

(Translated from the Italian)

ANNEX I.

TORTURE AND KILLING OF ITALIAN PRISONERS

Deposition by the Secretary of the Greek Consulate at Dire-dawa.

ROYAL ITALIAN CONSULATE AT JIBUTI.

Certified true copy of report No.11.
(Register of Records page 21).

In the year 1936, the fourteenth of the Fascist era, on this eleventh day of February, we, Dr. Bivio Luigi Sbrana, Royal Italian Consul, in the presence of MM. Stefano Micciché and Guiseppe Colleoni, witnesses hereby affirm that we have received from M. Spiro G. Makalonas, merchant, resident in Ethiopia and Secretary of the Greek Consulate at Dire-Dawa, the following evidence:

(Translated from the French)

"I, the under-signed Spiro G. Makalonas, Secretary of the Greek Consulate at Dire-Dawa, hereby affirm before God that the following declarations are spontaneous and have not been evoked by any external influence, and that the occurrences hereinafter set forth in regard to slavery and prisoners of war did actually take place in Ethiopia during my stay there.

"Slavery. I certify that in the month of November 1935, during the passage of Abyssinian troops proceeding towards Harrar and Ogaden, the Ethiopian soldiers attacked the villages of the Danakils and the inhabitants of Cercer whom they met on their road, and after having forcibly seized young people of both sexes, they took them away as slaves to Mangalla. I myself saw these unfortunate people in chains and shut up in a Zeriba (a kind of pen) which had been set up on a plain quite near the municipal police station. The Ethiopian soldiers at once organised a slave market.

"In the month of November alone more than 50 slaves were sold in this market, both men and women, at a price of 30 to 60 Maria Theresa thalers each. At the same time a man, a Galla of the Arussi, the father of one of the slaves, appeared before the chief of the Dire-Dawa municipality, Ligg Tafarra, and claimed his son. The reply given to the unfortunate father was that 200 Maria Theresa thalers would have to be paid for the court of the municipality to accede to his request. The poor man was forced to abandon his unfortunate son to his fate.

"In my opinion the request for 200 M.T. thalers was made in order that the claim might not be granted.

"Italian prisoners of war. I further certify that the Italian soldiers who were drivers of tanks and Italian aviators who fell into the hands of the Ethiopians were killed on the spot without mercy, despite the fact that the Italians, at the time of capture, specifically declared that they considered themselves prisoners of war.

"The Abyssinian soldiers massacred the prisoners in a most barbarous manner, cutting up the bodies into small pieces after subjecting the victims to the most atrocious tortures, and vieing for the choice bits, which they then kept as mascots.

"The above facts have been confirmed by several European and Abyssinian eye-witnesses."