

Living with the Enemy

*German Occupation, Collaboration, and Justice
in the Western Pyrenees, 1940–1948*

In post-liberation France, the French courts judged the cases of more than one hundred thousand people accused of aiding and abetting the enemy during the Second World War. In this fascinating book, Sandra Ott uncovers the hidden history of collaboration in the Pyrenean borderlands of the Basques and the Béarnais in southwestern France through nine stories of human folly, uncertainty, ambiguity, ambivalence, desire, vengeance, duplicity, greed, self-interest, opportunism, and betrayal. Covering both the occupation and liberation periods, she reveals how the book's characters became involved with the occupiers for a variety of reasons ranging from a desire to settle scores and to gain access to power, money, and material rewards to love, friendship, fear, and desperation. These wartime lives and subsequent postwar reckonings provide us with a new lens through which to understand human behavior under the difficult conditions of occupation and the subsequent search for retribution and justice.

SANDRA OTT, an Oxford-educated anthropologist, has done research in the Basque Country for forty years. Speaking Basque, French, and Spanish, she acquired minor fame among artisan cheese-makers for the chapter on “the cheese analogy of conception” in her first book, *The Circle of Mountains: A Basque Shepherding Community* (Clarendon Press, 1981). Other works include the ethnographic film, “The Basques of Santazi” with Granada Television for “Disappearing Worlds,” and *War, Judgment, and Memory in the Basque Borderlands, 1914–1945* (2008).

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For Matt Sauls,
with hope and love

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Abbreviations

AD	Archives départementales (Departmental Archives)
AN	Archives Nationales (National Archives)
AS	Armée Secrète (Secret Army)
CDL	Comité Départemental de Libération (Departmental Liberation Committee)
CFP	Corps-Franc Pommiers (a Free Corps created by André Pommiers)
CNR	Conseil National de la Résistance (National Council of Resistance)
FFI	Forces Françaises de l'Intérieur (French Forces of the Interior)
FTP	Franc-Tireurs et Partisans (Free Fighters and Partisans)
GC	Groupe Collaboration
JEN	Jeunesse de l'Europe Nouvelle (Youth of the New Europe)
LVF	Légion des Volontaires contre le Bolchevisme (Legion of Volunteers against Communism)
NAP	Noyautage des Administrations Publiques (Public Services Infiltration)
ORA	Organisation de Résistance de l'Armée (Army Resistance Organization)
PPF	Parti Populaire Français (French Popular Party)
SD	Sicherheitsdienst (German Security Service, or SS intelligence service attached to the Security Police)
SDPG	Service Diplomatique des Prisonniers de Guerre (Diplomatic Service of Prisoners of War)
SFIO	Section Française de l'Internationale Ouvrière (French Section of the Workers' International)
Sipo-SD	Sicherheitspolizei-Sicherheitsdienst (German Security Police attached to the SD)
SOL	Service d'Ordre Légionnaire (Legion's Security Service)

x Abbreviations

SR	Service de Renseignements (Intelligence Service)
SS	Schutzstaffeln (initially Hitler's Protection Squadrons)
STO	Service du Travail Obligatoire (Compulsory Labor Service)

Maps

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Principal Personalities in the Narratives

- Chapter 6: Mlle. Agnes Bourguine, former girlfriend of Pierre Robles, co-charged with the betrayal of Henri Magens
 Henri Magens, member of the Resistance who helped wartime fugitives cross into Spain, former lover of Bourguine
 Gisèle Robles, estranged wife of Pierre Robles
 Pierre Robles, black market bicycle vendor accused of having denounced Magens to the Germans
 André Roux, chief prosecutor in Pau
- Chapter 7: Jean (Johann) de Chappotin, Germanophile, teenaged informer, and Waffen-SS volunteer
 SS Lieutenant Otto Doberschütz, head of the German security and intelligence service (Sicherheitsdienst, SD) in Pau
 Aldo Gerini, a teenaged thug in de Chappotin's gang
 Henri Lasserre, teenaged "lieutenant" of de Chappotin, informer for the SD in Pau who shared responsibility for the denunciation and subsequent massacre of the *maquis* in Portet
 Edouard Lasserre, his father, a Pétainist attorney
- Chapter 8: Bernard Althape, a Basque farmer who played a double game as a clandestine guide and an informer to the Gestapo
 Louisa Althape, Bernard's mother
 Pierre Althape, her husband, a pro-German farmer, accused of denouncing his daughter-in-law and her nephew
 Jean Castets, cousin of Marie and Marguerite Pordoy, evaded obligatory work service (STO) in Germany, denounced and died in deportation
 Gustav Dultgen, German interpreter and customs officer in Sustary who befriended Pierre Althape