

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

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10000/101/493

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POW'S SUB-COMMISSION
JAN. 1944

SECRET

Subject: - PW Sub Commission.

PW Sub Commission,

C.M.F.

7/HQ.

23 Jan '44.

Deputy President, ✓
 Allied Control Commission.

1. The following has been prepared in accordance with instructions received today from the Deputy President, A.C.C. The time available for preparation was limited and it has not been possible to do more than outline the proposed plan. The establishment shown at Appendix "C" is provisional and considerable adjustment may be necessary.

2. Since 24 Sep 1943 the PW Sub Commission has handled 2,500 U.K., Dominion, Colonial and U.S.A. ex Ps.W. (295 Officers 2213 Other Ranks). During the last 30 days 198 ex Ps.W. of the above categories have been handled, an average of 6.6 a day.

3. Soon after arrival in Italy the PW Sub Commission was ordered to assume responsibility for all Allied ex Ps.W. The number dealt with has not been large. At later dates the PW Sub Commission assumed temporary responsibility for certain Refugees and Displaced Persons and for the administration of a number of Yugo Slav Partisans who are under operational control of "S" Force.

4. On 23 Jan 1944 the numbers held in the various camps controlled by PW Sub Commission was as follows:-

Camp.	Personnel held.	Remarks.
No. 1 PW Transit Camp (Pari)	14 British & Imperial 13 Allied ex PW - 813 Displaced Persons 601 Special Force Partisans	
No. 2 PW Transit Camp (Resina)	42 Allied ex PW 61 Displaced Persons	A UDY Unit.
No. 1 Collection Camp (Taranto)	53 British & Imperial ex PW	Used as an Embarkation Camp.
Gravina Camp (part only)	370 Special Force Partisans	Undergoing training.

5. When 14 was first raised in Sept. '43 the PW Sub Commission had many Officer and Other Ranks attached to its strength. These represented certain interests or services. Many have now been withdrawn. The following are amongst those who remain.

2. Since 24 Sep 1943 the PW Sub Commission has been responsible for the Dominion, Colonial and U.S.A. ex PS.W. (295 Officers 2213 Other Hanks). During the last 30 days 195 ex PS.W. of the above categories have been handled, an average of 6.5 a day.

3. Soon after arrival in Italy the PW Sub Commission was ordered to assume responsibility for all Allied ex PS.W. The number dealt with has not been large. At later dates the PW Sub Commission assumed temporary responsibility for certain Refugees and Displaced persons and for the administration of a number of Yugo Slav Partisans who are under operational control of "S" Force.

4. On 23 Jan 1944 the numbers held in the various camps controlled by PW Sub Commission was as follows:-

Camp.	Personnel held.	Remarks.
No.1 PW Transit Camp (Bari)	14 British & Imperial 13 Allied ex PW - 813 Displaced Persons 601 Special Force Partisans	
No.2 PW Transit Camp (Resina)	42 Allied ex PW 61 Displaced Persons	A UDF Unit.
No.1 Collection Camp (Teramo)	53 British & Imperial ex PW	Used as an Embarkation Camp.
Gravina Camp (part only)	370 Special Force Partisans	Undergoing training.

5. When it was first raised in Sept. '43 the PW Sub Commission had many Officer and Other Hanks attached to its strength. These represented certain interests or services. Many have now been withdrawn. The following are amongst those who remain.

Government of India Liaison Officer	1 - Colonel
C.S.D.I.C. India	1 - Lt. Col.
	1 - Captain.
	1 - Wing Comdr.
	2 - Sqd. Ldrs.
	2 - Plt. Lts.
	3 - (2 from India)
	1 from India.
Casualty Officers	
R.A.P.C. Officers	5
East African Representative	1
Red Cross Representative	1

2.

In the establishment shown at Appendix "C" only the Casualty Officers are shown as being retained, these are considered essential for identification and registration of ex Ps.W. It is not known whether the Government of India and the R.A.F. would wish to retain their representatives.

5. Provided that the PW Sub Commission was relieved of all responsibility in respect of Refugees, Displaced Persons, and "S" Force Partisans and confined its attention solely to all Ps.W. It is considered that the establishment shown at Appendix "C" would be adequate provided the following system was adopted. Existing administrative facilities to be used for the collection and accommodation of ex Ps.W. Certain Transit (or Reception) Camps would be selected for this purpose. These Camps would be responsible for carrying out all duties now performed by the PW Transit Camps. They would :-

- (a) Accommodate and feed all ex Ps.W.
- (b) Clothe and equip in accordance with existing War Office instructions.
- (c) Arrange medical examination and disinfection.
- (d) Register and pass all details to HQ PW Division, A.C.C.
- (e) Control Welfare and Red Cross issues.

On receipt of instructions from HQ PW Division they would pass ex Ps.W. to other selected Camps at the ports of embarkation where the local Area or Sub Area would arrange shipping.

7. HQ. PW Division, A.C.C. would :-

- (a) Register and identify all ex Ps.W. and transmit all information regarding them direct to the War Office.
- (b) Maintain close liaison with forward Transit (or Reception) Camps and advise on all matters connected with ex Ps.W.
- (c) Arrange moves from forward camps to camps at ports of embarkation.
- (d) Arrange shipment with "MOV" branch of local Area or Sub Area.
- (e) Advise War Office - Middle East and North Africa regarding embarkation.

8. The following Appendices are attached to this letter :-

- "A" Accommodation at all Camps controlled by PW Sub Commission.
- "B" Transport held on the M.E. of PW Sub Commission.
- "C" Proposed M.E. for HQ. PW Division, A.C.C.
- "D" Total personnel now held on M.E. of PW Sub Commission.

9. If the above plan is put into operation the following personnel

accommodation of ex Ps.W. Certain Transit (or Reception) Camps would be selected for this purpose. These Camps would be responsible for carrying out all duties now performed by the PW Transit Camps. They would :-

- (a) Accommodate and feed all ex Ps.W.
- (b) Clothe and equip in accordance with existing War Office instructions.
- (c) Arrange medical examination and disinfection.
- (d) Register and pass all details to HQ PW Division, A.C.C.
- (e) Control Welfare and Red Cross Issues.

On receipt of instructions from HQ PW Division they would pass ex Ps.W. to other selected Camps at the Ports of embarkation where the local Area or Sub Area would arrange shipping.

7. HQ. PW Division, A.C.C. would :-

- (a) Register and identify all ex Ps.W. and transmit all information regarding them direct to the War Office.
- (b) Maintain close liaison with forward Transit (or Reception) Camps and advise on all matters connected with ex Ps.W.
- (c) Arrange moves from forward camps to camps at Ports of embarkation.
- (d) Arrange shipment with "MOV" branch of local Area or Sub Area.
- (e) Advise War Office - Middle East and North Africa regarding embarkation.

8. The following Appendices are attached to this letter :-

- "A" Accommodation at all Camps controlled by PW Sub Commission.
- "B" Transport held on the W.E. of PW Sub Commission.
- "C" Proposed W.E. for "HQ. PW Division, A.C.C."
- "D" Total personnel now held on W.E. of PW Sub Commission.

9. If the above plan is put into operation the following personnel would become available for employment elsewhere - 52 Officers 288 Other Ranks.

JPR/PA.

T.O.C. 2810 hrs.

M. Robinson 5224
Colonel,
A/Inspector,
PW Sub Commission.

APPENDIX A.ACCOMMODATION.(a) BUILDINGS.

	<u>Capacity.</u>
No.1 PW Transit Camp	3,500
No.1 Distribution HQ Collection Camp, Taranto.	200
No.2 PW Transit Camp	1,200
Gravina Camp	<u>500</u>
	<u>5,400</u>

(b) TENTAGE.

	<u>Pitched.</u>	<u>In Store.</u>
No.1 PW Transit Camp	300	360
No.1 Distribution HQ Collection Camp, Taranto.	nil	200
No.2 PW Transit Camp	nil	nil
Gravina Camp	<u>nil</u>	<u>nil</u>
	<u>300</u>	<u>560</u>

SUMMARY.

BUILDINGS	5,400
TENTAGE - Pitched	300
In Store	<u>560</u>
<u>Total accommodation.</u>	<u>6,260</u>

No. 2 PW Transit Camp 1,200
 Gravina Camp 500
 5,400

<u>(b) TENTAGE.</u>	<u>Pitched.</u>	<u>In Store.</u>
No. 1 PW Transit Camp	500	500
No. 1 Distribution HQ Collection Camp, Taranto.	nil	200
No. 2 PW Transit Camp	nil	nil
Gravina Camp	<u>nil</u>	<u>nil</u>
	500	500
	—	—

SUMMARY.

BUILDINGS	5,400
TENTAGE - Pitched	500
In Store	<u>500</u>
<u>Total accommodation</u>	<u>6,200</u>
	—

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T R A N S P O R T.

	<u>I. Sub Commission.</u>		<u>No. 1 Distribution HQ.</u>		<u>No. 1 PW Transit Camp.</u>	
	<u>W.E.</u>	<u>Held.</u>	<u>W.E.</u>	<u>Held.</u>	<u>W.E.</u>	<u>Held.</u>
Cars 4 Str	2 2(a)	2 (a) 2 (aa)	1	-	1	-
Cars 2 Str	2	1 (b)	1	-	2	-
15cwt 4x2 GS	2	2 (c)	1	1	3	1
Lorries 3 ton	4	3 (d)	1	-	4	2
M/Cycles	4	3 (e)	2	-	2	1

TOTAL.

Cars 4 Str	-	43
Cars 2 Str	-	2
15cwt 4x2 GS	-	5
Lorries 3 ton	-	7
M/Cycles	-	6 (includes 1 to be drawn)

NOTES.

- (a) Lancia Car 17005)
Pint Car 17005) Held against W.E.
- (aa) Application has been made for amendment.
- (b) 1 - 8cwt truck S.O.S. 29th Dec 43.
- (c) 1 - 15 cwt on detachment - Gravina Camp
- (d) 1 x 3 ton S.O.S. 27th December 43.
- (e) 1 M/C S.O.S. 10th Dec 43.

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APPENDIX "B"T R A N S P O R T.

<u>Sub Commission.</u>	<u>No.1 Distribution HQ.</u>	<u>No.1 PW Transit Camp.</u>	<u>No.2 PW Transit Camp.</u>
<u>Held.</u>	<u>W.E.</u>	<u>Held.</u>	<u>W.E.</u>
2 (a)	1	-	1
2 (aa)	-	-	1 x
1 (b)	1	-	2
2 (c)	1	1	3
3 (d)	1	-	4
3 (e)	2	-	2

TOTAL.

Cars 4 Str - *3
 Cars 2 Str - 2
 150wt 4x2 GS - 5
 Lorries 3 ton - 7
 M/Cycles - 6 (includes 1 to be drawn)

Held against W.E.

x Lancia Car held
against W.E. -
awaiting spares.

en made for amendment.

S. 29th Dec 43.

ohment - Gravina Camp

27th December 43.

Dec 43.

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Appendix "C".

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT FOR PA DIVISION A.C.C.

(i) PERSONNEL

1 Lieutenant Colonel	Commander
1 Major	DAA & QMG.
1 Captain	Staff Captain "A".
1 Captain	Staff Captain "Q".
1 WO 11	Chief Clerk.
1 Sergeant	Clerk.
1 Corporal	Clerk.
2 Privates	Clerks (Typists).
2 Privates	Batmen.
1 Private	Cook (ACC).
4 Privates	Drivers.

(ii) ATTACHED PERSONNEL.

3 Casualty Officers.
(2 U.K. 1 Indian).
2 Clerks.

(iii) TRANSPORT.

1 Car - 4 seater.
2 Trucks - 15 cwt.
1 Motor-cycle.

Staff Captain "Q".
Chief Clerk.
Clerk.
Clerk.
Clerks (Typists).
Batmen.
Cook (ACC).
Drivers.

1 Captain
1 WO 11
1 Sergeant
1 Corporal
2 Privates
2 Privates
1 Private
4 Privates

(11) ATTACHED PERSONNEL.

3 Casualty Officers.
(2 U.K. 1 Indian).

2 Clerks.

(11) TRANSPORT.

1 Car - 4 seater.
2 Trucks - 15 cwt.
1 Motor-cycle.

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O F F I C E R S.

<u>Appointment and Rank.</u>		<u>HQ PW Sub Commission.</u>	<u>No. 1 Distribution HQ.</u>	<u>No. 1 PW Transit.</u>
Director	Brig.	1	-	-
DA & QMG	Colonel	1	-	-
Commander	Colonel	-	1	-
AA & QMG	Lt. Col.	-	1	-
Commandant	Lt. Col.	-	-	-
DAA & QMG	Major	2	-	1
Admin. Officer	Major	-	-	-
Admin. Officer	Lieut.	-	1	1
S.C. "A"	Capt.	1	1	-
S.C. "Q"	Capt.	3	1	-
Adjutant	Capt.	-	-	-
Intelligence				
Officers	Lieut.	-	-	-
Welfare Officer	Capt.	1	-	-
Interpreters	Lieut.	2 (includes 1 Sgt).	-	-
DAQMG()	Major	1	-	-
ADST	Lt. Col.	1	-	-
DADST	Major	1	-	-
S.C. ST.	Capt.	2	1	-
ADMS	Colonel	1	-	-
ADMS	Lt. Col.	-	1	-
ADH	Lt. Col.	1	-	-
DADH	Major	-	1	-
DADMS	Major	1	-	-
SMO	Major	-	1 (Indian)	-
M.O.	Capt.	3 (includes 1 Indian)	-	-
Hygiene Officer	Lieut.	-	-	-
DADOS	Major	1	1	-
Camp Comdt.	Capt.	1	-	-
Casualty Officer	Major	1	-	-
Casualty Officer	Capt.	1	-	-

O F F I C E R S.

APPENDIX "E".

<u>Hq PW Sub Commission.</u>	<u>No.1 Distribution HC.</u>	<u>No.1 PW Transit Camp</u>	<u>No.2 PW Transit Camp.</u>
1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-
-	1	-	-
-	1	-	-
-	-	1	-
2	-	-	-
-	-	1	1
-	1	-	-
1	1	-	-
3	1	-	-
-	-	1	-
-	-	-	-
1	-	-	1
2 (includes 1 Sgt).	-	-	-
1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-
2	1	-	-
1	-	-	-
-	1	-	-
1	-	-	-
1	1	-	-
-	1 (Indian)	-	1
3 (includes 1 Indian)	-	-	-
-	-	-	1
1	1	-	-
1	-	-	-
1	-	-	-
1	2	-	-

<u>Appointment and Rank.</u>	<u>HQ PW Sub Commission.</u>	<u>No. 1 Distribution Hq.</u>	<u>No. 1 PW Transit C.</u>
Guard Officer Lieut.	2	-	-
Messing Officer Capt.	-	-	1
Q.M. Capt.	-	-	-
Wing Officer Major	-	-	-
Wing Officers Capt.	-	-	2
Wing Officer Sub.	-	-	-
Military Police Lieut.	-	-	-
Chaplains	-	-	-

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Appendix "D" (cont'd).

HQ PW Sub Commission. No. 1 Distribution HQ. No. 1 PW Transit Camp. No. 2 PW Transit Camp.

2	-	-	-
-	-	1	-
-	-	-	1
-	-	-	1
-	-	2	1
-	-	-	1
-	-	-	1
-	-	-	2

OTHER RANKS.

<u>Appointment and Rank.</u>	<u>HQ PW Sub Commission.</u>	<u>No. 1 PW Distribution</u>	<u>No. 1 PW Transit</u>
General Duties WO I	5	-	1
WO II	1	-	3
Ptes.	2	3	nil
Clerks WO II	2 (incl 1 RAMC)	1 (RAMC)	nil
S/Sgt or Sgt	3 (incl 1 RE and 1 RAMC).	2	1
Cpls	8 (incl 1 RAOC and 1 RAMC)	4 (incl 1 RAOC)	-
L/Cpls	4 (incl 1 RAMC)	-	-
Ptes	13	15	4
Drivers M/C	1	2	3
Drivers i/c	6 (incl 1 Cpl)	3	16 (incl
Fitter L/Cpl	-	-	1
Sanitary Ptes.	2	1	-
Storemen S/Sgt and Sgts	1	1	1
Ptes	2	-	3
Cooks ACC S/Sgt or Sgt.	-	-	-
Cpls	1	-	2
Ptes	4	3	5
Mess Orderlies Sgts.	-	-	2
Cpls.	-	-	1
Ptes	5	2	6
HQ. Guard Sgts.	3	-	-
Cpls	1	-	-
Ptes	45	-	-
Batmen Ptes	3	-	2
Electricians L/Cpl	-	-	1
Interpreter WO II	-	-	-
Artisans UDF	-	-	-
Provost UDF	-	-	-
Interrog S/Sgt	-	-	-

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OTHER RANKS.APPENDIX "D".

<u>No. PW Sub Commission.</u>	<u>No. 1 PW Distribution</u>	<u>No. 1 PW Transit Camp.</u>	<u>No. 2 PW Transit Camp.</u>
5	-	1	1
1	-	3	3
2	3	nil	24 (incl 2 Sgts and 2 Cpls)
2 (incl 1 RAMC)	1 (RAMC)	nil	nil
3 (incl 1 RE and 1 RAMC).	2	1	7 (incl 3 Med)
6 (incl 1 RAOC and 1 RAMC)	4 (incl 1 RAOC)	-	4 (incl 3 Med)
4 (incl 1 RAMC)	-	-	1
13	15	4	18 (incl 9 Med)
1	2	3	-
6 (incl 1 Cpl)	3	16 (incl 1 Cpl)	7 (incl 1 Sgt and 2 Cpls)
-	-	1	-
2	1	-	5 (incl 1 Sgt and 1 Cpl)
1	1	1	3
2	2	3	4
-	-	-	2
1	-	2	-
4	3	5	4
-	-	2	1
-	-	1	-
5	2	6	1
3	-	-	-
1	-	-	-
45	-	-	-
3	-	2	-
-	-	1	-
-	-	-	1
-	-	-	5 (incl 1 Sgt)
-	-	-	10-(3 Sgts and
-	-	-	1 7 Cpls)

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