

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

785015

ACC

10000/100/788

41 pp.

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

785015

10000/100/788

DEATHS & BURIALS
AUG. - OCT. 1943

41pp.

FOLIO	DATE	REF.	TO/FROM.
265			
65	19 Oct	255/HQ	TO SCAG. MESSINA
06-68	21 Oct		from SCAG - Messina

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6903

255/4

785015

Folio	DATE	REFERENCE	To/From	SUBJECT	
1	7 Aug 255 HQ		From: BPO. NAAF (Rear)	Burial of Dead	*
2	7 "	D/969	"	S/Ldr Green. Death of.	*
3	7 "	D/969	"	- do -	*
4	11 "	AMGOS/255 255 HQ	TO Air/255 HQ	"	*
5	8 "	MCS/201	TO. A.M.C.	"	*
6	4 "	P/9607	From: BPO NAAF (Rear)	S/Ldr Green. Death of.	*
7	11 "	744	"	"	*
8	10 "	BPO/6413	"	S/Ldr Green.	*
9	18 "	255/HQ	TO: - Camp Comdt.	"	*
10	18 "		TO August	Graves Registration and Burials	
11	25 "	255 HQ	TO SCAO Calamita Trapani	Amendments to Letter	
12/13	20 "	255 HQ	From Camp Commandant	Officers Baggage	*
14	24 "	-	From S.C.A.O.	Burial of Dead	*
15/16	26 "	MFN/cv	From S.C.A.O.	re a death in Licata	
16A	27 "	ch	From mil for rec.	By Ldr. Green	
17 to 30	30 "	131/W/IND	TO AMCOF Cesena	Investigation Reports	
40	2/9/43	255/HQ	TO SCAO	Robbing of the Dead	
41A	2 Sept	255/HQ	TO " Agrigento	Deceased Civilian	
43	2 Sept	255/HQ	From C.S.O.	Exhumation of American dead	
44	9 Sept	-	From QMC. GRSO. IGS	in vicinity of Trapani + Capri	
45	11 Sept	255 HQ	From C.S.O.	Death of	

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5	8	"	MCS/201	10. AMG.		*
6	4	"	P/9607	From: BPO NAAF (Rear)	5/4dr Green	Death of *
7	11	"	744	"	"	" *
8	10	"	BPO/6415	" RAF Syracuse Sicily	5/4dr Green.	" *
9	18	"	255/HQ	To: Camp Canale.	"	" *
10	18	"		To August	Graves Registration and Burials	
11	25	"	255 HQ	To SCAO Catania Trapani	Amendment to Letter	
12/13	20	"	255 HQ	From Camp Commanded	Officers Baggage	*
14	24	"	-	From SCAO Trapani	Bundle of Dead	*
15/16	26	"	MFN/cw	from S.C.A.O.	re a death in Licata	
					* Transferred to Sg/Hdr Green's PF File	
16A 27	-	"	Chh	from mail for Lee.	Sy. Ldr. Green	
17 to 29	30	"	131 W/IND	To AMCO Cesara	Investigation	Robbery
40	2/9/43	"	255 HQ	To SCAO's	Robbing of the Dead	
41	2 Sept	"	255 HQ	To " Agrigento	Deceased Civilian	
43	2 Sept	"	255 HQ	From C.S.O.	Exhumation of American dead	
44	9 Sept	"	-	From QMC GRSO IGS	in vicinity of Trapani + Capri	
45	11 Sept	"	265 HQ	To SCAO, Messina	Death Notice	
46	11 Sept	"	255 HQ	To SCAO, Trapani	Isolated Burial	
47	11 Sept	"	255 HQ	From D.A.M.G. 8th Army	Desecration of Graves	
48-53	16	"	R 6175 A	To SCAO's at Catania	"	"
54	19	"	255 HQ	From SCAO Trapani	Isolated burial	
55-7	27	"	GB/2/T.P.	"	Desecration of Graves	
58-9	23	"	CAT/130	"	Isolated burial	
60	29	"	255 HQ	To HQ, Island Base Sect Palermo	Desecration of Graves	
61	6	"	SCAO/4004/TF	From: SCAO Trapani		
62	15	"	Call from 10/2	" SCAO Catania		
63	16	"	255 HQ	To: Pro. Marshall	7th Army	2458
64	15	"	183	FROM: SCAO MESSINA		

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AMGOT/255/HQ

785015

Identification of Dead Aviator

Provost Marshall 7th Army

255/141

25 October

1. Enclosed is the identification disc of a dead U.S. aviator together with a paper dealing with his death.
2. The incident occurred in Messina Province.

W. H. SPOTFORD
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer

4057

P/A
24/10

785015

A.M.G.O.T.

*HQ. Regio
& Vala Bari*

PROVINCE OF MESSINA

This Ref.:

Your Ref.:

21 October

19 43

Enclosures:

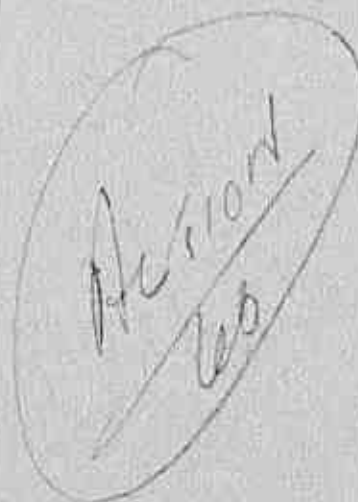
SUBJECT:

To :- Col. Charles M. Spofford
AMGOT HQ.

Please find attached for certain this time
the disc and remainder of the file concerned with
the dead American Aviator.



Index 64-65 refers



4056

785015

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

SUBJECT: Identification of Dead Aviator
TO: S.C.A.O., Messina

FILE No. 255/HQ
AMGOT HQ., SICILY
October 19, 1943

Reference your 183 of 15.10.43, the disc and the letters
of the dead man were not enclosed.

7
1
Charles M. Spottford
CHARLES M. SPOTTORD,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer, 2005

Legal
Tortorici
24th September 1943 *67*

To S.C.A.O. Messina

On 24th September 1943 the attached letter and identification disc ~~where~~ were received at this Office.

Whilst it would appear from the letter that the American authorities have been informed I deemed it advisable to submit the disc in order that this may be verified.

E. Locks L/T.

*This should be sent to
Palermo to forward to General Reges
2nd Army.*

4054

F/F 12

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT OF OCCUPIED TERRITORY

Governo Militare Alleato del Territorio Occupato

ALLIED MILITARY FINANCIAL AGENCY

Agenzia Militare Finanziaria Alleata

ORIGINAL

No.

RECEIVED FROM THE ALLIED MILITARY FINANCIAL AGENCY AN ADVANCE OF
Ricevuto dall'Agenzia Militare Finanziaria Alleata un avanzo di

(in words):

(scritto in lettere)

FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

Per il bisogno di

AND WHICH IS RECOGNIZED AS A DEBT OF:

Il quale viene riconosciuto come debito di

Name of Governmental body - Nome dell'Ente Governativo)

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

Identification of Dead Aviator

S.C.A.O., Messina

255/HQ

October 19, 3

Reference your 183 of 15.10.43, the disc and the letters
of the dead man were not enclosed.

P/A
19/10
[Signature]
CARLES M. BROOKS,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer. #053

785015

O. M. G. O. T.

64

PROVINCE OF MESSINA

This Ref.: 183

Your Ref.:

Messina, 15 October

19 43

Enclosures: Letters & Disc.

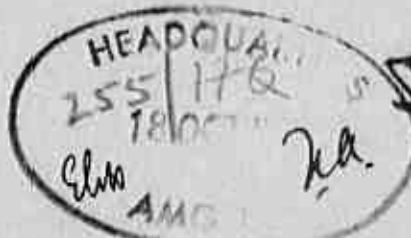
SUBJECT: Identification of Dead Aviator

To :- C.S.O. AMGOT Sicily

NOT UNCLOSED.

1. Enclosed is a disc of a dead aviator of U.S. Air Forces together with letters relative to it.

2. Please forward to Graves Registration Service of 7th Army.



Stephen B. Story
LT. COL. - CMP
SCAO - Messina



4052

785015

Crashed Aircraft

Provost Marshal
7th Army H.Q.

255/HQ

16 October 3

1. Enclosed is a copy of a memorandum from Caltanissetta Province and is forwarded for any action you see fit to take.
2. The fragments of bones and plates referred to are in the parcel sent herewith.

Charles M. Spofford
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer. 1051

17/10

63A

Galt Prov/10/2

Lost Aircraft.

S.C.A.O. Province of Caltanissetta.

1. Herewith some fragments of charred human bones and identification plates from the engine of a single engined aircraft.
2. On 10 Jul 43 at 0900 hrs a P-39 was engaged by 6 German aircraft over TRABIA Mine (M.R. 0457 Italy 1/100,000 Sheet 272 GELA). The P-39 was badly damaged and crashed near the mine. The wreck was completely destroyed and no human bodies were recovered. The engine lies deeply imbedded in the ground.
3. On the same day at 1500 hrs a single engined aircraft was shot down in the same vicinity. The bone fragments and plates referred to in 1. above are from this site.
4. No investigation was made until 13 Oct 43 when Lt. SEMONELLI who was at the mine visited the sites and recovered the plates and the bone fragments.
5. It is suggested that this information may lead to the identification of missing airmen and to the notification of their relatives.

Oct 43

G. E. SEMONELLI,
1st Lieut., C.M.P.

II HRS 1200

Forwarded.

Caltanissetta
13 Oct. 43

Lt. Col.,
S.C.A.O., Caltanissetta Province.

4059

Calt Prov/10/2

Lost Aircraft.

S.C.A.O. Province of Caltanissetta.

1. Herewith some fragments of charred human bones and identification plates from the engine of a single engined aircraft.

2. On 10 Jul 43 at 0900 hrs a P-38 was engaged by 6 German aircraft over TRABIA Mine (M.R. 0457 Italy 1/100,000 Sheet 272 GELA). The P-38 was badly damaged and crashed near the mine. The wreck was completely destroyed and no human bodies were recovered. The engine lies deeply imbedded in the ground.

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5. It is suggested that this information may lead to the identification of missing airmen and to the notification of their relatives.

Oct 43



G. E. Semonelle
G. E. SEMONELLE,
1st Lieut., CMP.

II HQRS AMGOT

Forwarded.

Caltanissetta
15. Oct 43.

W. A. J. J.
Lt. Col.,
S.C.A.O., Caltanissetta Province.

4049

785015

SCAO/4004/TP

Trapani

6 October 1943

61

Subject: Location of American soldier graves

To: Graves Registration Service, Palermo through
S.C.A.O., Trapani

In reference to A.M.G.O.T. 207/ HQ, 7 August 1943, there
are a number of American and British dead buried in the Tra-
pani cemetery, Commune of Trapani.

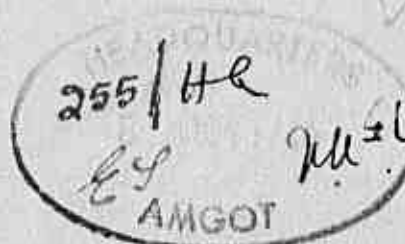
Charles R. Smyth

CHARLES R. SMYTH

2nd, C.M.P.

Civil Affairs Officer

Forwarded - 6 Oct. '43
J. E. Thomas,
Lt. Col. Inf.
SCAO Trapani



*Clear
LADG*

MU-18

[Signature]
9/10/43

Isolated Burial.

H.Q. Island Base, Section,
APO 758, Palermo.

ARGOT/255/HQ

29. Sept. 3.

1. In reply to your letter dated 9. Sept. 43, this H.Q. submits the following information.

2. The S.C.A.P.O. Trapani Province has forwarded a report from an Italian Medical Officer - Capt. Rosario Spinella - in Favignana reading as follows:

" SANITARY SERVICE OF FAVIGNANA.
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT - FAVIGNANA.

Yesterday at the hour 18 a body has been picked up out of the water which had been dead for 40 days. Cause of death - Drowned.

The dead was found at a place called Cala Rossa upon the shoals face down. His left leg was missing up to the knee, his right leg up to the hip. Both arms and forearms missing. His genitals and his head were also gone.

No wounds. He was naked. Had no tag. Only had a life preserver yellow of colour.

We gathered the body, rolled him in a sheet, put him in a casket and ship to the cemetery.

Favignana. 12. August. 1943.

Medical Captain, Rosario Spinella. "

3. Accompanying this letter is report from C.A.O. Favignana, extract of which is as follows:

"I am attaching hereto a translation of the file we have here in the office, which is self explanatory.
There was found on this man a life preserver American make with the British Crown stamped on same. This article was turned over by the Italian Doctor; "Rosario Spinella" Captain M.C. Navy. to Major Bartlett, British Army, C.A.O. Favignana, Markings I suppose where as follows
Patent No. 507223, Tested Stores 3296/034a - 3-42 J.M. 18872 Date 29/3/43.

785015

1. In reply to your letter dated 9 Sept. 43, this H.Q. submits the following information.

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No wounds. He was naked. Had no tag. Only had a life preserver yellow of colour.

We gathered the body, rolled him in a sheet, put him in a casket and ship to the cemetery.

Favignana, 12 August, 1943.
Medical Captain, Rosario Spinella. "

3. Accompanying this letter is report from G.A.O. Favignana, extract of which is as follows:

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There was found on this man a life preserver American make with the British Crown stamped on same. This article was turned over by the Italian Doctor; "Rosario Spinella" Captain M.C. Navy. to Major Bartlett, British Army, GAO. Favignana, Markings I suppose where as follows Patent No. 307223, Tested Stores 3296/034a - 3-42 J.M. 18872 Date 29/3/43. The above taken from notes made on a piece of scratch paper.
This man was buried in the soldiers and sailors part of the cemetery at Favignana, Grave No. 33 the last Military grave. "

4. Major Bartlett reported that he did not witness the burial and that owing to its deteriorated condition the life preserver was not kept by the finders.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Colonel, C.S.C.
Chief Staff Officer.

SUBJECT:- Desecration of Graves.

Our Ref:- CAT/130. 59

To:- AMGOT H.Q.
Palermo.

From:- Lt. Col. Wellesley,
S.C.A.O.
Province of Catania.

54

Ref. your letter AMGOT/225/HQ dated 19 Sep 43.

The only graves which are specifically mentioned as having been desecrated in this province are those of two Germans mentioned in 30 Corps letter 1092/43/A of Sep 10th. The attention of C.A.O. Bronte is being drawn to this incident. I enclose copy of a notice issued in this province on this subject.



P.A.H.
21/11/43
J. Wellesley

Catania.
23 Sep 43.
Encl:

Lt. Col.
S.C.A.O.

/ N

A.M.G.O.T.

Trapani

27th September, 1943

TRAPANI (Sicily)

To : - Lt.Col.M. Spofford, Chief Staff Officer. A.M.G.O.T.

H.Q. Palermo

Your Reference No/A.M.G.O.T./255/HQ.



If it is desired to have further information as shown at "A" of No. 1 a complete report will be duly forwarded.

Owing to immersion in water the condition of Life Preserver made it impossible to keep.

G B Barker
Major

Senior Civil Affairs Police Officer
Trapani

Return taken at 66
Sen
29/9/43.

PH 29/9

405

11 3/1 1 56

CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICE

PROVINCE OF TRAPANI

13 Via Regina Margherita

TRAPANI (Sicily)

Favignana

25 September, 1943

COPY

Subject: Torso Sailor.

To: Maj. Bartlett, SCAPO. Trapani.

○ I am attaching hereto a translation of the file we have here in the office, which is self explanatory.

There was found on this man a life preserver American make with the British Crown stamped on same. This article was turned over by the Italian Doctor; "Rosario Spinella" Captain M.C. Navy. to Major Bartlett, British Army, CAO. Favignana, Markings I suppose where as follows Patent No. 307223, Tested Stores 3296/034a - 3-42 J.M. 18872 Date 29/3/43.

The above taken from notes made on a piece of scratch paper.

This man was buried in the soldiers and sailors part of the cemetery at Favignana, Grave No.33 the last Military grave.

"A" I have found several allied military graves in this cemetery and a few unknown. If you desire I will submit a complete report on same.

William C Boyd
Captain CMP. CAO.

4044

31 3 2 55
CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICE

PROVINCE OF TRAPANI

13 Via Regina Margherita

TRAPANI (Sicily)

COPY.

X **SANITARY SERVICE OF FAVIGNANA**

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT - FAVIGNANA -

Yesterday at the hour 18 a body has been picked up out of the water which had been dead for 40 days. Cause of death: + Drowned.

The dead was found at a place called 'Cala Rossa' upon the shoals face down. His left leg was missing up to the knee, his right leg up to the hip. Both arms and forearms missing. His genitals and his head were also gone.

No wounds. He was naked. Had no tag. Only had a life preserver yellow of colour.

We gathered the body, rolled him in a sheet, put him in a casket and ship to the cemetery.

Favignana. 12 August, 1943.

Medical Captain

Rosario Spinella. X

4053

54
REF/255/H
REF ID: A61113
12 September 1943

SUBJECT: Desecration of Graves

TO: S.C.A.C., Base
Cantania

1. Enclosed find copy of correspondence which is self explanatory.
2. Kindly investigate and do everything possible to have those guilty of such outrages brought to trial.
3. Your reports are wanted.

[Signature]
WILLIAM M. SPENCER,
Colonel, C. S. C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

Distribution:

- 1 Copy H.Q. 8th Army
C.M.F.
- 1 Copy Group Captain Benson
- 2 Copies Files

4042

Incl

See 59

P/H
20/9
69

785015

Subject:- Desecration of Graves.

HQ Main Eighth Army
O.M.F.

R 6175 A

16 Sep 43.

Group Captain Benson.
HQ AMGOT REGGIO.

Copy to:- HQ AMGOT
PALERMO



Copy to:- A HQ 15 Army Group.
A HQ Fortbase.
D.A.D.G.R.&E. Fortbase.
A.C.G. Rear Army.

Copies of 30 Corps letters 1092/39/A of 11 Sep 43., and 1092/43/A of 12 Sep 43., are forwarded herewith together with the correspondence attached to them.

It is requested that strong action be taken and exemplary punishment be meted out to offenders who can be traced.

It will be appreciated if you will forward the result of your investigation to this HQ.

Field.
FE.

Attention at 54
19/9/43

M. S. Richards Gent. Col.
a.a.g.
for Brigadier,
D.A.&O.M.G.
Eighth Army.

4041

copy

SUBJECT :- Deseccration of Graves

"A" Branch, Rear Eighth Army.

Copy to:- A.M.G.O.T. Eighth Army.

Rear H.Q. 52
30 Corps.
12 Sep 43
1092/43/A.

The attached copy of 78 Div letter No.A.3050/B of 10 Sep 43
is forwarded further to this H.Q. letter No.1092/39/A of 11 Sep 43.

(sgd) x x x Liout
for Lt-Gen
Comd

GLH

4040

copy

SUBJECT :- Desecration of Graves

A.3050/B. 57

HQ 30 Corps (A)

Reference even number of 7 Sep, the following is the location of graves reported by 1 E.Surreys as having been opened and the boots removed from the corpse :-

1. CATENANUOVA - 620884 (about 1 mile up track leading N from town)
Enna 5338789 Pte. FIGGINS, A. 1 E.Surreys.
2. CENTURIPES - 640903 (one map ref to cover all graves which are scattered over the hill)
Enna 6151366 Pte. LLOYD, D. 1 E.Surreys
7044889 Fus. BUTLER, A.
FUCK, H (German)
2 unknown Germans
1 unknown British Cpl.
FNE 30/993 KREBS, O. G.E.F.R.
462 T.62783 German.
STAMM KPGIB, 746
3. BRONTE - 736089
Catania 1749 FISCHER, O. Oberg
HEINRICH, K. Lt.

10 Sep.43.

(sgd) E.R.WRIGHT, Major.
for Maj-Gen.
Comd.78 Div.

4089

copy

IMMEDIATE

SUBJECT :- Desecration of Graves

"A" Branch, Rear Eighth Army.

Copy to:- A.M.G.O.T. Eighth Army.

Rear H.Q.
30 Corps
11 Sep.43
1092/39/A.

50
4038

The attached reports from 78 Div. ref A.3050/B of 7 Sep.43, and Chaplain, 6 Green Howards, ref 2/943 of 5 Sep.43, are forwarded.

It is requested that strong measures are immediately taken to prevent further instances of this outrageous behaviour.

It is a matter directly concerning the Troops and recurrences of these acts of desecration are likely to result in serious clashes between the Troops and civilians.

With regard to the report from 78 Div, it is believed that civilians of the lower classes are responsible as many appear to be without any footwear and unable to obtain any through civilian sources.

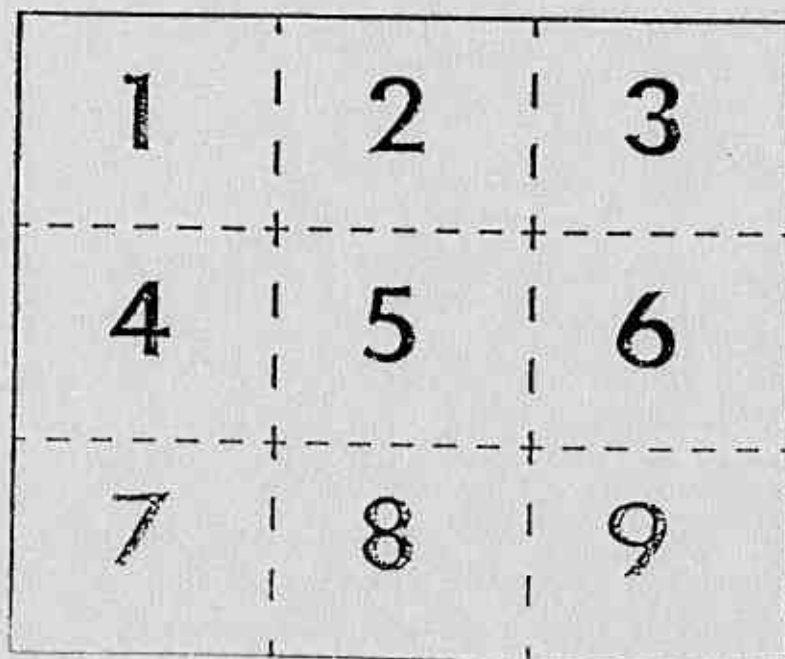
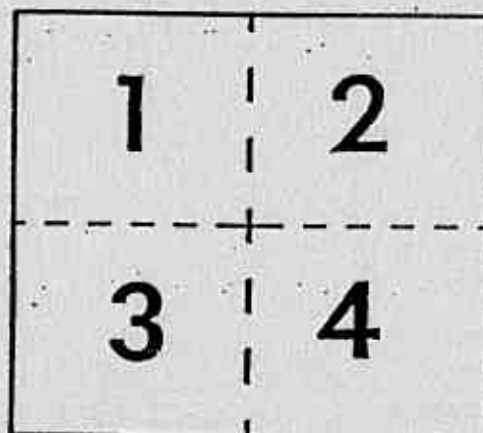
Referring to the report from the Chaplain of 6 Green Howards, it is requested that the civilian authorities mentioned therein be severely punished.

(sgd) E.P.Sewell, Brigadier.
for Lieutenant-General,
G.O.C. 30 Corps.

GLH

MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



NOTICE

Allied Military Government of Occupied Territory

1. There have recently been many cases of Italians robbing the dead.

2. Bodies of Allied Soldiers already buried have been disinterred and all clothing taken off.

AVVISO

Governo del Territorio

1. Vi sono molti casi di saccheggio dei caduti da parte degli italiani.

2. Cadaveri di soldati Alleati già sepolti sono stati dissotterrati e tutti i loro effetti personali rubati.

AVVISO

Governo Militare Alleato del Territorio Occupato

Government
Territory

e recently been
ans robbing the

Allied Soldiers
been disinterred
en off.

1. Vi sono stati ultimamente
molti casi di spoliazione delle salme
dei caduti da parte di Italiani.

2. Cadaveri di soldati alleati
sono stati dissepoliti ed il loro vestia-
rio rubato.

already buried have been disinterred and all clothing taken off.

3. Attention is drawn to Proclamation No. 2, Section 17.

4. This applies to robbing and disinterring of Italian bodies as well as those of Allied Troops and the penalty may be death.

By Order of the Allied Military Government.

Lieut. Colonel. G. WELLESLEY

Senior Civil Affairs Officer

CATANIA

STAB. TIP. "900" ACIREALE

5037

sono stati disse-
rio rubato.

3. Si att
pubblico sul co
17 del Proclam

4. Quant
pure alla disse
zione di cadav
applicabile è qu

D'ordine d
Alleato.

Ten.
Ufficiale Sup

been disinterred
then off.

drawn to Pro-
tection 17.

to robbing and
bodies as well
Troops and the
th.

Allied Military

1. G. WELLESLEY
Affairs Officer
CATANIA

4037

sono stati dissepoliti ed il loro vestia-
rio rubato.

3. Si attira l'attenzione del
pubblico sul contenuto della sezione
17 del Proclama No. 2.

4. Quanto sopra si riferisce
pure alla dissepultura e alla spolia-
zione di cadaveri Italiani. La pena
applicabile è quella della morte.

D'ordine del Governo Militare
Alleato.

Ten. Col. G. WELLESLEY.
Ufficiale Superiore addetto agli Affari Civili
CATANIA

Copy.

Subject:- Graves.

Ref. 2/943
5 Sep 43.

To:- The Adjutant,
6th. Bn. The Green Howards.

May I ask you to report the following circumstances to the appropriate authority with the recommendation that action be taken, if possible by way of Proclamation, to prevent a re-occurrence in the future.

I went this evening to place crosses on the graves of 3 Commandos I had buried on 18/8/43 on the embankment by the first road block NORTH of SCALETA. I was, however, unable to find the graves and was informed that the bodies had been removed to the local cemetery. At the cemetery the Custodian could not identify the bodies in each grave.

After much enquiry I learned that the proprietor on whose ground our men had been buried took exception to them being buried in what he called "his land" and sought authority from the Mayor and Health Inspector for their removal. This operation was undertaken without any care to preserve the identity of those exhumed. I was handed an identity disc which had been taken from one, and a packet of letters taken from another. The temporary identification markings I had left on the grave had also been removed. It appears that two bodies were put in one coffin but who they were I could not ascertain, and some Germans and Italians killed at the same time and buried in one grave have been mixed up with our own.

I am doubtful if I shall be able to clear up the identification satisfactorily and can only urge that this incident may prompt some immediate steps being taken to prevent any further interference with our graves.

Sgd. T.H. Lovegrove, Chaplain.
6th. Bn. The Green Howards.

SUBJECT:- Desecration of Graves

A.3050/B

Officers and Padres who have been visiting the graves of personnel killed in the Sicilian campaign report that in many cases, particularly in the CENTURIPPE - BRONTE Area, the graves have been desecrated, the body having been removed, stripped and left exposed.

The object appears to be to take boots off any men buried in the graves, whilst in some cases Registration Labels have been taken and the tins left. It is reported that the graves of both our own and enemy dead have been treated in this way and in one case a limb was left lying some distance away from the opened grave.

The graves of the following personnel of 6 R.W.K. viz

6408432 Cpl. SEARLE, R	6405495 L/Cpl. FREEMAN, D.
6400633 Pte. MARLOW, A.	6346587 Pte BUTLER, H.

have been interfered with as follows :-

In the case of Cpl. SEARLE and Pte BUTLER, the bodies were completely uncovered and it was noticed that their boots had been removed.

The grave of L/Cpl. FREEMAN was partly covered, feet and legs being exposed. In the case of Pte. MARLOW's grave, it was seen that this had been interfered with but it had been recovered completely.

The graves are located on Pt 584 at 634896, SICILY, Sheet 269, PATERNO the graves of L/Cpl FREEMAN and Pte. MARLOW being at the foot of the hill and those of Cpl. SEARLE and Pte. BUTLER about half-way up the hill.

It is known that certain graves in the CENTURIPE - BRONTE area of personnel of 1 E.Surreys have been subjected to similar desecration and the exact location of these graves will be reported shortly.

May energetic steps please be taken to trace and punish the perpetrators of these outrages as it is felt that unless strong action is taken immediately the practice will spread.

In the field
7/9/43

(sgd)

Major.
for Maj-Gen.
Comd. 78 Div.

4000

Copy to:- 11 Bde. 36 Bde.

785015

ANGOT/25
ANGOT IN CLY
11 September 1943

SUBJECT: Isolated Burial

TO: S.C.A.O., Trapani

1. Report has been received that an isolated burial was made on Favignana Island, 13 August 1943.
2. Major Gilbert Bartlett, ANGOT, is alleged to have witnessed it.
3. Request is made that more details as to the individual buried and the location be furnished this Headquarters.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Lt. Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

Reply at 57

P/A
403 16/9

ALCOT/255/HQ
ALCOT HQ SICILY
11 September 1943

SUBJECT: Death Notice

TO: S.O.A.O., Messina ⁴⁵

1. Notice has been received from A.F.H.Q. that Pietro Piccione, a prisoner of war in England, has died.

2. Kindly inform the deceased's wife Giuseppina Cotugno Piccione Via Siena 123 Torre Yard, Messina, to this effect.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD,
Lt. Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief Staff Officer.

4033

SECRETCIPHER MESSAGE
INFOLIO NO 02500
8 SEP 43

FROM : FREEDOM SIGNED EISENHOWER
TO : FILPOT FOR AMG
ORIG. NO : 1976 CITE FHMGS

HEADQUARTERS
255 HQ
9 SEP 1943
AMGOT

TOO 1000B
THI NIL
TOR 2116B

REQUEST YOU DEAL WITH FOLLOWING.

ONE. NOTIFY GIUSEPPINA COTUGNO PICCIONE VIA SIENA ONE THREE TORRE YARO MESSINA THAT HER HUSBAND PIETRO PICCIONE A PRISONER OF WAR IN GREAT BRITAIN HAD DIED.

TWO. INFORM THIS SECTION WHETHER ANY ALBANIAN POLITICAL OR MILITARY PRISONERS WERE FOUND IN SICILY. IF SO SUPPLY LIST FOR ONWARD TRANSMISSION AND ANY PROPOSALS FOR THEIR DISPOSAL.

AMGOT 3 ACTION

PARA 2. - Action by Public
Safety Div on 1100/PS.

SMC 2305B/8.
T.T. 2345B/8. JJC.

ACTION

416

HEADQUARTERS
ISLAND BASE SECTION
A.P.O. # 758



9 September 1943

SUBJECT: ISOLATED BURIAL

TO : AMGOT

1. Report was made to this office of an Isolated Burial made on Favignana Island (Egadi Group) 13 August 1943, allegedly witnessed by Major Gilbert Bartlett, SCPO, AMGOT.

2. Request that you obtain more specific location of the grave from Major Bartlett and inform this Headquarters.

For the Quartermaster:

W. J. DeKor
M. J. DEKOR
Captain QMC
GRSO, IBS

BW
when reply comes in
C.H.
11/9/43.
Action at 47 460

ACTION TAKEN
47

Copy in spares file

4031

785015

File

A326-76

43.

AWOT/255/HQ

AWOT H.Q., SICILY

2 September 1943

Subject:- Exhumation of American dead in vicinity
of Troina and Capizzi.

To:- S.C.A.O. Enna.
S.C.A.O. Messina.

1. Enclosed is Report of Investigation made on American dead in the vicinity of the boundaries of Messina and Enna province.
2. It is requested that any necessary action by the S.C.A.O. and C.A.O. responsible for the area in question be taken. *IMMEDIATELY.*

for *Chas. H.*
CHARLES M. SPORWOLD
Lieut Colonel, G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer.

Encls.

P/A 2037
3/9
6J

File 2879
42

AMGOT/255/HQ

AMGOT HQ SICILY

2 September 1943

Subject: Deceased Civilian

To : The Commanding General, 7th Army

1. This H.Q. has received your reference AG 704-CAS dated 24 August with enclosure.

2. Appropriate action has been taken.


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

4029

785015

41
AMGOT/255/HQ

AMGOT HQ SICILY

2 September 1943

Subject: Deceased Civilian

To : S.C.A.O., Province of Agrigento

1. Enclosed are papers pertaining to an Italian fisherman deceased.

2. The body was found on 17 August 1943 floating 2 miles off shore from Licata by Naval Personnel.

3. The body was in a badly deteriorated condition and consequently not picked up.

4. The enclosed is being forwarded to you in order that, if identification can be determined, the next of kin be advised.

6028
CHARLES M. SPOTFORD
Lt. Col., G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer

Encls.

Copy: C.A.O.

FILE copy 266

40

AMGOT/255/HQAMGOT HQ SICILY2 September 1943

Subject: Robbing of the Dead

To : S.C.A.O.s

1. There have recently been many cases of Italians robbing the dead.
2. Bodies of U. S. Soldiers already buried have been disinterred and all clothing taken off.
3. This HQ directs attention to Proclamation No. 2, Section 17.
4. This applies to robbing and disinterring of Italian bodies as well as those of Allied Troops and the penalty may be death.

Distribution:

Agrigento	6
Caltanissetta	6
Catania	6
Enna	4
Palermo	35
Ragusa	6
Siracusa	14
Trapani	6
Messina	8
AMGOT Liaison	1
AMGOT 8th Main	1
Col. Hume	1
File	1
Float	1
Divisions	6

Copy to - Messina - 1943
 CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
 Lt. Col., G.S.C.
 Chief Staff Officer

*Subsequent correspondence
 on P.S. Div file
 "looting" - 1001 302.*

2. Bodies of U. S. Soldiers already buried have been disinterred and all clothing taken off.

3. This HQ directs attention to Proclamation No. 2, Section 17.

4. This applies to robbing and disinterring of Italian bodies as well as those of Allied Troops and the penalty may be death.

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Caltanissetta	6
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Palermo	35
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Siracusa	14
Trapani	6
Messina	8
AMGOT Liaison	1
AMGOT 8th Main	1
Col. Hume	1
File	1
Float	1
Divisions	6

Copy to Mr. M. M. M. M. M.

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

*Subsequent correspondence
on PS Div file
"Loathing" - 1001 402*

8/9

39

AMGOT/255/HQ
AMGOT HQ PALERMO, APO 777

2nd Ind.
2 Sept. 1943

CVII/RL

To: The Commanding General
II Corps, APO 302, U. S. Army

1. This H.Q. has noted reports and the local C.A.O.s have been directed to take appropriate action.

For the Commanding General:

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD
Lt. Col., G. S. C.
Chief Staff Officer

4026

785015

(CONFIDENTIAL)

- 1 -

AG 333.5/62 (AG) 1st W/Ind.
HQ II CORPS, APO 302, US Army, 30 August 1943.

TO: AMECOT, Casaro

Herewith report of Investigation of Exhumation of American Dead in the vicinity of Capizzi, Sicily, for your information.

For the Commanding General:

F. W. ZIES,
Lt. Col., A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

1 Incl:
Invest. of Exhumation of American Dead
in the Vicinity of Capizzi, Sicily (dupl)

- 1 -

- 1 -
CONFIDENTIAL

4025

C. S. O. 17

ROUTING SLIP

To: C.C.A.O. _____
 D.C.C.A.O. _____
 D.C.S.O. _____
 MAJ. McDOUGALL _____
 LT. KRUPA _____
 MAJ. PEAREY _____
 LEGAL DIV. _____
 FINANCE DIV. _____
 CIV. SUPPLY DIV. _____
 PUB. HEALTH DIV. _____
 PUB. SAFETY DIV. _____
 Contr. PROPERTY _____
 FINE ARTS & MON. _____
 P. R. O. _____
 REGISTRY _____

10: C. S. O. ✓

Date: _____

*102 Completed as per 7th Army
 not interested in deceased
 civilians*

REMARKS

*① See #10 -
 ② Bring #14 15
 attention of proper
 w/7th A
 per to show
 compliance with 1.*

P.A. 30/6

785015

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Province of Palermo

16
MFN/ev

26 August 1943

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Chief Staff Officer, AMGOT Hq.



The attached correspondence pertains to a death occurring in Licata and should be transmitted to the S.C.A.O., Agrigento Province.

Charles Poletti

CHARLES POLETTI
Lt. Colonel, AUS
Senior Civil Affairs Officer.

Encl.

2

4024

785015

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
A. P. O. #758, U. S. Army

2270h
15

AG 704-Cas.

24 August 1943.

SUBJECT: Deceased Civilian.

TO : Commanding Officer, AMGOT, Palermo Province, Sicily.

1. Inclosed are papers pertaining to an Italian fisherman, deceased.
2. The body of this man was found by Naval personnel on 17 August 1943, floating two miles off shore from Licata, Sicily, in a badly deteriorated condition. The body was not picked up because of this fact.
3. This information is furnished so that the next of kin may be advised if identification can be determined.

For the Commanding General:

H. A. Engler
H. A. ENGLER,
2d Lt., A. G. D.,
Asst. Adjutant General.

1 Incl:
Papers of Italian Fisherman.

4023

CONFIDENTIAL

705015
14 27

CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICE

PROVINCE OF TRAPANI

13 Via Regina Margherita

TRAPANI (Sicily)

Aug. 24;1943



Subject: Burial of Dead

To : Chief Staff Officer, A.M.G. for Sicily, Palermo

I. Enclosed you will find for your information and files
a copy of a proclamation issued at our instance by the Prefect
of this province after receipt here of your letter of Aug. 7, 1943
on the above subject.

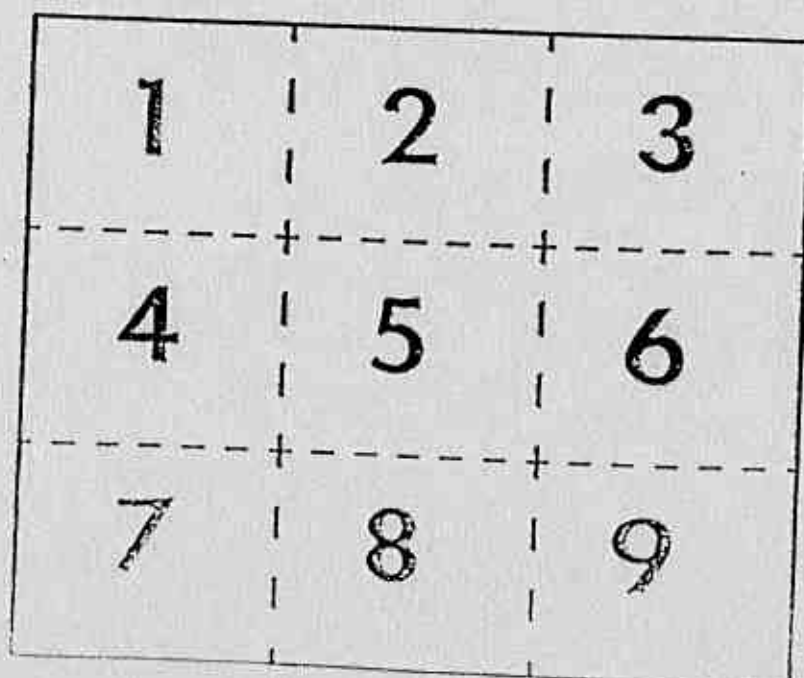
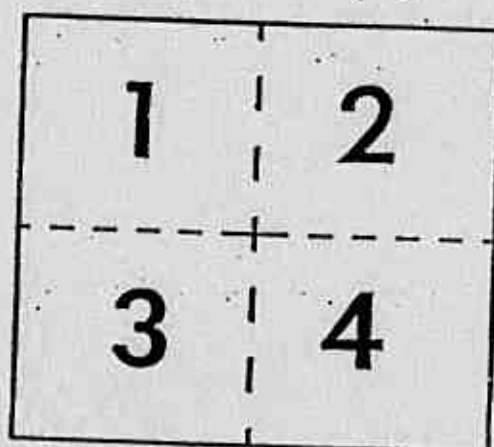
Floyd E. Thomas
Floyd E. Thomas, Lt., Col., Inf.,

S.C.A.O. for Trapani.

713
502 17
4022
NA

MAPS AND CHARTS TOO LARGE TO FILM
ON ONE EXPOSURE ARE FILMED CLOCKWISE
BEGINNING IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER,
LEFT TO RIGHT, AND TOP TO BOTTOM.

SEE DIAGRAMS BELOW.



PREFETTURA DI TR

Sepoltura salme caduti in g

Si ritiene opportuno ricordare ai Sindaci di P. S., Parroci, ecc. ed alle popolazioni l'importanza onorata sepoltura ai Caduti di guerra italiani, considerando che oltre ad essere un doveroso atto molto importante dal lato igienico-sanitario.

Si ordina pertanto che vengano immediatamente le Autorità locali della scoperta di qualsiasi salma venire sepolta a cura delle predette Autorità vicino al posto di rinvenimento. Sulla targa di sepoltura, dovranno venire posti in modo indelebile rinvenuti atti all'identificazione delle salme.

26 POLTURA DI TRAPANI

Poltura salme caduti in guerra

È opportuno ricordare ai Sindaci, alle Autorità locali, ecc. ed alle popolazioni l'importanza di imparare la poltura ai Caduti di guerra italo-tedeschi, come oltre ad essere un doveroso atto di omaggio, è anche dal lato igienico-sanitario.

Importante che vengano immediatamente avvertite le autorità locali della scoperta di qualsiasi salma che dovrà essere data in cura delle predette Autorità nel luogo più vicino al rinvenimento. Sulla targa soprastante alla salma devono venire posti in modo indelebile tutti i dati necessari all'identificazione delle salme. Copia dei dati

venire sepolta a cura delle predette Autorità vicino al posto di rinvenimento. Sulla targa sepolcrale, dovranno venire posti in modo indelebile i dati atti all'identificazione delle salme. Gli stessi, piastrino di riconoscimento, dovrà essere consegnato alle predette Autorità di occupazione.

Per quanto inoltre riguarda l'eventuale rinvenimento di salme appartenenti alle Forze armate di occupazione,

si rende noto

che a cura delle Autorità stesse, verranno corrisposti (cinquecento) a chiunque renda nota la località o la data di rinvenimento di una salma di militare appartenente a dette forze armate.

Trapani, 19 Agosto 1943.

**IL PREFETTO
AVV. PAOLO**

a cura delle predette Autorità nel luogo più
di rinvenimento. Sulla targa soprastante alla
anno venire posti in modo indelebile tutti i dati
all'identificazione delle salme. Copia dei dati
di riconoscimento, dovrà essere rimessa alle
occupazione.

inoltre riguarda l'eventuale rinvenimento di
enti alle Forze armate di occupazione

si rende noto

e Autorità stesse, verranno corrisposte L. 500
chiunque renda nota la località ove si trovi una
re appartenente a dette forze armate.

ni, 19 Agosto 1943.

**IL PREFETTO
AVV. PAOLO D'ANTONI**

785015

SUBJECT: Amendment to Letter

1584-7
11
AMM/355/11

AMMOT IN SICILY

25 August 1943

To: S.O.A.O. Agrigento
Calanissetta
Palermo
Trapani

Re such of Para. 4. of letter this H.Q., Subject, "Burial of Dead," dated 7th August 1943 which reads:

"Immediately upon hearing of any such locations you should notify the C.O. of the nearest tactical troops who will advise Graves Registration Service" is amended to read:

"Immediately upon hearing of any such locations notify 'Graves Registration Section, Office of the Quartermaster, Headquarters Seventh Army, A.P.O. 758, U.S. Army.'"

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

4020

785015

GRAVES REGISTRATION SECTION, OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER
HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
APO# 758 U.S. ARMY

MEMORANDUM

255/HQ

18 August 1943

SUBJECT: GRAVES REGISTRATION AND BURIALS

TO : A.M.G.O.T.

1. Request that you publish notices in all towns under your jurisdiction requesting the local police and public to report locations of all unburied military dead, both American, Allied and enemy, and all such isolated graves of which they have knowledge to your local offices.

2. Request that such reports, and any reports of future deaths of American Military personnel, with map coordinates if possible, be forwarded to this office. In cases where civilian personnel can act as guides to these sites, the names and addresses of such persons should also be forwarded.

M. J. De Korf
M. J. De Korf
Captain QMC
GRSO, 7th ARMY

Liaison 7 Army

Please see above and 1.

726 We will do everything that we can to assist but I think that we must first get the conflicting statements in 1 and 10 cleared up. Can you do this?

Report to him
re to Angel HQ

Action at 11 *G.B.* 21/8.

785015

GRAVES REGISTRATION SECTION, OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER
HEADQUARTERS SEVENTH ARMY
APO# 758 U.S. ARMY

10¹⁵

MEMORANDUM

18 August 1943

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M.J.De KORP
Captain QMC
GRSO, 7th ARMY

4018

785015

255
AMCOT/255/HQ

7 August 1943

Subject: Burial of Dead

To: S.C.A.O - Agrigento
Caltanissetta
Palermo
Trapani

1. The Commanding General 7th Army has advised the C.C.A.O. that in areas through which the 7th Army has operated reports indicate a number of unburied dead, American, Italian and German.

2. You are instructed to make provision for immediate burial of all Italian and German dead. This will be the responsibility of the local authorities. Instructions should be given that the dead be buried at the place nearest where they have fallen. One duplicate of the identification tag should be returned to you for forwarding to this HQ. The other should mark the grave.

3. At the request of the Commanding General 7th Army there is authorized the offer of a reward of 500 lire for the report of the location of each American dead. Instructions should go out through provincial and communal channels announcing this reward.

4. The reward should be paid by you to persons who furnish you with details as to the location of the American dead. You are authorized to make reward payments from AMCOT funds in your hands. Immediately upon hearing of any such locations you should notify the C.O. of the nearest tactical troops who will advise the Graves Registration Service.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD
Lt. Col., G.S.C.
Chief Staff Officer

4017

AMCOT HQ
15 Army Group

CMS/rl

PA 9/1/43

| 0 7 0 9 |