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Abstracts

EMILIO GIN, Bari, 9 settembre 1943. *L'affaire Bellomo*

After the announcement of the armistice between Italy and the Allies the Royal Italian Army, forced to an unequal showdown with German forces, was put in a dire situation. In spite of its inferiority, however, many Italian units bravely, and in many places successfully, resisted to the Wehrmacht's assault founding one of the cornerstones of the later «Resistenza» movement. In this article the author, after a brief summary of the happenings which led to the armistice, focuses the attention on the fighting occurred in the city of Bari, where an assaulting German elite unit was forced to surrender by an heterogeneous Italian force recollected and led by the general Nicola Bellomo. In the last part of the work the author deals with the faultiness of the memory about these events in the subsequent historiography and, in particular, he reexamines from an innovative point of view the events which led to the incrimination and condemnation of the general Bellomo by a British Military Court at the end of the war.