

TERROR AND THE RULE OF LAW

The background of the slide is a collage of historical images related to the Nazi regime. At the top, there is a dark horizontal band. Below it, a photograph of Adolf Hitler speaking at a podium is visible. To the right, there are several Nazi flags. In the lower section, there is a photograph of a soldier in a military uniform, and another photograph of a group of soldiers in uniform, some holding rifles. The entire collage is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark blue filter.

THOMAS GRANT QC





"Our whole country, from young to old, is awaiting and demanding one thing. Our people are demanding one thing: the traitors and spies who are selling our country to the enemy must be shot like dirty dogs. Our people are demanding one thing: crush the accursed reptile....Over the road that has been cleared of the last scum and filth of the past, we, our people, with our beloved leader and teacher, the great Stalin, at our head, will march as before onwards and onwards, toward Communism."



"Comrade Judges, I am not going to conceal from you the exceptionally difficult and immeasurably hard position a counsel for the defence finds himself in in this case. After all a counsel for the defence, Comrade Judges, is first and foremost a son of his motherland, he is also a citizen of the great Soviet Union and the feelings of great indignation, wrath, horror which all our country, both young and old, are now seized with, the feeling which the Prosecutor expressed so clearly in his speech, these feelings are inevitably shared by the counsel for the defence as well. We see, Comrade Judges, that for the technical fulfilment of their wrecking designs these conspirators have only their insignificant forces and foreign intelligence services on which to count."

Advocate Braude, defence lawyer

"The monstrosity of my crimes is immeasurable especially in the new age of the struggle of the USSR. May this trial be the last severe lesson, and may the great might of the USSR become clear to all....Everybody perceives the wise leadership of the country that is ensured by Stalin. It is in the consciousness of this that I await the verdict. What matters is not the personal feelings of a repentant enemy, but the flourishing progress of the USSR."

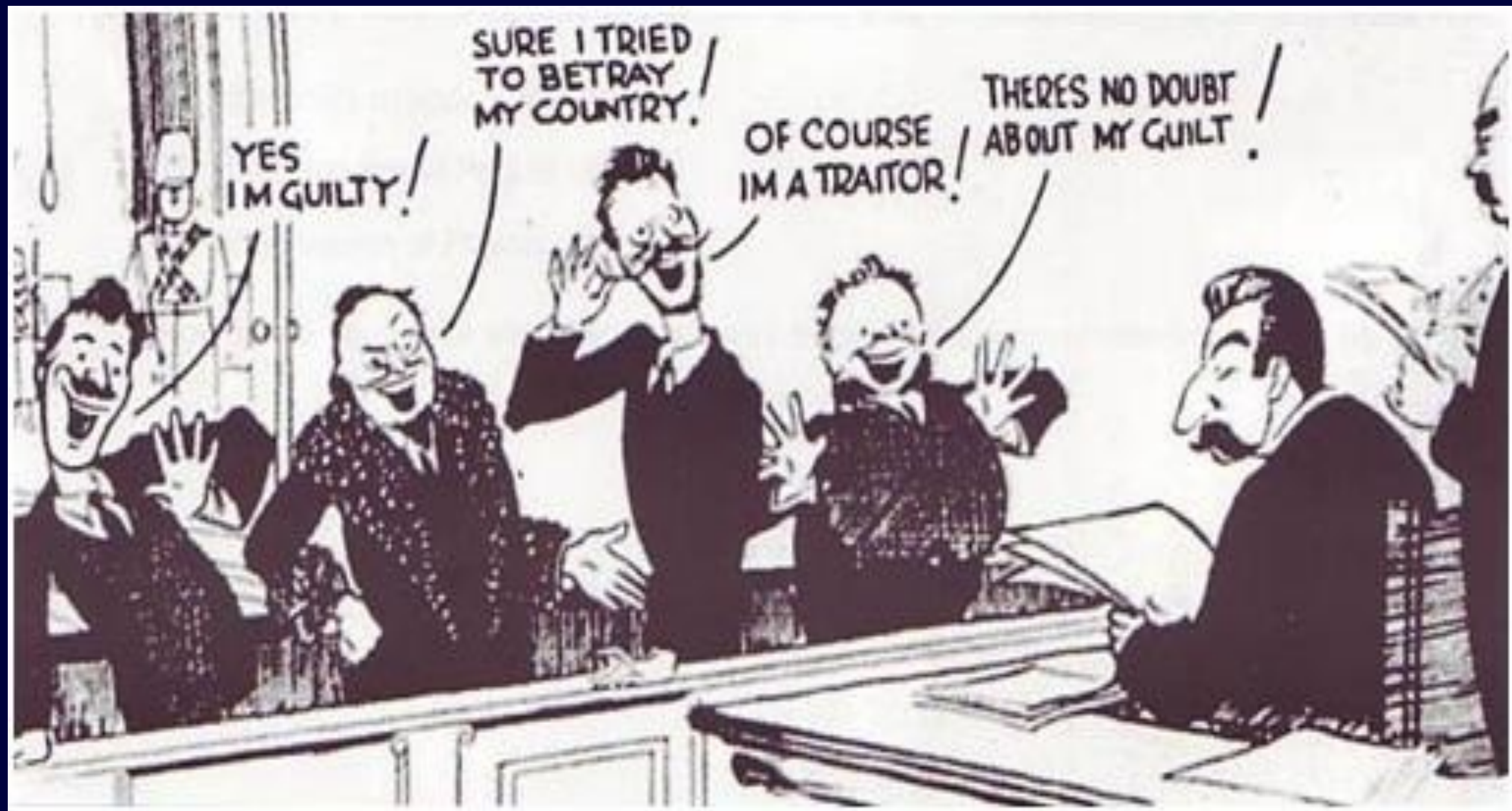


"Q. Do you persist in your refusal confirm your previous confirmation?

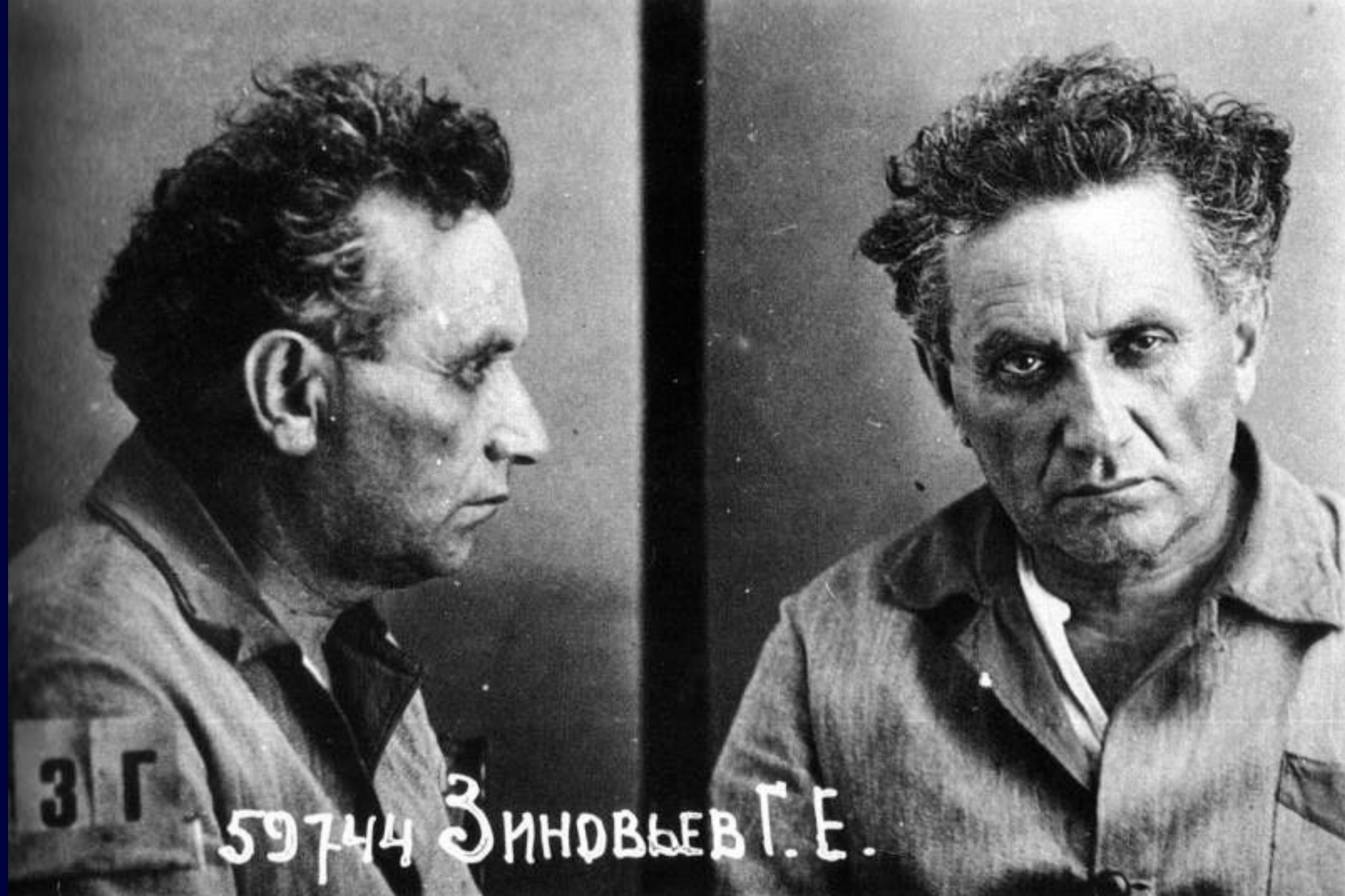
A. No. I confirm everything.

Q. What then was the meaning of the statement you made yesterday.

A. Yesterday, influenced by a feeling of false shame, and by the atmosphere of the court, and by my state of health, I could not bring myself to tell the truth, and admit my guilt before the world. Mechanically I declared myself innocent. I now beg the court to take note of the statement which I now make to the effect that I admit my guilt, completely and unreservedly, under all the charges brought against me, and that I accept full responsibility for my criminal and treacherous behaviour."







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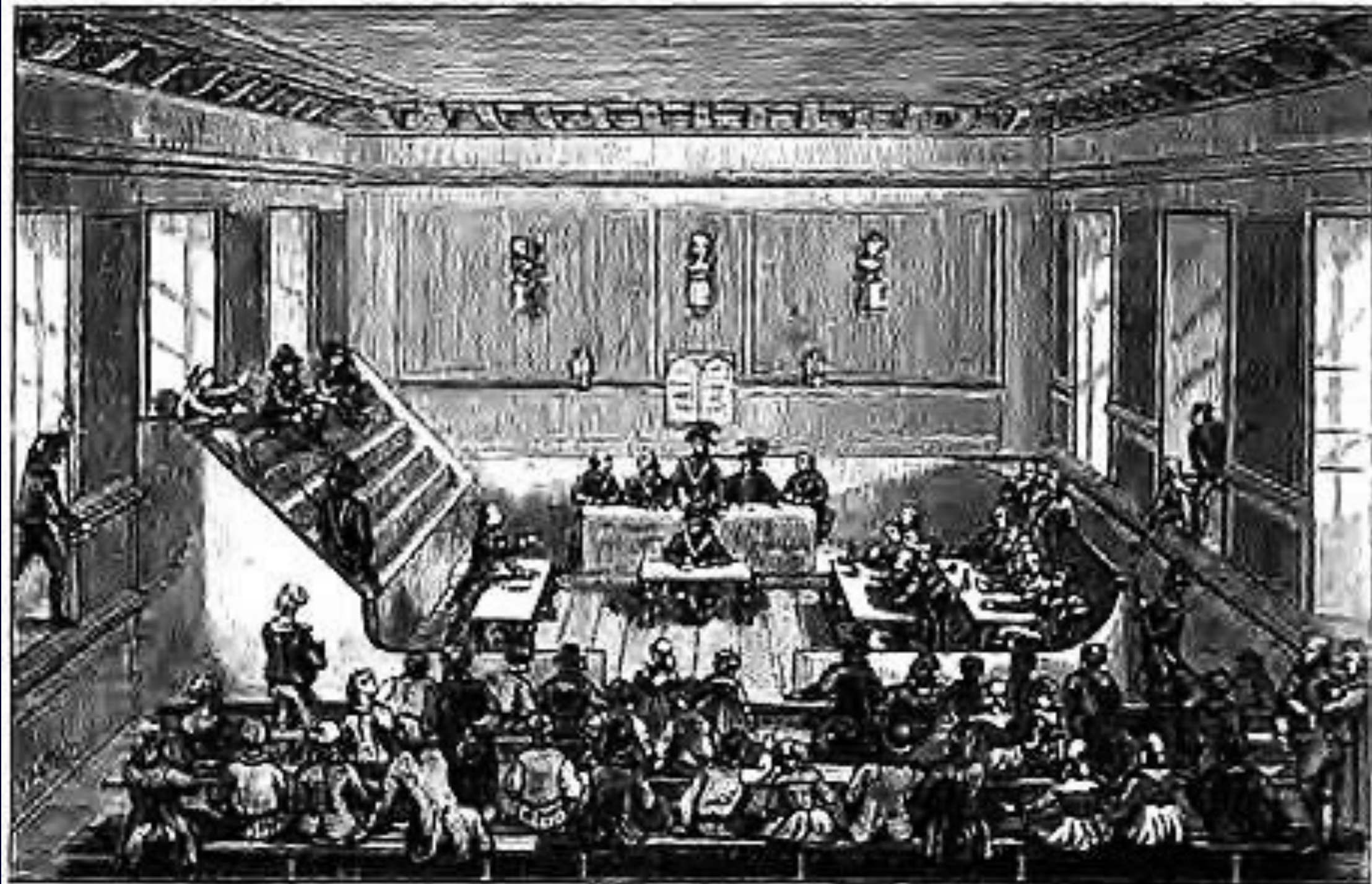






The Law of 22 Prairial, Year II (10 June 1794)

- The Revolutionary Tribunal is instituted to punish the enemies of the people.
- The enemies of the people are those who seek to destroy public liberty, either by force or by cunning.
- The following are deemed enemies of the people:
 - Those who have sought to impede the provisioning of Paris, or to create scarcity within the Republic;....
 - Those who have deceived the people or the representatives of the people, in order to lead them into undertakings contrary to the interests of liberty...
 - Those who have sought to inspire discouragement, in order to favor the enterprises of the tyrants leagued against the Republic
 - Those who have disseminated false news in order to divide or disturb the people;
 - Those who have sought to mislead opinion and to prevent the instruction of the people
- The penalty provided for all offenses under the jurisdiction of the Revolutionary Tribunal is death.





"If the basis of popular government in peacetime is virtue, the basis of popular government during a revolution is both virtue and terror; virtue, without which terror is baneful; terror, without which virtue is powerless. Terror is nothing more than speedy, severe and inflexible justice; it is thus an emanation of virtue; it is less a principle in itself, than a consequence of the general principle of democracy, applied to the most pressing needs of the patrie."

