

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

10000/100/967

POLITICAL, WAR CRIMES  
FILE NO. 202.29  
NOV. 1943 - JAN. 1944;  
AUG. 1944

792



ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
INTER OFFICE MEMO

From: ARCHIVES SECTION

SUBJECT: War Crimes.

FILE No. \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Col. R.R. Cripps, Admin Section.

20 August 1941

Attached for your perusal is file 202.29. If you propose to retain any of the papers, may I please have a note as to their disposal.

*A. J. Collins*  
A.J. Collins Capt R.E.

*To. Archin Section.*

*Thank you have abstracted the following. dots U87*  
*forwarded to A.F.H.D.*  
*(a) Ltr. 10 OCT. 43 (Lt. CANBY - R.C. AD. Regim. 2)*  
*(b) Ltr. Regim II - Chief. Commis. ref. ECA. 18/17. dated 27 JAN. by endorsement.*  
*(c) 2 copies Valt. FARINA GUISIPPINA. to A.F.H. Q. Act. 5 OCT. 43.*  
*(d) Statement by Lt. Col. ROCCO SANSEVERINO. (over) also.*

Matera, January 5th, 1944.

Major Lew Van Dusen,  
AMG HQ - Naples.

Dear Major:

I am attaching a copy of report made on October 10th covering the blowing up of the Palazzo della Milizia. I do not have a copy of the woman's letter which was an appeal for relief.

Also attached is a short report by Engineer Mirko, Chief of the local light plant which briefs the shooting of the unarmed and non resisting civilian employees of his plant.

If more detail is required I will arrange to furnish it.

Hope you are coming thru this town again and until then the best luck.

J. L. Canby, Capt.  
SCAO

2056



COPIA

D I C H I A R A Z I O N E

Ho avuto uccisi dai Tedeschi in Matera, mio marito e mio figlio nel Palazzo della Milizia che i Germanici senza umanità fecero saltare con la dinamite la sera del 21 Settembre facendone morire tutti quelli che avevano fermati.

Mio figlio Natale Farina soldato della classe 1924 era scappato da Bologna, ma vicino a Matera fu preso dai Tedeschi e tradotto nel Palazzo della Milizia, nel pomeriggio del 21 Settembre.

Appena saputo questo il padre, mio marito Francesco Farina, fu Natale, nato il 1899 a Marsala, fruttivendolo, corse al palazzo della Milizia, sperando di poter riscattare il figlio col denaro circa 50.000 lire (cinquantamila lire) che aveva addosso per pagare un carro di patate. Ma fu trattenuto anche lui, ed entrambi fecero quella orribile morte compresa la scomparsa del denaro.

Sono rimasta vedova, senza il figlio grande e con altri sette figli quasi tutti piccoli, senza mezzi di fortuna.

Vi prego interessarvi del mio caso straziato.

IL CAPITANO

F/to Ved. Farina Giuseppina

COMANDANTE LA COMPAGNIA CC.RR. DI MATERA

Via Ascanio Persio, 22

F/to Lino Valenze

M A T E R A  
= . = . = . = . = . = . =

This is a true copy of the original declaration on file.

*J.L. Carby*  
J.L. Carby  
SCAO - Matera.

4055

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394

LHM/AMG/AMG  
25 January 1944

Ref/AMG/202.29

SUBJECT: War Crimes

TO : R.C.A.G., Region I  
R.C.A.G., Region II

1. Attention is invited to A.F.M. Circular dated 27 November 1943 entitled "War Criminals", which was forwarded to R.C.A.G. with covering letter dated 6 January 1944 by this Headquarters, and particularly to paragraph 1 thereof.

2. It is requested that, when situations come to the attention of R.C.A.G. or their officers in which an alleged war criminal is not in detention, the facts be reported to this Headquarters with all available information.

3. This information should include, if possible, the date of the alleged offence, the names and addresses of the victims and of witnesses, the place where the offence was committed, name of the enemy unit or group of soldiers involved, together with the name of their commanding officer and any other particulars available.

4. No public hearings of any kind will be held in connection with forwarding the above information or for any other purpose. No publicity whatsoever will be given to war crimes.

CHARLES E. STOFFORD  
Colonel, U.S.A.  
D/ C. of S. (C. & S.I.)



Dec

182215A

N-2657

Signal Corps, United States Army  
Telegram

RADIO

1306

DCCAO

GPO 8-10628

Received at

SECRET

19.

PENINSULAR BASE SECTION  
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER

19 JANUARY 1944

SECRET

ROUTINE

TO (ACTION) : CG PBS FOR FARGO FOR SPOFFORD

(INFORMATION) : NONE

FROM : SIGNED CINC

DATE TIME SIGNED: 181501A

DATE TIME REC'D : 182215A

REFERENCE NR. : 30470

CITE : NAJAG



(AMG) ACCAO.  
(2)

PENDING FURTHER NOTICE AFHQ UNNUMBERED CIRCULAR ENTITLED  
"WAR CRIMINALS" 27 NOVEMBER 1943, IS APPLICABLE TO? CONTAINED IN  
CITE FARGO 244 REFERENCE PBS 5037, 12 JANUARY. COPY ON FILE PBS.

COL SPOFFORD

Info - AMG HQ  
CG  
Secy

4053

FORM #18-A

SECRET

10031

CRYPTO

J. K. Clark



U. S. SECRET ~~EQUALS~~ BRITISH MOST SECRET

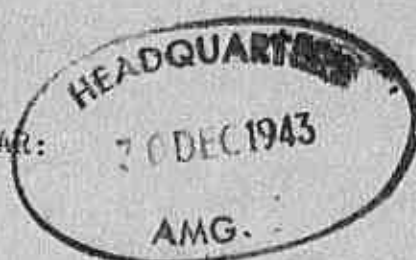
217

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
APO 512

: : : : :  
: SECRET :  
: Auth: CINC. AF :  
: Initials: *W* :  
: 27 November 43 :  
: : : : : :

CIRCULAR:



WAR CRIMINALS

27 November 1943

1. The ultimate disposition of persons charged with the commission of war crimes is a matter for consideration by the governments of the Allied Nations.
2. Trials by military courts of persons suspected of war crimes will not be held unless directed by this headquarters. Such persons will be held in custody pending decision as to their disposal. While suspects are under detention all available information about them and about war crimes of which they are suspect will be collected and forwarded to this headquarters.
3. The following procedure will govern:
  - a. Secret reports, through command channels, will be made to this headquarters containing all possible information concerning the specific individual held under detention as a war criminal suspect and concerning the time, place, character and details of the alleged war crime. It is imperative that each report include not only the names and addresses of witnesses but also the gist of the evidence which each may reasonably be expected to give in any proceedings which may later be resorted to to perpetuate such testimony for trial purposes. In order that these investigations may be kept strictly within command channels, they will be made by persons subject to the direct orders of the Commanding Officer making the report.
  - b. Reports submitted to this headquarters shall pertain only to persons then being held in detention.
  - c. For the purpose of this directive, war crimes are acts committed by persons in violation of the laws and customs of war. Should any doubt exist as to whether reported acts constitute war crimes, the case will be reported as above directed for consideration by this headquarters.
  - d. When reports are received at this headquarters and further investigation is considered advisable, either unit commanders will be directed to make the supplementary investigation or the supplementary investigation will be carried on directly from this headquarters.

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U. S. SECRET ~~EQUALS~~ BRITISH MOST SECRET



**U. S. SECRET EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET**

AFHQ Circular, dtd 27 Nov '43

3. (Cont'd)

e. When any change in the place of detention of a person upon whom a report has been made is directed by any authority other than this headquarters, an immediate report of such change will be made to this headquarters, in order that any supplementary investigation may be expeditiously carried on.

4. Situations may come to the attention of Commanding Officers in which the alleged war criminal is not in detention or may even be performing duties not incompatible with the Allied cause. In order that orderly procedure with respect to such situations may be followed, Commanding Officers will report such cases to this headquarters with all available information.

5. Italians who commit crimes against Italian Nationals are not to be considered as war criminals and such persons will be handed over to Italian Government representatives for trial.

6. Persons who commit crimes against members of the Allied Command during the period of occupation of Italian territory may be charged and tried before military tribunals in accordance with established practice.

7. It is enjoined upon all persons of this command to refrain from giving any publicity whatever to war crimes or war criminals or to any act taken by the military forces with respect thereto.

The release of any information concerning war crimes or war criminals is specifically reserved to this headquarters. (AG 000.5-1 GAP-ACM)

By command of General EISENHOWER:

W. B. SMITH  
Major General, G.S.C., Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

*T. J. Davis*  
T. J. DAVIS, *Col*  
Brigadier General, United States Army,  
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:  
See attached  
page.

~~SECRET~~

PARGO 244

PARGO

~~SECRET~~

ROUTINE

12 JAN 44

10050 STOFFORD

~~SECRET~~

THERE HAVE BEEN TWO INSTANCES OF ALLEGED GERMAN ATROCITIES  
REPORTED FROM MATERA. PD PARGO PARGO FOR STOFFORD PARGO TO AFHQ FOR WBS PD  
CITE PARGO TWO FOUR FOUR PD PLEASE NOTIFY RESPONSIBILITY OF THESE HEADQUARTERS IF  
ANY REGARDING COLLECTION OF INFORMATION RELATING TO WAR CRIMES

4051

J. F. NICKEL  
Lt. Col., AGO  
Adjutant General

~~SECRET~~



HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 512

11 January 1946

af/10/202.29

SUBJECT: War Crimes

TO : A.C.A.C., Region II (Attention Capt. Joseph L. Gandy,  
A.C.A.C., Matera)

1. Receipt is gratefully acknowledged of letter of your office dated January 5, 1946, together with enclosures. The information received is considered of the highest possible importance.

2. In order that all the information on the two cases mentioned can be collected in one place in this office, it is requested that if possible the following additional facts be supplied:

(a) The names of the thirteen Italian soldiers and civilians blown up in the piazza in Matera on September 21st, together with a designation as to how many of the victims were civilians and how many were soldiers.

(b) A copy of the letter received by Captain Gandy on October 4 from the widow and mother of two of the victims, which letter, it is understood, revealed the fact that the father of one victim went to plead for that victim and was thereupon himself incarcerated and blown up.

(c) An identification of the German unit guilty of perpetrating the atrocity.

(d) A list of the victims of the local light plant shooting, together with the name of the German unit involved.

(e) Any other particulars or details which might assist in the conviction of these war criminals at a future date.

CHARLES E. SPOTFORD  
Colonel, U.S.C.  
A.C.A.C., Matera, Italy.



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