

1880

Unclassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NWD No.

785016

10000/142/769

WAR CRIMES
DOTT. PERL
MAY - JULY

ACC

42/769

WAR CRIMES (ILL-TREATMENT OF YUGOSLAVS & OTHERS BY
DOTT. PERLA) (REGION 2)
MAY-JULY 1944

FILE CLOSED 29 July 1944

883

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION
APO 394

AMC/4119/3.

SUBJECT : War Criminal - In re Perla.

/rdo.
29 July 1944.

TO : Regional Legal Officer, (THRU: Regional Commissioner), Region II.

1. Reference your letter 2201/71/1 dated 25/7/44.
2. You speak throughout the letter about the maltreatment of prisoners of war.
3. For some time I have been trying to find out about the status of the Yugoslavs in question. As near as I have come to any conclusion from the facts submitted is that they are Yugoslav citizens or Italian citizens of Yugoslav ancestry who lived in Italian territory and were not Yugoslav military personnel taken prisoners. If that is so, they were not prisoners of war at all, although internees under certain conditions are entitled to the same general treatment as prisoners of war.
4. Will you advise me definitely whether or not these Yugoslavs were Yugoslav Military personnel?

RICHARD H. WINNER,
Colonel, C.C.,
Acting Chief Legal Officer.

1884

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

legal (GA) 3445

Ref. :- 2201/74/D

25.7.44.

Subject:- In re Perla

To :- CLO Legal Subcommission ACC - ROME -

Ref 4119/L of 17.7.44, attached please are
the papers relating to the above case, returned as
requested.

While it is agreed that the witnesses
evidence is somewhat oblique, it is submitted that
the Perla may will come within the definition of war
criminal as illtreating prisoners of war, since the
incidents appear to have occurred during the present
war by an Italian against Yugoslav prisoners of war.

Further inquiries are being made which
would be greatly helped by evidence taken from the
witnesses at Elba vide this H.Q. letter 2201/70/K of
19.7.44.

D.E.S.COUSINS, Lt.Col.
R.L.O.
Region II

28 JUL 1944

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enough to take the
most important part in
the development of the
country. The first
and most important
task of the government
is to develop the
country's resources.
The second task is to
protect the country
from foreign invasion.
The third task is to
promote the welfare
of the people. The
fourth task is to
develop the country's
economy. The fifth
task is to develop
the country's culture.
The sixth task is to
develop the country's
politics. The seventh
task is to develop
the country's
international relations.
The eighth task is to
develop the country's
science and technology.
The ninth task is to
develop the country's
arts and culture.
The tenth task is to
develop the country's
sports and recreation.
The eleventh task is to
develop the country's
tourism and hospitality.
The twelfth task is to
develop the country's
agriculture and
rural development.
The thirteenth task is to
develop the country's
industry and
manufacturing.
The fourteenth task is to
develop the country's
transportation and
communications.
The fifteenth task is to
develop the country's
energy and
environmental
protection.
The sixteenth task is to
develop the country's
space and
astronautics.
The seventeenth task is to
develop the country's
information and
communication
technology.
The eighteenth task is to
develop the country's
space and
astronautics.
The nineteenth task is to
develop the country's
information and
communication
technology.
The twentieth task is to
develop the country's
space and
astronautics.

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8
This is one of 13 of 3800 of the surviving version.
Tables of evolutions of all units in the divisional combat battalions, but I don't know if they are now in Mannerheim or not. Don't know their name, but it will be written this name on some of the maps. And for this reason, I demand the arrest of General, because this man is a mercenary contractor of the S.A. and his military behavior is so abominable that he deserves to be hanged to save us to prevent you from sending more innocent men.

In preparation of the aforementioned

Yours -
Yuri - Yefimov

Yefimov, Y., 1944

All honor to war. (Signed Yefimov)

Submitted on your 135 & 140
Card 32 yrs Rm. 6196 (Lanuary)
C.A.R. F.S.S. Kino the day after 25 May.

785016

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INTRODUCTION

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THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,
PHILADELPHIA,
PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY,
1874.

THE TERRIBLE SIGHT
OF THE BATTLEFIELD.—
A FRENCH OFFICER,
WHICH WAS CAPTURED
BY THE ENEMY, AND
KILLED IN THE BATTLE
OF SPANISHMAN'S HILL.

QD
1940-1941

18 9
and go to store & young in his own, so bad to effect voluntary emigration
of Mr. O. M. Jr., one of the most important and prominent citizens of the
existing government.

I demand, in my name and in the name of our government, that we
on the other side of the frontier, to arrest & kill, as long as they keep us
alive and trouble us till I hear of the 32,000,000 who have the right
to live to victory & independence. We Americans have done the abominable
things which are the 32,000,000.

The testimony of the above-mentioned
is based on personal knowledge.

Sept. 19, 1941

1892

fo. (file)

4119

UNITED NATIONS
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2. HEADQUARTERS.

8A

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL POLICE
OFFICER

PS/14

SUBJECT : DOTTONE PERLA

TO : Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission, A.C.C.
c/o Hq., APO 394.

Reference ACC/14760/53 of 14 July 1964, Subject as above.

Major G.M. Reveley, P.P.O. Bari, advises me that the alleged victims were Yugoslav civilian internees. Also that no security danger is involved.

The Major's informant is away and not expected to return for about ten days. Therefore no further information is available at this time.

LLOYD E. RALLY
Lt. Col. Inf.
Regional Public Safety Officer.

C

1393

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

R# 2201/70/K

22.7.44

SUBJECT : War Criminals - in re Perla.

TO : C.L.O., Legal Subcommission ACC, Rome.

316 H
7A

2/A

1. Further to this HQ letter of even number of 7.7.44,
attached please are further communications from 315
FSS respecting the Perla.

D.E.S.COUSINS Lt.Col.
R.L.O.,
REGION 2

Seen by L.D.
Action C. No action taken
25/7/44. Revising to us. of 1st July
revised by us. of 1st July. considering
investigating. consideration
question of detention
25/11/44.

16

1894

To : - Allied Control Commission,
Legal Office,
BARI

TB

Subject: Dott. PERLA

Further reference is made to your memorandum of
28 June 44.

Attached is a memorandum from an NCO of this
Section concerning the possible whereabouts of Dott. SCHUKA.
According to our informant: "...The statement made by
Dott. SCHUKA was one in which there were many doubtful
remarks. Dott. PERLA altered the statement so that all the
ifs and buts etc., were made to read in the affirmative.
The alteration of the statement in this way was the cause
of many honourable men being convicted, such as: -
TOMASIC, VADNAL and BOBEK etc. These men were as a result
condemned to death."

This information is communicated in case you
wish to have SCHUKA contacted and interrogated on the
subject.

6 July 44.

Capt. T. J. M.

Capt.,
O.C.,
315 F.S.S.

15

1895

To : - O.C., 315 R.S.A.
From : - Sgt. Saul.

Subject : - Dott. PERLA and ill-treatment of
Italian-Slovenes at TRIESTE 1935 - 1942

In relation to our informant's note concerning the evidence of Dott. SCHUMA which PERLA is reputed to have extracted and subsequently altered to form the basis of the accusations at the trial in Dec. 1941, I saw our informant to-day and asked him if he knew the present whereabouts of Dott. SCHUMA. Our informant said he was sentenced for life and sent to the prison at PORDO TOVENE (on the east coast of the island of RIPIA) which comes under the jurisdiction of the TREVISO authorities.

As RIPIA is now in our hands it might be worth while to send a signal enquiring whether SCHUMA is available on the island, and can be sent down for interrogation or alternatively interrogated on this subject on the spot.

Bari 5 July 44.

44611410,
Edward Saul,
Sgt.

1896

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W
JL/pa
6A
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Legal Sub-Commission
APO 394

REFERENCE : 4119/L.

17 Jul 44.

SUBJECT : War Criminals - Case of PNERIA.

TO : RLO (thru NC) Region II.

1. Reference attached letter of 10/7/44 from Acting Chief Legal Officer, would you be good enough to return to him the papers enclosed with his letter to you of 1/6/44, unless those are required to be retained by you for early action?

J. MORE,
Capt.
for Acting Chief Legal Officer.

897

~~SECRET~~

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HEADQUARTERS
Allied Control Commission
Legal Subcommission
APO 304

JRW/up

Tel. BX. 679

ACO/4129/L

16 July 44

SUBJECT : War Criminals. Case of Perle.

TO : Regional Legal Officer (thru RG) Region II

1. Reference your letter 2201/70/K of 7 July 1944.
2. From the statements so far taken it seems that Perle is not guilty of war crimes within the definition of para 3 c of APHQ Circular of 27/11/43 on "War Criminals" sent to you under cover of our letter 4096/L of 6/1/44. He would appear to be the familiar type of secret police official guilty of acts of gross cruelty against members of minority racial groups in fascist countries.
3. The security aspect of this case has been referred by the Public Safety Sub-Commission to Major Revelly, Region II with whom you should maintain contact, particularly with the object of gaining more precise information as to the status of the alleged victims at the material dates.
4. If any further particulars or statements are forthcoming which would put Perle definitely into the war criminal category, you should immediately arrange, through your HO, for him to be detained. Action should then be taken in accordance with APHQ Circular of 5/2/44 on War Criminals, copy of which is annexed hereto.

R. H. WILMER,
COL. GAC,
Acting Chief Legal Officer.

Copy to: Public Safety Sub-Commission.

1898

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785016

ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS
ALIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

5R

11th July, 1944

ACC/13760/53

SUBJECT : Dottore PERLA
TO : R.P.S.C. Reg.II (Attn. Maj.Revley)

With reference to the accusations against the above named, copy statements regarding which have been passed to Major Revley, through O.C. No.315 F.S.S. (Sgt. E. Saul), the Chief Legal Officer would like any further information available particularly

- (a) Were any of the alleged victims prisoners of war or civil internees
- (b) Is there any security danger involved.

Would you please treat the matter as urgent.

PAUL C. KIRK
Colonel Infantry
Chief Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

PP/C.

Copy to Legal Sub Com:
your file ACC/4119/L refer.

17

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785016

A
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

Adm ACC 783
4A 8377

REF: 2201/70/K

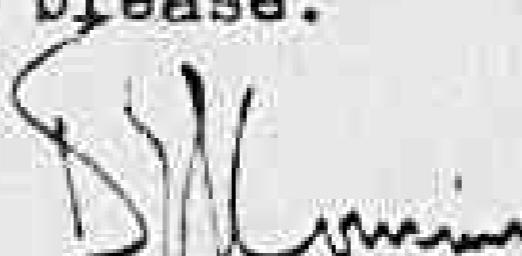
July 1944

SUBJECT : War Criminals.

TO : C.L.O.. Legal Subcommission ACC, Salerno.

3A

1. Ref ACC/4119/L of 3.6.44, attached please are statements of persons accusing the Perla.
2. Early instructions are requested please.


D.E.S. COUSTINS Lt. Col.
R.L.O..
REGION 2

DESC/mk
*Action taken being
as per a/cpt to 15/7/44*

1900

To : GST(1),
HQ, 2 District.
From : OC,
315 F.S.S.

(21B)

s/o.

Subject : Doctors FERLA

Chief of BARI District Food Office.
(Capo dell'Ufficio Amministrativo).

Attached are copies of interrogation reports by an NCO of this section together with translated copies of three statements.

According to information received by this section there are several Yugoslavs in the BARI District who have suffered at FERLA's hands and have expressed a desire to do him bodily harm.

It is requested that you will issue a directive on this subject.

26 May 44.

Capt.,
OC, 315 F.S Section.

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190

To : OO, 315 FOB.
From : Sgt. Saul Z.

(21c)

Subject : Dottore PERLA (Formerly a Questura Official and OVA agent at Trieste, -at present Capo dell'Ufficio Armonia, BARI).

On 17 May 44 MILIC who was connected with the royalist cause of Jugoslavia came in and denounced PERLA. He said that PERLA had been notoriously cruel to Jugoslavs who had refused to become Italianised in the territories taken over by Italy after the last war. Several people at present employed at 8 Army Post Camp had suffered at his hands (one had his brother shot). MILIC went on at length in this strain and mentioned that several were contemplating waylaying PERLA and beating him up. I asked MILIC to present a statement and to collect others if possible.

Main morning at 0830 hours, he came with BADALIC who said that many Jugoslavs were out to kill PERLA. BADALIC referred to the attached three statements (translated by Sgt SAUL and appended to this report) and stated that he was giving copies of these to Major HENLEY to-day at 1600 hrs. BADALIC seems apprehensive that PERLA will obtain knowledge of these matters and will attempt to cross the lines. He said that the Questore of CAMPOMASSO who had been interned by the allies for 6 months was recently seen in the company of PERLA. The matter is reported for any action you may think appropriate.

22 MAY 44.

1411410, E.SAUL, Sgt.

(21P)

TRAN (21P)

I, the undersigned PERTOT Daniel born at MARZELLA (TRIESTE) on 16 July 1915 declare as follows:

I was arrested on 3 Jun 44 with more than 200 of my compatriots, accused of anti-Fascist and anti-Italian activity. On this occasion, my companions and myself were dealt with by a certain Dot. PERLA. (Other identity particulars I cannot furnish. I have never interested myself in people of this category although I now realize that particulars of such people are very useful. In 1934, I did not appreciate this).

I can affirm that PERLA was known to all of us as "Commissario, Capo dell'Offra," and without fear of contradiction hundreds of fellow Slovenes who for more than ten years have had to do with the Fascist police can say the same thing.

Personally I can assert that I have undergone many interrogations, far from legal directed by this same PERLA. As an example I will cite the second, during which he and his henchmen beat me in such a manner that when I was taken back to prison, I had to be carried, and my condition was such being unconscious, that the prison governor would not take me in. This is only one incident from one person's experience!

Hundreds of my comrades could give more detailed and explicit information than I if they happened to be here in the liberated territory. I, however, will speak in their stead until such time as they will be able to give information.

Because of all this, I ask you to arrest and keep PERLA in custody until the liberating troops arrive at the place where his crimes were committed.

I believe that his office (Commissario Capo dell'Offra) and the Italian Government he has staked out to us Slovenes, your friends, will suffice to have him kept in prison until such time as you have accumulated enough evidence to condemn him as he deserves.

In witness whereof

(signed) PERTOT Daniel.
At present employed at 8 Army Rest Camp.

SANT, 12 May 44.

Translated by Sgt. H. SANT.

1903

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TRANSLATION.

(21E)

I, the undersigned, KLAVCIC Stanislav di Giuseppe, of COMIZIA, at present employed by Barge Boat Camp declare as follows:

I was held for thirteen months in the prison at TRIESTE, implicated in the notable trial against the Slovs in 1941 which took place in TRIESTE before the Special Tribunal which had been transferred from ROME to TRIESTE.

At the trial nine were condemned to death, among them five were shot (BASIC, KLAVCIC, HOG, VASUAL and POLIZIC). The legal formalities were directed by PERLA who was chief of the OVRA. I declare that under his supervision assisted by Mlio. SCARAVO, Brigadiere DOMMANICA(?) and COBIANT(?) and others - all members of the OVRA, practically all the accused suffered ill-treatment and were badly handled. For example my comrade BASIC Antonio under interrogation was confronted by PERLA who threatened him with a whip of bull's hide, thrusting it into BASIC's face and attempting to extract untrue declarations against other accused persons in order to worsen their situation. Furthermore HVALA, Bogadri was also threatened by PERLA who burnt his mouth with the lit end of a cigarette and pulled out the hairs of his moustache. Both were thrown onto the floor of a cell in the cellar of the TRIESTE Questura where they were left for 17 days being given food only once every three days. This system of interrogation was used repeatedly throughout the time, particularly at night. After 17 days they were taken back half dead to the prison at TRIESTE. It should be noted that throughout this time they were denied water even to wash themselves. Practically all the accused were beaten up and terrorised by PERLA. Many of them received blows on their hands and they could not put on their jackets so swollen was the conditions. Others, for example, FRANCIC and HOG (not of whom were shot) were so badly bastinadoed that they had to be held erect by two warders when they were brought before the other accused persons. In such a manner did PERLA terrorise the others attempting to extract confessions which had no basis in reality. In this way too, he showed his zeal for the regime which had given him his job and not without cause. Therefore was such a young and made capo dell'OVRA, one of the most important and trustworthy posts of the Fascist regime.

I fervently beg on the name of those who are still across the frontier that this man PERLA be taken into custody until our glorious allies free our country. Then the security police will be able to make enquiries on the spot as to the indeeds of this chief of the OVRA.

In witness whereof, I sign myself,
KLAVCIC Stanislav.

Bord, 19 May 44.
Translated by Sgt. SAVL. R.

1904

(21F)

TRANSLATION.

I, the undersigned, DARIO, Drago di Carlo, born at BRESCIA, declare
follows:

I have known Dottores PERLA since 1930 when he interrogated me, after which I was sentenced to 3 years as a political prisoner. The second time, I received five years (subsequently amended to 3 years' ticket-of-leave—"on criminal politics") after which I had nothing more to do with him. I certainly know that PERLA was a member of the "ufficio politico" at BRESCIA and in 1932 took up his post as chief of the OPA. I can confirm that in 1930 he assisted VAVAZI to interrogate the prisoners at the well-known trial where four were condemned to be shot. Between 1932-42 he was involved in all the trials, and whilst still very young he rapidly gained promotion, becoming "capo commissario."

PERLA was known to be the principal investigator and interrogator at the trial of 60 people, 9 of whom were condemned to death, 5 actually being shot. I have spoken about this trial with many who were in the concentration camp on the islands of TRENTO, and everyone declared that during the interrogations PERLA terrorised and beat up the accused and extorted from them untrue allegations. He was known, not only at BRESCIA but in SLOVENIA (Yugoslavia) as being an opponent of the Partisans and of all those who wanted to help the allies.

I humbly beg that PERLA be arrested, not only because he deserves it for his past misdeeds, but also because he is a harmful influence against the allied war effort.

Meanwhile, I shall attempt to expose him by facts and to show that only an inhuman creature such as he could have done the things which he has done.

In Venetia Giulia he is reputed to be the one primarily responsible for obtaining death sentences and for bringing hundreds before the Special Tribunal. In our country, the Security service will find complete proof of all this and I am certain that they will be grateful to us for having helped to eliminate a great enemy of liberty for whose cause we have given so many lives.

BAT, 10 May 44.

(Signed)

Drago DARIO.

Translated by Sgt. SAUL Z.

19051

To : OO.. 315 F.S.S.
From : Sgt. SAUL.E.

(219)

Subject : Dottore PERLA.

A. Interrogation of PERFOI Daniel, 25 May at 50 Rest Camp.

This subject was not able to devote much time to interrogation as he was on duty in the club room. In amplification of his statement he said that he was arrested on 3 Jun 44 and interrogations of some prisoners took place almost immediately. He was not interrogated until some 10-20 days afterwards, viz. about 21-23 Jun 44. He categorically stated that in PERLA's presence, he was, under interrogation :

1. kicked on the shins.
2. beaten with a stick on his finger,
3. whipped with a bull's hide whip on his bare back.

PERFOI said that the evidence at the mass trial was spurious. In accordance with legal procedure, the Questore of TRIESTE (at that time FAVAZZI) should have accompanied the prisoners to ROME, where they were tried before the Special Tribunal to give formal testimony concerning the interrogation of the prisoners. No-one gave evidence to this effect; the proceedings were a farce, there was a continual uproar in court. He personally was sentenced to 9 years' imprisonment, of which he served four in prison and five as a "confinato politico" at TRENTIL. He is willing to give evidence if required against PERLA.

B. Interrogation of KLAVCIC Stanislav b: GORIZIA 23 Sep 42. interrogated 26 May 44 at 50 Rest Camp.

This subject said that he was imprisoned for 13 months (Nov 40 - Dec 41) and then discharged just prior to the mass trial which took place 2 Dec 41 - 15 Dec 1 at TRIESTE before the Special Tribunal which for this occasion had been transferred from ROME to TRIESTE. KLAVCIC said that he personally was subjected to no physical violence but he was threatened with a bull's hidewhip but it was not used. He stated that the prisoners were interrogated at the Questura, TRIESTE where they were kept in miserable surroundings. He was interrogated

after being kept 40 days in prison. It was not usual for prisoners to be kept for periods as long as 35 days under interrogation at the Questura. They would be subjected twice daily to questioning and in the depth of winter (Dec - Jan) they never had more covering than one blanket and a bare board to sleep on. He personally saw the condition of one COMIC (Jan 42) whose finger was broken by the tell's hide whip. Prisoners after ill-treatment were kept at the Questura until the immediate swellings subsided, after which they were taken back to prison. KLAVCIC is willing to give evidence against PERLA if we require.

C. Interrogation of KOS Josef di Simone, b. at RUTTE DI GRAN COVA (Gorizia) on 10 Feb 10 - occupation : agricultural worker. Interrogated on 26 May 44 at 50 Rest Camp.

This subject brother was mentioned in KLAVCIC's declaration. KOS said he was arrested on 19 Oct 40 and was kept in prison for 15 months in TRIESTE, after which during the preliminary proceedings (istruttoria) before the Special Tribunal he was discharged for lack of proof. KOS personally was not interrogated by PERLA but his brother was. He met his brother in prison some time during 1941 (he cannot precisely remember the time) and his brother told him of the cruel treatment he had received at the hands of PERLA and his assistants. KOS categorically asserted that his brother said at the time that

1. he had been very badly treated,
2. he was beaten with a stick,
3. His hands were tied and tie cords twisted tighter under interrogation,
4. he was knocked down or fell down through exhaustion three times during one bout of questioning.

KOS' brother was tried and subsequently executed by shooting. It should be noted that KOS created a very favourable impression under interrogation. MILIC had previously told me that KOS did not wish to make a declaration about his brother's treatment at PERLA's hands, as he was not vindictively inclined and thought that justice would be done without his (KOS') intervention.

.. i will n- to

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he is willing to give evidence on the subject of what his brother told him, if we so require.

26 May 44.

14411410
E. SAUL, Sgt.

1908

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

785016

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION
APG 394

AOC/4119/L.

3A

/rlp.

3 June 1944.

SUBJECT : War Criminals - in re Perl.

TO : Regional Legal Officer, (THRU: Regional Commissioner), Region II.

1. Reference your 2201/70/K of 28 May 44. *2A*
2. You have not stated the nationalities of the writers of the letters, which you forwarded copies. Nor do you say whether the facts stated in their letters have been or are actually being investigated. Please advise on both questions.
3. I am returning the papers you sent so that you will have them before you in answering the above questions.

3 Incls.

RICHARD H. WIMMER,
Colonel, OAC,
Deputy Chief Legal Officer.

2

1909

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

785016

file 400/4119/1 ✓

1A

SECRET letter to Mr. Dean dated 27 Mar. 44
ref: 400/4119/1/Subject: Tex Criminally
in file 400/4134/1 (no sub)

1910

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

REF: 2201/70/Y

41197
28 May 44
NR
2A

SUBJECT: War Criminals - in re Perla

To : C.I.C., Legal Sub-Commission, ACC, Salerno
copy to R.F.O.

1. The attached report received from the TO Bari is forwarded for instructions please.
2. The Perla is at present Chief Commissioner of the Questura at Bari.

B.C. Cousin
D.E.S. COUSINS Lt. Col.
R.I.C.
REGION 2

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785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

REF: 2201/70/K

28 May 44

SUBJECT: War Criminals - in re Perla

To : C.L.O., Legal Sub-Commission, ACC, Salerno
copy to R.P.O.

1. The attached report received from the PC Bari is forwarded for instructions please.
2. The Perla is at present Chief Commissioner of the Questura at Bari.

D.E.S. COUSINS Lt. Col.
R.I.C.
REGION 2

1912

Q