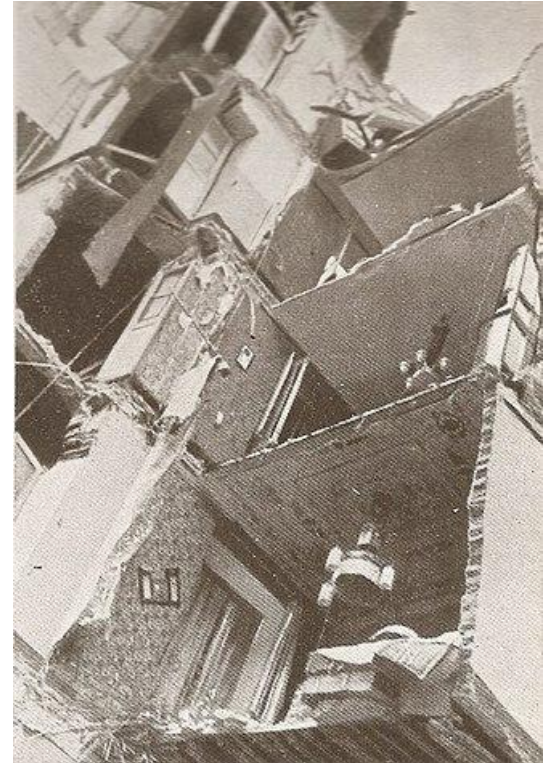
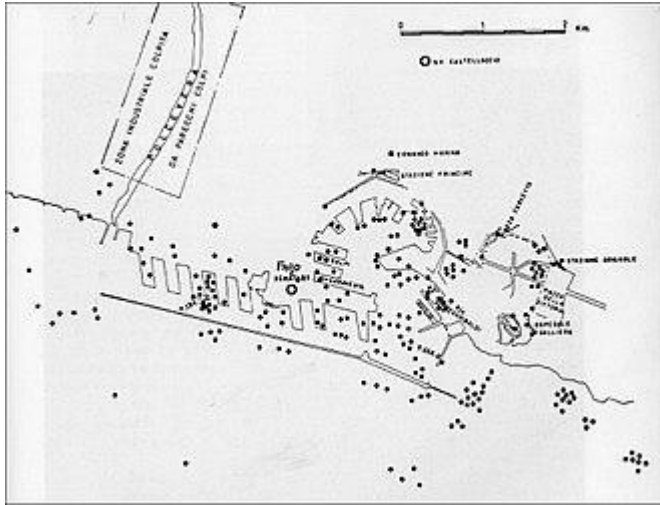




Genoa in World War II

AERIAL AND NAVAL BOMBINGS 1940-1943-1944

the port, the town center and the railway stations were hit



AERIAL AND NAVAL BOMBINGS 1940-1943-1944

Genoa was **bombed 57 times**.

On **11th and 12th June 1940**, there was the **first aerial bombing**: 2 British bombers dropped five tons of bombs, but fortunately that caused small damage and few victims.

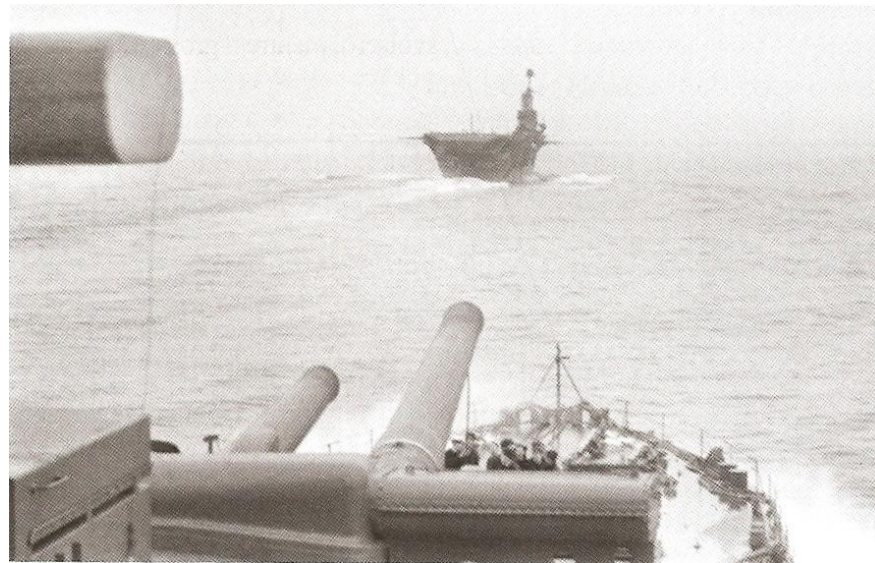
On **7th March 1945**, there was the **last aerial bombing**: this time there were 37 bombers of the Royal Air Force who had as their objectives the railway yard.



CONSEQUENCES OF THE BOMBINGS

what was damaged in the city?

- 130 palaces of Genoa and 70 churches
- 11.183 apartments
- 75% of the facilities of the port



FROM 1937 TO 1943 — GENOA ANTIFASCIST



Until 1937, the method of non-cooperation was applied in Genoa as a non violent protest against the fascist politics. Later it was replaced by an active resistance through clandestine organisations which were also in communication with foreign anti-fascists, especially with the French ones.

FROM 1943 TO 1944: GENOA RESISTANCE

Armistice, 8 September 1943: The Head of Government Badoglio authorises the surrender and on the 3rd of September the armistice of Cassibile is secretly signed.

A German garrison occupies the city: the Germans create a defensive system on the coasts of the region.

National Liberation Committees for Civil Resistance and Partisan Struggle are born, the most important one is

“Arditi del Popolo” that have to defend the population from fascism

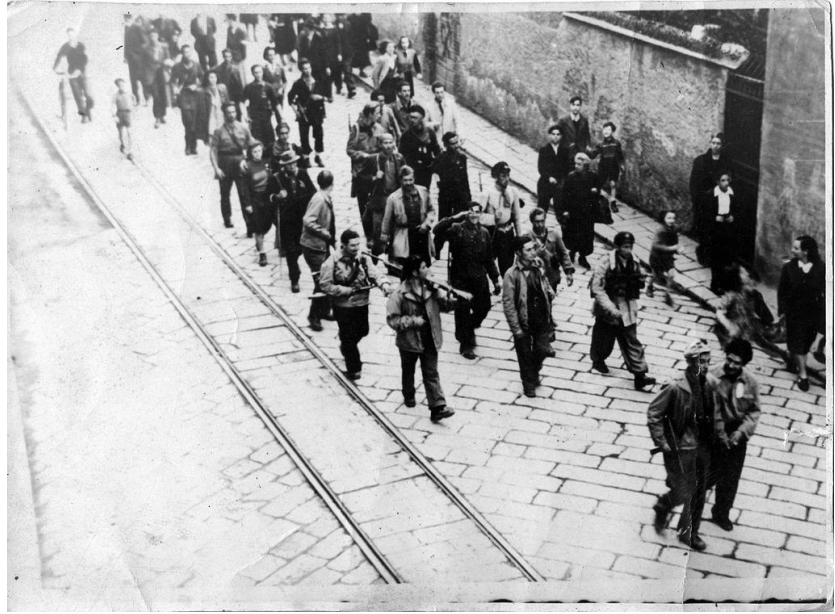
In Genoa, Milan and Turin the workers coalesce and paralyze the entire nation thus hindering the fascist regime



ITALIAN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT

Italian resistance groups fight the Nazis and Italian Fascists during the Second World War.

After September 1943, partisan Resistance groups are active in northern and much of central Italy. Often they are former soldiers still in possession of their weapons. Many are young men fleeing Mussolini's attempts to conscript them. Many are recruited, organized, and armed by the anti-Fascist parties and they tied



down thousands of German troops. In some cities, the partisan liberation appear to be a revolution—as in Genoa, Turin and Bologna. An example of the anti-fascist youth movement is Aldo Gastaldi who was the first Italian partisan. He built a partisan brigade in which a large number of young people got involved.

THE SYNAGOGUE OF GENOA - 3RD NOVEMBER 1943

On the night of November 3, 1943, the troops of the SS break into the synagogue and force the custodian Bino Polacco under threat of death of his children to convocate the members of the community. That night, 50 Jewish were captured and deported to Auschwitz. In total, 261 Jewish were deported from Genoa and only 20 returned home.



We have the testimony of Giuseppe Di Porto, who tells

“[...] On November 3, 1943, while my cousin and I were walking around the city, they told us that the SS had made a big bust at the Temple of Genoa.[...]We immediately returned home, it was there that we were arrested by the Nazi-fascist militia.[...]I thought that even if I could escape, I could never bring to my consciousness the fate of ten more lives. [...] I can not forget the human tragedy of mothers screaming, of wives and husbands being separated, of the cries of children and the elderly dragged in the streets.”



RAIMONDO RICCI

after the Armistice on September 3rd, 1943, Raimondo Ricci, decides to take part in the resistance and after a few months, he is arrested. Handed over to the Gestapo, he is imprisoned in the Mauthausen-Gusen concentration camp; he is freed on 5 May 1945. Once he returned to Italy, Ricci graduated in Law and became a lawyer. He later became a city councilor in Genoa, elected with the Italian Communist Party and from 1969 he has been provincial President of ANPI in Genoa.

From 1976 to 1983, for two consecutive legislatures, Ricci has been a member of the Chamber of Deputies, elected with the PCI.

In June 2002, Ricci went to Hamburg to testify in the trial against Friedrich Engel, responsible for the Nazi massacres in Liguria when he was commander of the German police in Genoa.

After having been President of ANPI from 2009 to 2011, Ricci died in Genoa on 26 November 2013, at the age of 92.

1945: THE LIBERATION

The night between the 23rd and 24th of April, the Committee of National Liberation decides that Genoa must counterattack the **Germans** and so violent fighting begins

The Committee of National Liberation passes to contrast the German troops of commander Meinhold, now in difficulty they yield.

The 27th of April, the Allies come into town

The government awards the gold medal for military valor to the city