

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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ITALIAN P.O.W.'S &
REPATRIATION
SEPT. 1943 - JAN. 1944

467

10000/100/86

ITALIAN POW INCLUDING REPATRIATION

Withdrawn for Dr. Harris,
British Cabinet Office

Extract from Note 3, "Reconstitution of Italian Units" dated 15 September 49, from Italian Supreme Command to Allied Military Mission.

(Original in Brindisi Diary Vol I, folio 14)

4) As for personnel, both Officers and men, we consider it convenient to utilise especially the prisoners of war in Libya and Tunisia, belonging (as far as the men are concerned) to central and Northern Italy. As far as Officers are concerned, above all, we should like those of the General Staff, and those who are career officers, especially those of a lower rank.

Naturally, for moral reasons, a certain proportion of prisoners of other categories and from other regions should be returned.

5) In the same way prisoners from Central and Northern Italy, at present or ultimately in Sicily and Calabria, should be put at our disposal.

INCOMING MESSAGE

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

FROM: NATOUSSA

TO : FATIMA

REF. NO. 7552

^{Sept.}
DATE: 210856 B 1943

CLASS: SECRET

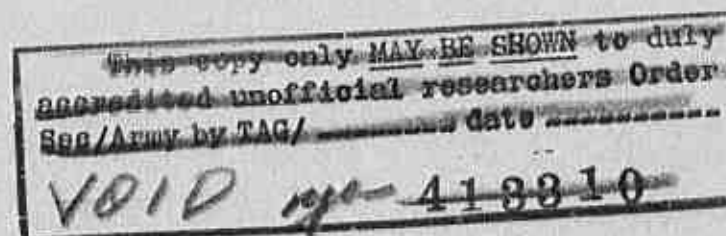
PREC:

Utilization of Italian prisoners for labour on all types of projects including those prohibited by article 31 Geneva Convention Relative Prisoners of War Desired. Request you secure specific agreement with the Italian Government on the following points.

(1) All Italians prisoners of war in North Africa, Sicily and areas in Italy under Allied control prior to capitulation may be employed by the Allies on any project necessary for prosecution of war including those prohibited by article 31.

(2) This agreement to affect Italians of all ranks though officers and NCO's will be utilized in administrative and supervisory jobs consistent with rank.

(3) Those employed will be given such pay, liberty and privileges adjudged expedient by the Allies.



OUTGOING MESSAGE

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

FROM : FATIMA

TO : FREEDOM rpt to AFHQ CP

REF. NO. 068

Sep
DATE: 231035 B

CLASS: SECRET

PREC: IMPORTANT

REFERENCE NUMBER 7552.

UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES I REFUSE TO APPROACH ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
AS REQUESTED BY YOU WITHOUT ORDERS FROM GENERAL EISENHOWER. I RECOMMEND
STRONGLY THAT YOU USE ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR FOR ANY PURPOSE IN WHICH
THEY CAN HELP THE ALLIED WAR EFFORT AND SAY NOTHING ABOUT IT. AS YOU
KNOW ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE PROFESSED THEIR DESIRE TO DO EVERYTHING
POSSIBLE TO HELP AND I RECKON THAT COVERS YOU.

AUTHENTICATED

F.N. MASON MACFARIANE
Lieutenant General
Chief of Mission

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS : SECRET

PREC : PRIORITY

FROM : FREEDOM

TO : FATMA

M/C NR: N 4/29

REF. NO. 683

FILED: 282006A 1943 Sep

REC'D :

Reference G-3 letter dated 26 September, subject Italian Prisoners of War.

Signed C in C Consider proposed proclamation should read, "We have concluded an armistice with the Allied Nations to cease hostilities between us, but there remains the pressing need to drive the common enemy from our land. From time to time, calls will be made for volunteers of appropriate qualifications to help rid our country of the German Aggressor. I am asking now for young men with high gifts of leadership, or skilled in wireless and engineering to assist in a special task. At an early date, these volunteers will be called forward for interview, but only a limited number of the highest quality can be selected. They will be privileged to help to free our homeland from the barbarous acts of the enemy.

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

M/C NR : 8

CLASS : SECRET

REF NO. 198

PREC : ROUTINE

FILED: 011552 A Oct

FROM: FATIMA

REC'D: 011552 A

TO : FREEDOM rpt to AFHQ ADV CP at Amilcar

PRISONERS OF WAR. BADOGLIO IS MOST THAT YOU SHOULD MAKE A TOKEN INITIAL
RETURN OF A FEW HUNDRED ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR. HE STATES THIS WOULD HAVE
A VERY GREAT EFFECT IN ITALY AND WOULD GREATLY STRENGTHEN HIS HAND. HE HOPES
ALSO THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO REMOVE FOUR HUNDRED GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR NOW
IN ITALIAN HANDS FROM BRINDISI AREA AS SOON AS CONVENIENT.

AUTHENTICATED:

F.N. MASON MATTEARIANE
Lieutenant General
Chief of Mission

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Sec/Army by TAG/ ----- date -----

413310

Subject; Employment of Prisoners of War.

On the basis of agreements reached at the recent Malta Conference, measures are being taken for the raising of some picked divisions to operate as soon as possible with Anglo-American troops, utilizing for this purpose units available in territories of the Mainland and Sardinia under our control.

In order to increase in the future possibilities of cooperation in the common struggle against the Germans, it would, however, be advisable to make arrangements for the creation of some new formations, employing prisoners of war, preferably volunteers, from Libya and Tunisia (officers and men), particularly if natives of areas of Central and Southern Italy which are still occupied by the Germans.

These prisoners are very likely to have Anti-Fascist and Anti-German sentiments which will have been fed by the behaviour of the Germans in Africa and Sicily and by propaganda to be carried out about the present German acts of violence in Italy.

Moreover, these new formations are indispensable for the preservation of public order in territory gradually freed and especially at Rome, in view of the fact that the Italian command has not troops available for this purpose.

Will you, please, inform General Eisenhower of the above as soon as the proposal to employ prisoners of war is agreed in principle, detailed proposals will be forwarded.

The Chief of the General Staff

AMEROSIO

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS : SECRET

PREC : PRIORITY

FROM : FATIMA

TO : FREEDOM rpt to AFHQ ADV CP at Amilcar

M/C NR: 15

REF NO. 268

FILED: 041747A Oct

REC'D:

GENERAL AMEROSIO HAS AGAIN RAISED THE QUESTION OF THE RETURN OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR FROM LYBIA AND TUNISIA FOR THE RECONSTITUTION OF NEW UNITS. HE STATES THAT WITHOUT THESE MEN THERE WILL NOT BE SUFFICIENT TROOPS TO PRESERVE PUBLIC ORDER BEHIND OUR ADVANCING ARMIES AS THEY MOVE NORTHWARD. IS ANY REPATRIATION OF ITALIAN TROOPS CONTEMPLATED IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

AUTHENTICATED:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brig. Gen. U.S.A.
Acting Chief of Mission

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ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS: SECRET

PREC: ROUTINE

FROM: FREEDOM

TO: FATIMA

M/C NR: 18/10

REF NR: 3489

FILED: 051532A Oct

REC'D: 101806A

(VIA ADLS)

Policy following will be applied with respect to Italian Prisoners of War: Those in Italy and Sicily may be released, paroled, or detained at your discretion depending solely on which status they will be of most value to the war effort. It is most important that the number released be kept small each case being fully justified by essential war requirements. Those who are Fascists or members of the Mafia and non-cooperative should be segregated, retained as Prisoners of war and eventually evacuated to North Africa. Reference your 381, 28 September. Para. Italian Prisoners of War in North Africa will not, except in special cases, be released from their status as Prisoners of War. The special cases will be volunteers for special missions and will be a very small proportion of the total number of Prisoners; such personnel may be released or paroled. Of the remainder, those who agree to aid the Allied war effort will be employed in activities which further the war effort in units organized under their own officers and non-coms or as Prisoners of War laborers and will be accorded liberties in accordance instructions shortly to be issued. They will, however, be maintained, housed, clothed, and fed in Allied camps and be paid at rates provided under the Geneva Convention for all labour performed. Those who will not agree to aid the Allied war effort will be segregated and retained in Prisoner of War camps under guard with a view to eventual evacuation from the Theater.

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SEC/ARMY BY TAG/TO-..... DATE

413310

1892

15 Army Group's 381. Not Fatima's 381

(TO CG 15TH ARMY GROUP action to CG FATIMA, 7TH ARMY and No 1 DISTRICT information cite FHGAB cite FHGBI cite FHGCT signed CINC.) Para. No publicity will be given on this matter.

1 page

to CG 15th
Army gr.

1/100/86

SECRET

1891

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS: SECRET

PREC : OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

FROM : FREEDOM

TO : FATIMA

M/C NR: 22/08

REF NR: 4774

FILED : 081633A Oct

REC'D : 081843A

The return of Italian prisoners of war to Italy reference your #198, October 1st, can be tied in with the G-3 Letter dated 26 September, Subject: Italian Prisoners of War and our cable #683, September 28th. (TO CG FATIMA action to AFHQ ADV CP information cite NAG&P cite NADCG cite FHGBI cite FHGCT cite FHCAE signed CINC). We are not willing at this time to make any token release of Italian prisoners of war except for specific purposes for duties connected with Italian units assisting us in driving the Germans out of Italy. Para. In this connection, reference our #7352, September 21 and your #68, September 23, we are proceeding with the organization of Italian prisoners in non-combat service, labor units under Italian officers and non-coms. These units still have prisoner status but will be maintained in camps and fed, clothed, and sheltered by the Allies and will eventually be granted a certain degree of liberty or leave privileges. They will be paid at rates provided by the Geneva Convention. It is possible that at some future date we will transfer some of these service units to Italy to perform service functions, at which time the matter as whether they will be continued in a prisoner of war status or release to the Italian Government will be decided upon the basis of Italian support and whether the Italian Government is at that time able to maintain them. Para. Italian officers and enlisted men now in prisoner of war camps need an expression from the Italian Government to the effect that they are to assist the Allies in every way on non-combat duties connected with the war effort and that

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413310

Italian officers and non-coms who are now prisoners of war command service and labor units formed from prisoners of war without violating the Italian Penal Code. This expression should be in a form to be posted in prisoner of war enclosures and not to be broadcast since publicity on this matter is not desired.

S E C R E T

1839

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS: SECRET

PREC : Not Given

FROM : FORTBASE

TO : AFHQ, rpt MIDEAST, 15TH ARMY GROUP,
ALLIED MILITARY MISSION.

M/C NR:

REF NR: 43 A

FILED : 081900A Oct

REC'D : 101900A

Cite FHGAB. It is understood that a number of Italian Labor Bns exist composed of Yugoslavs of dual Italian Yugoslav nationality. Understood majority forced labour and would welcome release from Italian control. Numbers have deserted and desire to fight for Allied Nations. Consider these Yugoslav Slave Labor units would prove more useful if taken over complete by us and designation of units changed to embody reference to nationality. At present their usefulness unstable chiefly owing to continued Italian control. Allied Military Mission ascertaining numbers involved and sounding Italian Badoglio Government on the question of these units being taken over by us. Consider these arrangements more suitable than despatching large numbers Yugoslavs to ME or MA. Will be possible at future date to segregate those willing to join combatant units of Yugoslav Force. Similar considerations apply Yugoslav dual nationals serving combatant units Italian Army. Will send you further details after result of talks between Allied Military Mission and Badoglio Government. Meanwhile request your approval in principles.

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413310

SECRET

183

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION
APO 512

9 October 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Ambrosio, Chief of Supreme Staff.

1. In order that Italian officers and enlisted men now in prisoner of war camps in Africa and elsewhere may understand clearly their duty in assisting the Allies, it is considered desirable for the Italian Government to make an expression to that effect. This would need to include merely a statement that prisoners of war are to assist the Allies in every way on non-combatant duty connected with the war effort and that commissioned and non-commissioned officers who are now prisoners of war may exercise command over service and labor units formed from prisoners of war without violating the Italian penal code. If your Excellency is agreeable to such an expression, it should be in a form to be posted in prisoner of war enclosures with no attendant publicity.

2. I regret that Algiers has never taken cognizance of your request for the return of certain key staff officers whose names are appended hereto. I propose to re-open the matter and should like to know if you desire this list re-submitted unchanged.

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brig. Gen. A.G.D.
Acting Chief of Mission

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413310

1837

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION
APO 512

10 October 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: Major General Richardson, Chief of Staff,
15th Army Group, Santo Spirito.

Subject: Anticipated requirements for Italian troops.

General Roatta has requested an opportunity to discuss the matter of the anticipated requirements of the 15th Army Group for Italian troops for use in guarding lines of communication, anti-aircraft defense and similar duties. I informed him that you were preparing an estimate as to your probable needs and that it was unlikely that you would be ready yet to discuss the matter. I do agree with him, however, that if you intend to use Italian troops on a large scale that it is very important to present the case clearly to Algiers at an early date as it involves the question of repatriation of prisoners and the return of captured Italian material. Will you inform me whether you are willing to talk to Roatta on the subject or whether you prefer me to hold him off?

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brigadier General, USA
Acting Chief of Mission.

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ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS: SECRET

PREC : PRIORITY

FROM : FREEDOM

TO : CASTELLANO

M/C NR: 15/11

REF NR: 5905

FILED : 111/48A Oct

REC'D : 111735A

Please pass following to General Castellano from Brigadier Strong urgent. Will you please enquire of appropriate authorities whether or not return of Marshall Messe and General Orlando and Berardi to Italy from United Kingdom is desired. (Action FATIMA for Cave from 02 FREEDOM from Strong signed Cinc cite FHGBI). Would be grateful for a definite answer on the subject.

SECRET

6 pages
M/C NR: 15/11
100/86

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

M/C NR: 4/12

CLASS: SECRET

REF NR: 370

PREC: PRIORITY

FILED: 1211384 Oct

FROM: FATIMA

REC'D:

TO: FREEDOM rpt AFHQ ADV CP at AMILCAR

REFERENCE YOUR NUMBER FOUR SEVEN SEVEN FOUR PD THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF
MARSHALL BADOGLIO'S INSTRUCTIONS TO ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR DIRECTING THEIR
COOPERATION WITH THE ALLIED FORCES PD

(ITALIAN TEXT WAS TRANSMITTED. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION)

*affairs
archive*

IN THE NEW POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION CREATED BY THE HOSTILE ATTITUDE AND
ACTS OF THE GERMANS TOWARDS ITALY, IT IS OUR INTENTION, AS FAR AS THE ALLIES ARE
CONCERNED, TO COLLABORATE ACTIVELY BY EVERY POSSIBLE MEANS, COOPERATING TO THE
COMMON AIM, WHICH IS TO CRUSH THE LAST REMNANTS OF GERMAN MILITARY POWER STILL
OPPRESSING AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR COUNTRY.

IT IS THEREFORE YOUR DUTY TO HELP THE ALLIES BY EVERY POSSIBLE MEANS, IN ALL
NON FIGHTING SERVICES CLOSELY CONNECTED WITH THE WAR EFFORT, BY FORMING SPECIAL
SERVICE AND WORK PARTIES COMMANDED BY THE OFFICERS WHO WILL BE DESIGNATED.
IN THIS WAY, YOU WILL FROM NOW ON COLLABORATE EFFECTUALLY TO THE FIGHT OF
REDEMPTION FROM THE BEGULAR ENEMY WHICH IS BEING FOUGHT IN ITALY BY YOUR COMRADES
WHO ARE STILL UNDER ARMS, AND BY THE VERY POPULATIONS, AT THE SIDE OF THE ANGLO-
AMERICAN ARMIES, FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE COUNTRY.

THE MARSHALL OF ITALY
/s/ Badoglio

THE CHIEF OF STAFF

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

M/C NR: 16/12

CLASS: SECRET

REF NR: 381

PREC : ROUTINE

RECEIVED : 122150A Oct

FROM : FATIMA

REC'D :

TO : FREEDOM

THE FOLLOWING OFFICER PRISONERS OF WAR ARE URGENTLY REQUESTED BY THE ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND FOR RETURN TO ITALY PD MOST OF THEM ARE OFFICERS WITH GENERAL STAFF EXPERIENCE DESIRED FOR POSTS IN THE ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND PD I RECOMMEND ACQUIESCENCE AS THE ARMED FORCES ARE DEFINITELY SHORT OF OFFICERS OF ABILITY TO RECONSTRUCT THE MILITARY ORGANIZATION PD IN ADDITION THE RETURN OF THIS SMALL GROUP WILL HAVE AN EXCELLENT MORALE EFFECT PD BRIGADIER GENERAL GIUSEPPE MANCINELLI. COLONEL CESARE RUGGERI DASH LADERCHI, GENERAL STAFF. LIEUTENANT COLONEL LUIGI LOMBARDI, GENERAL STAFF. LIEUTENANT COLONEL MASSIMO INVREA, GENERAL STAFF. LIEUTENANT COLONEL ENZO AVALLONE, GENERAL STAFF. MAJOR PIER CARLO BOSCARDI, ARTILLERY. MAJOR EZIO PISTOTTI, ALPINI. MAJOR GIUSEPPE BIANCHI, INFANTRY. MAJOR ORESTE VILIGIARDI, INFANTRY. MAJOR PIERINO SAMPO, ALPINI. MAJOR ANTONIO NANI, INFANTRY. MAJOR LUIGI VISMARA, INFANTRY. MAJOR ANTONIO TAVERNA, INFANTRY. MAJOR MARIO TROISI, INFANTRY. CAPTAIN GIUSTINO CANTAMAGLIA, ENGINEER. CAPTAIN CINCENZO CARATTI DI LANZACCO, PARATROOPS.

AUTHENTICATED:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brig Gen. USA
Acting Chief of Mission

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

N/C NR: 03/13

CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL

REF NR: 389

PREC : ROUTINE

FILED : 131445A Oct

FROM : FATIMA

REC'D :

TO : FREEDOM

REPLYING TO YOUR TELEGRAM PAREN TO FREEDOM FOR STRONG FROM CASTELLANO FROM
FATIMA SIGNED TAYLOR PAREN BEG TO INFORM YOU THAT COMMAND SUPREME THANK AND
COMMUNICATE THEIR COMPLETE AGREEMENT TO THE COMING BACK OF MARSHALL MESSE AND
GENERALS ORLANDO AND BERARDI

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.G.D.
Secretary of the Mission

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

M/C NO: 29/16

CLASS: SECRET

REF NO: 8013

PREC: ROUTINE

FILED: 161257A Oct

FROM: FREEDOM

REC'D: 162120A

TO: FATIMA

Message dated October 14 has been received from AGUAR containing following for Marshal Badoglio from General Gazzera former Italian Minister of War. FATIMA from MURPHY signed EISENHOWER cite FFCIV. Please accept my sentiments of devoted remembrances. Am very anxious to let you know that Italian prisoners of war in America both officers and men are as anxious as ever to do their utmost for their homeland.

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS: SECRET

PREC: PRIORITY

FROM: FATIMA

TO: FREEDOM

M/C NO: 12

REF NO: 252

FILED: 032231A Oct

REC'D:

FROM ITALIAN COMANDO SUPREMO TO GENERAL CASTELLANO PD PAREN TO FREEDOM FOR GENERAL
CASTELLANO REPEAT AFHQ ADV CP AMILCAR FROM FATIMA SIGNED MACFARLANE PAREN PD NUMBER
ONE SIX SIX SIX SIANT O REPEAT OBOE P REPEAT PETER PD REFERRING TO ONE SIX ONE PD
EXCELLENCE BADOGLIO THINGS NOT CONVENIENT FOR THE MOMENT TO CALL BACK IN ITALY THE
INDICATED GENERALS BECAUSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DO THE SAME FOR OTHER GENERALS ALSO
WORTHY OF EVERY RESPECT PD GENERAL AMEROSIO

AUTHENTICATED:

FRANK A. RAETER
1st Lieut, AGD
Adjutant General.

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR: R 422/17

CLASS: SECRET

PREC : URGENT

FROM : AIR COMMAND POST

TO : FATIMA for FOSTER

M/C NR: 44/17

REF NR:

FILED : 171223A Oct

REC'D : 171453A

Very personal for Foster from McGregor to FATIMA from Air Command Post CITE
our number A 269.

Policy regarding treatment of Italian service personnel in all areas under consideration on high level. Basic legal status of all such personnel is that of Prisoners of War as necessary foundation for our jurisdiction and control. This status can however be regarded as suspended in case of active collaborators and will not exclude great variations in treatment to suit individual circumstances.

If this is accepted all such personnel as Prisoners of War would be under protection of Geneva Convention and could not be used for purposes directly related to conduct of the War without consent of Badoglio Government it is proposed that latter should sign agreement giving general consent to such use.

Legal and Political aspect of the problem are mainly for foreign office and war office but Air Force interests must be kept in view and we should like to have your comments as soon as possible. In particular it would be helpful to have immediately any information available about (1) approximate number and categories of IAF personnel both aircrew and ground staff within your command. (2) present organization and utilization (3) your views on future use of Italian personnel by MED Air Command. This need not be limited to IAF personnel if you think Italian Army personnel could be usefully employed under MED Air Command control (4) your views on future organization and conditions of service.

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413310

1830

An immediate reply even in general terms would be valuable as decisions on policy have to be taken.

SECRET

4 pages
an immediate
reply, etc.
100/86

1879

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

CLASS: SECRET

PREC : ROUTINE

FROM : FREEDOM

TO : FATIMA

M/C NR: 6/18

REF NO: 8409

FILED : 171055A Oct

REC'D : 180650A

Message from War Department paraphrased as follows: "Combined Chief Of Staff propose arrangements be made for immediate repatriation of (A) Italian naval saboteurs and espionage agents numbering 100. (B) Same number army agents and military mission personnel. (C) Survivors Roma 750, scuttled destroyers 240, and Ugolino Vitaldi 90, all being sent from Balearice to Spain. (To FATIMA for action cite NACAP signed CG NATOUSA). This problem has been taken up by United States and British Attaches with Italian Naval Attache, who was informed such ~~persons~~ would be treated as members of armed forces if they surrendered. Italian Attache issued guarantee that naval agents have been ordered to cease activity and requested their return to Italy. If you concur, desirable to evacuate (A and B) categories from Spain immediately and (C) earliest possible with arrangements through Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean and British Naval Attache, Madrid, on condition that (1) Persons returned to Allied-occupied Italy to come under Italian Army and Naval authorities and (2) that Italian officials keep watch on suspected fascists, notifying Allied authorities of names".

Please give us your comments. It is contemplated to interrogate thoroughly, naval sabotage and espionage agents by CSDIC in Algiers prior to any removal to Italy.

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SVC/RELAY NR:

M/C NO: 1/19

CLASS: SECRET

REF NO: 476

PREC: PRIORITY

FILED: 191120A Oct

FROM: FATIMA

REC'D:

TO: FREEDOM rpt AFHQ ADV CP at AMILCAR

MARSHALL BADOCILIC HAS ASKED ME TO PRESENT HIS REQUEST TO GENERAL EISENHOWER FOR THE RETURN OF GENERAL G/AZZERA TO BRINDISI PD TO FREEDOM RPT TO AFHQ ADVANCE COMMAND POST AT AMILCAR FROM FATIMA SIGNED TAYLOR FREEDOM PASS IN CIPHER HOLD PD G/AZZERA IS AT PRESENT A PRISONER OF WAR IN THE UNITED STATES PD THE MARSHALL STATES THAT HE WISHES TO GIVE THE GENERAL A HIGH POSITION IN HIS ARMED FORCES IN ITALY

AUTHENTICATED:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brigadier General, USA
Acting Chief of Mission

U. S. SECRET

Equals British SECRET

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

/s/ FILE

SVC/RELAY NR:

M/C NR : 6/18

CLASS : SECRET

REF. NR: 8409

PREC : ROUTINE

FILED : 171055A

FROM : FREEDOM

REC'D : 180650A

TO : FATIMA

Message from War Department paraphrased as follows: "Combined Chief of Staff propose arrangements be made for immediate repatriation of (A) Italian naval saboteurs and espionage agents numbering 100. (B) Same number army agents and military mission personnel. (C) Survivors Roma 750, scuttled destroyers 240, and Ugolino Vitaldi 90, all being sent from Balearics to Spain. (To FATIMA for action cite NAGAP signed CG NATOUA). This problem has been taken up by United States and British Attaches with Italian Naval Attache, who was informed such persons would be treated as members of armed forces if they surrendered. Italian Attache issued guarantee that naval agents have been ordered to cease activity and requested their return to Italy. If you concur, desirable to evacuate (A and B) categories from Spain immediately and (C) earliest possible with arrangements through Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean and British Naval Attache, Madrid, on condition that (1) Persons return to Allied-occupied Italy to come under Italian Army and Navy authorities and (2) that Italian officials keep watch on suspected Fascists, notifying Allied authorities of names".

Please give us your comments. It is contemplated to interrogate thoroughly, naval sabotage and espionage agents by CSDIC in Algiers prior to any removal to Italy.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - M/C
- 1 - Mr. Cascia

U. S. SECRET
Equals British SECRET

785015

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION
APO 512

20 October 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Ambrosio, Chief of the Supreme General Staff.

1. Arrangements are being considered for the immediate repatriation of the following Italian groups:

- a. Approximately 100 Italian naval saboteurs and espionage agents.
- b. The same number of army agents and military mission personnel.
- c. Survivors of the Roma - 750, scuttled destroyers - 240, and Ugolino Vitaldi 90.

All of the latter are being sent from the Balsaric Islands to Spain.

2. This problem is the subject of current conversation between the United States and British attaches and the Italian Naval attache. The latter has requested their return to Italy. I am informed that this will be done only on condition that:

- (1) Persons returned to Allied occupied Italy will come under the Italian Army and Navy authorities, and
- (2) That Italian officials will keep watch on suspected Fascists and report their names to the Allied authorities.

3. I should like to know if Your Excellency is willing to accept the conditions enumerated above.

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR

Brigadier General, USA
Acting Chief of Mission

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473310

187

014.33 - Repatriation
X 091 Balsaric Islands

Pol

INCOMING

SECRET

19/22

ROUTINE

664

FREEDOM

221200A Oct

PATINA

221525A

The following message has been received from CINC in East Africa from General Nasi, prisoner of war in East Africa, for Marshal Badoglio: "If PW are ordered to be employed on any task, I (Italian High Command signed Eisenhower cite MILIA) am at your orders in any rank. East Africa PW all solidly with me; Long Live the King."

1 16 pages

19/22

1 664

100/86

1871

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SECRET

07/23

PRIORITY

550

FATIMA

2321/2A Oct

FREEDOM

REFERENCE YOUR EIGHT FOUR ZERO NINE PAREN TO FREEDOM FROM FATIMA SIGNED TAYLOR
PAREN THIS MISSION CONCURRED IN THE PROPOSED ACTION AND THE ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND
AGREES TO CONDITIONS PAREN ONE PAREN AND PAREN TWO PAREN

AUTHENTICATED:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brig. Gen. U.S.A.
Acting Chief of Mission

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION - OUTGOING MESSAGE

SECRET

10

PRIORITY

564

FATIMA

241305A Oct

FREEDOM

REFERENCE YOUR FIVE NINE ZERO FIVE AND OUR THREE EIGHT NINE PD TO FREEDOM FROM
FATIMA SIGNED TAYLOR PD WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON THE RETURN OF MARSHAL MESSE
AND GENERALS ORLANDO AND BERARDI

AUTHENTICATED:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brigadier General, USA
Acting Chief of Mission

1872

INCOMING

SECRET

19/25

PRIORITY

1931

FREEDOM

251222 Oct

PATIA

251748A

Have cabled TROOPERS for Davidson that Marshal Padoglio wished Marshal Messe and Generals Orlando and Berardi returned to Brindisi. Reference your 564. Action PATIA for Taylor from G-2 FREEDOM signed CINC cite FHGBI. These officers proceed to Algiers for consultations with General Castellano before proceeding to Brindisi. Reply not yet received. Will keep you informed.

1871

OUTGOING

SECRET

6/31

ROUTINE

688

FATIMA

311722A Oct

FREEDOM

REFERENCE YOUR FOUR FOUR SIX SIX WILL THE ITALIAN OFFICERS PAREN TO FREEDOM FROM
FATIMA SIGNED MACFARLANE PAREN EVACUATED TO UK REPEAT UNCLE KING AND MIDEAST
BE EVENTUALLY REPATRIATED TO ITALY PD QUERY

AUTHENTICATED:

MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brigadier General, USA

1870

INCOMING

SECRET

PRIORITY

FREEDOM

FATIMA

14/1

4922

011304A nov

011551A

DAI has advised us Marshal Messe, Generals Orlando and Berardi, ACTION FATIMA
FOR GAVE INFO 15TH ARMY GROUP FOR AIRY FROM G-2 FREEDOM SIGNED CINC CITE FUGBI)
probably leaving United Kingdom for Algiers 4th November current.

1869

INCOMING

SECRET

18/3

ROUTINE

5539

FREEDOM

021843A Nov

FATTA

031806A

It has been announced that Marshall Messe and Generals Orlando and Berardi will arrive at (ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND FOR GENERAL CASTELLANO FROM COLONEL PEDERZANI SIGNED ELBENHOUE CITE FHLIA) Algiers on Friday the 5th. Have made arrangements in order to have them guests at this Mission.

1854

INCOMING

SECRET

16/04

ROUTINE

6259

FREEDOM

041156A Nov

FATIMA

051030A

Your 688 October 31. FROM FREEDOM TO FATIMA CITE FHGA-B. Status Italian PW now under study by combined Chiefs of Staff. Decision will be communicated in due course.

1857

INCOMING

SECRET EXXXXXX

14/07

PRIORITY

7773

FREEDOM

071720Z Nov

FATIMA

071902Z

Marshal Messe, Generals Berardi, Orlando arrive Brindisi Monday, 8 November approximately 1330A hours. FOR MACFARLANE FOR ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND FROM CINC CITE F1303. Insure party is met and accommodated. Acknowledgement is desired of above.

INCOMING

SECRET

13/07

URGENT

7302

FREEDOM

071823A Nov

PATIA

071849A

Marshal Messe and Generals Serardi and Orlando will arrive (ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND
FROM ITALIAN MISSION SIGNED EISENHOWER CITE PHIA) Brindisi tomorrow the 8th period
estimated time of arrival 1200.

INCOMING

SECRET

5/12

9586

FREEDOM

111850A Nov

FATIMA

120426A

In connection with your request for General Gazzera reference your 476 October 19 (SIGNED CG NATCUSA CITE NACAP TO FATIMA FOR TAYLOR) the War Dept. advises that they anticipate returning Major General Francesco Gusco and Captain Vincenzi Nvrini to accompany him. Would such meet with your approval. There has been some confusion as to General Gazzera in relation to his name between this headquarters and War Dept. but this will be straightened out as soon as you advise your wishes concerning the two officers that War Dept. proposes to send with him.

CONTROL COMMISSION

OUTGOING

SECRET

6/16

ROUTINE

967

BTDA

Msg 161355A

FREEDOM

FOLLOWING FOR GENERAL CASTELLANO ITALIAN LIAISON BAKEN TO FREEDOM FROM BATEA
SIGNED JOYCE BAKEN FROM ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND PD QUOTE MARSHAL MESSE REQUESTS
THAT REPRESENTATION BE MADE TO ALLIED HEADQUARTERS FOR THE RETURN OF THE
FOLLOWING OFFICERS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY CIN GENERAL MANCINELLI CMA COLONEL
SERICIN RUGGERI LADENCHI AND MILITARY CHAPLAIN PADRE SALSA FROM NO FOUR PD
CAMP ENGLAND CIN MAJOR VENTURA CMA CAPTAIN BACCELLI CMA FIRST LIEUTENANTS
ROSSI AND MARTINUZZI FROM NO ONE TWO SEVEN PK CAMP AT OWAN PD BY ORDER
DEPUTY CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF ROSSI UNQUOTE

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.G.D.
Secretary of Commission

1863

CONTROL COMMISSION

OUTGOING

SECRET

15

PRIORITY

976

FATIMA

Nov 161840L

FREEDOM

REFERENCE YOUR NINE FIVE EIGHT SIX PAREN TO FREEDOM FROM FATIMA SIGNED JOYCE
WHEN THE ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND DESIRES GUSCO AND MURINI IN ADDITION TO
GENERAL CAZZERA

AUTHENTICATED:

MATTHEW D. TAYLOR
Brigadier General, USA

1862

CONTROL COMMISSION

OUTGOING

CONFIDENTIAL

1

ROUTINE

1012

FATMA

1909254 Nov

FREEDOM FOR CASTELLANO

FOLLOWING FROM COSANCO SUPREMO PD TO FREEDOM FOR CASTELLANO FROM FATMA SIGNED
JOYCE PD QUOTE NUMBER THREE ZERO TWO SIX SLANT OP MARSHAL MESSE WOULD APPRECIATE
YOU WILL ALSO ASK FOR REPATRIATION OF GENERAL DEXIOGIES WHO WAS COMMANDER OF
SAVONA DIVISION AND WAS CAPTURED AT SOLLIM ON JANUARY ONE NINE FOUR TWO PD SIGNED
BOSSI UNQUOTE

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.C.D.
Secretary of the Commission

CONTROL COMMISSION

INCOMING

SECRET

20/20

ROUTINE

1758

G-1 NATOUSA NAGAP

NOV

FATIMA FOR TAYLOR

NOV 201220A

Further Clarification of our 9586 November 11 (SIGNED CG NATOUSA CITE NAGAP TO FATIMA FOR TAYLOR ACTION) War Department advises that General Pietro Gazzera can be returned at once. They desire to return with Gazzera Generak Francesco Guasco Chief of Cabinet and Captain Vincenzo Marini. This is in response to your 476 October 19. Advise at once so that we can notify the War Department the number of these officers you wish.

New Subject. The Mediterranean Air Command has requested the return of General Pietro Pinna to be used in the reconstruction of Italian Air Force. The War Department advised he can be returned at the same time as General Gazzera and they desire to return Colonel Mario Pezzi with General Pinna. Do you concur with return of General Pinna and Colonel Pezzi for this purpose.

1850

CONTROL COMMISSION

OUTGOING

SECRET

15/21

PRIORITY

1062

PATIA

Nov 211756h

FREEDOM

REURAD ONE SEVEN FIVE EIGHT OF ONE SIX NOVEMBER AND WREN TO FREEDOM CITY NAGAR
FROM PATIA SIGNED JOYCE DAREN THREE THREE ZERO FOUR OF TWO ZERO NOVEMBER PD
CONCUR IN RETURN OF GENERAL PINIA AND COLONEL PREZI

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major, A.O.D.
Secretary of the Commission

1859

EWS/hjp

22 January 1944

MEMORANDUM:

I was asked to come to the Marshall's office today at 10 AM and had approximately 45 minutes with him. The following subjects were discussed:

He asked when General Macfarlane was returning. I told him that the General might return in a few days. (Later I sent word of his E.T.A. tomorrow.)

The Marshall stated that Admiral McGrigor had requested the removal of Admiral Rubartelli. He stated that in the case of a high-ranking officer such as Admiral Rubartelli, it was not possible to deal with the subject summarily but he asked me to assure Admiral McGrigor that he was giving the subject his most careful attention and would communicate with him in a few days. He indicated that he might ask Admiral McGrigor to have a conference with him on the matter. I said that I would so advise Admiral McGrigor.

I took this occasion to bring up the Prisoners of War agreement and inquired how soon this question could be resolved. He stated that he had referred the matter to Sig. Prunas, Secretary General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, and that in fact Prunas was coming to see him this morning for a discussion of the documents submitted by Mr Caccia to Sig. Serre of the Foreign Office (the main POW agreement, the British financial agreement, and the Manifesto requested by the British Government).

The Marshall stated that he was concerned with the nature of employment to be given to Italian prisoners of war, that at the time the matter had been discussed with General Eisenhower, his government was not a co-belligerent. He said that he felt that those POW who volunteered for service should be organized into fighting units as distinct from those POW who did not. He stated that there were 70,000 (?) POW in India, for example, with many good officers. If they volunteered, it would be one thing to employ them as coolie labour on the docks of Calcutta. On the other hand, they should be useful in the war against Japan, and he was prepared to declare war against Japan so that POW could be so employed if necessary after Germany had been defeated.

I enquired if he felt that a declaration of war against Japan, which might well commit Italy to remain at war after peace had been restored in Europe, would have popular support in Italy. He stated that all Italians must realize that their country could be only rebuilt with the aid of the Allies and that they could not expect post-war assistance from the Allies unless Italy allied herself now against all enemies of America

Original in Secretariat P.O.W. file.

1858

and England. He stated that of course a propaganda would have to be built up for this purpose. He added, that if Italy declared war against Japan, Italy should be treated as an ally and not as a cobelligerent under the terms of the Armistice.

He concluded that these were some of the problems that he was considering in this connection and that he would be ready to discuss the question early in the coming week.

I stated that the British Government desired to have the financial agreement and the Manifesto issued concurrently with the main agreement, but that the Commission on behalf of both governments had been instructed to conclude the main agreement as soon as possible.

There was no discussion of the terms of the British financial agreement or the Manifesto.

In my meeting yesterday with Mr Serra of the Foreign Office, he indicated that there were some feeling that the rates of pay for officers set forth in the financial agreement was too low, but stated that he felt that this question could be satisfactorily resolved.

As to the main agreement, Serra stated that the Foreign Office was considering three points;

a. "Common enemy" in the preamble is not defined and since Article I states that Italian POW may be employed "in any part of the world", it would appear that Italians could be employed against Japan, although Italy was only a cobelligerent against Germany.

b/ Arising out of (a), it was the intent to have the agreement continue after Germany was defeated.

c. Nature of the units to be organized. Would they be permitted to serve as fighting units, and would they be permitted to carry their national flag as Italian fighting units.

He did not seek replies but wanted me to understand the problems they were considering.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief of Staff

2120
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