

11 FOR WAR CRIMES, HAVE BEEN EXECUTED, MOSCOW RADIO SAID TODAY.  
THE TWO MEN EXECUTED BY FIRING SQUAD WERE HALF GERRETS AND  
JAN VIJK. A THIRD MAN, AIN ERWIN MERE, NOW IS LIVING IN ENGLAND  
AND WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH IN ARGENTIA ON SIMILAR CHARGES BY THE  
SAME COURT.

GERRETS, DEPUTY CHIEF OF JAGALA CONCENTRATION CAMP IN GERMAN-  
OCCUPIED ESTONIA, AND VIJK WERE FOUND GUILTY OF CARRYING OUT  
MASSACRES.

MERE, SAID IN COURT TO HAVE BEEN CHIEF OF THE ESTONIAN SECURITY  
POLICE, WAS FOUND GUILTY OF ORDERING HIS SUBORDINATES TO MAKE  
UNLAWFUL ARRESTS AND TO HAVE ORGANIZED MASS KILLINGS.

THE ESTONIAN SUPREME COURT REJECTED A PLEA FOR MERCY BY GERRETS  
AND VIJK.

WHEN THE CHARGES AGAINST MERE WERE FIRST MADE PUBLIC HE  
DESCRIBED THEM AS "COMPLETELY FALSE." BRITAIN REFUSED TO HAND HIM OVER  
TO THE RUSSIANS.

HE SAID THE TRIAL DID NOT INTEREST HIM IN THE LEAST, ADDING  
"MY CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR. I WAS NEVER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEATHS

### EXECUTIONS IN ESTONIA

MOSCOW TASS IN ENGLISH TO EUROPE 1204 3/30 L

(TEXT) TALLINN--THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON WAR CRIMINALS  
HALF GERRETS AND JAN VIJK WAS BEING CARRIED OUT, THE  
SUPREME COURT OF ESTONIA ANNOUNCED MAR. 30.

THE PRESIDUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE REPUBLIC DECLINED  
THE APPEAL OF THE CONDEMNED FOR CLEMENCY.

GERRETS AND VIJK TOOK AN ACTIVE PART IN THE BRUTAL MASSACRE  
OF CZECHOSLOVAK AND GERMAN CITIZENS AT THE JAGALA CONCENTRATION  
CAMP DURING WORLD WAR II. THEY WERE SENTENCED TO DEATH MAR. 31.

AIN ERWIN MERE, FORMER ESTONIAN POLICE CHIEF DURING THE NAZI  
OCCUPATION, WHO HAS THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS  
OF PEOPLE ON HIS CONSCIENCE AND WHO WAS SENTENCED TO DEATH  
IS DEFENDABLE AT THE RECENT TRIAL IN TALLINN, SAID REMAINS  
AT LARGE IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT REFUSED  
TO EXTRADITE HIM TO SOVIET JUDICIARY BLOODIES.

TELS 3/30 712A JDC/BM