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

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CIVIL AFFAIRS, GENERAL
AUG. - NOV. 1943

208

U. S. SECRET
Equals British MOST SECRET

DSJ/LW/mit

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

Put on MC File
AG/10/5

MGS-319.1

17 November 1943

SUBJECT: War Office Civil Affairs Bulletins

TO : M. G. Centre

1. Further to our letter MGS-313.3 of 26 October, forwarding a copy of War Office Civil Affairs Bulletin No. 2.

2. Herewith three copies of Bulletin No. 4 for your information. Bulletin No. 3 has not yet been received at this HQ.

J. C. Poplke
mapa
for B. S. JACKLING
Lt. Col.

Incls. (3)
As above

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2510

SECRET

C.A.3/RN/367

CIVIL AFFAIRS BULLETIN NO. 222d October, 1943

THE FOLLOWING DIGEST HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM SECRET REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS FROM CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICIALS IN SICILY.

FOOD

1. Food is the most important and immediate problem of military government and it remains so until solved. It is very closely interwoven with the problem of transportation.
2. When the Allies entered Palermo, people were clamoring for bread; shops were closed, and distribution had completely broken down. Warehouses were empty.

C.A.O's first ordered the provincial Consorzio Agrario (Agricultural Society) to bring grain to the millers. Transport had to be found. Most of the available transport had been swept away by the combat troops, but by requisitioning all that remained and using borrowed army trucks local officials and soldiers were sent out to collect grain.

3. Some of the local officials were the only people who knew which farmers had grain. It was soon discovered that they were drawing on their reserves and storing their grain, a practice which had to be put right at once.

Measures were circumscribed that the grain was being collected for the army and not to feed the civilian population. These measures were started by some of the local officials who also gave orders or receipts on the farmers. Which had quickly become a system whereby each was ordered to collect with care.

4. The grain problem was to get the grain to the millers. There were some eleven wholesalers in Palermo, and in order to give each of them some business it was necessary to introduce a system whereby each was allowed to function for a short time during the month.

A similar system was introduced for the bakers, as at this stage there was not enough flour to feed them all to keep open at one time; they opened on an average of eight days in the month.

5. The amount of flour which the baker was allowed to buy was gauged by the number of bread ration tickets which he received from his customers, coupled with the total amount of the tickets he served. The wholesaler in his turn had to produce ration tickets from the baker so that he could...

C.A.O.S. first ordered the provincial Consensus Agrario (Agricultural Society) to make grain to the village. Transport had to be found. Most of the available transport had been swept away by the combat troops, but by requisitioning all that remained and using borrowed army trucks local officials and soldiers were sent out to collect grain.

3. Some of the local officials were the only people who knew which farmers had grain. It was soon discovered that they were drawing on their agendas and sending their friends, a number which had to be put right at once.

There were circulated that the grain was being collected for the army and not to feed the civilian population. These rumors were spread by some of the local officials who also gave a list of no receipts to the farmers. Quick and direct action had to be taken from the commanders level with accordingly.

4. The grain problem was to get the grain in to the village. There were some eleven wholesalers in the town, and in order to give each of them some business it was necessary to introduce a system whereby each was allowed to function for a few days during the month.

A similar system was introduced for the bakers, as at this stage there was not enough flour to enable them all to keep open at one time; they opened on an average of eight days in the month.

5. The amount of flour which the baker was allowed to buy was stamped by the number of bread tickets which he received from his customers, coupled with the total amount of the district he served. The wholesaler in his turn had to purchase a grain ticket from the bakers so that he could obtain further supplies of flour.

As an emergency measure, pre-occupied bread ration books were used. There was soon a shortage of the part of the civil population to produce them. A number of people sold their books and been destroyed in the burning. But it was discovered that the collecting agents had frightened the people into destroying their books with the story that people found by our men with a secret ration book would be severely punished. As soon as it was known that the production of ration books would be the same as the pre-occupation, they were produced in the system working as before.

6. In August, when the total population is about 25,000, an Allied officer found 22 people in the town. The living had been taken from the village and given



/existing

2500

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SUMMARY

8. General Lessons

9. maths

10. Alfred Russel

11. Smith vs. Callahan

IN JOURNAL ENCLOSED BY YOU ALONG WITH MY SPECIALS THIS MORNING. I AM SURE THAT THESE ARE THE BEST COLLECTION.

8. General Lessons

There is a need for more elbow room as well as first class interpreters to be attached to Public Affairs Office.

The reports of local officials on the quality and quantity of the water supply are not reliable.

9. Feasibility

The first task for civil affairs would be to help the U.S.A.C. to find out what the local officials were doing for the population. In general, the local officials were functioning, although not very well. The local officials were not interested in the situation and it was found to be impossible to reopen the old cases. There were no pictures of any dangerous diseases, and only a few no longer. Cases of typhoid were reported.

10. Medical Supplies

There was a shortage of medical supplies for civilian use at the start and a limited number of medical articles was obtained from army stocks. At the time, I had stock of Italian medical supplies was captured. This was made available to the AGOT, but the lack of transport seriously impeded the distribution of these supplies throughout the island. There were no more than one or two in distribution parts of the island and supplies had to be through normal civilian channels.

11. Sanitary Conditions

In towns affected by war since 1945, sanitary conditions were bad. The houses and streets were broken and the local sanitation department was ceased to function. Local officials had to be led back to their jobs and the situation was observed. The situation was not so bad as it seemed. Local physicians were willing to accept to cooperate with the military government for the well-being of their communities. Standards of sanitation and public health in the international law in Sicily, it would be a big undertaking to raise them. On the other hand, because of the low standards, it is very much easier to restore health (pre-war) conditions.

12. Local

A civil affairs officer who had been a Sicily writer that the following points should be taken in mind of local officials.

(12)

3.

- (a) They should be hereby and a public of resisting the bad political conditions (79% of our staff have been laid off at various intervals).
- (b) They have knowledge and understanding of the Continental people.
- (c) They should have experience in criminal law and procedure (either as a lawyer or a judge).
- (d) The Regional Civil Affairs legal officer does not deal with international law and Drafting. These problems are dealt with by H.C. staff.

EDUCATION

13. Civil Affairs officers in Sidiary have been given the following guidance on the reporting of schools:

Conditions should be stated in each province and should include representatives of non-19 provincial educational institutions and organizations. Their function will be:-

- (a) to identify the extent of access to school buildings and what repairs are possible.
- (b) to find out what is curative buildings are available for educational purposes.
- (c) to work out system for schools and pro-F school teachers and text books.

These Committees should not be concerned with church schools.

CHURCHES

14. The school officer is to be a member of the Local Council.

They are now in the process of building a building which has been planned and planned up so well that it begins to look like a proper school. The school is 27 ft x 18 ft and contains some very nice pieces of furniture. The Fascist Podesta seems to have done himself well.

Outside the school when I arrived was the remains of the school which had been destroyed by the police. It was seen that there were some things about the school of 1940.

Was it burned? or was it?

Candidates should be persons in each province and should include representatives of publicly provided educational institutions and organizations. Their function will be:-

- (a) to estimate the extent of damage to school buildings and what repairs are possible.
- (b) to find out what alternative buildings are available for emergency use.
- (c) to work out systems for excluding pro-Fascist teachers and text books.

These Committees should not be concerned with church schools.

T. IMPERIAL

14. The AMOT office is in charge of L. Apollon and L. Apollon.

"My own room is now in the original building which has been repaired and cleaned up so well that it begins to look like a proper school. The room is 27 ft x 16 ft and contains some very fine pieces of furniture. The present school seems to have been built well."

Outside the house when I arrived was the remains of the room which had fallen in, and a skeleton which had been found by the police about three months ago. It had been put there while they thought about the cause of death.

Was it murder? or was it?

No one will ever know because I have the bones to the doctor.

DISTRIBUTION.

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2508

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

DSJ/DW/jw

18 October 1943

300.5

SUBJECT: Re-establishment of Prefects Council and
Provincial Quintas.

TO : AMG (P)
HQ., A.C. ✓

Attached copy of HQ, AMG letter AMGOT/376/HQ,
dated 15 October 1943, is forwarded for your information.

[Signature]
D. B. JACKLING
Lt. Colonel

1 Incl.
as above.

Copy to:
Civil Affairs Division, War Department, Washington, D.C.
Director of Civil Affairs, War Office, Whitehall, S.W. 1.
The Office of the American Resident Minister.
The Office of the British Resident Minister.
PWB.
PRO.
Lt. Col. Parkman - for AC File

2507

19/oct/1944
n

Subject: Re-establishment of Prefects Council and
Provincial Giuntas

ARGOT/373/10

ARGOT No. SICIL.

To : All S.O.A.O.s

15 October 1943

1. Several requests for authority to re-establish the Prefect's Council and the Provincial Giunta have been received by these Headquarters.
2. You are advised that each S.O.A.O. may authorize or direct the re-establishment of these bodies, or either of them, if he considers it wise in his particular province to do so.
3. However, as in the case of other important political posts, prominent Fascists will not be permitted to serve.
4. In accordance with General Administrative Instructions No. 19 (ARGOT/4037/L) dated 21 Sept. 1943, the functions of these bodies, if re-established, will be purely advisory and not legislative.

CHARLES M. SPENCER
Colonel, G.S.O.,
Chief Staff Officer

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Pantellaria	3	Spares	10
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VACS 8 copies

7A

AMCOT/265/HQ

30 August 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

For: S.C.A.O. Meeting - 20 August 1943
(Minute received too late to be included in Agenda)

Subject: Responsibility of S.C.A.O. for AMCOT operations in Provinces.

1. S.C.A.O. will be responsible for all AMCOT activities in their respective provinces, subject to certain exceptions as to inland-wide activities specified below.
2. All AMCOT personnel, including personnel of special divisions assigned to the provinces, will be responsible to S.C.A.O. in all matters affecting AMCOT operations. Matters of breach of discipline will be handled by the senior officer (A) or (B), as the case may be, assigned to the province.
3. S.C.A.O. will be responsible for assignments of personnel within the provinces. However, except in case of emergency, personnel will not be assigned to duty other than that for which they have been regularly assigned to the province without the consent of AMCOT HQ.
4. Communication by AMCOT HQ with personnel assigned to the provinces, including specialist personnel, will be through the S.C.A.O. Communications to specialist personnel should be addressed as follows:

-----	Province
Through S.C.A.O.	
5. Except where impracticable, by reason of distance, time, or communication, AMCOT HQ personnel on inspection trips or on special missions will report to the S.C.A.O. in the first instance. Orders or instructions, except on technical matters, will not be given directly to personnel in the field by HQ officers.
6. The following agencies and activities, by reason of their special character, will be handled directly by AMCOT HQ:

AMSA.
 Trunk line railways and other railways crossing provincial lines,
 Post offices and postal systems,
 Telephone,
 Telegraph.

2. All AMGOT personnel, including personnel of special divisions assigned to the provinces, will be responsible to S.C.A.O.s in all matters affecting AMGOT operations. Matters of breach of discipline will be handled by the senior officer (A) or (B), as the case may be, assigned to the province.

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_____ through S.C.A.O. _____ Province

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6. The following agencies and activities, by reason of their special character, will be handled directly by AMGOT HQ:

AMGA,
Trunk line railways and other railways crossing provincial lines,
Post offices and postal systems,
Telephones,
Telegraphs,
Electric utilities, except local utilities not inter-connected with island grid,
Daily reformatory,
State prisons,
Social insurance systems,
Courts of appeal,
Courts of assize.

AMGOT HQ personnel handling any of the foregoing may be temporarily or regularly stationed in the provinces. They will be responsible to AMGOT HQ directly and will communicate directly with AMGOT HQ. They should, however, make known their presence and the nature of their duty to the S.C.A.O. in the first instance.

7. When certain activities, which are local in character, assume interprovincial or island-wide aspects, they may also be handled directly by AMGOT HQ. Examples of such activities are:

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Interprovincial supply and transport
Interprovincial movement of labor
Evacuation of refugees
Registration and evacuation of lost and
refugee children
Apprehension of criminals or suspects who
have crossed provincial boundaries.

The organization of the activities such as the foregoing on interprovincial basis will be the responsibility of the special divisions. Each of these activities will be coordinated with local arrangements of S.C.A.O.s in the same field. Where the local arrangements are in conflict with and operate to obstruct the interprovincial or island-wide arrangements, the latter will prevail.

Charles M. Spornford
Charles M. SPORN FORD
Lieut Colonel G.S.C.
Chief Staff Officer.

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JACS

8 copies

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AMGOT/263/HQAMGOT HQ SICILY7 September 1943

SUBJECT: Responsibility of S.C.A.O.s for AMGOT
Operations in Provinces

TO : All S.C.A.O.s

Reference letter dated 20 August 1943, file number AMGOT/263/HQ,
on above subject, the following amendments are made effective immediately:

1. Add to Paragraph 6 the following new subsections:

- (l) Allocation and distribution of coal and petroleum products.
- (m) Production, transport and distribution of sulphur and its bi-products and cement.

2. Add to Paragraph 7 the following new subsection:

- (f) Importation to and exportation from Sicily of all products.

Distribution:

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AMGOT Liaison
8th Army
Col. Hume
M.G.S., A.F.H.Q.
File

Charles M. Spofford
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Lt. Col., G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer

2504

JACS
SECRET **EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET**

AFHQ MESSAGE CENTER

OUTGOING MESSAGE

URGENT

TO FOR ACTION: FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP
AIR C IN C MED

FOR INFO: : AFHQ ADV CP
FATIMA

REF NO. 237

SIGNED: EISENHOWER, CITE PHCCT

The following instructions will be disseminated at once to all ranks as guidance for their relations with Italians.

ITALY has been defeated and has surrendered unconditionally. However both the King and BADOGLIO have offered to help the Allies drive the GERMANS out of ITALY. We have accepted this offer. This does not mean that ITALY becomes one of the Allied nations. ITALIANS are ready to cooperate and to give us every assistance to meet our operational demands and have been accorded the status of cobelligerent.

Our troops must be absolutely correct in their conduct. All our demands must be made through ITALIAN military or civil officials. Our dealings should be conducted on a firm basis but without rudeness. As far as possible we must obtain what we need for our operations through the friendly cooperation of the ITALIANS.

When cases of noncooperation occur they must be reported through higher headquarters to the Allied Military Mission. Active resistance or hostile acts will be dealt with as though committed by the enemy. We must rely on the common sense of all ranks within the Allied forces.

COORDINATED WITH: MIL GOV CIVIL AFFAIRS
PR RES MINISTER
G-1(A) G-1(B)

ORIGINATOR: G-3

AUTHENTICATION: L.W. ROOKS, MAJ. GEN.

INFORMATION: CINC MED MAC MR. MURPHY MR. MACMILLAN MGS SGS
AG RECORDS

MO OUT 8790

27 Sept 43 1902A Ref No. 237

ra/VAM 2503

SECRET EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET

COPY No.

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

JACS

4A

SUBJECT: Functions and Responsibilities of AMGOT Officers.AMGOT/266/15.

AMGOT M.O. SICILY.

14th September, 1943.

TO : S.C.A.O.'s ALL PROVINCES.

In connection with the establishment of a Military Government in Sicily, functions falling under the supervision of the several AMGOT Divisions are carried on simultaneously in many of the larger localities.

In order to avoid confusion among Italian civil officials as well as among AMGOT personnel and to provide a more uniform policy in all parts of the island, the following points are emphasized for the information and guidance of all concerned.

- (1) The S.C.A.O. in each Province is responsible to the C.C.A.O. for the administration of all Provincial civil affairs. He is the channel of communication between AMGOT Headquarters and all AMGOT officers assigned to duty in the Province.
- (2) Headquarters Divisions of AMGOT are responsible to the C.C.A.O. for advice on the administration of civil affairs on an island-wide basis. From time to time it may be necessary for a Division to have officers on duty in a Province. In such instances these special officers are attached to the S.C.A.O.
- (3) Italian civil officials responsible for specific administrative functions should regularly be supervised by an AMGOT officer responsible to the S.C.A.O. for these functions. Great care should be exercised to avoid conflicting instructions to Italian officials other than

of all concerned.

- (1) The S.C.A.O. in each Province is responsible to the S.C.A.O. for the administration of all Provincial civil affairs. He is the channel of communication between AMOT Headquarters and all AMOT officers ASSIGNED to duty in the Province.
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- (3) Italian civil officials responsible for specific administrative functions should regularly be supervised by an AMOT officer responsible to the S.C.A.O. for these functions. Great care should be exercised to avoid conflicting instructions to Italian officials other than through the AMOT officer charged with supervision of the particular Italian agency, i.e. matters of Finance through the P.F.O., matters of Supply through the P.S.O., matters of Public Safety through the S.C.A.P.O. etc.
- (4) No AMOT officer should attempt to give independent orders directly to Italian officials operating under the supervision of another regularly assigned AMOT officer, except by virtue of explicit written instructions of the S.C.A.O., and a signed copy of such orders are to be delivered to the Italian official concerned.

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(2)

(5) Violations of these instructions are to be reported in full detail at once to the S.O.A.C.

Charles M. Spofford

CHARLES M. SPOFFORD,
Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer.

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SUBJECT: Functions and Responsibilities of ANICOT Officers.ANICOT/266/113.

ANICOT H. O. SICILY.

14th September, 1943.

TO : S.O.A.O.'s All Provinces.

In connection with the establishment of Military Government in Sicily, functions falling under the supervision of the several ANICOT Divisions are carried on simultaneously in many of the larger localities.

In order to avoid confusion among Italian civil officials as well as among ANICOT personnel and to provide a more uniform policy in all parts of the island, the following points are emphasized for the information and guidance of all concerned.

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(2)

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once to the S.C.A.O.

Charles M. Spowford

CHARLES M. SPOWFOED,
Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer.

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AMOT 5th Army,	
Region 3	10
Pilo 266	
Plot	3
Division	6
M.G.S., A.F.H.Q.	12
Swiss	10
AMOT Liaison	1

SUBJECT: Functions and Responsibilities of AMGOT Officers.AMGOT/265/113.

AMGOT N. O. SICILY.

14th September, 1945.

TO : S.C.A.O. All Provinces.

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(2)

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Charles N. Spofford
 CHARLES N. SPOFFORD,
 Colonel, G. S. C.
 Chief Staff Officer.

DISTRIBUTION:

Asiento	6
Caltoninssetta	6
Catania	6
Brna	4
Falunio	15
Rapina	6
Sinocusa	10
Tarand	6
Mossina	8
AMOT 8th Army,	
Region 2	10
AMOT 5th Army,	
Region 3	10
File 266	
Flora	3
Division	6
M.G.S., A.P.H.Q.	10
Saxres	10
AMOT Liaison	1

FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AIGOT OFFICERS.

AIGOT/266/RO.

AIGOT HQ, SICILY.

14th September, 1943.

TO : S.C.A.O.'s All Provinces.

In connection with the establishment of a Military Government in Sicily, functions falling under the supervision of the several AIGOT Divisions are carried on simultaneously in any of the larger localities.

In order to avoid confusion among Italian civil officials as well as among AIGOT personnel and to provide a more uniform policy in all parts of the Island, the following points are embodied for the information and guidance of all concerned.

- (1) The S.C.A.O. in each Province is responsible to the C.C.A.O. for the administration of all Provincial civil affairs. He is the channel of communication between AIGOT Headquarters and all AIGOT officers ASSIGNED to duty in the Province.
- (2) Headquarters Divisions of AIGOT are responsible to the C.C.A.O. for advice on the administration of civil affairs on an Island-wide basis. From time to time it may be necessary for a Division to have officers on duty in a Province. In such instances those special officers are ATTACHED to the S.C.A.O.
- (3) Italian civil officials responsible for specific administrative functions should regularly be advised by an AIGOT officer responsible to the S.C.A.O. for those functions. Great care should be exercised to avoid conflicting instructions to Italian officials other than through the AIGOT officer charged with supervision of the particular

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- (4) No AMOT officer should attempt to give independent orders directly to Italian officials operating under the supervision of another regularly assigned AMOT officer, except by virtue of explicit written instructions of the S.C.A.O., and a signed copy of such orders are to be delivered to the Italian official concerned.

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- (5) Violations of these instructions are to be reported in full detail at once to the S.C.A.C.

Charles M. Spomford
 CHARLES M. SPOMFORD,
 Colonel, G. S. C.
 Chief Staff Officer.

DISTRIBUTION:

Agrianto	6
Calatrinissetta	6
Catania	6
Erma	4
Palermo	55
Trapani	6
Siracusa	10
Messina	6
AMOT 8th Army,	3
Region 2	10
AMOT 5th Army,	10
Region 3	10
File 266	10
Fleet	10
Division	10
M.A.S., A.F.H.S.	12
Spares	10
AMOT Liaison	1

SUBJECT: Functions and Responsibilities of AMOT Officers.

AMOT/266/10.

AMOT M.O. SICILY.

16th September, 1943.

TO : S.C.A.O.'s All Provinces.

In connection with the establishment of a Military Government in Sicily, functions falling under the supervision of the several AMOT Divisions are carried on simultaneously in many of the larger localities.

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Charles M. Spontord
CHARLES M. SPONTORD,
Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer.

DISTRIBUTION:

Agidouto	6
Caltanissetta	6
Catania	6
Enna	4
Palermo	35
Ragusa	6
Siracusa	10
Trapani	6
Mosina	8
AMOT 8th Army,	
Region 2	10
AMOT 5th Army,	
Region 3	10
File 266	
Fleet	3
Division	6
M.G., A.F.H.Q.	12
Spurs	10
AMOT Liaison	1

SUBJECT: Functions and Responsibilities of ANGOT Officers.

ANGOT/266/40.

ANGOT 140. SICILY.

14th September, 1943.

TO : S.C.A.O.'s All Provinces.

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Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer.

DISTRIBUTION:

Agrianto	6
Calitrissetta	6
Catania	6
Enna	4
Palermo	35
Ragusa	6
Siracusa	10
Trapani	6
Messina	8
AMEOT 8th Army,	10
Region 2	10
AMEOT 5th Army,	10
Region 2	10
File 266	10
Flot	10
Division	12
M.G.S., A.F.H.Q.	10
Spares	1
AMEOT Liaison	1

SUBJECT: Functions and Responsibilities of AMGOT Officers.

AMGOT/266/HQ.

AMGOT M. O. SICILY.

14th September, 1943.

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Charles M. Spottford

CHARLES M. SPOTTFORD,
Colonel, U. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer.

DISTRIBUTION:

Argentina	6
Colombia	6
Cuba	6
France	4
Germany	35
Italy	6
Japan	10
South Korea	6
Taiwan	8
Thailand	10
United States Army, } Region 2	10
United States Army, } Region 3	10
Pilo 266	3
Flot	6
Division	12
M.C.S., A.F.H.Q.	10
Spares	1
AMOT Liaison	

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AMCOT/1065/PS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF PROVINCIAL C.A.P.O.s HEID AT H. Q., AMCOT, PALERMO
AT 1000 HRS., 8TH SEPTEMBER 1943.

PRESENT:-

Colonel LEMUEL BOLLES
Lt. Col. R.M.J. MARTIN
Lt. Col. R.A. SNOOK
Major M. P. LOTHIAN
Major G.H.L. MASON

Capt. W.C. BALLANCE

C.P.S.
D.C.B.S.
Supt. Civil Police
Dep. Supt. Prisons
Acting Supt. Fire
and Civil Defence
Registration and
Licensing Section

Lt. Col. C.T. FRANCIS
Major R. ASHWORTH
Major C. T. A. BARTLETT
Major BATTERSBY
Major E. J. BYE
Major C. F. HICKINBOOTHAM
Major A. W. ROWLERSON
Major G. M. SEARLE
Major T. W. J. WALTERS
Capt. W. I. R. WILKINS

C.A.P.O. (CALTANISSETTA)
C.A.P.O. (AGRIGENTO)
C.A.P.O. (TRAPANI)
C.A.P.O. (CATANIA)
C.A.P.O. (MESSINA)
C.A.P.O. (PALERMO)
C.A.P.O. (SIRACUSA)
C.A.P.O. (PALERMO)
C.A.P.O. (ENNA)
C.A.P.O. (RAGUSA)

1. INTRODUCTION.

In his opening remarks the C.P.S. paid tribute to the work of the C.A.P.O.s and Officers of the Division as to which he had received universally favourable reports. He emphasized that the object of the Division was to secure uniformity of procedure in the various Provinces. This Conference was dealing only with the situation in SICILY.

2. REVIEW OF GENERAL SITUATION.

The D.C.P.S., dealing with difficulties which were common to all Provinces, pointed out that from the standpoint of the Division the AMCOT Plan was not carried out in its entirety for various reasons.

(a) Transport. Difficulties were well known at Headquarters. Instructions had now been issued by the Commander-in-Chief to the effect that all transport requisitioned from civilians or otherwise acquired be returned to AMCOT. Not much had been done in the Eighth Army area, and a copy of instructions issued on 3rd September by Seventh Army was passed to C.A.P.O.s operating in Seventh Army area.

Major	BATTERSBY	C.A.P.O. (CATANIA)
Major E. J.	BYE	C.A.F.O. (MESSINA)
MAJOR C. F.	HICKINBOTHAM	C.A.P.O. (PALEMO)
Major A. W.	ROWLSON	C.A.P.O. (SIRACUSA)
Major G. M.	SEARLE	C.A.P.O. (PALEMO)
Major T. W.	J. WALTERS	C.A.P.O. (ENNA)
Capt. W. I.	R. WILKINS	C.A.P.O. (RAGUSA)

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(b) Shortage of Staff. especially of interpreters, had handicapped C.A.P.O.s considerably. A proposal to employ Italian-speaking Maltese who could also help with investigation and other work as warrant officers or sergeants was under consideration.

(c) The need for the immediate reports required by the AMGOT Plan still existed. That this could be managed despite shortage of staff and pressure of work was proved by reports, copies of which had reached Headquarters, by one C.A.P.O.

(d) The pay of the Carabinieri Reali, other police agencies, and the prison and fire services, was being examined and would be considered later by the Economic and Financial Committee (E.F.C.O.).

The D.C.P.S. asked whether the aides-memoire which were compiled in Africa with the expenditure of a considerable amount of labour had proved useful. No particular views either way were put forward.

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3. GENERAL POLICY FOR POLICE CONTROL.

The C.P.S. stated that the established policy was that we were acting in an advisory capacity exercising indirect control, leaving the carrying out of the work to the Italians. It was essential that C.A.P.O.s combated the tendency to do everything themselves; the result might be to weaken the local organizations when the time came for AMGOT to hand over.

Explaining the relationship between Headquarters and provincial responsibility, the D.C.P.S. stated that where there was an island-wide organization this must be controlled from Headquarters. S.C.A.O.s were responsible for any agency organized on a provincial basis, although it was the desire of Headquarters to coordinate such activities. Where disciplinary action was necessary in the higher ranks of the Carabinieri Peuli the matter should be referred to Headquarters unless the Group Commander already possessed the requisite authority to deal with the case. A general interchange of officers and warrant officers of the Carabinieri Reali was being undertaken by Headquarters.

The Acting Superintendent (Fire and Civil Defence) asked that when fire officials had to be arrested the cases should be referred to Headquarters rather than that immediate action be taken by the C.I.C. or other Army unit. There was some discussion on the desirability of the curfew being enforced during an air raid, the effect of which was to prevent the public from going to shelter. The C.P.S. held that this was a matter in which due discretion might be exercised and promised that a directive would be issued from Headquarters on the subject.

4. PASSES.

The D.C.P.S. explained that it had not been found practicable to carry out in full the instructions contained in Administrative Instruction No. 4 on this subject. It would probably be desirable to decentralize the issue of such passes below the provincial level. Passes necessitating travel beyond the limits of a Province should be referred to Headquarters unless only the adjoining Province was affected, in which case consultation with that Province was desirable.

Lieut-Colonel SMOOK, Superintendent of Civil Police, pointed out that there was a security angle on the issue of general passes. A case had come to light in which the holder of a General pass had proved to be an enemy agent.

5. RELATIONS WITH F.S.P. AND C.I.C. - ARREST SLIPS.

Major HOGGIS HOLFE of G.S.I. (b) 15 Army Group, explained the policy which had been adopted by the C.I.C. and F. S.P. detachments. Owing to the recent reduction in these detachments, it had become necessary for teams of security personnel to be sent to the various

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The checking of all persons now in custody or in internment camps at the instance of the Security services or of AMGOT was in progress and it was intended to review these cases monthly. The C.P.S. stated that it was of vital importance that a complete record should be available of all persons put in prison to enable cases to be handled properly. The C.C.A.O. would not tolerate persons remaining in prison without charges being preferred against them. Major BOGGIS-ROLFE explained the system of arrest slips under which the Security Officer or N.C.O. requiring the detention of a suspect would hand a copy of the arrest slip to the C.A.P.O. or other officer into whose custody the suspect was being transferred. In order to ensure the information reaching Headquarters, a copy of the arrest slip would go to Army Headquarters and thence to AMGOT Headquarters.

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(a) Firearms. Emphasis was laid on the desirability of uniformity in the provincial control of permits for firearms. Headquarters authority had already been given for reissue of shot-guns to approved persons employed for the protection of farms and private properties in country districts. Under no circumstances should hand-
weapons, such as pistols, revolvers, daggers, etc., be the subject of permits. The Supt. Civil Police pointed out the danger of such weapons getting into the wrong hands.

(b) Vehicles. Uniformity in the method of authority for vehicles to circulate was stressed by the D.C.P.S., who stated that a detailed plan to secure this uniformity was being considered by Headquarters. Captain BALANCE, Traffic and Licensing Officer, summarised the details of the scheme.

7. THE ITALIAN POLICE AND OFFENCES BY ALLIED TROOPS.

The D.C.P.S. pointed out the difficulties experienced in the handling of offences committed by Allied troops. It was neither practicable nor desirable that Italian police should handle these, except in the most serious cases, and the only remedy appeared to be an adequate number of military or regimental police. As the military situation improved, it was likely that more and more troops would visit the towns on leave, and the matter was seriously exercising the P.S.D. Headquarters.

It was pointed out that Seventh Army required specific details of military personnel involved, but the Conference was concerned more with the measures to be taken to prevent such occurrences than with the detection of the offenders. One C.A.F.O. expressed the opinion that the present state of affairs was having a serious adverse effect on the attitude of the Sicilians towards the Allied occupation, and suggested that if the matter did not receive urgent attention, there was a grave danger of comparisons being made between discipline of the Allied and German troops, to the disadvantage of the former. The C.P.S. promised to make urgent representations to the C.C.A.O. on the subject.

8. C.A.F.O.s - PROSECUTIONS IN ALLIED MILITARY COURTS.

Major ROMERSON, SYRACUSE, drew attention to the excessive work thrown on C.A.F.O.s in the preparation and prosecution of cases in summary military courts. Cases in the Superior and General Military Courts were handled by the Legal Officers and it was agreed that C.A.F.O.s should be relieved of the responsibility of preparing and prosecuting cases in the summary courts which would have to be left to the presiding officers to deal with.

9. BRASSARDS FOR ITALIAN POLICE.

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9. BRASSARDS FOR ITALIAN POLICE.

The D.C.P.S. gave details of proposed uniform brassards or arm-bands for police agencies and suggested that it might be possible to obtain assistance in the making of these from the convents. The question of identity cards for police employed on plain clothes duties was discussed and specimens of the identity cards already in use in some Provinces were submitted. The C.P.S. agreed to consider the possibility of securing uniformity in these places.

The meeting adjourned at 1215 hrs. and resumed at 1430 hrs.

10. DISPOSAL OF UNEXPLODED BOMBS AND OTHER EXPLOSIVES.

The C.P.S. said it was desired to know what arrangements had been made for clearance of unexploded bombs and whether such arrangements were in operation.

The main difficulty in the Provinces was the lack of transport and personnel available for collection of the unexploded bombs.

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ence was made to the existence of mines between TRAPANI and the IG.DI ISLANDS. The presence of granules etc. in the countryside produced, apart from the danger to peasants working in the fields, the possibility of these explosives falling into wrong hands and being used to the detriment of public safety.

It was agreed that the use of civilian labour would facilitate matters.

11. BLACK MARKET

The C.C.B. stated that after such discussion at Headquarters a plan of action was being drawn up.

The Supt. Civil Police said the general plan was based on Proclamations issued by Civilian Supply concerning the control of prices and on General Order No. 5, which had just been issued. The whole programme would be directed at striking at the core of the evil.

The first thing C.C.B.O. wanted to drive at was grain and its related products, and possibly sugar and olive oil. The finding of surplus in excess of what has been authorised in the Order would lead to the supplier and eventually to the ~~main~~ source.

Details of the plan which would start on 16th September were given by the Supt. Civil Police.

12. THE MAFIA

Major SMITH was introduced by the C.P.S., and gave a brief talk on the Mafia. Their main activity was to extort money from people in payment for "protection" and instances were cited of property damaged and destroyed when people had refused to make these "protection" payments. Kidnapping and holding to ransom was another activity of the Mafia, as well as extorting passports and travelling expenses. Family vendettas were carried on, often involving many murders. The Mafia was stopped, or at least driven underground, by Prefect MORI sent by Mussolini in 1925, who suppressed the society by making mass arrests wherever Mafia activities were reported.

Reports from local people indicated that Mafia activities had begun again now that the Fascists had gone, and it was necessary to take a firm line at the beginning. In Provinces there were a number of Mafia members released from prison, and some were still in prison. It was suggested that as many as possible should be deported.

There was no formal organization of the Mafia. Every village had its headman, and this office graduated from father to son. "Secret Societies and Subversive Movements" by Norman Webster was recommended as a book giving valuable information on the activities of the Mafia.

programs would be directed at striking at the Mafia. The first thing C.C.A.O. wanted to drive at was grain and its related products, and possibly sugar and olive oil. The finding of surplus in excess of what had been authorized in the Order would lead to the supplier and eventually to the main source.

Details of the plan which would start on 16th September were given by the Supt. Civil Police.

12. THE M.F.I.

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13. P. ROLING OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

The D.C.P.S. pointed out that the present plan required paroled prisoners to report to C.I.P.O.S., thus throwing an additional burden on these officers, and the C.C.A.O. had approved of the duty being passed to the Italian agencies. This had already been done in some Provinces where the matter was being handled entirely by the Carabinieri Reali.

N.B. Seventh Army have requested that ex-members of the Italian Forces who had escaped capture should be rounded up and handed over to the Military Police (U.S.).

14. PRISONS.

Major LOTHIAN stated that prisons, personnel, guards and prison staff were a national establishment, similar to the Carabinieri Reali.

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- 5 -

The central prisons were looked upon by everyone as being national, and the general feeling was that local prisons were administered by the local authority. Most of the local prisons would be closed down when communes were restored. Plans were made to close thirty-seven in PALERMO PROVINCE. They could be made useful as police cells.

Present administration was Italian, under our control, and DR. COLOMBO had just been appointed Chief Director of Prisons.

Petitions. There were two forms of petitions from prisoners, one was a petition proper and another an application for leave to appeal against a sentence. The applications for leave to appeal will come under and be dealt with at Provincial Headquarters.

Uniforms would be provided for prison staff, and there would be a general improvement in food and comfort.

There was some discussion on alleged overcrowding of prisons and political internees.

The C.P.S. summarised the points that had been made during the conference, and expressed his appreciation of the cooperation extended by all.

In the course of a general discussion of items not on the Agenda, it was pointed out that no provision was made in the AMGOT instructions regarding bail. It was agreed that this omission should be rectified and the C.P.S. agreed to take the matter up with the Legal Division.

Attention was drawn to the large demands on the Carabinieri Real for guard duties, even for military property. This was considered a military responsibility, and should be taken up direct with the Military Base Authorities.

The meeting adjourned at 1735 hrs.

DISTRIBUTION:

S.C.A.Os.	2
Merigento	2
Caltanissetta	2
Catania	2
Enna	2
Palermo	2
Ragusa	2
Siracusa	2
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Messina	2

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Trapani	2
Messina	2
AMGOT LLISON	1
AMGOT 8th Main	1
Col. Humo	1
M.G.S., AFHC	2
G.S.I.(B) 15 A.G.	1
Heads of Sections P.S.D.1	
File	
Float	1
Divisions	6

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MGS ALG V MGA TIZ
13 SEPTEMBER 1943
MESSAGE NO 1943 7.

TO : SCHOOL AND PLANNING STAFF
SUB : AMMUNITION AND PROCLAMATIONS

SCHOOL--THERE IS ON THE WAY FOR DELIVERY TO TIZ 1800 ROUNDS CAL. 38 PISTOA AMMUNITION
X PLANNING STAFF-REQUEST YOU IMMEDIATELY FURNISH THIS OFFICE 200 OF EA. PROCLAMATION NOW
AT TIZ. PACKED SOLID WITH IDENTIFYING MARK ON OUTSIDE OF PACKAGE. X

CAPTAIN CAMERON

14 Sept 43
1026 hrs

361

Completed with
14 Sept. 1943
200 ea issue sent forward
by transport. H2

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2A
Planning Staff

2493

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

MES ALG V MES TIZ
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ACAPTAIN CAMERON

2492

13 Sep 43
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above

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W. H. Phair

Wallywood
BA

