on this subject. (Copies, with English translations, are annexed hereto and marked 'B' and 'C'). Document 'B' was found at KESSELRING's H.Q., after the surrender of the German Forces, whilst Document 'C' was found amongst the records of the Ortskommandatur, Castiglione dei Popoli, Nr. BOLOGNA. Other evidence of the issue of this second order to German formations has been found.

A comparison of Documents 'A', 'B', and 'C' makes it clear that KESSELRING's orders were in accordance with a policy laid down by the Supreme Command. Documents are held proving that this general policy was dictated to lower commands in the German Army in Italy.

Evidence has been found to show that a large number of the atrocities in Italy was committed by the HERMANN GOERING PARACHUTE PANZER DIVISION. Notable offenders also were 1 PARACHUTE DIVISION, 16 SS PANZER GRENADIER DIVISION and 114 Light DIVISION.

The orders of the German Command were made known to the local population in a series of notices which were exhibited in towns and villages throughout German-occupied Italy and were published in newspapers. (A specimen copy of a typical Notice to the inhabitants of COVOLO is annexed hereto and marked 'D')

In the cases on which reliable information is held, it is considered that a conservative estimate of the number of persons who met their deaths at the hands of the German soldiery, is more than 7,500 men, women and children ranging in years from infancy to extreme old age. In the Ardeatine Caves case in Rome, alone, 335 men were shot. Many other reports have not yet been substantiated, but it is certain that the total of innocent Italian civilians who were killed in such reprisals is very much greater than the number given above.

#### APPENDIX.

Sources of information on which this report is based.

1. 127 German official documents collected by A.F.H.Q.
2. Official A.F.H.Q. reports resulting from the investigation of the following atrocity cases:



PLACE.	DATE.
ARDEATINE CAVES, ROME.	24th March, 1944.
GUARDISTALLO	29th June, 1944.
FUCECCHIO MARSHES	6th July to 23rd August, 1944.
RIFREDA CASTELLO	5th August, 1944.
COMMUNE of CAVRIGLIA	4th, 8th and 11th July, 1944.
BUCINE	7th, 8th and 9th July, 1944.
CIVITELLA	29th June, 1944.
BADICROCE	30th June to 17th July, 1944.
PALAZZO DEL PERO	24th June, 1944.
SAN POLA	14th July, 1944.
CASTIGLION FIBOCCHI	11th July, 1944.
S. GIUSTINO VALDARNO	6th July, 1944.
QUOTA	9th to 11th July, 1944.
PARTINA MOSCAIO	13th April, 1944.
MONTEMIGNAIO	20th to 29th June, 1944.
STIA-VALLUCCIOLE VALLEY	13th to 18th April, 1944.
SARSINA	28th September, 1944.
VERRUCHIO	21st September, 1944.
VILLA DEL ALBERO, RAVENNA	27th November, 1944.
PADULIVO	10th, and 11th July, 1944.
GOBBIO	20th to 23rd June, 1944.

Zweites S: Phot l r o in Ecke hs: „116“ | zwischen \*1 und \*2 hs doppelter RdStrich

„A“

Anlage zu 3.Ausfertigung  
Br.B.Nr.71/42 g.Kdos.v.1.1.1943  
Chefr.u.Rechtsber.b.O.B.S.

Abschrift der Abschrift.

Der Chef

des Oberkommandos der Wehrmacht  
Nr.004870/42 g.Kdos.WFSt./Op(N) H.Qu., den 16.12.1942

Betr.: Bandenbekämpfung.

Geheime Kommandosache!

Dem Führer liegen Meldungen vor, dass einzelne in der Bandenbekämpfung eingesetzte Angehörige der Wehrmacht wegen ihres Verhaltens im Kampf nachträglich zur Rechenschaft gezogen worden sind.



Der Führer hat hierzu befohlen:

- 1.) Der Feind setzt im Bandenkampf fanatische, kommunistisch geschulte Kämpfer ein, die vor keiner Gewalttat zurückschrecken. Es geht hier mehr denn je um Sein oder Nichtsein. Mit soldatischer Ritterlichkeit oder mit den Vereinbarungen in der Genfer Konvention hat dieser Kampf nichts mehr zu tun.

Wenn dieser Kampf gegen die Banden sowohl im Osten wie auf dem Balkan nicht mit den allerbrutalsten Mitteln geführt wird, so reichen in absehbarer Zeit die verfügbaren Kräfte nicht mehr aus, um dieser Pest Herr zu werden.

- \*<sup>1</sup> Die Truppe ist daher berechtigt und verpflichtet, in diesem Kampf ohne Einschränkung auch gegen Frauen und Kinder jedes Mittel  
\*<sup>2</sup> anzuwenden, wenn es nur zum Erfolg führt.

Rücksichten, gleich welcher Art, sind ein Verbrechen gegen das deutsche Volk und den Soldaten an der Front, der die Folgen der Bandenanschläge zu tragen hat und keinerlei Verständnis für irgendwelche Schonung der Banden und ihrer Mitläufer haben kann.

Diese Grundsätze müssen auch die Anwendung der „Kampfanweisung für die Bandenbekämpfung im Osten“ beherrschen.

- 2.) Kein in der Bandenbekämpfung eingesetzter Deutscher darf wegen seines Verhaltens im Kampf gegen die Banden und ihre Mitläufer disziplinarisch oder kriegsgerichtlich zur Rechenschaft gezogen werden.

Die Befehlshaber der im Bandenkampf eingesetzten Truppen sind dafür verantwortlich, dass

sämtliche Offiziere der ihnen unterstellten Einheiten über diesen Befehl umgehend in der eindringlichsten Form belehrt werden,

ihre Rechtsberater von diesem Befehl sofort Kenntnis erhalten, keine Urteile bestätigt werden, die diesem Befehl widersprechen.

gez. Keitel

F.d. R. d.A.

gez. Unterschrift

Hauptmann

F.d.R.d.A.d.A.

Oberkriegsgerichtsrat d.Lw.