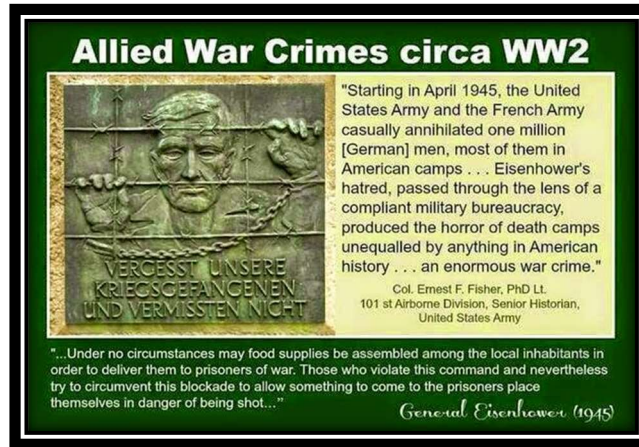


AMERICAN WAR CRIMES IN WW2 ???
(AS HISTORY RECORDED THEM)

214

WERE THE ALLIES AS GUILTY AS THE GERMANS & JAPANESE ??



PLEASE READ

CAUTION

THIS SUBJECT IS MOST LIKELY VERY DELICATE FOR AMERICANS WHO REMEMBER THE DIFFICULT TIMES DURING WW2

HISTORY HAS TAUGHT US WELL ABOUT THE WAR CRIMES OF THE THIRD REICH AND THE JAPANESE DURING WW2, THE HOLOCAUST, THE BATAAN DEATH MARCH AND MANY MORE. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE NON-PUBLISHED, IGNORED, AND NOT CHARGED NON-WAR CRIMES OF THE UNITED STATES AND OUR ALLIES? DOES THE TERM 'WAR CRIME' ONLY APPLY TO THE LOSER AND NOT THE WINNER REGARDLESS OF HOW THE WAR BEGAN?

UNDER THE GIVEN CONDITIONS ONE MIGHT ASK..."WERE THERE ANY OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND WHAT WERE THEY"?

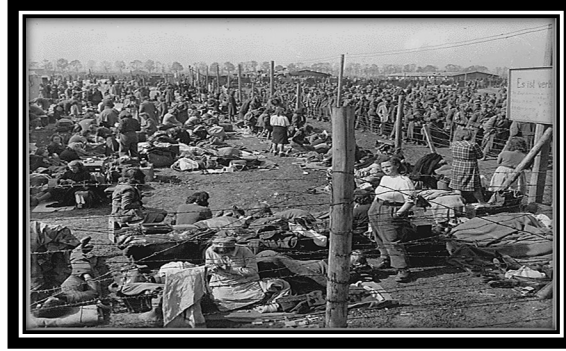
I should say before you go any further in reading this article that **I was very reluctant to approach this subject because of the unfavorable comments I might receive.** War is War and things happen to the people involved on both sides. The information portrays actions that many Americans of the WW2 era probably have not heard of before or might choose not to believe or accept. This article covers only WW2, not Korea, Vietnam Iraq, etc. It involves many of our Allies too, not just the Americans. I've researched numerous Websites including the "History Channel Website" to obtain this data.

The data, not necessarily the pictures, **is somewhat graphic** so you might want to stop right here instead of reading any further.

The fact is that atrocities occurred on both sides. Most of this information has been taken "word for word" from the various Websites.

PART ONE

WAS IT A WAR CRIME? – THOUSANDS OF GERMANS DIED IN AMERICAN POW CAMPS IN 1945



Prisoners mostly slept without shelter, exposed to the elements.

For all but fringe debaters on the subject, the book is closed. The horror and death caused by maltreatment or murder in German, Japanese, and Russian prisoner of war (POW) camps stain the history of these countries red, and is still painful for many, on all sides of World War II, to even mention.

However, over the years, controversy has lingered over another group of camps. Many still claim that these camps were another war crime, this time committed by the Americans, under the command of **General Dwight D. Eisenhower**.

The Rheinwiesentalager were a group of American prison camps built along the Rhein River in April 1945 as the Allied Forces were taking control and occupation of Germany. *Around half of the German soldiers captured in the West at the end of the war were placed in these camps.* Most of the rest were placed in British and French custody.

It is certainly true that some facts about the Rheinwiesentalager are shocking, and the behavior of some of the Allied troops atrocious. These facts and their greater context will be presented along with the conclusions of historians and experts who have dived deep into this subject and the controversy around it.

There were 19 camps built in total, housing between **2 and 3 million prisoners**. Some of these camps were turned over to British control in June, as they were in the "British Zone" in post-war Germany. Over 180,000 prisoners were sent to France at the request of Charles de Gaulle's government for forced labor. **By September 1945, most of the Rheinwiesentalager camps were closed.**

The camps were beyond overcrowded. Prisoners mostly slept without shelter, exposed to the elements. Rations were generally between 1000 and 1550 calories per day. There was often little or no access to clean drinking water. Thousands died. How many thousands depending on whom you ask. Regardless, given the facts, **these camps did not hold up to the conditions mandated by the Geneva Convention.**

***** VERY IMPORTANT POINT *****

This issue was circumnavigated, however, by a decision made in 1943 to declare **German soldiers taken prisoner not as POWs, but as Disarmed Enemy Forces (DEF)**. With this characterization in place, things like lower rations and poor living conditions were inflicted without officially breaking what amounted to a binding international treaty.

Regardless, **these deaths would have been classed as a war crime under the 1929 Geneva Convention** if it wasn't for the fact that Eisenhower ordered the prisoners to be classed as Disarmed Enemy Forces, to circumvent the threat.

AUTHOR VS AUTHOR

Much of the controversy over these camps are centered on a book published by **James Bacque** in 1989 titled **"Other Losses"**. Bacque, a fiction writer, and amateur historian, found himself investigating what he saw as very disturbing deception and grievous disregard for life that led to **the death of probably over 1 million Germans.**

Bacque posts that Eisenhower, out of a spirit of vengeance denied the DEFs food that was readily available throughout Europe and through the offers of the Red Cross.

With all the sweeping and horrifying claims made in Bacque's book, a conference was held at the Eisenhower Center of the University of New Orleans to examine the history of the Rheinwiesenlager. The conference was attended by several historians and experts from America, Canada, Britain, Germany, and Austria specializing in that period of post-war Germany.

One attendant (who worked at the Eisenhower Center), Stephen E. Ambrose, wrote a summary of their findings in the context of Bacque's claims.



FIGURE 39.—Prisoner of War Transient Enclosure at Sinzig, Germany, 12 May 1945. On that date, 116,000 German prisoners of war were held there, the rated capacity was 100,000. These prisoners are in a barbed wire fenced open field with little or no shelter. (U.S. Army photograph.)



RHEINWIESENLAGER CAMPS

Their first conclusion was in line with Bacque: German prisoners were beaten, had water, food, and mail withheld, and lived in exposed overcrowded conditions. However, on almost everything else, they disagreed with Bacque. As Bacque claims that Eisenhower hated and wished to punish Germans, the conference cites numerous sources that show a true effort to rebuild Germany. An understanding of the difference between the German people and the Nazis that committed atrocious crimes and that most of the policies that can be construed as vengeful came from higher up in U.S. Command than Eisenhower.

They did find that rations were kept frighteningly low for the DEFs and that the Americans did prevent Red Cross aid and inspection of the camps.

They find this more understandable in the greater context, however. In April 1945, Eisenhower wrote to the Combined Chiefs of Staff of the Western Allies that the food situation in Germany was going to be desperate and that much needed to be done, and fast, to prevent starvation and chaos throughout the country. As Germany surrendered, and the occupation began, more slave laborers were freed than expected, more German soldiers surrendered than were expected as well, and around 13 million German civilians fled from the Russian-occupied zone into the West.

In total, 17 million more people than Eisenhower expected when he saw the situation as desperate, now needed food as well.

The situation Eisenhower faced in the American-occupied zone of Germany was very grim, as it was for the rest of Germany and much of Central and Western Europe. The reason the Eisenhower Conference cites for the tough rationing in the camps is that the General didn't want to feed the prisoners more than the civilians or displaced people in a famine that affected the entire region's food supplies for years to come.

In Ambrose's summary of the conference's findings, he writes that Bacque misreads misinterprets, and even ignores much of the documentation of the Rheinwiesenlager. Bacque claims the Americans used the category of "other losses" in their records of prisoners to hide the deaths of some one million people.

Ambrose writes that hundreds of thousands of people under this heading that Bacque supposed dead were young boys and old men from the Volkssturm (People's Militia) who were released. These, along with those transferred between different zones in Germany which Bacque didn't mention, debunk the idea that so many thousands in "other losses" were widespread murder and death.

In total, it is thought that the mortality rate in the camps was as high as one percent and that no more than 56,000 German prisoners died.

The Rheinwiesenlager were not the worst camps to be held as a prisoner in, during and after WWII, though the Americans could have been much more humane in their treatment. Mostly, the tight rations often blamed for the deaths of thousands of German prisoners were the result of mass hunger in most of Europe at the end of the war.

In 1945, Eisenhower said "The success or failure of this occupation will be judged by the character of the Germans 50 years from now. Proof will come when they begin to run a democracy of their own and we are going to give the Germans a chance to do that, in time" (Ambrose).

PART TWO



RECORDED EVENTS - (WAR CRIMES ?) - OF THE ALLIES AND THE UNITED STATES DURING WW2

Though not responsible for some of the atrocities, brutality, and killing of helpless civilian refugees done by some of our Allies, the United States was guilty of other things that you might not be aware of and might surprise you such as:

A. British and American authorities were denied access by International Red Cross representatives to camps holding German prisoners of war. Moreover, any attempt by German civilians to feed the prisoners was punishable by death. Many thousands of German POWs died in American custody, most infamously in the so-called "Rhine meadow camps," where prisoners were held under appalling conditions, with no shelter and very little food.

B. In April 1946, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) protested that the United States, Britain, and France, nearly a year after the end of the fighting, were violating International Red Cross agreements they had solemnly pledged to uphold. The Red Cross pointed out, for example, that the American transfer of German prisoners of war to French and British authorities for forced labor was contrary to International Red Cross statutes.

C. Another report by the International Committee of the Red Cross in August 1946 stated that the US government, through its military branch in the US zone of occupation in Germany, was exacting forced labor from 284,000 captives, of whom 140,000 were in the US occupation zone, 100,000 in France, 30,000 in Italy, and 14,000 in Belgium. Holdings of German prisoners or slave laborers by other countries, the Red Cross reported, included 80,000 in Yugoslavia, and 45,000 in Czechoslovakia.

D. Both during and after the war, the Allies tortured German prisoners. In one British center in England, called "the London Cage," German prisoners were subjected to systematic ill-treatment, including starvation and beatings. The brutality continued for several years after the end of the war. The treatment of German prisoners by the British was even more harsh in the British occupation zone of Germany. At the US internment center at Schwäbisch Hall in southwest Germany, prisoners awaiting trial by American military courts were subjected to severe and systematic torture, including long stretches in solitary confinement, extremes of heat and cold, deprivation of sleep and food, and severe beatings, including kicks to the groin.

E. Most of the German prisoners of war who died in Allied captivity were held by the Soviets, and a much higher portion of German POWs died in Soviet custody than perished in British and American captivity. (For example, of the 90,000 Germans who surrendered at Stalingrad, only 5,000 ever returned to their homeland.) More than five years after the end of the war, hundreds of thousands of German prisoners were still being held in the Soviet Union. Other German prisoners perished after the end of the war in Yugoslavia, Poland, and other countries. In Yugoslavia alone, authorities of the Communist regime killed as many as 80,000 Germans. German prisoners toiled as slave labor in other Allied countries, often for years.

F. At the Yalta conference in early 1945, the "Big Three" Allied leaders agreed that the Soviets could take Germans as forced laborers, or "slave labor." It is estimated that 874,000 German civilians were abducted by the Soviet Union. These were in addition to the millions of prisoners of war who were held by the Soviets as forced laborers. Of these so-called reparations deportees, nearly half - 45 percent -- perished.

G. For two years after the end of the fighting, Germans were victims of a cruel and vindictive occupation policy, one that meant slow starvation of the defeated population. To sustain life, a normal adult needs a minimum of about 2,000 calories per day. But in March and February 1946, the daily intake per person in the British and American occupation zones of Germany was between one thousand and fifteen hundred calories.

In the winter of 1945-46, the Allies forbid anyone outside the country to send food parcels to the starving Germans. The Allied authorities also rejected requests by the International Red Cross to bring in provisions to alleviate the suffering.

H. Very few persons in Britain or the United States spoke out against the Allied policy. Victor Gollancz, an English-Jewish writer and publisher, toured the British occupation zone of northern Germany for six weeks in late 1946. He publicized the death and malnutrition he found there, which he said was a consequence of Allied policy. He wrote: "The plain fact is ... we are starving the Germans. And we are starving them, not deliberately in the sense that we want them to die, but willfully, in the sense that we prefer their death to our inconvenience."

I. Another person who protested was Bertrand Russell, the noted philosopher and Nobel Prize recipient. In a letter published in a London newspaper in October 1945, he wrote: "In eastern Europe now mass deportations are being carried out by our allies on an unprecedented scale, and a deliberate attempt is being made to exterminate many millions of Germans, not by gas, but by depriving them of their homes and food, leaving them to die by slow and agonizing starvation. This is not done as an act of war but as a part of a deliberate policy of 'peace'."

J. We are ceaselessly reminded of the Third Reich's wartime concentration camps. *But few Americans are aware that such infamous camps* as Dachau, Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen, and Auschwitz *were kept in operation after the end of the war, only now packed with German captives,* many of whom perished miserably. Auschwitz-Birkenau, Sachsenhausen, and Buchenwald for the Russians; Dachau for the Americans and Bergen-Belsen for the British, not to mention the grisly Ebensee in the Salzkammergut, *where the Americans kept 44,000 SS men.*

K. The first impression that comes to our minds is of brave American soldiers fighting and defeating the 'bad' German soldiers.....Maybe it is the power of American propaganda... But sadly the truth is never so black and white. *American soldiers too acted bestially against captured German soldiers, especially those from the Waffen SS.*

Long before the Nuremberg Trials even began, the Allies looked upon the Waffen SS as a criminal organization. They also happened to be the most determined adversaries of the Allied forces and offered the most resistance.

Allied casualties were generally much higher whenever they were thrown into combat opposite seasoned SS troops. Consequently, the SS were both feared and admired for their military prowess. The Allies feared that the SS would continue to offer armed underground resistance to the occupational authorities, therefore they determined to thoroughly disband and discredit this able military force before the eyes of not only the world but of the German people as well.

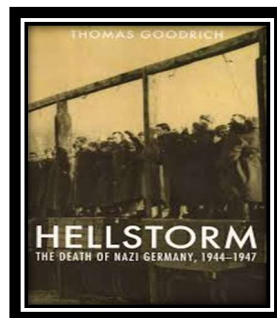
Consequently, the members of the SS received the most brutal treatment at the hands of the Allied forces. Often accused of war crimes and crimes against humanity, the Allies sought to expunge the very memory of this elite Nazi formation. The truth of the matter is that the Waffen SS were no more criminal than any other fighting unit, Allied or Axis, and the treatment its members received at the hands of the Allies was unjust and often criminal. Since SS members were stationed at concentration camps as guards, the Allies took advantage of this fact and used it to condemn the members of the SS as a whole. Of course, it should go without saying that simply because someone was a guard at a camp does not mean he or she was a criminal.

L. The Americans had used methods similar to those employed by the SS in Dachau. ... Worse still were the mock executions, where the men were led off in hoods, while their guards told them they were approaching the gallows. Prisoners were lifted bodily off the ground to convince them they were about to swing. More conventional methods of torture included kicks to the groin, deprivation of sleep and food, and savage beatings. When the Americans set up a commission of inquiry into the methods used by their investigators, *they found that, of the 139 cases examined, 137 had "had their testicles permanently destroyed by kicks received from the American War Crimes Investigation team."*

The victor always writes history. Only German war crimes were prosecuted at Nuremberg. British and American war crimes were whitewashed out of history.

"OTHER SITUATIONS"

If not for Kurt Vonnegut's best-selling 1969 novel *Slaughterhouse-Five*, Americans would not know about the deliberate targeting of civilians in the firebombing of Dresden.

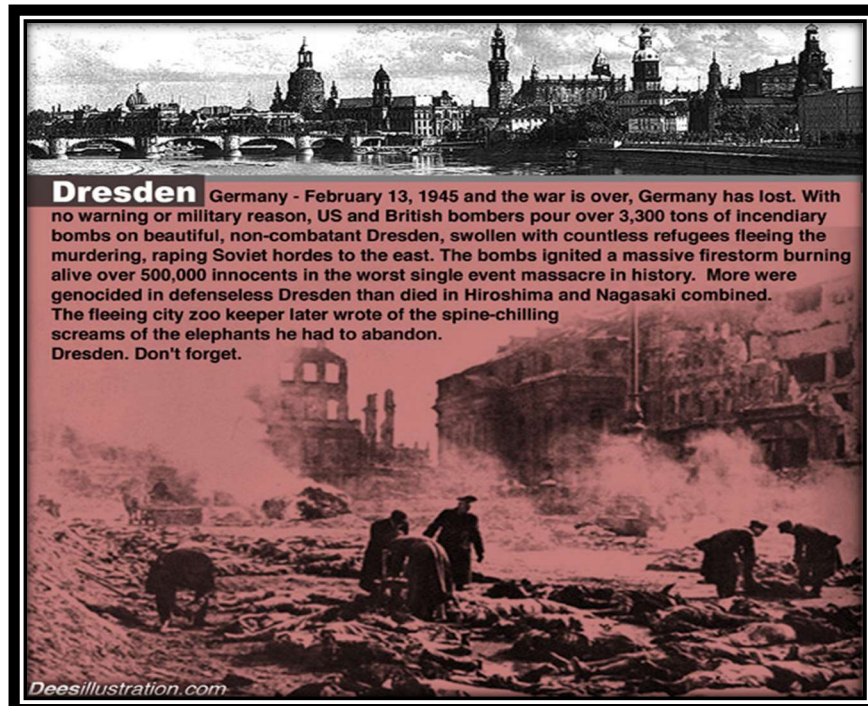


Hellstrom: The Death of Nazi Germany 1944-47 is a meticulously researched encyclopedia of Allied war crimes during World War II. In it, historian Thomas Goodrich carefully compiles statements of scores of eyewitnesses, including Allied pilots and war correspondence about US, British, and Russian atrocities against German civilians and POWs during and after the war.

A DELIBERATE CAMPAIGN OF TERROR BOMBING

DRESDEN

Dresden wasn't the only German city subjected to carpet firebombing aimed at terrorizing civilians. Based mainly on victim and pilot statements, Goodrich details the deliberate firebombing **(with phosphorus-based incendiary bombs)** that occurred in Hamburg, Berlin, Nuremberg, Cologne, Darmstadt, Pforzheim and Würzburg. The Allies also firebombed three Swiss cities, another war crime, as Switzerland was a "neutral" country with no identifiable military targets.



Goodrich mainly focuses on Dresden, one of the last German cities to be firebombed. Many residents believed it would be spared, owing to its cultural treasures and role as a hospital city for injured civilians. **Dresden had no defense installation, major factories, or air defenses.**

Owing to the absence of anti-aircraft weapons, the Allied bombers could fly low enough to target fleeing civilians and hospitals designated with a large red cross on their roofs. **The Red Cross later estimated that the Dresden massacre killed 300,000 – 400,000 civilians.**

Before Dresden, the American pilots, unlike the British Royal Air Force (RAF) deliberately refrained from targeting. **At Dresden, this changed, with American planes deliberately targeting civilians who survived the initial firestorm.** **This bombing is said to be one of the most controversial of the entire war.**

TOKYO

Curtis LeMay's "Brand Of Hell" Last month, within the context of impending US/UK war crimes in Iraq, I wrote about the 58th anniversary of the Allied firebombing of Dresden (Feb. 13-14). This month marks another grim reminder of just how far the US is willing to go: 58+ years since General Curtis LeMay, head of the Twenty-first US Bomber Command, brought his brand of hell into the Pacific theater.

Acting upon General George C. Marshall's 1941 idea of torching the poorer areas of Japan's cities, on the night of March 9-10, 1945, LeMay's bombers laid siege on Tokyo. Tightly packed wooden buildings were assaulted by **1,665 tons of incendiaries**. LeMay later recalled that a few explosives had been mixed in with the incendiaries to demoralize firefighters (96 fire engines burned to ashes and 88 firemen died).

One Japanese doctor recalled "countless bodies" floating in the Sumida River. These bodies were "as black as charcoal" and indistinguishable from men or women. The total number of dead for one night was an estimated 85,000, with 40,000 injured and **one million left homeless**. This was only the first strike in a firebombing campaign that dropped **250 tons of bombs per square mile**, destroying 40 percent of the surface area in 66 death-list cities (including Hiroshima and Nagasaki). **The attack area was 87.4 percent residential.**

It is believed that more people died from fire in six hours than ever before in the history of mankind. At ground zero, the temperature reached 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit. Flames from the ensuing inferno were visible for 200 miles. Due to the intense heat, canals boiled over, metals melted, and human beings burst spontaneously into flames.

By May 1945, 75 percent of the bombs being dropped on Japan were incendiaries. Cheered on by the likes of Time magazine-who explained that "properly kindled, Japanese cities will burn like autumn leaves"-**LeMay's campaign took an estimated 672,000 lives.**

Radio Tokyo, on the other hand, termed LeMay's tactics "slaughter bombing" and the Japanese press declared that through the fire raids, "America has revealed her barbaric character... It was an attempt at mass murder of women and children... The actions of the Americans are all the more despicable because of the noisy pretensions they constantly make about their humanity and idealism... No one expects war to be anything but a brutal business, but it remains for the Americans to make it systematically and unnecessarily a wholesale horror for innocent victims."

Rather than denying this, a spokesman for the Fifth Air Force categorized "**the entire population of Japan [as] a proper military target.**" Colonel Harry F. Cunningham explained the US policy in no uncertain terms: "We military men do not pull punches or put on Sunday School picnics. We are making War and making it in the all-out fashion that saves American lives, shortens the agony that War is, and seeks to bring about an enduring Peace. We intend to seek out and destroy the enemy wherever he or she is, in the greatest possible numbers, in the shortest possible time. **For us, there are no civilians in Japan.**"

On the morning of August 6, 1945, before the Hiroshima story broke, a page-one headline in the Atlanta Constitution read: 580 B-29's rain fire on four more death-list cities. Ironically, the success of LeMay's firebombing raids had effectively eliminated Tokyo from the list of possible A-bomb targets. There was nothing left to bomb.

LeMay was later US Air Force chief of staff from 1961 to 1965 when he immortalized himself by declaring his desire to "bomb [the North Vietnamese] back into the." LeMay also served as vice presidential candidate on George Wallace's 1968 ticket.

When asked about his role in the Tokyo firebombing, he remarked: *"I suppose if I had lost the war, I would have been tried as a war criminal. Fortunately, we were on the winning side."*

FORCIBLE REPATRIATION OF SOVIET DISSIDENTS

In addition to the maltreatment of POWs, the Allies honored a commitment they made at Yalta to repatriate one million Soviet dissidents (including White Russians who fought the Bolsheviks in 1917) to the USSR. This included 4,000 Soviet dissidents in the US who were forcibly repatriated. Stalin, in turn, summarily executed them or sent them to slave labor camps.

THE BRUTAL ALLIED OCCUPATION

The treatment of German civilians and POWs by invading forces varied. On both the eastern and western fronts, experienced front-line troops tended to be the most civilized. They reasoned that good treatment would make the Germans in the next village more likely to surrender.

The rear guard tended to be far less experienced and more inclined to engage in rape, gang rape, looting, and torture. Stalin refused to sign the Geneva Convention, and Russian troops were particularly feared for their savagery.

During the occupation, Eisenhower and Truman deliberately engineered a famine in the Allied sectors (US, British, and French) of Germany. The massive carpet bombing had destroyed the food infrastructure and millions of German civilians starved as they tried to survive on boiled grass and roots. ***Truman outlawed private food relief to Germany until the Pope, former president Herbert Hoover, and numerous high-profile senators and journalists objected to Truman's policy of deliberately starving the German civilian population. In all, far more Germans died in the first two years of peace than had died in six years of war***

The Allies also carried out a particularly brutal regime of "de-Nazification" in which German adults (including prominent anti-Nazis) were arbitrarily arrested and tortured until they confessed to being members of the Nazi Party

The treatment of German civilians would improve in 1947, as the Cold War gained momentum and Truman recognized Germany's importance as a bulwark against the Soviet Union.

OTHER WEBSITES – SAME SUBJECT (TO VIEW – COPY AND PASTE THE LINK INTO YOUR BROWSER)

THE TOP TEN WAR CRIMINAL WALKING AROUND FREELY TODAY

<http://www.rense.com/general69/tpten.htm>

HOW THE ALLIES TREATED GERMAN POW'S

<http://whale.to/b/walsh11.html>

THE TOP 10 ALLIED WAR CRIMES OF WW2

<https://listverse.com/2012/12/14/top-10-allied-war-crimes-of-world-war-ii/>

ALLIED WAR CRIMES OF THE FRENCH IN WW2

<http://uncensoredhistory.blogspot.com/2012/07/allied-war-crimes-during-ww2-french.html> **AMERICAN WAR CRIMES**

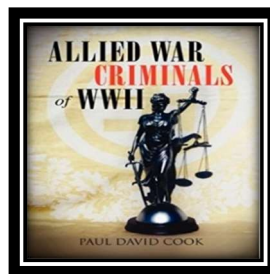
AGAINST THE JAPANESE

<https://knowledgenuts.com/2014/05/04/the-horrific-american-war-crimes-against-wwii-japan/>

THE UNTOLD HISTORY OF AMERICAN WAR CRIMES

<http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/35944-the-untold-history-of-us-war-crim>

WHAT IF?



"Paul Cook lives in Corsicana, Texas, is married and retired. He has had a varied career in law enforcement, military service, and as a college instructor in both the domestic and international arenas. Mr. Cook has degrees in Education and Criminal Justice as well as extensive experience in protective service in Europe. A recognized political science and WWII conservative historian who has traveled the globe, Mr. Cook has authored *Siege at the White House*, *Presidential Leadership by Example*, *The Last Interviews with Hitler: 1961-Volumes I & II*, *In These Last Days* and *Allied War Criminals of WW II*.

What would happen if the Allied leaders of WWII were held to the same Counts, Articles, and ex-post-facto laws that the Allies used at the Nuremberg War Trials against the German defendants in 1945? FDR, Truman, Eisenhower, LeMay, Tibbets, Churchill, de Gaulle, Stalin, and others are examined in detail.

The results were astonishing. Had the victors been held to the same judgment as the Germans, they would have been found just as guilty if not more so as the men they judged at the end of the war. A review of the original Nuremberg Trials is included and clearly, this allied court was found to be one of the worst examples of Western democratic legal process in modern history."

OR JUST SAY

War is War ...Screw it allThey started the war.... we didn't they deserved it.....and more !!!!



PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT EVEN THOUGH THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN TAKEN FROM WEBSITES & OTHER SOURCES THAT APPEAR TO BE AUTHENTIC, I CAN NOT ENSURE THAT ALL THE DATA IN THIS ARTICLE IS ACCURATE AND CORRECT.