

Revenge - A Private and Not a Public Act

Yaacov Lozowick

Inmates who were strong enough, and were able to seize the opportunity, settled accounts with their guards. There were cases of executions immediately after the liberation. In eastern Europe, Jews who were liberated close to the areas in which they had been hunted down and who were able to identify, through personal acquaintance, local residents who had aided the persecutors, sometimes avenged themselves on the collaborators. Still, hardly any wide scale calculated or systematic vengeance was wrought on the general or German population, a singular historic phenomenon that merits study.

Source: Lozowick, Yaacov, "Introduction", in: Kleiman, Yehudit and Springer-Aharoni, Nina (eds.), *The Anguish of Liberation*, Yad Vashem, Jerusalem, 1995, p. 5.