

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

785015

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10000/100/1071

WAR DAMAGE
OCT. 1943 - JAN. 1944

12 pp.

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FILMED AS FOUND
IN COLLECTION

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Equal to SECRET

29 JAN 1944
643 OVR 8 U

13

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

ATA/GLB/as

MOB-600.914

15 January 1944

SUBJECT: Industrial Destruction in Naples.

TO : HQ AMG, APO 394
Central Economic Committee
HQ ACC, APO 394
HQ AMG, Allied Forces in Italy

12

1. Forwarded for your information is copy of a report on German industrial destruction in Naples, prepared by J.I.C.A., this Headquarters.

2. Request acknowledgement of receipt on form below.

Handwritten signature
A. T. MAXWELL
Colonel
Acting Chief

1 Incl:
as above

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Handwritten notes:
WMD
24/1
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6

U.S. SECRET 12/1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION W.D.C.S.

Military Attache Report Italy

Subject: Industrial Destruction in Naples I.G. No. 403

From: JICANA Report No. 6523 Date 10 January 1944

Source and degree of reliability:

Mr. Tholand, Special Representative of Foreign Economic Administration; Mr. Owens of Economic Warfare Analysis Section, Office of Economic Warfare, Foreign Economic Administration.

Mr. Tholand of F.E.A. reports that the Germans, as they retreat in Italy, are concentrating on vital parts of public utilities. They used Naples as a school to study techniques of demolition. In Naples they also damaged manufacturing plants and transportation facilities. Power stations in German occupied Italy are said to be mined. Bombings of industrial plants in Naples failed in many instances to destroy the machinery beyond repair, even though the buildings collapsed.

Mr. Owens of N.A.E.B. emphasizes the importance of protecting machinery in bombed plants from the weather as quickly as possible, if it is to be salvaged. The kind of equipment necessary to salvage industrial plants in the wake of occupying forces is listed.

PUGH NO.

JICAC NO.

A

N

AAP

OSS

SIGNATURE

717

JICAC; NGS-Cen Holmes; Chief Intelligence Officer,
MAAF, Rear HQ; Cdr Moran, NIU; CEW, London; CEW,
Cairo, Mr. Schwinn (by EWAS); G-2 AFHQ

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PUGH NO. _____

JIARC NO. _____

A _____

N _____

AAF _____

OSS _____

SIGNATURE _____

717

JIARC; MOS-Cen Holmes; Chief Intelligence Officer,
MAAF, Rear HQ; Cdr Horan, NIU; CEW, London; OEW,
Gairo, Mr. Schwin (by EMAS); G-2 AFHQ

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Kuala Lumpur SECRET

Subject: Industrial Destruction in Naples.

I.C. No. 403

JICANA Report No. 6523

10 January 1944

Country Reported on: Italy:

1. Mr. Tholand recently accompanied Mr. Adlai Stevenson, Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy, on a special tour of inspection of Sicily and Italy for the Foreign Economic Administration. He had occasion to inspect a number of damaged industrial plants in Italy, and to talk with many persons who had to do with the re-commissioning of Italian industry. Mr. Owens of Economic Warfare Analysis Section, Office of Economic Warfare, Foreign Economic Administration, has based his comments on numerous reports received from Italy through various sources.

2. Mr. Tholand's Report:

a. The Germans are concentrating on vital parts of the "public utilities", such as central telephone exchanges, generating sets in power stations, pumps and dams for water power stations, gas tanks and coke ovens in gas plants.

b. The demolition is accomplished by careful study for which Naples was doubtless a school. They are said to have had four thousand engineers and sappers for thirty days in the Naples area.

c. In addition to the "public utilities", they go carefully through individual manufacturing plants which can be expected either to be of use for war production or to give employment to large masses of people. In such plants they concentrate firstly on the power units such as boilers or generating or transformer units; secondly on internal transportation facilities such as cranes and supporting crane tracks. Finally they place individual small charges in electric motors attached to machines or gear boxes which are part of some machine.

d. On transportation in the Naples area, they took most of the busses and usable equipment with them and appear to have run along the overhead wire lines with some heavy tractor, pulling down the wire supports here and there along the routes.

e. Railroad yards, of course, were destroyed by blowing most of the switches.

f. Shortly, a careful study is made of any vulnerable points and the same is blown. 16

g. Rumors from non-occupied Italy to various Italians who own or manage various facilities north of our line indicate that power stations as well as individual manufacturing plants are now being mined and probably will be blown as the Germans retire.

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2. Mr. Inland's Report:

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- b. The demolition is accomplished by careful study for which Naples was doubtless a school. They are said to have had four thousand engineers and sappers for thirty days in the Naples area.
- c. In addition to the "public utilities", they go carefully through individual manufacturing plants which can be expected either to be of use for war production or to give employment to large masses of people. In such plants they concentrate firstly on the power units such as boilers or generating or transformer units; secondly on internal transportation facilities such as cranes and supporting crane tracks. Finally they place individual small charges in electric motors attached to machines or gear boxes which are part of some machine.
- d. On transportation in the Naples area, they took most of the busses and usable equipment with them and appear to have run along the overhead wire lines with some heavy tractor, pulling down the wire supports here and there along the routes.
- e. Railroad yards, or course, were destroyed by blowing most of the switches.
- f. Shortly, a careful study is made of any vulnerable points and the same is blown.
- g. Rumors from non-occupied Italy to various Italians who own or manage various facilities north of our line indicate the power stations as well as individual manufacturing plants are now being mined and probably will be blown as the Germans retire.
- h. From the above it may be seen that the Germans demolished primarily the vital machinery. They are in many instances less concerned with demolishing buildings unless their superstructure is such that their collapse will complete the underlying destruction. Thus, for instance, where a strong reinforced concrete roof overlays machinery, they will collapse the roof in large chunks which are difficult indeed to remove.
- i. Our own bombing of individual plants appears to have the following effect when medium sized bombs are being used. Building structures and large surfaces will collapse under the secondary reaction from the explosion. The underlying machinery, however, particularly when sturdily built, will remain fairly well intact.

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Regard British Secret

j. The collapse of the overlaying structures would in many instances prevent the Germans from going in and demolishing the individual machinery. Thus one can expect to find machinery best preserved in factories which we have bombed. Their exposure to wind and weather, however, rapidly deteriorates them unless something is done to protect them as soon as we occupy territory.

3. Additional comments by Mr. Owens:

715

a. The most important factor in salvage of equipment is that as soon as possible machinery be cleared of debris and protected from the weather. In too many cases machine installations have been removed from their anchorage and junked in order that the building may be used for housing. Engineers should conduct a survey as soon as possible to ascertain the possibilities of restoring factories to operation.

b. The following equipment should be brought along in the wake of occupying forces:

(1) Completely equipped central telephone exchanges. (These are always blown up by the Germans, but the wire system and telephones are usually intact).

(2) Cranes and other heavy clearing equipment, such as bulldozers. (These are needed for clearing debris, especially reinforced concrete roofs which have sagged).

(3) Cutting and welding equipment.

(4) Pumps, and joints for water and gas systems.

(5) Caulking material for gas mains.

(6) Switches for restoration of rail traffic.

PREPARED BY: DAVID ROCKEFELLER
1st Lt., C.E.

BYRON H. SWITZER
Colonel, A.C.
Chief, JICA, AFHQ

SECRET

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PREPARED BY: DAVID ROCKEFELLER
1st Lt., C.E.

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Colonel, A.C.
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Nuclear British SECRET

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SUBJECT: Damage to Property.

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

TO: S.C.A.O. 8 Army (2)

AMG/29/10.
22. Dec. 43.

Forwarded herewith for necessary action are copies of
correspondence concerning British property at LANCIANO. Please
forward a brief report on the condition of the flat and its
contents.

R.J.P. THORNE THORNE
Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

/RAC.

Copies: 4-17, Dlt Sub-Cn, Bari

714

29 *de*
21 DEC 1943

B12:

To A.M.G. 15th Army Group

From Major Th. Brown. I.&.D.P. Sub Commission - Bari

Subject: Property of a British Subject at Lanciano.

Enclosed is a memo from Mr Dente, a British Subject, at present employed in my office. It would be much appreciated if the C.A.O. Lanciano could be notified of the existence of this British property in case anything could be salvaged for Mr Dente.

Bari
15/12/1943

Th. Brown Major 713
Intell. Corps
G.3. I.&.D.P. Sub Commission

see 10

15-12-43

8

Déclaration that I got from some internées come from Lanciano two days ago:

On Friday December 3rd 1943 (day when the British troops entered) at 12 o'clock a.m. we called at Viale Rimembranza N° 7 at Lanciano in a flat hired by Mr LEON DENTE to see whether the said flat had been damaged by the previous nights bombing. The keys of the flat had been provided to us by Mr Alexander Acciavatti, a neighbour and friend of Mr Dente.=

The entire flat, with the exception of some of the windows which had been blown in by the explosions, was in perfect condition as far as furniture and everything in it contained.

Four hours after, and precisely at 4 p.m., we returned to the said flat and found it open and full of British soldiers who had removed the bed mattresses and springs, which they had lain down for their accomodation in the adjoining flat belonging to Mr Acciavatti. The place was found broken and ramsacked. Of course it is not possible to state who did that.

785015

TELEGRAM CUT

TO: FREEDOM FOR MEX

FROM: FILPOT FROM AMG

Orig. No. FA 435

9 Dec

Paraphrase of signal from HUME (.) Begins (.) On 8 Dec
NAPLES city gas system repaired under AMG supervision after
destruction by Germans will resume service (.) Message ends

If this message is liable to be
intercepted it should be sent
in CIPHER

PRIORITY.....

.....Lt.Col.

TOD :
THI :
TOR :

711

PAGE
1

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RESTRICTED

29 7 DEC 1943
US CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

6
FOLIO 02587
6 DEC 43.

FROM: PENCE (HUME AMG REGION THREE)
TO: C.G. 15TH ARMY GROUP FOR AMG TO EISENHOWER FOR
AMG
ORIG NO: PBS1861

T00: 1350A/06
T0R: 2021A/06

GAS SYSTEM OF CITY OF NAPLES DESTROYED BY GERMANS BEFORE LEAVING CITY
HAS BEEN REPAIRED UNDER ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION.
ON 8TH DECEMBER WILL RESUME SERVICE.

719

AMGOT

4 ACTION

SMC. 2130A/06
T.T. 2136A/06 JJ

0387

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SECRET

IMPORTANT
CIPHER MESSAGE

FOLIO NO: 01508
DATE NIL

FROM: FREEDOM SIGNED C IN C
TO: 15 ARMY GROUP
REF: 5 ARMY PAYING
ORIG NO: 5054 CITE PHOTO

TO: NIL
TH: NIL
TR: 0212A/10

IN VIEW REPORTS RECEIVED FROM AMGT AND FIVE ARMY COMMISSION PROPOSED
OUR 1928 OF 1 OCTOBER NOT REQUIRED.

NA TO: 000 IN C
PA TO: 068
B (OPS)
CIBOT

ACTION

SMO 0158A/10
ST 0830A/10
JH

709

PAL

785015

SECRET
*****EMERGENCY OPS
CIPHER MESSAGE
INFOLIO 00853
6 OCT 45.FROM: FIFTH ARMY
TO: C IN C AFHQ
ORIG NO: 575

ACTION INFO 590 15 H ARMY GROUP

TO: 1015A
TH: WIL
TOR: 1223A/06

FOLLOWING IS REPORT SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION PROPERTY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES BY ENEMY IN NAPLES REQUESTED YOUR ONE NINE TWO SIX.

FIRST. DEMOLITION AT SEVEN POINTS OF AQUEDUCT CARRYING WATER TO CITY THEREBY CAUSING CRITICAL WATER SHORTAGE AND ACUTE SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROBLEM. ALL THE INHABITANTS OF NAPLES ARE WITHOUT WATER IN THEIR HOMES EXCEPT FOR MEAGER RATIONED SUPPLY WHICH MUST BE CARRIED BY INDIVIDUALS IN BOTTLES AND OTHER RECEPTACLES. THERE IS NO WATER AVAILABLE FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL THUS CREATING PERIL OF SEVERE EPIDEMICS OF TYPHOID FEVER/DYSENTERY ETC.

SECOND. DEMOLITION OF POWER PLANTS NOT ALREADY BOMBED OUT LEAVES CITY WITHOUT LIGHT OR POWER NECESSARY FOR ESSENTIAL PUMPING PLANTS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES. LACK OF NECESSARY POWER MAKES OPERATION OF FLOUR MILLS IMPOSSIBLE THUS DEPRIVING THE POPULATION OF THE BASIC ELEMENT OF THEIR DIET.

THIRD. DEMOLITION OF MAIN CITY TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.

FOURTH. BURNING OF PRINCIPLE HOTELS.

FIFTH. REMOVAL OF PRACTICALLY ALL MOTOR TRANSPORTATION ESSENTIAL FOR OPERATION OF CITY UTILITIES SUCH AS GARBAGE REMOVAL. ENEMY AND SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

SIXTH. UNINVESTIGATED REPORTS OF ACTS OF VIOLENCE ON INDIVIDUALS.

SEVENTH. NAPLES PRISONS OPENED SUPPOSEDLY BY ENEMY ACTION AND NOTORIUS CRIMINALS FREED.

ALL OF THESE ACTS EXCEPT SIXTH AND SEVENTH COULD BE PARTLY JUSTIFIED BY GERMAN NEED OF TRANSPORTATION OR BY IMPERATIVE MILITARY NECESSITY OF HAMPERING USE OF NAPLES AS A BASE SIMILAR TO SYSTEMATIC SINKING OF SHIPS ALONGSIDE QUAYS AND DEMOLITION OF BULK PETROL STORAGE AND RAILWAY FACILITIES. SUPPLEMENTING DAMAGE ALREADY DONE BY ALLIED BOMBING. OFFICES FOR PROPOSED MISSION CAN BE FURNISHED IF DESIRED.

MA TO G O C IN C 2 ACTION
SA TO C IN C 1

708

BY ENEMY IN NAPLES REQUESTED YOUR ONE NINE TWO SIX.
FIRST. DEMOLITION AT SEVEN POINTS OF AQUEDUCT CARRYING WATER TO
CITY THEREBY CAUSING CRITICAL WATER SHORTAGE AND ACUTE
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BOMBING. OFFICES FOR PROPOSED MISSION CAN BE FURNISHED IF DESIRED.

MA TO G O C IN C	2	ACTION
PA TO G O C S	1	
G OPS	4	
AMGOT	4	
OPS CENTRE	1	
CAPT GREEN OPS	2	

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

SMS. 13.51.13
A.T. 13.51.13

Copy
In an army. 1942
8/10.

10/3

Col. Pierre Shaw.

To from G(OPS) that pursuant to
head at Naples where NATO is
collecting evidence, there has been enough
distinction and atrocities not
warranted of military necessity to
justify the appointment of such a
Commission. AFHQ should be
informed adding that there is
however not enough material to
submit a report - though material is
being collected.

6/10 *[Signature]*

707

Report received from 5th Army. CDR. report
awaiting report.

[Signature]
6/10

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From: HQ 15 ARMY GROUP

To : 5 Army.

Info.: General MACFARLANE (PATINA)

O-1223

Request report as directed in A-HQ Signal 1226 Cite AMOT of 1 Oct.
be signalled direct AMHQ copy this HQ.

Internal Distribution:

HA to GOCinG.

PA to CGS.

AMOT.

(Sgd) D. A. C. J. R. H. M., Lt. Col. IMMEDIATE.

C. H. H.

To 2u 8 x 9 M.

5/4.

J. L. 5246

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785015

COPY.

MOST SECRET

EMERGENCY OPS
CIPHER MESSAGE IN.

FOLIO 02279.
1 Oct 43.

FROM: SIGNED CINC CITE FHGCT
TO: ACTION AND ACK 15th ARMY GROUP RPTD FIVE ARMY FATIMA FOR
INFORMATION GENERAL MACFARLANE.

Orig NO. 1926.

TOO 1854A/01
THI NIL
TOR 1854A/01

REQUEST REPORT EARLIEST WHETHER THERE HAS BEEN SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION
PROPERTY AND PUBLIC UTILITIES BY ENEMY DIRECTED AGAINST CIVIL POPULATION
OF NAPLES AND WHICH COULD NOT BE JUSTIFIED BY IMPERATIVE MILITARY
NECESSITY.

IF YOUR REPORT INDICATES UNWARRANTED DESTRUCTION AND ATROCITIES IT IS
PROPOSED THAT SMALL COMMISSION BE APPOINTED TO MAKE IMMEDIATE SURVEY
AND FORMALLY RECORD EVIDENCE. OBJECTS FIRST OBTAIN PROPAGANDA MATERIAL
SECOND SUPPORT ANY COUNTER ACTION DEEMED NECESSARY. SUGGESTED COMPOSITION
MISSION ONE BRITISH AND ONE U.S. SENIOR OFFICER, REPRESENTATIVE AMGOT.
CONFIRM YOU CAN FURNISH THESE OFFICERS IF REQUIRED. PROPOSE ADD ITALIAN
REPRESENTATIVE TO BE NOMINATED BY GOVERNMENT.

MA TO GOC IN C 1
PA TO CGS 1
G OPS 4 ACTION
AMGOT (FOR GENERAL LORD RENNEL) 1.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.

SMC 2252A/01
T.T. 2315A/01 JFJ.

G(Ops) replying and saying Amgot Officer would be available
at ~~Palermo~~ to sit on commission if necessary.

Nayler.

R. J. T. THORNE THORNE Col

2 Oct 43.

0 3 7 3 |