ACC

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RECORDERS, HISTORY FILE MAR. 1943 - FEB. 1945

AC/AMIG (1)
HISTORY FLG

## ARCHIVES OF THE ALLIED COMMISSION

The following memorandum is not written as a brief historical survey of AMGOT/AMG/ACC/AC. Its sole object is to explain the administrative origins of some of the series of files in past and in present use.

The first Civil Affairs organisation was established about March 1943 at Bouzarea, N. Africa, where it constituted the Civil Affairs Branch of HQ 141 Force.

On 1 May 1943 this Civil Affairs organisation was designated AMGOT (AFRQ Admin. Nemo. 35). About 18 May 1943 AMGOT moved to Chrea, N. Africa, where several weeks were spent in planning for the Sicilian operation. During this period, a series of planning files was opened, numbered AMGOT 7800 - AMGOT 8000; this series of files is now stored in Archive Group D 1 (ii).

When AMGOT moved to Chres, a small lisison branch known as AMGOT Lisison was left at HQ 141 Force, Bouzarea. This branch opened its own files, which were numbered AL 1 upwards and, as far as can be ascertained, the series finished at AL 30 or thereabouts. At the end of July 1943 the majority of these files were either absorbed into the AMGOT 7800 series, or were destroyed because they were already duplicated in that series. It appears that one or two of the files from the AL series found their way into different branches of AMGOT; for instance, file AL 21 was handed to Archives by the Finance sub-Commission and is now stored in Archive Group H.2.

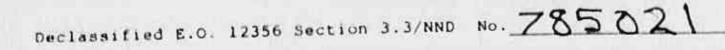
Shortly before the invasion of Sicily, 141 Force was re-designated 15 Army Group. Its HQ in the island was established at Cassibile, where HQ AMGOT also was located for a brief period during July-August 1943. During August 1943, HQ AMGOT moved to Felermo, and AMGOT Lisison remained at Cassibile with HQ 15 Army Group. HQ AMGOT opened new series of files numbered from 1 to 21,000, and a separate block of numbers within this range was allocated to each of the brunches.

Following the conquest of additional territory, and the expansion of the work of AMGOT, certain administrative changes were made. On the authority of AFRQ Admin. Memo 69 (24 Oct 1943). AMGOT was divided into two parts - HQ AMG. and AMG 15 Army Group. HQ AMG continued to use the file series 1 - 21,000 which had been opened by AMGOT. AMG 15 Army Group opened an entirely separate series of files, an explanation of which will be found in the File Register for Archive Group E.1.

The file series AMGOT/AMG 1 - 21,000 was allocated to the different branches as set out in columns (i) and (ii) below. The remarks in column (iii) give such information as is at present available regarding the subsequent disposal of the files. These remarks will be subject to amplification in the light of any further information which may be ascertainable from files which are not yet in the possession of Archives.

(Tabulated statement on following page)

| FILE NUMBERS  | BRANCH (ii)                                   | REMARKS (111)                                                                                               |
|---------------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 - 1000      | HQ Staff Section                              | Majority in Archives; possibly a few still with Region 1                                                    |
| 1001 - 2000   | Public Safety                                 | Part left with Region 1; balance<br>absorbed into new series (see 14001 -<br>15000)                         |
| 2001 - 3000   | Finance                                       | Handed in to Archives                                                                                       |
| 3001 - 4000   | Public Health                                 | Series still current. Feb 1945                                                                              |
| 4001 - 5000   | Legil                                         |                                                                                                             |
| 5001 - 6000   | Economics and Supply                          | Series still current, Feb 1945, but see further explanatory note. Archive Group N.                          |
| 6001 - 7000   | Property Control                              | A few files handed in to Archives;<br>balance absorbed into new series.                                     |
| 7001 - 8000   | Public Relations                              | No files and no information available.                                                                      |
| 8001 - 3599   | Monuments & Fine Arts                         | Beries closed, but files still held<br>by sub-Commission, Feb 1945.                                         |
| 8600 - 9000   | Diuca tion                                    | Series closed, but files still held<br>by sub-Commission, Feb 1945. Some<br>files absorbed into new series. |
| 9001 - 10000  | Labour                                        | Absorbed into new series.                                                                                   |
| 10001 - 11000 | Transportation, Commens., and Utilities       | No information yet available.                                                                               |
| 11001 - 12000 | Intelligence (fore-runner of Security Branch) | No files and no information available.                                                                      |
| 12001 - 13000 | Agriculture                                   | Absorbed into new series.                                                                                   |
| 13001 - 14000 | Finance                                       | Series still current, Feb 1945                                                                              |
| 14001 - 15000 | Public Safety                                 |                                                                                                             |
| 15001 - 16000 | Public Health                                 | Series never actually used                                                                                  |



| 16001 - 17000 | G.1. Sritish          | Series closed; part in Archives.<br>part still with G.1. Feb 1945.<br>bulance absorbed into new series. |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17001 - 18000 | Fuel                  | Emnded in to Archives (see further explanatory note, Archive Group N)                                   |
| 18001 - 19000 | Information           | Handed in to Archives                                                                                   |
| 19001 - 20000 | 2                     | Apparently not allocated.                                                                               |
| 20001 - 21000 | Monuments & Fine Arts | Series still current, Feb 1945.                                                                         |

When HQ AMG moved from Fulermo to Naples, some of the files from the series tabulated above were handed over by the Branches to Region 1, because they related to purely Regional matters.

It is quite possible that, due to changes in the internal administration and organisation of the Commission, other files from the above series may have been manded over to Branches or sub-Commissions which are now defunct, or which, on the other hand, have come into being since these file series were first opened.

The recipients of these "handed-over" files may have dealt with them in one of several ways, e.g.

- (i) The files may have been preserved intact, retaining their original AMGOT/AMG numbers.
- (ii) They may have been preserved intact, but incorporated into other filing systems and re-numbered accordingly.
- (iii) They may have been broken up completely, and the papers absorbed piece-meal into other files.

Where the origins and transfers of files are not evident from the files themselves.

Archives Section will endeavour to clarify these points by suitable annotation of
the File Registers, whenever information can be obtained.

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