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MILITARY, AIR FORCES, FILE NO. 201.303
DEC. 1943, JAN. 1944

5 pp.

Air Sub Commission of the
Allied Control Commission.

Ref: ASC/4/AIR.

7th. Jan 1944

Excellency,

I have the honour to present my compliments to you on taking up my appointment as Head of the Air Sub Commission of the Allied Control Commission and to inform you of its organisation and function. I should be very grateful if you would pass the information to the departments of your Ministry.

The Allied Military Mission ceased to exist on the 10th November 1943 when the Allied Control Commission became effective by declaration of General Eisenhower. In the organisation of the Allied Control Commission there is a Military Section and under this section comes the Air Sub Commission. The chain of responsibility up to Allied Forces Headquarters is therefore defined.

The function of the Air Sub Commission is to control Policy, Planning, and organisation of the Regia Aeronautica through the Air Ministry staff in order that available air resources in Allied occupied territory, whether these resources are, air units, air material or air personnel, are employed most effectively for the defeat of Germany. The seat of the Air Sub Commission will be with the Italian Air Ministry, wherever the Ministry is located.

The provisional detached function of the Air Sub Commission is attached at Appendix 1 for information. This may be amended as circumstances determine. A list of the Allied officers of the Air Sub Commission and their principle functions is also attached at Appendix 11. This staff may be augmented, or varied as experience determines.

The Air Sub Commission will take up its duties on the 10th Jan 1944 and will take over from Air Commodore Foster his previous duties with the exception of the control of Italian Air Operations.

The Allied Controller of Italian Air Operations has a separate organisation and function. He and his staff will be responsible through the Allied Operational Commands to the Air Commander - in - Chief. He will have his location with the Air Command and any future location of himself and his staff will be determined by the Air Commander - in - Chief.

His function will be to control the execution of Air Operations and Air Transportation.

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His function will be to control the execution of Air Operations and Air Transportation.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient servant,

To :-

S.R. General D.A. Sandalli,
Italian Air Ministry.

G. BENTLEY DACKA

Air Commodore,
Head of Air Sub Commission.

Copies to: Vice President Military Section A.C.C. ✓

M.A.A.F. Advanced.

M.A.A.F. Rear.

Air Commodore Foster

APPENDIX 1.

Provisional Functions of the
Air Sub Commission of the
Allied Control Commission.

1. Organisation.
Planning of New Formations, units and schools from available resources.
Establishments.
2. Intelligence.
Collection, collation, and distribution of intelligence for M.A.A.F. from sources coming through the Italian Air Ministry. Technical Intelligence and material for M.A.A.F. and Air Ministry Whitehall and Washington, War History and Diary.
3. Ground Defence.
Policy, Organisation and provision from available resources.
4. Training.
Policy, organisation and control of Flying and Ground Training.
5. Telecommunication.
Planning and organisation of telecommunications for Italian Air Force.
Signal equipment allocation, production and repair.
Drafting and issue of signal instructions.
Signal security investigation.
Distribution of cyphers.
6. Meteorological Service.
Co-ordination of Italian meteorological services for M.A.A.F. and U.S.A.F.
Organisation.
7. Personnel.
Policy for employment of surplus Italian Air Force personnel and surplus employees of Air Factories.
Manning demands and supply.
Drafting to M.A.A.F. units or factories of Italian selected personnel.
Wage questions.
Liaison with Labour Board.
Control of senior appointments.
8. Supplies and Equipment.
Organisation of supplies for Italian Air Force.
Planning of equipment storage and distribution.
Salvage plans of available resources of equipment.
9. Servicing and Maintenance.
Organisation of Maintenance Units and Air Stores Parks, Repair and delivery of Italian Air Force equipment.
10. Production

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Policy, Organisation and provision from available resources.
4. Training.
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Salvage plans of available resources of equipment.
9. Servicing and Maintenance.
Organisation of Maintenance Units and Air Stores Parks. Repair and delivery of Italian Air Force equipment.
10. Production
Planning of production in existing or repairable factories for Allied uses.
Liaison with Factories Sub Commission.
11. Air Transport.
Planning for future requirements of Allied Air Transport requirements in Italy.
12. Public Relations.
Control and Censorship of Aeronautical Press and Publication
Publicity of Italian Air Effort.
Liaison with Public Relations Sub Commission.

APPENDIX II.

Allied Control Commission
Air Forces Sub Commission.

January 1944.

Nominal Roll of Staff.

Air Staff.

Air Commodore G.B.Dacre, O.B.E., D.S.O.; - Head of Air Sub
(R.A.F.) Commission.

Colonel A.V.Eliot. (U.S.A.A.F.)

- Deputy Head. Policy
and organisation
Telecommunications.

Group Captain R.H.G.Neville, O.B.E., M.C.; - Organisation.
(R.A.F.)

W/Cdr. W.L.Minter. (R.A.F.)

- Intelligence.

S/Ldr. P.deHaan. (R.A.F.)

- Intelligence.

Services.

W/Cdr. D.A.F.Sugden, O.B.E. (R.A.F.)

- Equipment organisation
and policy.

W/Cdr.

(R.A.F.)

- Maintenance policy
and organisation.

Miscellaneous Appointments.

S/Ldr R.H.Dexter. (R.A.F.)

- Personal Assistant
and Interpreter.

S/Ldr R.H.Paterson.

(R.A.F.)

- Unit administration,
Camp Commandant.

1067-1345-12/23

SECRET

From :- Headquarters,
Air Command Post.

To :- Headquarters,
Northwest African Air Forces.
(For attention Establishments Branch)

Date :- 16th December 1943.

Ref :- S.8554/Signals.

201. 303

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ESTABLISHMENT - ALLIED
CONTROL COMMISSION IN ITALY, AIR SECTION.

1. The development of the work of the Allied Control Commission in Italy has entailed responsibilities in the sphere of Air Force Signals which it is beyond the power of the personnel at present established to discharge effectively. It will be appreciated that the participation of the Italian Air Force in air operations constitutes one of the most exacting and important undertakings of any section of this Commission; and that the provision of communications essential for such operations is no easy task, involving as it does for obvious security reasons the setting up of an entirely new communications system.

2. Further, since the Control Commission has been charged with the control of all Italian Air Force communications equipment, one of the responsibilities of the Air Section Signals Staff is to supervise the disposal of the considerable stocks of signals equipment to be found in the central signals store at Bitonto. No personnel are at present available to carry out this duty, and it is felt that little use will be made by the Allied Air Forces of the resources at our disposal until personnel are provided.

3. It is requested that a Squadron Leader Technical Signals be added to the establishment of the Air Section (RAF Component) of the Allied Control Commission (LWS/WVA/2124) as assistant and deputy to the Wing Commander who is at present the sole Signals officer. It is inevitable that the work of the Commission should necessitate frequent visits being paid by the Signals Officer, principally to this Headquarters, but also to areas in occupied Italy. At the present time such visits have to be made at the expense of the general progress of the work, since there is no officer left behind to ensure continuity, and to advise the Senior Air Officer on Signals matters during the absence of the Wing Commander Signals. In addition to these general duties, the Squadron Leader, if appointed, will be made responsible for instituting a system of supervision and effective control of the Signals Equipment stores.

4. This application is made with the full knowledge and approval of the Senior Air Officer of the Allied Control Commission.

5. It is further requested that the following personnel be added for the purpose of exercising the necessary control over Signals equipment (compilation of records, supervision of issue procedures, etc.).

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4. This application is made with the full knowledge and approval of the Senior Air Officer of the Allied Control Commission.

5. It is further requested that the following personnel be added for the purpose of exercising the necessary control over Signals equipment (compilation of records, supervision of issue procedures, etc.). In view of the fact that these airmen will be required to supervise the activities of Italian Service personnel application is made for appropriate non-commissioned rank :-

- 1 Opl. - Wireless Operator.
- 1 Opl. - Equipment Assistant.

6. Shortly after the Air Section of the Commission commenced to function, a W/T channel was opened to communicate with Air Command Post and has continued to operate from that time, employing supernumerary personnel. Since this channel is a permanent requirement, it is requested that it be authorised as follows in the establishment :-

- 3 A.C's - Wireless Operator (one continuous W/T channel)
- 2 Sgts. - Clerk C.D. (Code and Cypher)

- 2 -

7. The average number of groups handled per day is approximately 2,500, all in cypher. Two Flying Officers A. & S.D. (C. & G.) are already borne on establishment, but one of these is employed for the greater part on Staff Duties in connection with the introduction of special Codes and Cyphers for the use of the Italian Air Force.

8. Application is not made for an N.C.O. to take charge of the W/T Section, since the Corporal Wireless Operator applied for in para. 5 above will be able to exercise the necessary supervision.

9. Finally, it is requested that establishment be authorized for one staff car for the use of the Signals Staff Officers and Signals Section. At the present time no car is available and, without establishment authority, one cannot be obtained either from Service sources or by requisitioning. The requirement will, it is believed, be readily admitted.

10. To summarize, application is made for the following to be added to Establishment LWE/NWA/2124 :-

PERSONNEL :

- 1 S/Ldr. Technical Signals.
- 2 Sgts. Clerk C.D. (C. & G.)
- 1 Cpl. 3 A.C.'s Wireless Operator.
- 1 Cpl. Equipment Assistant.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT :

- 1 Staff car (for use of Signals Staff Officers)

J.M. Britton
J.M. BRITTON, S/Ldr.,
for Air Chief Marshal,
Air Commander-in-Chief,
Mediterranean Air Command.

Copy to :-

Allied Control Commission in Italy (Air Section) /

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