

awfulavalanche.wordpress.com

Justice Delayed – Russian Police Investigate 1942 Crime

Posted on

8-10 minutes

Dear Readers:

Today I have [this short, but very sad piece](#), about a crime committed back in 1942, in Krasnodar Region, Russia, Soviet Union.

We start with some war-time files that have recently been declassified. Why were they classified in the first place, one might ask, given that they concern Nazi war crimes? Well, that is an interesting question, one with many possible answers. It is a fact that the Soviet government tended to “cover up” (maybe that’s too strong a word) or “classify” certain crimes committed by the Nazis. The three strongest (most “highly likely”) explanations involve: (1) some crimes were assisted by Soviet citizens, and Soviet government did not want to draw attention to the degree of collaborationism and rather large numbers of collaborationists, especially among Ukrainians; and/or (2) Soviet government wanted to put past behind it and not spoil new relationship with “friendly” German Democratic Republic by bringing up awkward matters; and/or (3) post-war Soviet government had bigger issues to worry about than taking care of people who were already

beyond all help.



Be that as it may, this particular crime took place in the resort town of [Yeisk](#), located near the shore of the Azov Sea. Map shows the Krasnodar Krai of Southern Russia, where Black Sea meets Azov Sea, and Yeisk is the black dot at the upper left-ish, on the Azov.

At the Start of the Great Patriotic War, when the Nazis invaded the Crimean peninsula, an entire Simferopol orphanage (around 300 kids) was evacuated, and the orphans shipped across the Strait to Yeisk, along with their care-givers and other service staff.

By the end of the summer 1942 Yeisk itself was taken over and occupied by the Nazi army. In October, a fascist “punishment” brigade loaded the kids up in running vehicles. Within 15 minutes all the children were dead. It is believed that the Nazis were testing their new “[mobile gas chamber](#)” technology on the Russian orphans. (Since 1939 the Nazis had been experimenting with various mechanisms for delivering poison gas efficiently to large numbers of “undesirables”. Eventually they abandoned the mobile gas chambers for more industrial killing methods.)





Nazi vehicular mobile gas chamber.

After the Soviet army liberated the Krasnodar area in 1943, they discovered the bodies of 214 children.

As mentioned, the file on this crime, as well as others, has recently been de-classified. In addition, this has been deemed a “Cold Case”, and Russian Police have filed case with Interpol. Major-General Alexander Prokopchuk of the Russian Police heads the Russian section of the Interpol, and is in charge of this case.

Prokopchuk: *“We have submitted questionnaires to seven nations, in order to establish the identities of the persons serving in this [Nazi] legion and taking part in these punitive operations...”*

Prokopchuk stressed that the “foreign partners” are eagerly sharing whatever information they have, and I am honestly not sure if he is being sarcastic or not.

According to archives recently declassified by the Russian FSB, punitive operations against Soviet citizens living in the Krasnodar Krai (1942-43) were carried out by the [Sonderkommando](#) SS Group 10a, led by Doctor Kurt Christmann. When I googled the name, I didn’t find much, but I did find [this link](#) to an auction lot featuring some Nazi memorabilia relating to Dr. Christmann who was, apparently, a champion canoer:

—

Description

Grouping to SS-Obersturmbannführer Dr. Kurt Christmann serving with Allgemeine-SS and Geheime Staatspolizei “GESTAPO” as well as Sicherheitsdienst SD. Christmann was born on 1. June 1907 in Munich. He joined to the NSDAP in 1933 and later to the SS. His SS-number was 103057.

In 1938 Christmann was sent to work with the GESTAPO in Vienna and from 1939 until 1942 he was the GESTAPO leader of Salzburg. From August 1942 until February 1943 he was the commander of the Einsatzgruppe 10a in the Russian town of Krasnodar. He was involved in the killing of partisans and communists [*yalensis: and also orphans, apparently*]. Thereafter Christmann was GESTAPO leader in Klagenfurt and Koblenz.



Einsatzkommandos having a bit of fun; note the grins...

After the war he worked under the name Dr. Ronda for the British allied forces but soon afterwards fled via Rome to Argentina. In 1956 he returned to Germany. On 19. December 1980 the district court of Munich condemned him to 10 years imprisonment for his participation in the war crimes committed in Krasnodar. He died on 4. April 1987.

The grouping consist of:

Certificate to German championship in canoeing 1st place. Issued

15. June 1940. Size: 21×28.5cm. Furthermore one sport certificate, one promotion and his “Ahnentafel” (pedigree). All period time.

Three period time and three postwar photos. One repro photography of him in SD tunic. Again, four photos. Hard to determine the period. Total: 11 photos.

Good condition 2. (Lot #27-0967, EAN #2000000220190)

—

I don't want to sound judgey, but I have a feeling this type of auction attracts more hard-core Nazi junkies than honest historians (“Must have login to view uncensored pictures...”); but whatever...

Open All The Archives!



Kurt Christmann aka “Doctor Ronda”

[According to the Simon Wiesenthal Center](#), Einsatzkommando 10a was a component of Einsatzgruppe D. Main job of Group D was to carry out mass murders of Jews in the southern part of the Ukraine, and also operated on the Crimean peninsula and parts of Caucasia:

Einsatzgruppe D, 600 troops initially, had its headquarters in

Piatra-Neamt, Romania. Areas of operation were southern Ukraine, Crimea, Ciscaucasia. Dr. Otto Ohlendorf commanded Einsatzgruppe D. Himmler replaced him with SS-Brigadeführer und Generalmajor der Polizei dr. Walter Bierkamp.

SS units, specially trained assassins, assigned terror tasks for the political administration in the Soviet Union and other eastern territories. The Einsatzgruppen worked behind the lines and murdered political opposition. The Einsatzgruppen murdered between 1.25-2 million Jews and tens of thousands of Soviet citizens and Soviet POWs.

To recap: Major-General Prokopchuk is treating this murder of Russian orphans in Yeisk as a Cold Crime and requesting assistance from Interpol. As mentioned, citizens from at least 7 nations are believed to have been involved. I imagine most of the perps would be dead by now, but still a good idea to get at the truth. [Commenter to the VZGLIAD piece](#) Alexei Gapanovich notes:



Ukrainian nationalists helped Nazis do Khatyn

I agree with previous commenter [...] that keeping secret these crimes against the Soviet people has been a real hindrance, even today. For example, in Belorussia, not many Belorussians know

that West-Ukrainian nationalists, with their bestial ideology directed against peaceful civilians, were involved in the Khatyn atrocity and [the burning of] hundreds of Belorussian villages. Nonetheless, Lukashenko calmly built relationships both with Turchinov and with Poroshenko, and not once did his Foreign Ministry condemn the heroization of the ideology of these bloody morally misbegotten [monsters] who punished the Belorussian people.

Or, for example, the atrocities of the Polish occupation of Western Belorussia — much is still resting in closed archives. And now Poland is calmly trying to rip off a piece of Belorussia with its hyena-mouth, and the Belorussian vassals are just helping her do it.

In conclusion, why keep secret these atrocities against the Soviet people? It's easy to understand why, in USSR times — so that the [various] ethnic groups would not quarrel with one another. But today the times are different.

As the old saying goes: He who rakes over the past, should lose an eye. But he who forgets – should lose both eyes. It was not we who started raking over the past, that was our Western “partners”, yet we do not have the right to forget. Therefore, all the secret archives, revealing all the atrocities of the Western and pro-Western mutants – should be OPENED. The people need to know the truth: **Who regards us as a friend, and who – as meat for the butcher.**