

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

785015

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36pp

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COMMUNICATIONS BOARD, ITALY
NOV. 1943-JAN. 1944

36pp.

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785015

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IN COLLECTION

631. 26 JAN 1944

SECRET

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF
THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD (ITALY)
HELD AT 1030 HRS 14 JAN '44.

Present:

Chairman: Brig. R.F.H. Nelder

CSO 15 Army Group

Members:

Col. W.C. Buchanan

CSO 1 of C (ITALY)

Col. C.D. Clapp

CSO No 2 District

Col. W.H. Lloyd

CSO No 3 District

Lt. Col. McCleary

ANG 15 Army Group

Lt. Col. H.T. Miller

Allied Control Commission

Lt. Col. Thomas

MAAF

Lt. Col. J.E. Young

MAAF

Major Fleming

Military Mission to Italian Army

Dr. M. Pano

Under Secretary of State

Col. Sergio Rosani

Ministry of Communications

Lt. Col. Barbere

General Inspector of Ministry of Communications

Secretary: Major F.V.G. Buchanan

15 Army Group

86.

The minutes of the third meeting of the Board were read and approved subject to the following amendments:

Minute 79. On the request of Dr. Pano, a further explanation of this minute was given by Lt. Col. Young who added that the matter had now been satisfactorily dealt with.

Minute 80. Between "State and "Employees" insert "and concessionary company".

Minute 81. The following additional sentence will be added:-

"Dr. Pano stated that since these workers are distributed in small groups in the various localities, use may be made of them, even though transport is not available."

Minute 86. This minute is incorrect since Dr. Pano is quoted as having said that all stores are in effect owned by the Ministry of Communications whereas they are actually the property of the various ministries. This minute is cancelled.

Policy Governing Control of Communications (Appendix "A" to Minutes of Second Meeting).

CONTROL OF CIVILIAN TELEPHONE EMPLOYEES

Sub-para 5(a) The Chairman announced that certain proposals

Major Planning
Dr. M. Pano
Col. Sirgila Rosani
Lt. Col. Barbers
Under Secretary of State.
Ministry of Communications
General Inspector of Ministry
of Communications
Chief of the Communications
Board, Comando Supremo

Secretary: Major P. J. G. Buchanan 15 Army Group

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CONTROL OF CIVILIAN TELEPHONE EMPLOYEES

89. Sub-para 5(a) The Chairman announced that certain proposals concerning the control of civilian telephone employees had been put forward by Dr. Pano. These proposals were discussed by the Board and it was confirmed that the present arrangement is working satisfactorily and that only in exceptional circumstances are orders given direct to the employees. It was not considered advisable to restrict the powers of the GSO's.

90. Dr. Pano said that the particular point which he had in mind was the present arrangement at BRINDISI whereby the Signal Officer does give orders to employees of the SAT.

91. Col. Clapp stated that this was due to the small SAT staff in BRINDISI and that it was necessary to give orders direct to the employees in this case to ensure that Allied requirements were given the necessary priority. He agreed with Lt Col MILLAR that this matter could be settled conveniently outside the Board.

92. It was agreed that this paragraph will not be amended.

CONTROL OF CIVILIAN TELEPHONE EMPLOYEES Para 5(c)

93. It was agreed that as for para 5(a) no amendment is necessary.

CONTROL OF STORES Para 5(e)

94. The Chairman stated that the stores referred to in this para are primarily line stores, and asked if anyone had any objection to the proposal that Dr FANO should control all such stores.

95. Lt Col MILLER stated that the Telecommunications Board had representatives from all Italian Ministries and that, in view of the fact that the Germans stripped the CIRCOLO della COSTRUZIONE of all line stores but left Army and Navy stores reasonably intact, he felt that the only satisfactory solution is to pool all stores and place them under one control. Lt Col MILLER also suggested that this matter could be investigated by a sub-committee which would advise the Board on the best method for implementing the scheme.

96. Col CLAPP said that he had already discussed this matter with the ACC and it was considered that Dr FANO should look after all stores and keep CSO 15 Army Group informed as to the exact state of all major items. Stores would be released against projects in the same way as for Allied stores.

97. Major FLEMING suggested the formation of a common signal park or parks under the control of Dr FANO, since, at present, stores are held in various quantities at widely dispersed points, some of which are very inconvenient.

98. Dr FANO then stated that when release orders are issued, the area in which the stores are required should be quoted to enable him to say from which park the stores will be made available. He agreed to obtain and submit to CSO 15 Army Group a complete list of stores held by the Italian Army, Navy and Air Force together with information which will show the use of particular items.

99. The Chairman stated that the proposal that Dr FANO should control all stores is accepted in principle and that its implementation will be subject to detailed investigation.

100. Dr FANO approved the summary of his proposals regarding the channels of demand. The Board then discussed the proposals in detail and decided that there should be a division between requests made by units under the operational control of Allied Services and those which come directly under control of the Italian Government.

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101. The Board agreed to amend para 6 to read as follows:

- (a) Demands by the Italian Government and such portions of the Italian naval, military and air forces as are under direct Allied operational command will be sponsored respectively by the Allied Control Commission, the appropriate representative of C in C Mediterranean Command, the MHA and the appropriate representative of MAAR. The demands will then be forwarded by the representative concerned to the responsible providing authority of the Allied Services.
- (b) Any other demands from Italian Forces not under Allied operational command will be forwarded through the Telecommunications Office of the Commando Supremo who will co-ordinate and pass to ACC for submission to the providing authority of the Allied Services.

DEMANDS FOR TRANSPORT BY ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

Ref Minutes 38,39 and 40

102. Col MILLER stated that the original demand was intended to cover the whole area including King's Italy, CALABRIA and SICILY, and said that the three vehicles mentioned in Capt STONE's letter represented the immediate requirement in CALABRIA for construction and maintenance of lines.

103. Dr FANO said that, in SICILY at the present time, the Allied Forces are carrying out maintenance on all routes but when this area is returned to the control of the Italian Government and the Italians take over the maintenance of lines, transport will be required.

104. The Chairman asked what arrangements had already been made to obtain these vehicles by requisitioning civilian transport. In reply Lt Col MILLER said that only 40 had been obtained in this way in CALABRIA and they are all in use for such purposes as road repairs and transportation of food supplies.

105. It was agreed that CSO 15 Army Group would prepare a case for obtaining the necessary transport and submit it through the correct channels.

REQUISITION OF CIVILIAN FBX'S

106. The Chairman stated that the Allied Forces require 30 magnetotype switchboards for operational purposes and proposed that these should be obtained from civilian offices and hotels. He told Dr FANO that his assistance in obtaining these switchboards would be greatly appreciated. Dr FANO agreed to prepare a list for submission to CSO 15 Army Group, showing the types and locations.

107. It was agreed that before the switchboards are recovered from any of these offices, the matter will be referred to the CSO of the area concerned.

108. Lt Col YOUNG requested permission to remove the MANFREDONIA civil switchboard from its present location to a more convenient point in the town, and to use it as an Allied Air Force locality switchboard. The present location would be unsuitable for this purpose and the switchboard at present serves a few civilians.

109. Col BUCHANAN and Col CLAPP both objected to this proposal, and, after further discussion the Board agreed that the switchboard would not be removed.

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OTHER BUSINESS

110. Col BUCHANAN asked ACC to prepare and submit an outline plan of the communications which they consider necessary for the Government of the country. In order that, consolidated plans for future construction may be prepared. In the past all services have submitted their estimated requirements for communications but ACC have merely demanded circuits as they were required. In view of the fact that line planning must be carried out well in advance in order that stores may be ordered and shipped, it is necessary to know the full estimated circuit requirements on each route at the earliest possible date.

111. Lt Col MILLAR explained that estimated circuit requirements for the whole of occupied Italy had not been submitted since the ACC had the whole of control is limited to King's Italy, but he agreed to have a scheme prepared assuming that ACC is in control of the whole area.

NOTES

- (1) The time and date of the next meeting will be announced later.
- (2) Matters for discussion at the next meeting must be submitted early, since a clear week is necessary for the preparation and distribution of the agenda.

Handwritten signature
 Secretary
 Communications Board ITALY.

Distribution:

CSO 15 Army Group	1
DCSO 15 Army Group	2
C.A.FSO (CIC) M.A.F. } c/o No. 11 Signal	3
Lt Col Thomas } Centre. R.A.F. C/P	4
Lt Col Young	5
CSO L of C ITALY	6
CSO No 2 District	7
CSO No 3 District	8
Lt Col McCleary	9
Lt Col Miller	10
Dr H. Fero	11
Col Sirzio Rosani	12
Lt Col Barbera	13
Major Fleming Military Mission to Italian Army	14
CSO AFH	15
CSO Eighth Army	16
Signal Officer Fifth Army	17
War Diary	18 - 19
File	20
Spare	21 - 30

11 JAN 1944

AGENDA FOR THE FOURTH MEETING
OF THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD (ITALY)

CONFIDENTIAL

27

The Board will meet in HQ No 2 District at 1030 hrs 14 Jan '44.

1. Minutes of the Third Meeting and matters arising therefrom.

(a) Minute No 79 Explanation Dr. Pano has requested a further explanation of this minute.

(b) Minute No 80 Amendment Between "State" and "Employees" insert "and Concessionary Company."

(c) Minute No 81 Addendum Add new sentence. "Dr. Pano stated that since these workers are distributed in small groups in the various localities, use may be made of them, even though transport is not available.

(d) Minute No 86 This minute is cancelled.

Policy Governing Control of Communications (Appendix "A" to Minutes of Second Meeting)

2. Control of Civilian Telephone Employees

Sub Para 5(a) The following proposal has been received from Dr. Pano:

"It should be made clear that the CSO's will be entitled to issue requests for specified work but not to give direct instructions to the personnel, both of the State and of the C.I.s, for the reason that such action would hamper the general service and would diminish the actual amount of work the whole personnel is apt to do".

Sub Para 5(c) The following proposal has been received from Dr. Pano:

"It should be made clear that the CSO's will be entitled to issue requests for specified work but not to give direct instructions to the personnel, both of the State and of the C.I.s, for the reason that such action would hamper the general service and would diminish the actual amount of work the whole personnel is apt to do".

3. Control of Stores

Sub Para 5(e) The following proposal has been received from Dr. Pano:

(a) "All major requests of materials to whatever Military or State stores, should be forwarded to the Ministry of Communications, which, through the Telecommunications office of the Comando Supremo, would say how the material should be requested without stating that store is to issue it."

(b) "Urgent and small requests might be forwarded directly to the Military Ministries through the Military Missions with the agreement that any distribution of telecommunications should be through the Telecommunications office of the

Policy Governing Control of Communications (Appendix "A" to Minutes of Second Meeting)

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(d) "Urgent and small requests might be forwarded directly to the Military Ministries through the Military Missions with the agreement that any distribution of equipment will be immediately notified to the Telecommunications office of the Comando Supremo c/o Communications Ministry".

The following proposal has been received from Capt. Stone, USN, AGC.

(a) "As regards the control of stores, it is felt that one authority only should co-ordinate the details of stores, as difficulty is experienced in obtaining data from a number of War Depts., (by each of which the question of telecommunications stores must be of relatively insignificant importance), as well as from the Ministry of Communications Stores. The CSO, No 2 District for instance, must appreciate the difficulty."

(b) Before the Allied invasion the allocation of material, etc., was controlled by a Telecommunications Board on which each of the War Ministries as well as the Minister of Communications was represented. This Board still exists.

X/ Next meeting not before 28 Jan
Ams points to data to be submitted 14 Jan

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- 2 -

(c) It is assumed that the C in C Mediterranean and the MAF or their representatives do not use material for Telecommunications except as allocated by 15 Army Group, though the minutes are not absolutely definite in this respect. The only stores function required of any other authority is thus one of co-ordination and not control. Accordingly, the Allied, Naval and Air Force authorities could have little objection to a centralized co-ordinated office which would most appropriately be that of the Under Secretary for Telecommunications. The existence of the Telecommunications Board, representing all Italian interests should make the co-ordination simple.

(d) Each demand or a copy of it could be passed through the office of the Under Secretary for Telecommunications, where the recorded figures for the store concerned could be adjusted (approx).

(e) From another standpoint, it would appear that some pooling of stores is required. It is surely not intended that Italian Army, Navy and Air Force stores should be left invariably in their own depots. This would mean that a surplus of TALLINO level stores left after use in MAF must be returned for the sake of bookkeeping to TALLINO. It seems reasonable, therefore, to form a common pool, so each depot would naturally be in possession of storekeepers on the branch of the service concerned. The financial effect of this arrangement is unimportant since, in Great Britain for instance, debts between ministries have been cancelled for the duration.

(f) If this were arranged, there would be no theoretical question as to which service was in control of the stores, as they would be considered as a central pool.

4. Part 6 Channel of Demand

A proposal has been received from Dr. Fanf which is summarized as follows:

(a) When demands from the Italian armed forces for trunk circuits, have been answered by the appropriate Allied representative or mission, they will be passed through the Telecommunications office, Command Supreme, who will co-ordinate all demands and assess the relative priority.

(b) Demands for local circuits will be co-ordinated directly with the Allied representative or mission concerned.

The following comment has been received from Capt. Stone, USN, AGC.

"Dr. Fanf's point is, it is thought, that, if circuits are not going to be allocated for the use of each Italian armed service by one controlling authority such as 15 Army Group, they should be allocated by the Government controlling authority - namely the Italian Telecommunications Board. This seems a reasonable argument, but it is presumed that, in fact, the 15 Army Group does control the allocation of circuits in the cable (Minute No 7)".

NOTE: The particular point in question is the allocation of six pairs in the State Underground Cable between REGIO and CASTROVILLARI to ALIA. Eight pairs are reserved by means of rubber covered cable.

required. It is surely not intended that Italian Army, Navy and Air Force stores should be left invariably in their own hands. This would mean that a surplus of TAPASIO Naval stores left after use in EMRI must be returned for the sake of bookkeeping to TAPASIO. It seems reasonable, therefore, to form a common pool, so each depot would naturally be in possession of stockholders on the branch of the service concerned. The financial effect of this arrangement is unimportant since, in Great Britain for instance, debts between ministries have been cancelled for the duration.

(2) If this were arranged, there would be no theoretical question as to which service were in control of the stores, as they would be considered as a central pool.

4. Para 6 Channel of Demand

A proposal has been received from Dr. Fano which is summarized as follows:

(a) When demands from the Italian armed forces for trunk circuits, have been sponsored by the appropriate Allied representative or mission, they will be passed through the Telecommunications office, Comando Supremo, who will co-ordinate all demands and assess the relative priority.

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NOTE: The particular point in question is the allocation of six pairs in the State Underground Cable between REGGIO and CASTROVILLAPI to AIA. Eight pairs in this section have been temporarily required by means of rubber covered cable, two pairs were required by the Allied Air Force and the remaining six pairs were placed at the disposal of AIA in the absence of any other demands.

5. Request from the Italian Government for Transport (Ref Minutes 36, 39 and 40)

The following statement has been submitted by Dr. Fano:

"It is pointed out that the requests for transport made by the Italian Government, was studied in detail, considering that absolutely no transport is available of the Italian Forces, and limited to essential services with the main purpose of guaranteeing:

- (a) The possibility of the construction and maintenance crews (Circoli delle Costruzioni) organising an efficient maintenance of the telegraph and telephone circuits in their districts;
- (b) Ditto for the Concessionary Companies;

(c) The possibility of furnishing the "Circoli dello Costruzioni" with a proportionate number of motor transports to face possible major and important rehabilitation works;

(d) The possibility of carrying on the essential postal services in the main towns.

Therefore, it is advisable to request the Board of Communications that the President would kindly take action in support of the request such as brought up with Minute 40.

The following statement has been submitted by Capt. Stone, USN, ACC.

(a) "It has not been found possible to obtain transport either in King's Italy or in Region II. Attempts are being made to obtain it from SICILY, but as it is in use to distribute food supplies to the population, it is unlikely that any vehicles will be released immediately. The matter is being fully investigated however.

(b) Communications in LUSITANIA and CALABRIA are very poor, and this greatly increases the difficulty of the work of the Regional Civil Affairs Officer in Region II.

(c) Accordingly, in view of Minute No 40, it is urged that two heavy vehicles and a small car (for Surveys) be supplied from Allied sources in order to enable the Italians to get to work using wire, etc., from unimportant routes.

(d) At present the only form of transport is a Jeep supplied to the ROAD for another purpose, and now badly required for its original use.

6. Requisitioning of Civilian PW's (15 Army Group)

The Allied Forces require 30 magnets type switchboards for operational purposes, and it is proposed that these should be obtained by requisitioning from civilian offices and hotels. Each switchboard must have a capacity of not less than 30 lines.

7. Other business.

FORB/LJM.

DISTRIBUTION

OSO 15 Army Group
ICSC 15 Army Group
CAPSO - 1412, c/o 11 Signal Centre, RMC, GIP

F.J.C. BUCHANAN, Major,
Secretary,
Communications Board, (ITALY).

COPIES:

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7. Other business.

3 PM 44

PAGE/104.

DISTRIBUTION

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 JCSO 15 Army Group
 CAFSO - MILF, 2/0 No 11 Signal Centre, RAF, CEF
 CSO L of 3 (ITALY)
 CSO Nq 2 District
 Capt. Stone, Allied Control Commission
 Col. J.E. Henderson, Allied Control Commission
 Major Fleming, Military Mission to Italian Army
 Col. Thorne - Thorne, 15 Army Group
 Dr. H. Rano, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Comms.,
 c/o Allied Control Commission
 Major R.E. Jones, 15 Army Group
 War Diary
 File 2757/3/K
 Spots.


 E.J. BUCHANAN, Major,
 Secretary,
 Communications Board, (ITALY).

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15 ARMY GROUP

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PLANS
2 DISTRICT
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
MILITARY MISSION WITH ITALIAN ARMY

X 4277

FOR USO(.) FOURTH MEETING COMMUNICATIONS BOARD ITALY POSTPONED UNTIL
1030 HRS 14 JAN (.) MATTERS FOR AGENDA RECEIVED FOUR DAYS LATE (.)
REQUEST ACC INFORM FANO

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AMG, 15 Army Group. —
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Headquarters,
75 Army Group,
C M F.

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CSO L of C (ITALY)
USC No 2 District
—USG (15 Army Group)—
Allied Control Commission
CARSO - MARF
FMIA
Major Tentative (To notify all Italian members)
CSO 15 Army Group
G1 (As) 15 Army Group

28 Dec 1943

Brigadier,
Chief Signal Officer.

RECEIVED

B.V. 8/1/44 B.V. 11 and then 8/1/44 22
1/1/15 Natasha (TB)

21 DEC 1943

3/1/44

23

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD (ITALY) HELD AT ROME 18 DEC '43.

9

Present:

Chairman: Brig. R.N.H. Nielder

Members: Col. R.H.O. Crompton

Col. T.R. Horn

Col. W.C. Buchanan

Col. W. Clapp

Col. Thorne-Thorne

Lt. Col. Densmore

Lt. Col. J.E. Young

Lt. Col. Thomas

Dr. A. Fano

Major Fleming

Col. Sergio Rosani

Lt. Col. Barbera

Secretary: Major E.J.G. Buchanan

15 Army Group

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" " "

CEO L of C (ITALY)

CEO No 2 District

AKG 15 Army Group

Allied Control Commission

MAAF

MAF

Under Secretary of State Ministry of Communications

Military Mission to Italian Army

General Inspector IT Ministry of Communications

Chief of the Communications Board

Comando Supremo J

15 Army Group

75. The minutes of the second meeting of the Board were read and approved, subject to the following amendments:

Minute 42. For "Companies" read "Civil and State employees".

Minute 34. Delete all after "directly employed" and insert "by the State Department concerned, which when necessary is financed by AEG".

Minute 23. Method of paying Civil and State employees.

76. Col Buchanan, on being asked by the Chairman to state the result of his approaches to the AEG Finance Committee (minute 56), said that an edict has been promulgated, showing increased scales of wages to be paid to State employees and to employees in Public Utility Companies. The authorities increase bring the scale of wages to be paid, in line with those now being paid under the AEG scales.

77. Dr. Fano asked if this could be made to operate in the Army areas.

78. Col. Thorne-Thorne stated that a meeting will be held once per week, with representatives of AEG 15 Army Group, AEG Rear Area and Marshal Badoglio, to ensure that any legislation promulgated effecting rates of wages etc., is co-ordinated between all the areas concerned.

78. Col. Buchanan said that the State is reimbursing concessionary companies for expenditures, which may be made in respect of wages and materials on work for the Allied Forces.

Under Secretary of State Ministry of
Communications
Military Mission to Italian Army
General Inspector of Ministry of
Communications
Chief of the Communications Board
Comario Supreme

15 Army Group

Secretary: Major F.J.G. Buchanan

75. The minutes of the second meeting of the Board were read and approved, subject to the following amendments:

Minute 12. For "Companies" read "Civil and State employees".

Minute 54. Delete all after "directly employed" and insert "by the State Department concerned, which when necessary is financed by AIG".

Minute 23. Method of paying Civil and State employees.

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78. Col. Buchanan said that the State is reimbursing concessionary companies for expenditures, which may be made in respect of wages and materials on work for the Allied Forces.

78. The procedure for the companies rendering their accounts, was discussed and it was agreed that a Company having incurred such a liability for payment, will submit their account to the appropriate Allied headquarters, who will pass it on, after checking, to Dr. Fano, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Communications. The Allied headquarters will certify that the work for 2579 is claimed, has been done, but will leave the question of pay to the Italian Government, who will decide whether the amount claimed is correct or otherwise.

79. Lt. Col. Young stated that the Media Aeromotion have a contract with the AIG for the maintenance of their routes, true cutting etc., and that they are not getting the value for their money since at present this work is being done by the Allied Forces who are now using the routes. After discussion the Board invited CAPSO to submit this question direct to A.G.C.

80. Dr. Fano pointed out that there is a considerable number of State employees in the Army areas who though being paid by the State, are not being employed by the Allies.

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- 2 -

81. Col. Buchanan said that he could make very good use of these workmen but that the main difficulty is the question of transport, which is at present in short supply.
82. It was agreed that it should be made clear to all CSO's that these employees are being paid by the State, and are at their disposal if required. With a view to having these men employed Dr. Fano was asked to submit to the Secretary of the Board, a list of towns, with the name of the head official and number of workmen available.
- Minutes 27 and 28 and Appendix A. Amendments to the Policy Governing the Control of Communications.
83. Lt. Col. Denamore said that details of the proposed amendments had not yet been completed and asked that this matter may be referred to the next meeting of the Board.
84. Representation with respect to Italian Governmental, Navy, Army and Air Force telecommunications requirements.

Lt. Col. Denamore said that this matter would be brought up at the next meeting of the Board since it will be included in the proposed amendments referred to in minute 63.

Other Business

Ref. minute 64. Seat of the Italian Government

85. Information has now been received that the Italian Government will move to SALERNO. Preparations are in hand for provision of the necessary communications.

86. With reference to Minutes of Second meeting, Appendix "A" para 5 (c) (Control of Stores held by the Italian Army, Navy and Air Force). Dr. Fano said that all the stores held by the Italian Forces are in effect owned by the Ministry of Communications, and that he considered it would be better if demands for such stores were made through him, since he is in a position to say where these materials are available.

87. This question is to be raised at the next meeting of the Board, together with the other proposed amendments to the present policy. In the meantime the Chairman asked Dr. Fano to submit a list of the stores which he knows to be available.

Notes

(1) The next meeting of the Board will be held at 1030 hrs 3 Jan '44 in HQ No 2 District

(2) Matters for discussion at the next meeting should be received together with draft proposals, not later than 27 Dec '43.

not been completed and asked that this matter may be referred to the next meeting of the Board.

84. Representation with respect to Italian Governmental, Navy, Army and Air Force telecommunications requirements.

Lt. Col. Benamoro said that this matter would be brought up at the next meeting of the Board since it will be included in the proposed amendments referred to in minute 83.

Other Business

Ref minute 64. Sent of the Italian Government

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86. With reference to Minutes of Second meeting, Appendix "A" para 5 (e) (Control of Stores held by the Italian Army, Navy and Air Force). Dr. Fano said that all the stores held by the Italian Forces are in effect owned by the Ministry of Communications, and that he considered it would be better if demands for such stores were made through him, since he is in a position to say where those materials are available.
87. This question is to be raised at the next meeting of the Board, together with the other proposed amendments to the present policy. In the meantime the Chairman asked Dr. Fano to submit a list of the stores which he knows to be available.

Notes

- (1) The next meeting of the Board will be held at 1030 hrs 3 Jan '44 in HQ No 2 District.
- (2) Matters for discussion at the next meeting should be received together with draft proposals, not later than 27 Dec '43.

FJGB/LSL

F. J. G. EUGENIO
Secretary,
Communications Board (ITALY).

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Capt. Stone USN Allied Control Commission	10
Lt.Col. Donamore Allied Control Commission	11
Major Fleming Military Mission to Italian Army	12
Dr. Fano Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Communications	13
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CONFIDENTIAL

HQ 15 Army Group

27/11/43

Dec 43

AGENDA FOR THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS BOARD - ITALY

The Board will meet in office of CSO No. 2 District at
1030 hrs, 18 Dec 43.

1. Minutes of the Second Meeting, and any matters arising therefrom.

MINUTE 23 - Method of paying Italian companies and employees.
(any additional information available, including
reply received from A.C.C. to letter sent as per
Minute 44).

MINUTES 27 and 28 and Appendix "A" - A.C.C. wishes to propose
certain amendments to the Policy Governing the
Control of Communications - CAP. STONE, U.S.N.
(Text of proposals not submitted).

2. Representation with respect to Italian Governmental, Navy, Army
and Air Force telecommunications requirements - A.C.C. (Text of proposals
not submitted).

3. Other business.

ARMY/EL.

[Signature]
E. J. S. BUCKMAN, Major,
Secretary,
Communications Board, ITALY.

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DOSO 15 Army Group
CAPSO, WAF (FALL)
CSO 1 of 0 ITALY
CSO No. 2 District
Capt. Stone, Allied Control Commission

CSO 10.

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1. Minutes of the Second Meeting, and any matters arising therefrom.
2. MINUTE 25 - Method of paying Italian companies and employees, (any additional information available, including reply received from A.C.C. to letter sent as per Minute 44).
3. MINUTES 27 and 28 and Appendix "A" - A.C.C. wishes to propose certain amendments to the Policy Governing the Control of Communications - CARR. STAFF, U.S.N. (Text of proposals not submitted).
4. Representation with respect to Italian Governmental, Navy, Army and Air Force telecommunications requirements - A.C.C. (Text of proposals not submitted).
5. Other business.

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Major Fleming, Mil
C.L. Thorne-Thorne,
Dr. H. Fero, Italia
Major R.E. Jones, 1
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THIRD MEETING COMMUNICATIONS BOARD ITALY POSTPONED UNTIL 1030 HRS
10 DEC (.) MATTERS FOR AGENDA TO BE SUBMITTED BEFORE 15 DEC

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Capt Ball Wm J. Ball
10 Dec

(Sgt) J. E. Buchanan

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15 ARMY GROUP

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PLANS
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Third meeting of communications board ITALY will be held at 1030 hrs
11 Dec 48 in conference room HQ 2 District (.) Request ACC inform.

FANO

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CSO.

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Ref 43. Italian Govt. has
authorised increase in Civil Service
and Army pay. So far as I
know this applies to the State
Employees only in 4 provinces
of Apulia; and to Army everywhere.
The increase will be extended to
Regions 1 & 2 when Dr. Govt.
takes over. I know of
no other increase for 'workmen'
generally.

Ref 54. I would prefer this
to read ".... directly employed
by the State Organisation concerned,
which when necessary is financed
by AMB"

1759

(over)

Ref 51. Information on the
increases mentioned above
should come from an ACC. repre-
sentative. Officially, this HQ knows
nothing of them.

Ag. 5. 10/12

Capt Batt may like to add
his comments.

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SECRET

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATION BOARD (ITALY)
HELD AT 1030 HRS ON 1 DEC '43.

DEC 9 1943
DEC 1943

Present:

Chairman: Brig. R. F. H. Nelder

Members:

Col. H. L. O. Coryton
Major R. E. Jones
Col. J. L. Henderson
Col. W. G. Buchanan
Col. W. Cleary
Col. Morris-Thorne

Lt. Col. J. E. Young
Lt. Col. J. S. H. Lawrence
Major Fleming
Dr. M. Fano

Col. Sirgelo Rosani

Lt. Col. Fanciel

Secretary: Major F. J. G. Buchanan

15 Army Group

" " "

Allied Control Commission
CSO L of C (ITALY)
CSO No 2 District
AUG 15 Army Group

DCSO AF SIGS MAIF (ITALY)
Sig. O. to FO TARANTO
Military Mission to Italian Army
Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Communications
General Inspector of Ministry
of Communications
SARE

15 Army Group

25. The minutes of the first meeting of the Board were read and approved subject to the following corrections:-

Minute No. 10 For W/O R Cherrill, read Lt. Col. Young.

5. Approval of the Draft Charter

26. The Board approved the draft charter which reads as follows:-

1. To co-ordinate demands for telecommunications originated by Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission on the Italian Civil and Military Authorities and those originated by the Italian Civil and Military Authorities on the Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission. The jurisdiction of the Board shall embrace the whole of the territory included in the area of the CSO L of C (ITALY), excluding SICILY. Jurisdiction of the Board shall exclude those communications which are the reserved responsibility of the Allied Naval and Air Force Commands and of Allied Force Headquarters.
2. To coordinate demands between the Italian Civil and Military Authorities and the Allied Forces, in respect of labour, material and transport for the provision of telecommunications.
3. To decide on the authority responsible where doubt exists in the implementation of para 1 and 2 above.

DSO AP SIGS NAAT (ITALY)
S.O. to FO TADAWO
Military Mission to Italian Army
Under Secretary of State
Ministry of Communications
General Inspector of Ministry
of Communications
SARE

15 Army Group

Col. J. E. Young
Lt. Col. J. S. H. Lawrence
Major Fleming
Dr. M. Fano

Col. Sergio Rosari

Lt. Col. Pansari

Secretary: Major F. J. S. Buchanan

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Minute No 10. For W/Oir Cherrill, read Lt. Col. Young.

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2. To coordinate demands between the Italian Civil and Military Authorities and the Allied Forces, in respect of labour, material and transport for the provision of telecommunications.

3. To decide on the authority responsible where doubt exists in the implementation of items 1 and 2 above.

14. Method of approach to the Italian Authorities, and/or Commander or circuits, for labour, material, and transport (including agreement on maintenance and coordination between Allied Signals - State - SPT).

27. A paper concerning the control of communications, which had been prepared by CSO L of C (ITALY) in conjunction with CSO No 2 District, was submitted to the Board for approval.

28. The draft was discussed in detail and approved subject to certain amendments as shown below:-

29. Part 4. Col. Henderson said that no mention had been made of the area controlled by the Italian Government controls King's ITALY only i.e. SICILY 12377 province of SICILY and that AMG controlled up to this boundary, including CALABRIA.

Col. Thorne-Thorne said that arrangements are now being made to include CALABRIA in King's ITALY, but that the effective date might be anything from a week to a month or longer.

Don Lt Capt Batt 7/12

add 30...
2nd came
10th June
10th June

31. It was agreed to amend para 4 to meet the conditions which will obtain in the near future when the ITALIAN Government's area of control is extended.

Para 5(a)

32. It was agreed to delete the sentence commencing "Dr. Tano to compile" and insert the following in lieu "authorities concerned will compile an up to date list of stores held, which will be forwarded to the Secretary of the Board."

33. Lt. Col. Young said that he was in doubt as to who is responsible for controlling the stores held by the REGGIO Aeronautica because they were now using material on projects which had not been approved by the Allied Air Forces.

34. Col. Henderson said that the Air Force representative of ACC co-ordinates requirements of the REGGIO Aeronautica and approves their project.

35. Lt. Col. Young said that he considered it essential that HMF should be in a position to control all stores held by the REGGIO Aeronautica.

36. This was agreed to and it was decided to add a new sub para 5(c) to clarify the position. Para 5(c) to read as follows:-

Stores held by the ITALIAN Navy, Army and Air Force will be controlled by C in C Mediterranean, Cin C 15 Army Group and Air C in C HMF respectively.

37. A copy of the approved statement of policy is attached hereto as Appendix A.

18. Request from ITALIAN Government for Transport

38. Col. Henderson said that the transport was required purely for the reconstruction of State Postal and Telecommunication facilities.

39. Col. Deryton said that it is most unlikely that Allied Military transport would be made available and that before submitting application for this every effort should be made to meet the requirements either from Italian Military resources or by requisitioning civilian transport.

40. The Chairman stated that really urgent requirements should be submitted to the Board, who can give the case the necessary backing and represent it through the correct channels.

19. Post Offices requisitioned by the Allies which are now required by Italian Government

41. Col. Henderson said that this matter has now been referred direct to HQ 15 Army Group and that no further action by the Board was necessary.

23. Method of paying Italian military and employees

42. Col. Clay stated that the main concern is not so much the paying of individual workers as the general question of payment to Companies.

43. Col. Thomas-Thorne said the whole question of pay had been referred to the Italian Government and that a reply is expected soon.

44. The Chairman stated that the Board will send a letter to ACC asking what arrangements were being made to pay concessionary Companies.

45. Col. Henderson said that the ACC would not be able to make any arrangements so far as SALARIO and WAGES were concerned.

46. Col. Henderson pointed out that the rates of pay as stated by ACC do not

36. This was agreed to and it was decided to add a new sub para 5(c) to clarify the position. Para 5(c) to read as follows:-

Stores held by the ITALIAN Navy, Army and Air Force will be controlled by C in C Mediterranean, C in C 15 Army Group and C in C MAF respectively.

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41. The Chairman stated that really urgent requirements should be submitted to the Board, who can give the case the necessary backing and represent it through the correct channels.

42. Post Offices requisitioned by the Allies which are now required by Italian Government

43. Col. Henderson said that his letter has now been referred direct to HQ 15 Army Group and that no further action by the Board was necessary.

44. Motion of paying Italian workmen *and employees*

45. Col. Clapp stated that the main concern is not so much the paying of individual workmen as the general question of payment to Companies.

46. Col. Thorne-Thorne said the whole question of pay had been referred to the Italian Government and that a reply is expected soon.

47. The Chairman stated that the Board would send a letter to AGO asking what arrangements were being made to pay Concessionary Companies.

48. Col. Henderson said that the AGO would not be able to make any arrangements so far as SHARP and WILKS were concerned.

49. Col. Buchanan pointed out that the rates of pay operated by AGO do not agree with the contract rates agreed by the State.

50. It was agreed that the adjustment of rates of pay was not merely a telecommunication problem but one which affected each service and trade.

51. Col. Thorne-Thorne understood that a committee concerned with rates of pay is now sitting in ROME (under Gen. Isbertson).

52. So far as employees of the State are concerned, Dr. Pano stated that in King's ITALY they are paid by the State and not by any other authority.

53. Col. Buchanan stated that he is employing certain numbers of the Circolo NAPOLEONE and asked if they would also be getting pay from the State.

54. Dr. Pano replied that they would not be paid by the State.

55. Col. Buchanan then asked if the State is paying the remainder of the Company who are not employed by the Army.

56. Dr. Pano said that they are being paid by the State.

57. Col. Thorne-Thorne said that outside King's ITALY, workmen are paid either by the Allied services or directly employed or by their company which is reimbursed by AGO.

- 3 -

55. Dr. Fano stated that the difference in rates of pay was tending to cause a general movement of labour, since the present rates operated by ANS are higher than those approved by the Italian Government.
56. The Chairman asked Col. Buchanan to approach the committee now sitting in Naples, and ascertain their views with the difficulties experienced.
57. Col. Thorne-Thorns said he will try to find out more about the rates of pay before the next meeting of the Board.
58. Under Repair work on telephone and telegraph circuits, SALZBURG - RADIO area, and the means and material required.
59. Dr. Fano said that he had sent a party to CALABRIA to inspect the routes, and that their report showed that a large amount of material would be required to restore the circuits. Dr. Fano asked if he could use stores belonging to the Italian authorities for this work.
60. The Chairman said that the work of restoration is covered by the rules agreed to by the Board earlier in the meeting (Annex A) and that projects should be initiated and submitted for approval, the main consideration being the expenditure of stores.
61. State Cable
62. Dr. Fano stated early information on plans for the repair of the State Cables and the allocation of circuits.
63. Col. Henderson said that it had been agreed that the circuits will be allocated according to the operational requirements.
64. The Chairman said that 15 Army Group reserves the right to control the repair of the State cable, even into CALABRIA and that the extent to which it will be repaired will be dictated by operational requirements.
65. Major Jones asked Dr. Fano if anyone is now working on the State cable in CALABRIA.
66. Dr. Fano said that he did not know of any repair work being done in that area.
67. The Chairman stated that Lt. Col. Keith is in charge of all work on the State cable and that no repairs are to be carried out without instructions from Lt. Col. Keith. Major Jones was asked to find out from Lt. Col. Keith if he had any knowledge of work being done on the cable, in CALABRIA.
68. Dr. Fano was asked if he knew of any STETI jointers who are not at present employed by Lt. Col. Keith, but he replied that so far as he knew there are none.
69. Exemption of houses of public service officials from regulation.
70. The Chairman told Dr. Fano that this is not a matter for the Board, but should be taken up with No 2 District.
71. To clarify the scope of the various Allied Headquarters.
72. This matter has been covered in the statement of policy prepared by the

59. The Chairman said that the work of restoration is covered by the rules, agreed to by the Board earlier in the meeting (Appendix A) and that projects should be initiated and submitted for approval, the main consideration being the expenditure of stores.

State Cable

- (a) Repair and information.
(b) Material at SOCHIMOTO.

60. Dr. Fano wanted early information on plans for the repair of the State Cables and the allocation of circuits.
61. Col. Henderson said that it had been agreed that the circuits will be allocated according to the operational requirements.
62. The Chairman said that 15 Army Group reserves the right to control the repair of the State cable, even into CHILFIA and that the extent to which it will be repaired will be dictated by operational requirements.
63. Major Jones asked Dr. Fano if any use is now working on the State cable in CHILFIA.
64. Dr. Fano said that he did not know of any repair work being done in that area.
65. The Chairman stated that Lt. Col. Keith is in charge of all work on the State cable and that no repairs are to be carried out without instructions from Lt. Col. Keith. Major Jones was asked to find out from Lt. Col. Keith if he had any knowledge of work being done on the cable, in CHILFIA.
66. Dr. Fano was asked if he knew of any Staff Jintars who are not at present employed by Lt. Col. Keith, but he replied that so far as he knew there are none.

Exemption of houses of public service officials from requisition.

67. The Chairman told Dr. Fano that this is not a matter for the Board, but should be taken up with No 2 District.

To clarify the scope of the various Allied Headquarters.

68. This matter has been covered in the statement of policy approved by the Board (Appendix A)

Other Business

9. Seat of Italian Government

Col. Henderson said that a decision had not yet been reached as to whether the Italian Government is moving to SALERNO or SOCHIMOTO, but that the circuit requested in the State cable, would require to be terminated at either of these locations.

- Col. Duchamp said that if the Italian Government goes to SOCHIMOTO it will involve a major construction project, because every circuit to that area is at present in use by operational headquarters. The termination of circuits in SALERNO will be comparatively easy.

The Chairman asked Col. Henderson to inform the Italian Government of these difficulties and try to dissuade them from going to SOCHIMOTO, since the new construction involved would require a very large quantity of material which we are not in a position to provide.

72. Col. Henderson said that he had already informed the Italian Government of the difficulties but agreed to represent the case again, and inform the Board as soon as a decision is made.

Closing of Italian Telephone Controls

73. Col. Clapp stated that he had been advised by the Consular Officer, 15 Army Group, that monitor subboards, manned by Italian personnel, were located in ENI and ELIDISI, and that they may be capable of monitoring circuits in use by the Allies. On further investigation an order was issued to close these telephone controls. At ELIDISI, this order was, unfortunately, misinterpreted and resulted in the civil exchange and repeater station being closed. As soon as the mistake was discovered steps were immediately taken to rectify the matter, and the exchange and repeater station were reopened. The telephone controls are still closed for security reasons, but may be reopened at a future date, using Italian personnel under Allied Censorship.

74. The Chairman stated that the controls will remain closed at present. If they are to be reopened Dr. Pano will be advised accordingly.

Notes

- (1) The next meeting of the Board will be held at 1030 hrs 11 Dec '43 in the same place (Conference Room No 2 District)
- (2) Matters for discussion at the next meeting of the Board should be received not later than 8 Dec '43.

FCM/LM.

DISTRIBUTION:-

CSO 15 Army Group
DCSO 15 Army Group
CSO L of C (ITALY)
CSO No 2 District
DCSO Air Expedition Signals, NAF (ITALY)
Col. J.E. Henderson, Allied Control Commission
Lt. Col. J.S.M. Roberts RM c/o War Officer FARMO
Major Fleming, Military Mission to Italian Army
Col. Borne-Thomas, AM 15 Army Group

[Signature]
F.J.G. BUCHANAN,
Secretary,
Communications Board (ITALY).

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74. The Chairman stated that the controls will remain closed at present. If they are to be reopened Dr. Pano will be advised accordingly.

Notes

- (1) The next meeting of the Board will be held at 1030 hrs 11 Dec '43 in the same place (Conference Room No 2 District)
- (2) Action for discussion at the next meeting of the Board should be received not later than 8 Dec '43.


E.J.C. BUCHANAN,
Secretary,
Communications Board (ITALY).

FOR/LF.

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- DCSO 15 Army Group
- CSO 1 of C (ITALY)
- CSO No 2 District
- DCSO Air Force/Army Signals, NAAT (ITALY)
- Col. J.L. Henderson, Allied Control Commission
- Lt. Col. J.S.H. Lawrence RN c/o Flag Officer TARANTO.
- Major Fleming, Military Mission to Italian Army
- Col. Thomas-Thorne, Air 15 Army Group

- Mr. Pano, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Communications
- Major L.E. Jones, 15 Army Group
- CSO AFHQ
- Signal Officer, Fifth Army
- CSO Eighth Army
- War Diary
- File 2757/3/X
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AppendixCommunications Board, Italy.Policy Governing the Control of Communications.

1. Under the terms of the Armistice, all intercommunication installation facilities and equipments are to be made available as required to the Allied Forces by the Italian Government.
2. In accordance with normal practice regarding control of communication, except where special reservations are made by a higher formation, each Commander, through his Signal Officer or CSO, controls all communications within his area and that all existing communications within that area are at his disposal in order to provide all military and civil requirements.
3. The territory occupied by the Allied Military Forces is divided into that forward of the area of the King's Italy which is exclusively under military control, and that of the King's Italy which, although within the sphere of control of the Italian Government, will none the less contain for operational reasons, zones of military control and zones of civil control. In the military zones military and civil construction and usage of circuits will be controlled by the Signal Officer or CSO concerned. In the civil zones control will be exercised by the Italian Government subject to any special directions by the Allied Military Command.
4. Within the area which will be controlled by the Italian Government, the suggested initial zones of control, as soon as the Italian Government have taken over the Province of Calabria, will be:-
 - (a) The Military Zone. The area between the rear boundaries of Armies to the boundary of the Province of Calabria.
 - (b) The Civil Zone. The Province of Calabria.
5. Controlling authorities and the extent of control.
 - (a) Control in the Military Zone.
CSO I of C ITALY through Signal Officer PAS and CSOs Districts in their respective areas, will control all construction and provision for fixed Signal services, both military and civil.
Arrangements for work to be done by civilian telephone employees, whether State or Concessionary Cyns (S.E.T., T.E.T.I., T.I.M.C., S.T.I.P.E.L. and T.E.L.V.E.) will normally be made with the official to whom authority has been delegated, as indicated in sub-para (c) below. Only in exceptional cases will individual State or Concessionary Coy employees be employed outside the normal civilian organisation.
 - (b) Control in the Civil Zone.

3. The territory occupied by the Allied Military Forces is divided into that forward of the area of the King's Italy which is exclusively under military control, and that of the King's Italy which, although within the sphere of control of the Italian Government, will have the less control for operational reasons, zones of military control and zones of civil control. In the military zones military and civil construction and usage of circuits will be controlled by the Signal Officer or CSO concerned. In the civil zones control will be exercised by the Italian Government subject to any special directions by the Allied Military Command.

4. Within the area which will be controlled by the Italian Government, the suggested initial zones of control, as soon as the Italian Government have taken over the Province of Calabria, will be:-

(a) The Military Zone. The area between the rear boundaries of Armies to the boundary of the Province of Calabria.

(b) The Civil Zone. The Province of Calabria.

5. Controlling authorities and the extent of control.

(a) Control in the Military Zone.

CSO L of C ITALY through Signal Officer PBS and CSOs Districts in their respective areas, will control all construction and provision for fixed Signal services, both military and civil.

Arrangements for work to be done by civilian telephone employees, whether State or Concessionary Cops (S.E.T., T.E.T.I., T.I.M.O., S.T.I.F.E.L. and T.E.L.V.E.) will normally be made with the official to whom authority has been delegated, as indicated in sub-para (c) below. Only in exceptional cases will individual State or Concessionary Cops employees be employed outside the normal civilian organisation.

(b) Control in the Civil Zone.

The Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications will control all construction and provision for fixed Signal services, both military and civil, subject to any special direction by the Allied Military Command or the Allied Control Commission.

(c) Control of Civilian Telephone Employees.

The Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications and the managements of the Concessionary Cops will exercise control over such parts of their organisations as lie in rear of the rear boundaries of Armies, except as follows:

Within the Military Zone, no work on civil or military construction or restoration of service will be undertaken unless co-ordinated with the Signal Officer or CSO of the District concerned.

Over.....

- 2 -

(c) Control of Civilian telephone employees Cont'd.

For this purpose it is necessary that, in each District of the Military Zone, an official of the State out of the Concessionary Corps be appointed who should have the authority of the Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications or the managers of the Concessionary Corps to make arrangements for the personnel of his organization to carry out work as is required by, or co-ordinated with the CSO or Signal Officer concerned.

(d) Control of Civilian telecommunication equipments and construction stores.

The Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications, will exercise control in respect of State owned stores and equipments, and the managers of the Concessionary Corps in respect of company owned stores and equipments, but subject to releases made by CSO, 15 Army Group.

Demands for the supply of equipments or stores will be made to the Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications, or to the managers of the Concessionary Corps as applicable, by CSO I of C I.M.A.F. Authorities concerned will compile on up to date list of stores held, which will be forwarded to the Secretary of the Board.

(e) Stores held by the Italian Navy, Army and Air Force, will be controlled by C in C Mediterranean, C in C 15 Army Group and Air C in C M.A.F. respectively.

6. Channel of Demand.

Demands by the Italian Government and the Italian Naval, Military and Air Forces will be sponsored respectively by the Allied Control Commission, the appropriate representative of C in C Mediterranean, the M.A.F. and the appropriate representative of M.A.F. and will be submitted to the Secretary of the Communications Board who will be responsible for passing them to the appropriate authority.

1. Under the terms of the Armistice, all intercommunication installation facilities and equipments are to be made available as required to the Allied Forces by the Italian Government.
2. In accordance with normal practice regarding control of communication, except where special reservations are made by a higher formation, each Commander, through his Signal Officer or CSO, controls all communications within his area and that all existing communications within that area are at his disposal in order to provide all military and civil requirements.
3. The territory occupied by the Allied Military Forces is divided into that forward of the area of the King's Italy which is exclusively under military control, and that of the King's Italy which, although within this sphere of control of the Italian Government, will none the less contain for operational reasons zones of military control and zones of civil control. In the military zones military and civil construction and usage of circuits will be controlled by the Signal Officer or CSO concerned. In the civil zones control will be exercised by the Italian Government subject to any special directions by the Allied Military Command.
which will be established
4. Within the area of control ~~are~~ *will be an arm of the Italian Govt. Law will be law of Italian* zones of control ~~are~~ *will be an arm of the Italian Govt. Law will be law of Italian*
 - (a) The Military Zone. The area between the rear boundaries of Armies to the boundary of the Province of Calabria.
 - (b) The Civil Zone. The province of Calabria.
5. Controlling authorities and the extent of Control
 - (a) Control in the Military Zone.
CSO L of C ITALY through Signal Officer, PES and CSOs Districts in their respective areas, will control all construction and provision for fixed Signal services, both military and civil.
Arrangements for work to be done by civilian telephone employees whether State or Concessionary Orgs (S.E.T., T.E.T.I., T.I.M.O., S.T.I.P.E.L. and T.E.L.V.P.) will normally be made with the official to whom authority has been delegated, as indicated in sub para (c) below. Only in exceptional cases will individual State or Concessionary Org employees be employed outside the normal civilian organisation.
 - (b) Control in the Civil Zone.
The Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications will control all construction and provision for fixed Signal services, both military and civil, subject to any special direction by the Allied Military Command or the Allied Control Commission.
 - (c) Control of Civilian telephone employees

sphere of control of the Italian Government, will have the same effect for operational reasons zones of military control and zones of civil control. In the military zones military and civil construction and usage of circuits will be controlled by the Signal Officer or CSO concerned. In the civil zones control will be exercised by the Italian Government subject to any special directions by the Allied Military Command.

4. Within the area of control by the Italian Government the suggested initial zones of control will be as in the State of Calabria *should be established*

(a) The Military Zone. The area between the rear boundaries of Armies to the boundary of the Province of Calabria.

(b) The Civil Zone. The province of Calabria.

5. Controlling authorities and the extent of Control

(a) Control in the Military Zone.

CSO L of C ITALY through Signal Officer, FES and CSOs Districts in their respective areas, will control all construction and provision for fixed Signal services, both military and civil.

Arrangements for work to be done by civilian telephone employees whether State or Concessionary Coys (S.E.T., T.E.T.I., T.I.M.O., S.T.I.P.E.I. and T.E.L.V.N.) will normally be made with the official to whom authority has been delegated, as indicated in sub para (c) below. Only in exceptional cases will individual State or Concessionary Coy employees be employed outside the normal civilian organisation.

(b) Control in the Civil Zone.

The Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications will control all construction and provision for fixed Signal services, both military and civil, subject to any special direction by the Allied Military Command or the Allied Control Commission.

(c) Control of Civilian telephone employees

The Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications and the managements of the Concessionary Coys will exercise control over such parts of their organisations as lie in rear of the rear boundaries of Armies, except as follows:

Within the Military Zone, no work on civil or military construction or restoration of service will be undertaken unless co-ordinated ²³⁷¹ by Signal Officer or CSO of the District concerned.

For this purpose it is necessary that, in each District of the Military Zone, an official of the State and of the Concessionary Coys be appointed who should have the authority of the Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications or the managements of the Concessionary Coys to make arrangements for the personnel of his organisation to carry out work as is required by, or co-ordinated with the CSO or Signal Officer concerned

-2-

(d) Control of Civilian telecommunication equipments and construction stores.

The Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications, will exercise control in respect of State owned stores and equipments, and the managements of the Concessionary Oays in respect of company owned stores and equipments, but subject to releases made by CSO, 15 Army Group.

Demands for the supply of equipments or stores will be made to the Under Secretary of State, Italian Ministry of Communications, or to the managements of the Concessionary Oays as applicable, by CSO L of C ITALY. ~~By the~~ compile a complete, up to date, list of stores held by State and civilian companies, copy of which to be held by CSO 15 Army Group.

6. Channel of Demand.

Demands by the Italian Government and the Italian Naval, Military and Air Forces will be sponsored respectively by the Allied Control Commission, the appropriate representative of C in C Mediterranean, the MILIA and the appropriate representative of MILAF and will be submitted to the Secretary of the Communications Board who will be responsible for passing them to the appropriate authority.

(e) Store held by R. Italian Navy Army - Air Force will be
C. in C MEF Dec 13/47, 1947 - M. A. R.
Controlled by R. Italian Navy Army - Air Force
Department

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy No. 8

13 November 1943

AGENDA FOR THE SECOND MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS BOARD - ITALY

The Board will meet in the Conference Room, HQ No 2 District at 1030 hours,
1 December 1943.

1. Minutes of the First Meeting and matters arising therefrom.

Minute 5 - Approval of Draft Charter.

Minute 14 - Method of approach to the Italian Authorities and/or Companies
for circuits, stores, labour and transport (including agreement
on maintenance and co-ordination between Allied Signals - Stato
- SET (Dr Fano))

Minute 18 - Request from Italian Government for transport (Full details to
be submitted by Dr Fano)

Minute 19 - Details of Post Office requisitioned by Allies which are now
required by Italian Government.

Minute 23 - Method of paying Italian workers.

2. Major repair work on telephones and telegraph circuits SALERNO - REGGIO area,
and the means and material required (Dr Fano)

3. State Cable (Dr Fano)

(a) Repair and information.
(b) Materials at LOCUPOTONIA.

4. Exemption of houses of public service officials from requisition (Dr Fano)

5. To clarify the scope of the various Allied Headquarters (15 Army Group, ACC,
MIA etc) to facilitate co-operation with Italian Government. (Dr Fano)

6. Other business

WJG/IWW

DISTRIBUTION

F. J. G. SUTCLIFFE
Secretary,
Communications Board, ITALY.

Copy 12.

Minute 5 - Approval of Draft Charter.

Minute 14 - Method of approach to the Italian Authorities and/or Companies for circuits, stores, labour and transport (including agreement on maintenance and co-ordination between Allied Signals - Stato - SPT (Dr Fano))

Minute 18 - Request from Italian Government for transport (Full details to be submitted by Dr Fano)

Minute 19 - Details of Post Office requisitioned by Allies which are now required by Italian Government.

Minute 23 - Method of paying Italian warburden.

2. Major repair work on telephone and telegraph circuits SALERNO - REGGIO area, and the means and material required (Dr Fano)

3. State Cable (Dr Fano)

(a) Repair and information.
(b) Materials at LOCURONDA.

4. Exemption of houses of public service officials from requisition (Dr Fano)

5. To clarify the scope of the various Allied Headquarters (15 Army Group, ACC, MIA etc) to facilitate co-operation with Italian Government. (Dr Fano)

6. Other business

WGB/IWW

DISTRIBUTION

CSO 15 Army Group
DCSO 15 Army Group
CSO 1 of C ITALY
CSO No 2 District
DCSO Air Formation Signals, NATO (ITALY)
Col. J.L. Henderson, Allied Control Commission
Major Fleming, Military Mission to the Italian Army
Col. Thomas-Thorne, ACC 15 Army Group
Lt. Col. Middleton, ACC No 2 District
Dr. M. Fano, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Science.
Major R.E. Jones, 15 Army Group
War Diary
File 2737/3/K
Spans

W. J. G. BUCHANAN
Secretary,
Communications Board, ITALY.

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Subject: Second Meeting of the Communications Board

H.Q., A.M.C.,
15 Army Group,
C. M. R.

C. S. O.,
H.Q., A.M.C.,
15 Army Group.

AMS/651/10.

30. Nov. 43.

With reference to the two minutes from the last meeting arising in the agenda for to-morrow, I have to make the following comments:-

Minute 19.

From the previous minutes it appears that action has been designated to Colonel Henderson and it is likely that he has already obtained from 5th and 8th Armies details of the requisitioning of Post Offices. We will, however, endeavour to supplement this information by enquiring of A&F 8th Army on the telephone. We are certainly anxious that the principle of allowing the Post Offices to remain in the hands of civilian operatives should be observed. In Palermo, 7th Army requisitioned the Post Office as their Rear Headquarters, causing utter confusion thereby and enormously increasing future difficulties by destruction of existing records. In Italy Post Offices perform far more functions than the selling of stamps and the mailing of letters. Through them the majority of state employees are paid, and on their smooth running is based the whole system of State Social Insurance.

Minute 23.

As Lieut.Col. Lord Middleton replied on this question at the last meeting it is presumed that discussion was centred particularly on workmen employed south of the Mason-Dixon line. As regards employment in 15 Army Group area, A&F prefers to see the payment of labour in the forward areas handled direct by the Army, whose engineers are in constant and close contact with the men. We are attempting to limit the holding of money to Finance Officers and would be unwilling to make funds available to C.A.O.'s for the payment of casual labour. In the rear areas, of which Poland is a good example, there is much to be said for A&F arranging the payment of workmen employed, for example, on the maintenance of roads, such expenditure can properly be designated against the relevant sub-heading in the State or Provincial budget; and it is thought that A&F can relieve the Army of some of the work of this type. The whole question of such expenditure being carried direct by the Italian Government is still under examination and I doubt whether Lieut.Col. Lord Middleton will be able to report that a final decision has been reached.

2369

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alp

A. P. GRANTLEY SMITH,
Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

APCS/JC.

785015

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28 NOV 1943SECRETSUBJECT: Communications Board ITALY.Headquarters,
15 Army Group,
C. I. F.

1. Minutes of Meeting No 1 of the Communications Board, ITALY, are attached hereto.
2. Papers for discussion at the next meeting of the Board should be received not later than 28 Nov '43.

[Signature]
F. J. G. BUCHANAN,
Secretary,
Communications
Board (ITALY).

PJGB/LJM.

DISTRIBUTION:-

CSO 15 Army Group
DCSO 15 Army Group
CSO L of C (ITALY)
CSO No 2 District
Capt. Stone USN Allied Control Commission
Col. J. L. Henderson " " "
W/Oir J. Cherrill " " "
Major Fleming Military Mission to Italian Army
— Col. Thorne-Thorne AAG 15 Army Group —
Lt. Col. Middleton AAG No 2 District
Dr. H. Fano Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Comm
DCSO Air Formation Signals RAAF (ITALY)
Major R. E. Jones 15 Army Group
CSO AMQ
War Diary
File 2737/3/X
Spares

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25 Nov '43.

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COPY NO 9.

Held at 1100 hrs on 22 Nov 43.

Chairman: Eric R.F.H. Naylor
Col. R.H.O. Coryton
Major R.E. Jones

Capt Stone U.S. Navy
Col. J.L. Henderson
W/Cdr J. Cherrill
Col. Clay
Col. Thorne-Thorne
Lt Col Middleton
Lt Col. J.E. Young
Dr. M. Fano

Lt C. Apostolo (R. Marina)
Col. Sergio Rosanti

Major F. J. G. Buchanan

1. The Chairman opened the meeting by proposing that the Charter of the Board should be as follows:-

- (a) To co-ordinate demands from the Italian civil and military authorities for telecommunications other than those which are purely a Naval or Air Force responsibility, or which are reserved for AFG.

(b) To co-ordinate demands on the Italian civil and military authorities for telecommunication facilities in the form of labour, material and transport.

(c) To decide on the authorities responsible, where doubt exists, for providing the above.

2. Capt Stone asked whether the area of control would include the whole of ITALY and SICILY or whether it would be confined merely to the 15 Army Group area. The Chairman said the Board would not be concerned with SICILY but would cover the whole province of ITALY behind the rear Army boundaries. It was decided to include this in the Center.

3. Col. Clapp suggested that the Charter should be extended to include demands from the Allied Control Commission (A.C.C.). This was agreed.

Major Jones said that the Italians should be able to demand on ~~the~~ transport, to come out ~~the~~ ^{the} armies ~~and~~ ^{for} the Army.

785015

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-2-

7. A Capt Stone asked who would be responsible for the allocation of circuits in the State underground cable. The Chairman replied that in view of the operational importance of this cable, CSO 15 Army Group would retain the right to allocate the circuits as they became available.

8. Capt Stone suggested that the Board should deal with appeals against decisions made, which might hinder the operation of the Italian Government, and quoted as an example the initial allocation of three circuits from EART to NAFLAS for the Government against a demand for six. The Chairman replied that there could be no question of the Board overruling decisions made by CSO 15 Army Group on behalf of the G.C.C. in C. 15 Army Group in relation to operational requirements. The Board is a medium of tabulating and co-ordinating demands, but the final decision as regards allocation is the responsibility of CSO 15 Army Group. If the Allied Control Commission wished, however, they were within their rights to refer to AFHQ.

9. It was agreed that demands from the A.C.C., the M.M.I.A. (Military Mission to the Italian Army) and the Italian authorities should be canalised through the Secretary of the Board who would pass demands to the appropriate authority. If these demands conflicted with other requirements they would then be placed before the Board for consideration and recommendation.

10. *W. G. G. G.* said that the REGIA AERONAUTICA would eventually require their operational circuits and asked if such requirements should come direct to the Board.

11. The Chairman stated that no separate means of approach will be permitted except through MIAP who will be responsible for co-ordinating such demands prior to submission. Similarly, demands for the Italian Navy should be co-ordinated through Flac Officer, TARANTO.

METHODS OF APPROACH TO THE ITALIAN AUTHORITIES AND/OR COMPANIES FOR

- (a) Circuits
- (b) Stores
- (c) Labour
- (d) Transport

12. Capt Stone considered that as far as Italian stores are concerned, there should be one central controller for both civil and military stores, and that this should be Dr. Fano, who stated that he was able to exercise his authority. Demands by Allied forces for civil circuits should be made through Dr. Fano's office.

13. The Chairman suggested that the method of approach should be through a Liaison Officer from Dr. Fano's office. After discussion, it was agreed that the Italian officer at present with CSO No. 2 District might well be authorized to act in this capacity.

14. It was proposed that all demands on civil or military authorities for facilities within No. 2 District would be canalised through CSO No. 2 District. Col. Clapp said that he would like to discuss this matter in detail with Col. Buchanan (CSO 1 of C ITALY) and it was agreed that a definite ruling would not be given until the next meeting of the Board.

9. It was agreed that demands from the A.C.D., the M.M.I.A. (Military Mission to the Italian Army) and the Italian authorities should be canalized through the Secretary of the Board who would pass demands to the appropriate authority. If these demands conflicted with other requirements they would then be placed before the Board for consideration and recommendation.

10. *Col. G. G. G.* said that the REGIA AERONAUTICA would eventually require their own national circuits and asked if such requirements should come direct to the Board.

11. The Chairman stated that no separate means of approach will be permitted except through HIAF who will be responsible for co-ordinating such demands prior to submission. Similarly, demands for the Italian Navy should be co-ordinated through Flag Officer, TALLINNO.

METHODS OF APPROACH TO THE ITALIAN AUTHORITIES AND/OR COMPANIES FOR

- (a) Circuits
- (b) Stores
- (c) Labour
- (d) Transport

12. Capt Stone considered that so far as Italian stores are concerned, there should be one central controller for both civil and military stores, and that this should be Dr. Fano, who stated that he was able to exercise his authority. Demands by Allied Forces for civil circuits should be made through Dr. Fano's office.

13. The Chairman suggested that the method of approach should be through a Liaison Officer from Dr. Fano's office. After discussion, it was agreed that the Italian officer at present with CSO No. 2 District might well be authorized to act in this capacity.

14. It was proposed that all demands on civil or military authorities for facilities within No. 2 District would be centralized through CSO No. 2 District. Col. Clapp said that he would like to discuss this matter in detail with Col. Buchanan (CSO L of C Italy) and it was agreed that a definite ruling would not be given until the next meeting of the Board.

NECESSITY FOR ALL L OF C BOARD.

15. It was decided that this matter should be referred to CSO L of C Italy for his decision.

OTHER BUSINESS

16. Col. Henderson asked if the Board was prepared to discuss questions on wireless frequencies. The Chairman said that a directive was coming from AFHQ on the use of wireless by the Italians and that until that arrived the matter could not be discussed.

17. Col. Henderson stated that at present, facilities are being taken without reference to the Italians. It was agreed that these cases be referred to CSO No. 2 District.

To Page 3.

41
18. Col. Henderson stated that the Italian Government has requested that 200 vehicles be made available to them for line construction, maintenance, etc. Dr. Pano was asked to give full details.

19. Col. Henderson enquired whether certain premises, i.e. Post Office buildings, which had been requisitioned by the military, could be restored for civil use. Col. Henderson was asked to give full details.

20. Col. Henderson requested permission for Italian workers to start work of restoration in operational areas. It was agreed that this matter should be referred direct to HQ 15 Army Group.

21. Col. Clapp referred to AMR message 8860 of 10th Nov which deals with the terms of Amistice and asked if a ruling could be given as to the correct method of paying SET and other workmen who are now being employed, and paid, by the Army.

22. Col. Henderson suggested that all Government or telephone personnel should be paid through Dr. Pano, i.e. contract to be made with State who will arrange for the payment of all employees. This would ensure that the correct amounts were paid and would eliminate the danger of separate organizations billing for labour. Capt Stone considered that this method could also be extended to areas outside the King's ITALY, if found convenient.

23. Lt Col Middleton said that the whole question of payment is ccb judges. It was decided to bring this point up against the next Board meeting for further discussion before making a final decision.

24. The next meeting of the Board will be held at 1030 hrs 1 Dec in the same place. (Conference Room, Hq. 2 District).

11/11/41
11/11/41

Col. Henderson requested permission for Italian workmen to share work of restoration in operational areas. It was agreed that this matter should be referred direct to HQ 15 Army Group.

21. Col. Clapp referred to AFHQ message 8860 of 10th Nov which deals with the terms of Amistice and asked if a ruling could be given as to the correct method of paying SET and other workmen who are now being employed, and paid, by the Army.

22. Col. Henderson suggested that all Government or telephone personnel should be paid through Dr. Fino, i.e. contract to be made with Stato who will arrange for the payment of all employees. This would ensure that the correct amounts were paid and would eliminate the danger of separate organizations bidding for labour. Capt Stone considered that this method could also be extended to areas outside the King's ITALY, if found convenient.

23. Lt Col Middleton said that the whole question of payment is sub judice. It was decided to bring this point up against the next Board meeting for further discussion before making a final decision.

24. The next meeting of the Board will be held at 1030 hrs 1 Dec in the same place. (Conference Room, No. 2 District).

11/11/43
H. A. 11/11/43

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5

DRAFT CHARTER OF THE COMMUNICATION BOARD ITALY

1. To co-ordinate demands for telecommunications originated by Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission on the Italian civil and military Authorities and those originated by the Italian civil and military authorities on the Allied Forces and the Allied Control Commission. The jurisdiction of the Board shall embrace the whole of the territory included in the area of the CCG L of C ITALY, excluding SICILY. The jurisdiction of the Board shall ~~include~~^{en} those communications which are the reserved responsibility of the Allied Naval and Air Force Command and of Allied Force Headquarters.
2. To co-ordinate demands between the Italian civil and military authorities and the Allied Forces in respect of labour, material and transport for the provision of telecommunications.
3. To decide on the **authority** responsible where doubt exists in the implementation of paras 1 and 2 above.

24.11.47

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C.S.O. (1)

(4)

Ref. last para of (3)
I am delighted to see that
the Italian Govt is prepared
to pay.

The whole question
of Italian Govt's responsibilities
in all areas for utilities
transportation, road maintenance
etc. will have to be covered
at Brindisi by Acc. I
have asked Col. Foley
to feel the way.

app
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AMG/631/3.

22. Nov. 43.

At a meeting of the Communications Board, Italy, held on 22nd November, 1943, the question of the payment of Italian employees working on circuits etc., North of the BARI - POTENZA - SALERNO line, i.e., NAPLES Cable, was raised.

South of this line it was proposed that Italian employees should be paid through the Italian Government and it was asked whether the same procedure could be adopted in AMG, 15 Army Group areas.

R.H.

R.J.F. THORNE THORNE,
Colonel,
Senior Staff Officer.

RJF/JG.

C.C.A.O

Ref abm. May I speak for?

R.H.

24/11

I should say the answer to the enquiry is yes.

C.F.O.

loser
M. 24/11

C.F.O.

25/11

25/11

CONFIDENTIAL

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AGENDA FOR THE FIRST MEETING
OF THE COMMUNICATIONS BOARD
ITALY

The Board will meet in the office of the CSO No 2 District
(HQ No 2 District, RARI) at 1100 hrs 22 Nov '43.

1. Terms of reference of the Communications Board Italy.
Statement by Chairman.
2. Method of allocation, and responsibility for provision
of line communications in Italy.
3. Method of approach to Italian Telephone Companies for:-
 - (a) Circuits
 - (b) Stores
 - (c) Labour
 - (d) Accommodation and transport.
4. The necessity for a L of C Board to deal with:-
 - (a) Submission of communication requirements.
 - (b) Method of provision of new requirements.
 - (c) Reports on progress of current projects.
5. Other business.

P. J. G. Buchanan
P. J. G. BUCHANAN Major,
Secretary,
Communications Board Italy.

FJGH/LJM.

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DCSO Air Force Sigs, NAAP (Italy)	3	War Diary	8 - 9
HQ AMGOT 15 Army Group	4	File 2737/3/X	10
Allied Military Mission.	5	Spares	11 - 25

631 "New file"

NOV 1943

SECRET

SUBJECT: Communications Board - ITALY

Headquarters
15 Army Group
C.M.F.

2737/3/L.

14 Nov 43.

CSO L of C ITALY
CSO No 2 District
HQ ARCT 15 Army Group
Allied Military Mission
British Military Mission 7 Italian Army
Italian Ministry of Communications

1. With a view to co-ordinating the tele-communications problems which arise with the Italian Government and Italian Army vis-a-vis the Allied Forces in Italy, it is proposed to set up a communications board. It is apparent that a stage has been reached at which more assistance could be rendered in providing the inter-communication needs of the Allied Armies by the Italians if the requirements of the former were more clearly formulated. It is also apparent that to enable the Italian Government and Italian Armies to contribute to a greater degree towards winning the war, their minimum communications requirements will have to be met. The primary charter of the Communications Board will be to provide machinery for these two subjects.

2. The proposed composition of the Board is as follows:-

Chairman - CSO 15 Army Group
Members - Representatives of -

CSO L of C Italy
CSO No 2 District
ARCT 15/AB
Allied Military Mission
British Military Mission 7 Italian Army
Italian Ministry of Communications

3. The first meeting of the Board will take place in the Office of the CSO No 2 District (HQ 2 District BARE) at 1400 hrs 12 Nov 43.

Will members kindly forward any points for inclusion on the agenda by 19 Nov.

RHS Taylor C1
Brigadier.

1. With a view to co-ordinating the tele-communications problems which arise with the Italian Government and Italian Army vis-a-vis the Allied Forces in Italy, it is proposed to set up a communications board. It is apparent that a stage has been reached at which more assistance could be rendered in providing the inter-communication needs of the Allied Armies by the Italians if the requirements of the former were more clearly formulated. It is also apparent that to enable the Italian Government and Italian Armies to contribute to a greater degree towards winning the war, their minimum communications requirements will have to be met. The primary charter of the Communications Board will be to provide machinery for these two subjects.

2. The proposed composition of the Board is as follows:-

Chairman - CSO 15 Army Group

Members - Representatives of -

CSO L of C Italy
CSO No 2 District

ANG 2 K.A.

Allied Military Mission

British Military Mission 7 Italian Army

Italian Ministry of Communications

3. The first meeting of the Board will take place in the Office of the CSO No 2 District (HQ 2 District BARE) at 1100 hrs 12 Nov 49.

Will members kindly forward any points for inclusion on the agenda by 19 Nov.

HHOG/JMC.

Keith

Brigadier,
Chief Signal Officer.

CSO

CCPO.

Indy by - give - 20 hrs. Keith - to attend

his meeting.

P.L. 19/11/49

R.H.8 Toulton Co 1

W.D. Keith
in a meeting with
as an air force
W.D. Toulton
showed all and 19/11

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