Babi Yar - Nazi Massacre



WARNING: SCENES IN THIS CLIP - FROM "WAR AND REMEMBRANCE" - ARE RECREATED EVENTS ABOUT THE BABI YAR MASSACRE IN UKRAINE (AMONG OTHER ATROCITIES). PROCEED WITH EXTREME CAUTION.

In September of 1941, thousands of Jewish people were living in (and near) the city of <u>Kiev</u> (in <u>Ukraine</u>). The Nazis made a decision to <u>kill those people</u> during their invasion of <u>the Soviet Union</u>.

Historians believe the most-documented of the <u>Ukaine atrocities</u>, committed by the Nazis, happened at a <u>ravine known as Babi Yar</u> in the city of Kiev. Sometime around the 26th of September, 1941, <u>an order was posted in Kiev</u>. Its English translation (containing offensive words) is roughly as follows:

Yids [Jews] of the city of Kiev and vicinity! On Monday, September 29, you are to appear by 08:00 a.m. with your possessions, money, documents, valuables, and warm clothing at Dorogozhitskaya Street, next to the Jewish cemetery. Failure to appear is punishable by death.

People thought this was a resettlement order, and they obeyed it. Instead, about 33,771 Jewish people lost their lives in a single massacre between September 29-30, 1941.

Thousands of other people were also executed at the Babi Yar ravine. <u>A monument</u>, located about one mile from the ravine, commemorates the murders of "over 100,000 citizens of Kiev and prisoners of war."

This clip - from "War and Remembrance," a <u>critically acclaimed</u>, award-winning mini-series by Dan Curtis - <u>references/recreates those events</u>.

Note that Paul Blobel - a <u>key SS Colonel</u> in this clip who was responsible for the Babi-Yar massacre and later spearheaded efforts to <u>eliminate evidence of Nazi atrocities</u> - was later a <u>defendant in the Nuremberg war-crimes trial</u>. Found guilty, he was hanged at Landsberg Prison on June 8, 1951.

Note, also, that <u>Arthur Greiser</u> - similarly a member of the SS and responsible for atrocities, <u>especially in Poland</u> - was tried by the Polish government and hanged (on July 21, 1946) following a guilty verdict. He is depicted, with Blobel, in this clip and hoped to carry-out a <u>"Germanization" policy</u> in other European countries.

Credits:

Clip from "War and Remembrance," by Dan Curtis. Copyright, Capital Cities/ABC, Inc., all rights reserved. Clip online, courtesy YouTube, and provided here as fair use for educational purposes and to acquaint new viewers with the program.

The "War and Remembrance" mini-series - like Curtis' earlier "Winds of War" - is based on a book of the same name by Herman Wouk.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at: http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Babi-Yar-Nazi-Massacre0

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Babi-Yar-Nazi-Massacre0