

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ACC - Italy

10000/105/30

250.
Oct. 2

18 pp.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

10000/105/30

250. Discipline.
Oct. 27, 1943 - Feb. 12, 1944

18 pp.

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

12 February, 1944

SUBJECT: Discipline - Penal Establishments.

TO : Commanding General,
FM. Adv. Adm. Echelon.
CSF.

1. Reference 3172/6/A. 2 of 7 February, 1944, addressed to No 2 District, copy to this Headquarters.

2. Capt. Young, Prisons Sub-Division, Public Safety Sub-Commission, has interviewed Italian Prison Authorities, and reports:

- (A) Total capacity Brindisi Prison - about 300. There are at present about 70 places used by Allied Armed Forces and another 70 could be made available. The rest of the prison is needed by Italian authorities for detention of those awaiting trial and for prisoners of the Naval Base at Brindisi. Building is surrounded by wall, with space between which could be used for tents or barracks.
- (B) At Lecce, there is a Casa Penale, total capacity 300, available for use, except for buildings occupied by heavy immovable machinery, which the Government would like to reserve control and possession. Building again surrounded by wall with ample space for erection of tents or barracks.
- (C) At Lecce there is a Carcere Giudiziario, total capacity 800, partially evacuated pending outcome of previous negotiation for requisition of prisons. This is an old building in which the prisoners are confined in large rooms rather than cells. The other prison at Lecce and that at Brindisi are of the cell type.

3. We have advised the Italian authorities that we will submit for your consideration the requisitioning of Carcere Giudiziario at Lecce because it will permit concentration of the number mentioned in your signal. They are most willing to suggest requisitioning of the one indicated. We have also advised the Italian authorities that final disposition must depend upon your inspection and determination.

For the Commanding General:

R.P.C.
STANEGATE
Vice-President,
Administrative Section.

595

150.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HO 7th ARMY OFFICIAL BUSINESS

OUTGOING MESSAGE

Office of origin

(section)

Date

Initials of

Classification

Precedence

(Originating office)

(Restricted - Confidential - Secret)

(Routine - Priority - Urgent)

To:

Time Signed

Content and classification

authenticated by

PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER

SECRET

584
7 JANUARY 1944

SECRET

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

FREEDOM, FILMOT FOR AMO, CC PBS(FOR TANGO FOR SPURFORD)

NOTE

FATIMA STUNNED JOYCE

061755Z

071318Z

MSG SVC 654

NOTE

(PARAPHRASE BY CRYPTO FATIMA OF OUR MESSAGE 1850 DTG 061755Z CITING YOUR
SERVING 6345)

THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR WAR REPORTS THAT AMO OFFICIALS IN CALABRIA HAVE
DIRECTED THAT ITALIAN SOLDIERS WHO DESERTED IN THE PERIOD JULY 10TH-SEPTEMBER
19TH BE NOT TRIED FOR DESERTION BY ITALIAN ARMY COURTS MARTIAL. THE ATTITUDE
TAKEN BY AMO IS THAT THESE MEN MAY HAVE DESERTED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT
GIVEN THEM BY ALLIED RADIO AND LEAFLETS. AMO FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP CONCURS IN THIS
VIEW POINT. GOC FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP CONSIDERS THAT IT IS A QUESTION FOR DECISION
BY COMMANDER IN CHIEF. THE ITALIAN ATTITUDE IS THAT FEW IF ANY DESERTED IN THE
PERIOD IN QUESTION FOR REASONS OTHER THAN COWARDICE FOR WHICH THEY SHOULD BE
AMENDABLE TO MILITARY JUSTICE. THE WAR MINISTRY CONSIDERS FAILURE TO PURISH THESE
MEN WILL DESTROY MILITARY PRESTIGE AND DISCIPLINE. THE WAR MINISTRY SUGGESTS
THAT TRIAL BE PERMITTED AND THAT SUBSEQUENTLY AN ACT OF CLEMENCY BE DECIDED

594

SECRET

150

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SECRET

AND BE PROMULGATED IN FAVOR OF THE GUILTY. THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
FORWARDS THIS MATTER FOR YOUR DECISION WITH THE RECOMMENDATION THAT TRIALS FOR
DESENTION BE AUTHORIZED PERMITTING THE DEFENDANTS TO ADDUCE THE EFFECT OF
ALLIED PROPAGANDA IN EVIDENCE AS A MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCE. WE CAN WATCH THE
SENTENCES CLOSELY AND ENCOURAGE A LIBERAL POLICY OF CLEMENCY.

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8253

SECRET

Admin - Director

U. S. RESTRICTED EQUALS BRITISH RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
APO 782

14 December 1943

AG 250.1 BGPOG (14 DEC 43)

MEMORANDUM

TO : All Chiefs of Sections and Commanding Officers of all Units.

1. There have been brought to my attention several instances of an improper attitude on the part of individuals of the Allied forces toward the Italian civilian population, Civil Police and military units. The following cases are examples:

a. On November 24 American soldiers removed by force the hat of an Italian officer and drove away in a truck.

b. On November 25 a similar incident occurred.

c. On November 23 Allied soldiers fired pistol shots at an Italian officer in the vicinity of the Naples Railway Station.

d. On November 29 four American soldiers took by force money and official papers from an Italian corporal.

e. On November 26 an American officer illegally "Requisitioned" a vehicle belonging to the 10th Automotive Regiment.

f. On numerous occasions individuals have illegally taken arms and equipment from the Civil Police and from Italian military personnel.

g. On numerous occasions individuals have illegally taken away and converted to their own use items displayed for sale in stores.

h. On numerous occasions drivers of Allied trucks have failed to obey the legal orders of the Civil Police in directing traffic.

2. These incidents are indicative of a lawless attitude on the part of military personnel which must cease. They bring discredit on the Allied cause and retard the Allied effort.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

26 November 1943

SUBJECT: Discipline - Allied Troops
TO : Commanding General, 7th Army

1. Enclosed are several reports of cases in which the Italian Civil Police, particularly the Carabinieri, have been not only mistreated but definitely hampered and selected in the performance of their duties by members of the Allied Forces.
2. It has been publicly announced on frequent occasions that the Carabinieri have been selected by the Military Governor as the Civilian Police agency entrusted with the maintenance of law and order in occupied territory. They, and to a somewhat lesser extent, the other Italian civil police units are, therefore, working for and on behalf of the Allied Military Government. Indeed, they form almost an integral part of it.
3. In order that these agencies may effectively perform their work, it is imperative that they have as much of the respect and confidence of the Italian public as they deserve. The Allied Military Government has, from the beginning, made every effort to restore the prestige of these police forces in the eyes of the civilian populace. However, there are an alarming number of cases in the courts from which it is evident that the populace have been encouraged to believe that the civilian police are without authority in view of the presence of the Allied troops. Every time a police officer is rendered ridiculous by Allied soldiers because of actions against which he cannot properly defend himself, it lowers the prestige of the whole police structure upon which this Allied Government depends.
4. In view of the obvious difficulty of a Carabinieri or other police officer compelling a soldier to disclose his identity irrespective of the illegality or impropriety of the act in which he is engaged, it is virtually impossible in most cases to furnish a report which will clearly place responsibility upon a particular individual. Therefore, it is believed to be of the highest importance that every effort be made to impress upon all units the paramount necessity of upholding the prestige of the local police rather than of degrading it in the eyes of the people. Without the wholehearted support of the military authorities the police force cannot hope to control the black market, stealing, and other prevalent public evils.

Admin - Director

U. S. RESTRICTED EQUALS BRITISH RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
APO 782

14 December 1943

AG 250.1 BGPOG (14 DEC 43)

MEMORANDUM

TO : All Chiefs of Sections And Commanding Officers of all Units.

1. There have been brought to my attention several instances of an improper attitude on the part of individuals of the Allied forces toward the Italian civilian population, Civil Police and military units. The following cases are examples.

a. On November 24 American soldiers removed by force the hat of an Italian officer and drove away in a truck.

b. On November 26 a similar incident occurred.

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e. On November 26 an American officer illegally "Requisitioned" a vehicle belonging to the 10th Autocarro Regiment.

f. On numerous occasions individuals have illegally taken arms and equipment from the Civil Police and from Italian military personnel.

g. On numerous occasions individuals have illegally taken away and converted to their own use items displayed for sale in stores.

h. On numerous occasions drivers of Allied trucks have failed to obey the legal orders of the Civil Police in directing traffic.

2. These incidents are indicative of a lawless attitude on the part of military personnel which must cease. They bring discredit on the Allied cause and retard the Allied effort.

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U.S. RESTRICTED EQUALS BRITISH RESTRICTED

MEMORANDUM (continued)

3. The Commander-in-Chief has stated that the Italians will be treated as co-belligerents. They are fighting for the same cause as the Allies, and their troops and the Civil Police are affording considerable help to the Allied forces in the maintenance of law and order. The command of Italian troops rests with their local commanders. General Antonio Basso has been designated to command all Italian troops in Campania. Operational control is vested in the Allied Headquarters to which the Italian troops are attached.

4. Looting and the unauthorized conversion of private property to the personal use of any individual are violations of the Articles of War and are punishable by the most severe sentences. Such acts are likewise contemptible and beneath the dignity of an Allied soldier.

5. I look to Unit Commanders to take the necessary steps to prevent recurrences of incidents such as those cited above and to insure that members of their commands conduct themselves in a manner to bring credit rather than discredit to the Allied cause.

A. L. FENCE
Brigadier General, AUS
Commanding

AWF:js

DISTRIBUTION:
"A" & "E"

U.S. RESTRICTED EQUALS BRITISH RESTRICTED

- 2 -

REPRODUCED AT HQ, AMG
1 January 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 394

28 November 1943

SUBJECT: Discipline - Allied Troops

TO : Commanding General, 7th Army

1. Enclosed are several reports of cases in which the Italian Civil Police, particularly the Carabinieri, have been not only mistreated but definitely hampered and molested in the performance of their duties by members of the Allied forces.

2. It has been publicly announced on frequent occasions that the Carabinieri have been selected by the Military Governor as the civilian police agency entrusted with the maintenance of law and order in occupied territory. They, and to a somewhat lesser extent, the other Italian civil police units are, therefore, working for and on behalf of the Allied Military Government. Indeed, they form almost an integral part of it.

3. In order that these agencies may effectively perform their work, it is imperative that they have as much of the respect and confidence of the Italian public as they deserve. The Allied Military Government has, from the beginning, made every effort to restore the prestige of these police forces in the eyes of the civilian populace. However, there are an alarming number of cases in the courts from which it is evident that the populace have been encouraged to believe that the civilian police are without authority in view of the presence of the Allied troops. Every time a police officer is rendered ridiculous by Allied soldiers because of actions against which he cannot properly defend himself, it lowers the prestige of the whole police structure upon which this Allied Government depends.

4. In view of the obvious difficulty of a Carabinieri or other police officer compelling a soldier to disclose his identity irrespective of the illegality or impropriety of the act in which he is engaged, it is virtually impossible in most cases to furnish a report which will clearly place responsibility upon a particular individual. Therefore, it is believed to be of the highest importance that every effort be made to impress upon all units the paramount necessity of upholding the prestige of the local police rather than of degrading it in the eyes of the people. Without the wholehearted support of the military authorities the police force cannot hope to control the black market, stealing, and other prevalent public evils.

Subject: Discipline - Allied Troops (Cont'd.)

5. Accordingly, it is earnestly requested that the military authorities again issue strong instructions directing members of the Armed Forces to refrain at all times from interfering with the Civil Police officers in the performance of their assigned duties and that appropriate disciplinary measures be taken in any cases where the identity of the individual offender is established.

FRANK J. McSHERRY
Brigadier General, USA
D.C.C.A.O.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 512



AMG/14030/PS

November 17, 1943

SUBJECT : Discipline of Allied Troops

TO : Chief of Staff, A.M.G. (Thru Channels).

1. It is recommended that the attached reports relating to the conduct of Allied Troops in Sicily be brought to the attention of the 15 Army Group authorities, with a request that instructions be issued, or if already issued, that they be repeated, directing members of the Armed Forces to refrain from interfering with the Civil Police Officers who are performing their assigned duties.

2. It is realized that disciplinary action in individual cases by the military authorities is impossible, unless the identity of the individual offender is established. The ascertainment of identity in cases such as those herewith reported is difficult, to say the least. To require members of the Armed Forces to disclose their identity upon the request of Civil Police Officers would be the antithesis of Military Government. It follows, therefore, that the remedy is necessarily a unilateral one, namely, the discipline of the troops themselves.

3. In view of the fact that the Carabinieri have been designated by our governments as the chief law enforcement agency within Italy, it is imperative that the soldiers of our governments do nothing which would tend to impair the respect and prestige which the Carabinieri should have in the eyes of the people of Italy. The same reasoning applies, in practical effect, to other civil police agencies. Hence the recommendation stated in paragraph 1.

PAUL G. KIRK,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief, Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

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COPY

TO: C.C.A.O.

REPORT OF R. QUINTERO, PALERMO 6 NOVEMBER 1943.

On 5 November 1943 while BONNARD ALFREDO, and DIETRICH PASQUALE, agents of the P.S., were on duty at Piazza Piedilegno, Resuttana, three colored American soldiers approached them, and attempted to hold up said guards. The above mentioned guards explained that they were agents of the Civil Police, and in addition, that they had no money. At this moment, an American vehicle was approaching and the three soldiers withdrew, in order that they might be hidden from the driver's view. Before withdrawing they ordered the above mentioned agents to wait, however, the agents seeing an opportunity to escape, made the most of it, and fled. They were pursued by said soldiers but to no avail, agents having arrived at their barracks unharmed.

Other information as to the identity of the soldiers is unavailable.

Copy to HM - I.S.S.

C O P Y

TO: C.C.A.C.

The following are summaries of reports submitted to the Civil Police Section, Palermo by the Carabinieri in which the discipline of Allied Troops is involved:

On 28 October 1943 at 18 Via Messina Marina, American soldiers invaded the premises of CORLEONE SALVATORE & CO., and removed all the furniture from the above mentioned office and also from Corleone's private apartment together with various other articles.

- - - - -

On 23 October 1943 at about 1930 hours two intoxicated American soldiers entered the home of DIGANGI GIUSEPPE, in Via Brancaccio, and asked said DiGangi for some wine. DiGangi replied he had none. One of the soldiers then threatened DiGangi with his pistol. DiGangi then accompanied said soldiers to the inn of Giordano Giuseppe at 208 Via Brancaccio, where the two soldiers obtained some wine and departed without paying.

Other information as to the identity of the soldiers mentioned in the above reports is unavailable.

Copy to IM - I.E.S.

TO: C.C.A.O.

REPORT OF GASTAJO PABLANI, CAPTAIN LEGION OF CARABINIERI, PALERMO 4 Nov. 1943.

On 2 November 1943, Carabinieri agent RIZZA IGNAZIO, was stopped in Partinico by five (5) American soldiers, who dragged him by force into a house of prostitution.

Upon attempt to escape he was assaulted about the head and face by said soldiers. In addition the above mentioned soldiers robbed said Rizza of four thousand three hundred and forth-five lire (4345 L), a pistol Mod. 34, together with his personal documents.

Other information as to the identity of the soldiers is unavailable.

Copy to FM - I.B.S.

REPORT OF GASTANO FABIANI, CAPTAIN, LEGION OF CARABINIERI.

At the petrol service on the C.R. American (Birreria Italia), there are on duty, several carabinieri, who frequently suffer indignity as a result of the frolic and banter of American soldiers. Said soldiers approach the carabinieri and remove their swords from the scabbards, unfasten their cartridge boxes, place the hats of the carabinieri on the (carabinieri) heads in a comical manner, all to the amusement of the public and the humiliation of said carabinieri.

At times, the military interferes with the carabinieri's performance of his duty. For example, on 4 November 1943, agent LOFRESCI SALVATORE, while on duty at the above mentioned petrol service, tried to get rid of some boys who were loitering around said area. Immediately the military rushed to the defense of said boys, even to the point of assaulting said Lofresti.

Other information as to the identity of the soldiers involved in the above report is unavailable.

Copy to FM - I.R.S.

REPORT OF R. QUASTURA OF PALERMO
1 November 1943

On 31 October 1943, at about 0100 hours, Maolucci Potito, and Rizzuto Ricardi, both guards of the P.S., were on duty on Corso dei Mille, at the height of the Mille Pedorelino. At the above mentioned time they were approached by two American soldiers in a jeep, who inquired of them the whereabouts of Via Messina Marina. After having obtained the information, said soldiers ordered both guards to turn over their revolvers to them. The guards protested, alleging that they were guards authorized by the Allied Military Government and they could not possibly give their revolvers to anyone. The soldiers, however, insisted, and one of them pulled out his pistol and pointed it at the guards. To avoid any serious trouble Maolucci turned over his revolver to the said military. Rizzuto was searched and found to be without a revolver. Said soldiers then drove off in the direction of Ponte Ammiraglio.

Other information as to the identity of the above mentioned soldiers is unavailable.

REPORT

The following is a report based on an original complaint by Col. Vincenzo Cacioppo, formerly of the Italian Army, and a subsequent investigation by the Carabinieri:

On October 15, 16 and 17, 1943, at various hours, a Lt. and three soldiers of the Allied Army, forced open the gate of the villa belonging to the Princess of Granatelli, at 193 Via Messina Marina. The above mentioned military entered the apartment of said villa and took away with them various articles, consisting of silk scarfs, two radion, china, silverware, leather suitcases, one sack of crocodile leather, one tail lamp and two bed springs.

The complaint further states that on the day of the Allied occupation, one officer and five enlistedmen of an anti-aircraft battery stationed in front of the villa, forced open the gate of said villa and locked up the custodian, Parial Giovanni. They then proceeded to force their way into the apartments, and removed various articles - the latter case was repeated four times - that day by American soldiers. During the pillages, the above-mentioned custodian was unable to prevent the same, since he at all times was held at the point of a rifle by the military.

The above-mentioned robberies have been reported to the P.S., who in turn have notified the American authorities.

The Carabinieri allege that the military who took part in the robbery of 15, 16 and 17 October, are still bivouaced in the vicinity of the above-mentioned Granatelli villa.

Other information as to the identity of the above-mentioned military is unavailable.

REPORT OF FABIANO GASTANO, CAPTAIN,
LEGION OF CARABINIERI, PALERMO
30 October 1943

On 29 October 1943, at about 1845 hours, two British soldiers, S/sgt. Arrlinson and Sgt. Major Ellis, the first mentioned being intoxicated, of the 1505 Manition, were seen molesting two girls along Via Maqueda.

The girls who were being accompanied by their father, seeing that the above-mentioned soldiers were insistent, walked into the entrance of the R. Prefettura building at 100 Via Maqueda, for protection. Said soldiers followed the girls into the building and there one of the soldiers collided into a glass door injuring himself about the head and face.

In the meantime the Vice Brigadier, and other Carabinieri on duty, sought to calm both soldiers. However, upon the Carabinieri's interference the soldiers commenced assaulting said Carabinieri.

The military police were later informed, and removed said soldiers from the R. Prefettura.

COPY

REPORT OF FARIANI, GAETANO, CAPTAIN LIEUTENANT OF CARABINIERI, 27 October 1943.

On 22 October 1943 at about 1630 hours an intoxicated American soldier approached CRISTIANO ANTONINO, a carabinieri, who was on duty at the entrance of Reale Favorita park in Piazza Leoni, and attempted to take away said carabinieri's rifle. Carabinieri RUSSO CICACCHINO, who also was on duty nearby as a traffic policeman, attempted to interfere as the above-mentioned soldier insisted on obtaining Cristiano's rifle. Both Russo and the sentry on guard, an American soldier, attempted to persuade the intoxicated soldier to leave. Said soldier thereupon began assaulting carabinieri Russo and caused him to fall to the ground.

The two carabinieri realizing that they were unable to cope with the situation, asked the intervention of an American soldier who was passing by in his vehicle. Said officer placed the intoxicated soldier into his vehicle and drove away.

Other information as to the identity of the above-mentioned soldier is unavailable.

C O P Y

REPORT OF GASTANO FABIANI, CAPTAIN, LEGION OF CARABINIERI.

On 27 October 1943 at about 1930 hours, one Dott. Barone Ettore was walking along Via Libertà approaching Via Ugoletta with his fiancée Ribaudo Angela, and his future sister-in-law Ribaudo Maria, 21 and 20 years of age respectively.

At this point two negro soldiers approached the above party from the rear, and one of said soldiers caught Ribaudo Maria by the arm and attempted to take her on Via Ugoletta. Said Barone seeking to prevent such an attempt, began fighting with the soldier, which soldier by this time had attempted to rip the dress off said Ribaudo Maria. During the struggle between Barone and the soldier, the second soldier approached Barone from the rear and stabbed him in the back.

After having committed this assault both soldiers fled.

Other information as to the identity of the above-mentioned soldiers is unavailable.

Copy to P.M. - I.B.S.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
(Public Safety Sub-Commission)
APO 512

AMG/1403Q/PS

November 16, 1943

SUBJECT: Discipline of Allied Troops

TO : Chief of Staff, A.M.G. (Thru Channels)

1. It is recommended that the attached reports relating to the conduct of Allied Troops in Sicily be brought to the attention of the 15 Army Group authorities, with a request that instructions be issued directing :-
 - (a) Members of the Armed Forces to refrain from interfering with the Civil Police Officers who are performing their assigned duties.
 - (b) Members of the Armed Forces will furnish identification to Civil Police Officers when requested to do so.
2. The authority of the Civil Police Officers must be respected if law enforcement is to be made effective.


PAUL G. KIRK,
Colonel, Infantry,
Chief Public Safety Sub-Commission

1. Incl. - File AMG/1403Q/PS

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