

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

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MILITARY COURTS  
JAN. 1944



HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
REGION II

18 Jan 44

Ref: 2201/9/51

Subject: Functioning of Military Courts

To : All IOs, Through SCAOs

The CIO & CJO visited this HQ on 17-1-44, and the following is a directive on matters which were discussed.

1. The practice of Superior Courts consisting of only one officer should be considered quite exceptional, and if a Summary Court should find its powers inadequate to deal with a particular case, the case should be remanded for a Superior Court to be held at a later date. A larger pool of legal personnel will shortly be provided by the impending arrival of the Staff of Region 5, whose legal officers will be allocated on a provincial basis.

2. It is considered that greater use should be made of General Courts, and that in cases of gravity, applications should more freely be made for their appointment.

3. Greater advantage should also be taken of the Special Prosecutions branch at AMG, and in complex cases, or where a particular type of case - eg blackmarket - is pending in appreciable numbers, IOs should apply to this HQ for the loan of an officer from this branch.

4. While the good work performed by IOs in Region II is appreciated by higher authority, review of Court records has revealed matters open to grave objection.

It is therefore intended that the Chief Judicial Officer or one of his Staff shall visit IOs of provinces between certain dates and will preside over any Superior or even Summary Courts to then be held- IOs should please arrange for any Superior Courts in contemplation to be held within the dates as shown below.

(a) Matera	February 7th - 9th inclusive
(b) Cosenza	February 10th - 12th "
(c) Catanzaro	February 14th - 16th "
(d) Reggio	February 17th - 19th "
(e) Potenza	February 21st - 23rd "
(f) Salerno	February 24th - 26th "

The HEO will also visit IOs during the above periods respectively.

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