

Office of U.S. Chief of Counsel for War Crimes
APO 696A U.S. Army

Staff Evidence Analysis By: E.M. Hardy
Date: 18 September 1947

Doc No. NOKW 2227

Title and/or general nature: Typewritten directive from Pz. AOK 3 signed Reinhardt. Copy stamped received by the VI A.K. on 8 Jan. 1944.

2 pp. (photostat)

Date: 6 January 1944

Source (Location of original, etc.): German Document Center, MID, Room MB-863, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. WB-2958 VI AK 54575/2

Persons, Firms or Organizations Involved:

Busch, Ernst, Genfldm., C in C H. Gr. Center (Chain of Command)
Reinhardt, Georg-Hans, Genobst., C in C Pz. AOK 3 (Signature)
Jordan, Hans, Gen.d.Inf., CG VI AK (Unit involved)

To be filed under these reference headings:

VI B 1 (a)
NOKW General
NOKW Slave Labor

Summary (Indicate page nos.):

Reinhardt is disgusted to see so many civilians unemployed when German women at home have to work. Indigenous civilians are to be fed only if they do as least as much as the German worker at home. Every unit leader must examine how many civilian workers he can release and they are to be collected according to divisions as labor columns for military construction.

Translation of Document No. NOKW 2227
Office of Chief of Counsel for War Crimes

Panzer AOK 3

A. HQ. 6 January 1944 stamp: to the files 6/1.

Again and again, I had occasion to notice that whenever there are transport – or troop columns on march in the streets, there are quite a number of civilians, especially, girls, with them. It seems extremely doubtful to me, whether these civilians are fully occupied. In times like these, when German women in the fatherland have to work unto their very last, and on top of their household duties have to work another ten hours in order to help the war effort in all spheres of the armament industry, I deem it disgraceful if any unit commander does not tap the working resources if he only employs one civilian more than absolutely necessary. Indigenous personnel is only to be given food – after all, each ration affects our own women and children at home – if their working output equals that of a German laborer at home.

Each unit Commander will immediately go into the matter to find out if, by applying strictest criteria, his unit cannot spare some of their civilian labor. The workers thus released are to be organized into labor gangs according to divisions, and allocated to fortification work, so that their working capacity, hitherto not fully exploited will benefit the units. The number of workers released in this manner is to be reported until 20 January 1944 by way of the corps headquarters. (handwritten notice: F. at corps headquarters 19 January 1944, done.)

Starting on 15 January 1944 army patrols will currently check up at the units concerned whether or not the civilians employed, and, therefore, are being fully exploited. Those Unit Commanders employing or feeding irresponsibly an unnecessary number of civilians, will be held responsible by me for having committed acts of sabotage, i.e. having undermined the German War Potential.

Distribution: down to Regiments and for independent battalions for dissemination to company level

Signature: Reinhardt

Handwritten pencil notes: chief initialed

stamp: Korps Kommando VI

Recd: 8 January 1944

Dept. Ia Encl. 50 copies

See War Diary 20/1

Translation of Document No. NOKW 2227
Continued

Distribution: in draft

256 I.D.	-	7	
246 I.D.	-	6	
206 I.D.	-	6	
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131 I.D.	-	4	
"F"	-	4	
299 I.D.	-	4	
Standort Kommandantur 282	-		1
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VI K./Ia	-	1	
III/931	-	1	

Sent / initialed

Certificate of Translation
24 November 1947

I, Frank Freudenthal, Civ. No. B-242988, hereby certify that I am a duly appointed translator for the German and English languages and the above is a true and correct translation of the document NOKW 2227.

Frank Freudenthal
Civ No. B-242988

-2-
"End"