

## A Russian Village in Flames (January 10, 1944)

### Abstract

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On February 14, 1943, after the Germans experienced a devastating defeat on the Eastern Front, Hitler ordered his retreating army to leave nothing but “scorched earth” behind them – the idea being that this would slow the Red Army’s advance. As this picture shows, numerous non-military structures (i.e., civic buildings and private homes) and even entire villages were destroyed in accordance with the order.

### Source

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Bundesarchiv, Bild 146-1971-059-20  
Foto: Jarolim | 10. Januar 1944

Source: Photo: Alois Jarolim, January 10, 1944, Bild 146-1971-059-20, Bundesarchiv.

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