

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No.

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AMG, REGION II
DEC. 1943

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FILMED AS FOUND
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SUBJECT:- Calabria - Military Police.

H.Q. A.M. G.,
15 Army Group,
C.M.F.

Lieut-Colonel Lord Middleton,
A.M.G. Liaison Officer,
No. 2 District.

AMG/6/

1st December 1943

While Calabria, which is part of Region 2, falls outside my administrative control, coming under that of A.M.G. Palermo, I think it may not be inappropriate, in view of your appointment to be A.M.G. Liaison Officer at No. 2 District, for me to raise through you with No. 2 District the question of Military Police in Calabria generally.

As you know, there is no British or American L.O.C. organization in this area, but nevertheless large numbers of British and American trucks and troops pass through on their way from here to the North. With this transit of troops there are the inevitable breakdowns and stragglers. There is no machinery for dealing with these stragglers, who are frequently short of rations, and cannot be shepherded along their road.

Moreover, certain of the larger inhabited centres like Cosenza, which in itself is somewhat of a problem politically, become somewhat of an attraction to troops in transit. A number of incidents have occurred with which there is no military authority to deal. It is in practice impossible to enforce either curfew, bounds, or accommodation regulations. From what I have heard I am sure that the H.Q.A.G. Region 2, Matera would substantiate my feeling that there is a good case for a detachment of American and British C.M.F. to be stationed at Cosenza with transport to carry out road patrols and to enforce military discipline in the larger centres.

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/ECH.

Major General,
Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

