

Office Chief of Counsel for War Crimes
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Staff Evidence Analysis BY: Steven, Fred R.

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Title and/or general nature: Directives in regard to measures against civilian population

6 pp. (photostat)

Date: 15 October and 30 November 1943

Source (Location of original, etc.): German Document Center, MID, Rm. MB-863, The Pentagon,
Washington, D.C. WB-2645 Heeresgruppe Nord 75133/24

Persons, Firms or Organization Involved:

Kuechler, Georg v., Genfldm, as C in C H. Gr. North (Signature)

Busch, Ernst v., Genfldm as C in C AOK 16 (Signature) (deceased)

To be filed under these reference headings:

V B 1 c

Summary (indicate page nos.):

The civilian population is to be subject to ruthless police measures.

WB-2645-(1) 15 October 1943 – 4 pp.

P.3 Para. 5 Curfew from 1700 to 0530

WB-2645-(2) 30 November 1943 – 2 pp.

P.2, para. 5

Contraventions on the part of the population against the regulations will be punished with the greatest severity. In case of sabotage the perpetrators will be made responsible. The investigation will not be restricted to the presumable perpetrators, but will be conducted also against the suspects and abettors. Example: If the family of a civilian worker who works for the Germans deserts to the bands, and the neighbors who must know about it do not report to the competent German authority they will be held responsible and treated accordingly.

Edited: L. Bernemisza

Translation of Excerpts From Document No. NOKW 2250
Office of Chief of Counsel for War Crimes

Copy
(stamp) Secret

C in C
Army Group North Headquarters, 30 November 1943

la No. 9930/43 secret. (hand-written:) No. 17046/43 secret 1 December 1943

The increasing attacks and sabotage acts on railroads, highways and installations of the German Wehrmacht, which, in addition to the effect of tactical measures, cost daily a high toll of the lives of soldiers, indicate again and again that

- a) the native population supports the bands and saboteurs to a great extent, and
- b) that the German offices and soldiers, are, neglecting by their insouciance and blind confidence, their supervisory and guard duties

I therefore order the following:

1. The population of the occupied Russian territory East of the Panther line is to be speedily evacuated, except for those workers who are needed by the Wehrmacht. In the first place, the people who are able to work, are to be rounded up (erfassen), regardless of family ties, if necessary, and are to be evacuated, together with the horses and cattle, to the regions West of the Panther line. The installation of reception camps in the Ostland must be awaited before the evacuation of the unreliable population suspected of supporting the bands.

(page 2 of original)

5. Contraventions by the population against the issued regulations must be punished severely. Each case of sabotage must be investigated. The perpetrators must be brought to account. The investigation should not only cover the presumable culprits but it should extend to all suspected persons and accomplices.

For example: Supposing the family of a civilian worker employed by the Germans goes over to the side of the bands, and if their neighbors, who must certainly be aware of this, do not report this immediately to the German authorities, they are implicated themselves and are to be treated accordingly.

7. I call upon all field commanders and offices to make it their duty to carry out the above measure and to supervise them constantly. They must bear in mind that negligence will be a grave offense, impeding the conduct of the war and costing the blood of German men.

(signed) van Kuechler

Certified true copy: Treulieb, Sonderfuehrer (lieutenant)

Translation of Excerpts From Document No. NOKW 2250
Continued

Certification of Translation

11 December 1947

I, Leon Ratzersdorfer, AGC 483, hereby certify that I am a duly appointed translator for the German and English languages and that the above is a true and correct translation of excerpts from Document No. NOKW 2250.

Leon Ratzersdorfer

AGC 483