

1618

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

785016

ACC

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1617

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

785016

10000/105/405

ACC, REHABILITATION, ITALIANS
JULY, AUG. 1944

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

785016

AFHQ letter

Ref. CSD/424 dated 27 Sep

Subject. Provisions of Italian
Army Personnel.Nick Displand Persons
Sub CommissionVerbal instructions from
Col. Cippe on 11 Oct 44Tolson Jr.
Subject

1035

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO394

cc. Admin Section

Ref: 75/470/CA.
A/CC. 383.7

26 August 1944.

28 AUG 1944

SUBJECT: Return of civilians to their homes.

TO : Headquarters,
Allied Armies in Italy,
C. M. F.

1. I refer to this HQ letter Ref: 75/ dated 1. August. 44.
2. The Italian Government has been approached on the lines of this letter and are formulating a plan for the implementation of the decision to return agriculturists to their homes.
3. The Italian Government state, and I agree with them, that it would be impossible to set up rapidly the organisation necessary with civilians. The Carabinieri are fully employed in preserving law and order. The Italian Government has submitted a request for 934 effectives from the Italian Army in order to man the transit point mentioned in para. 4 of my letter. These transit points will be the key to the smooth and rapid working of the organisation envisaged and they consider that these cannot be maintained without military discipline and organisation.
4. I have approached the G.O.C., M.M.I.A. who opposes the removal of these men to deal with civilian refugees and is unwilling to take up the matter with you in view of your 1605/50/56/C.SBI dated 24. July.
5. I wish to urge in the strongest possible manner that these effectives from the Italian Army be provided.
6. In making the decision that the repatriation of agriculturists should commence when the plans of the Italian Government were prepared and the organisation was ready to carry them out, I had the following considerations in mind:-
 - (a) The Allies are importing food into Italy. Great areas of farm land are lying untilled. Their rehabilitation will save Allied shipping and supplies.
 - (b) The urge of great masses of people to move home can only be restricted by employing regularised movement. This necessitates the use of force. Such force involves the employment of resources including men and transport.

2 -

(c) Unauthorized mass migration must create disorder and affect Allied Lines of Communication. This has been brought to my notice forcibly by your own Headquarters, by A.F.H.Q. and by several Regional Commissioners, who have commented on the serious effects which this uncontrolled movement is creating.

7. The best method of restricting this mass migration is to initiate a regular controlled flow of movement. I am satisfied that the Italian Government can do this provided, and only provided, that they are furnished with the troops for which they have asked.

8. I fully appreciate the strict necessity of employing the Italian Army for military matters, and for military matters only. I submit, however, that this is a matter which affects not only the Italian but the Allied military effort. I cannot emphasize too greatly the dangers of uncontrolled movement of a quarter of a million people. It must lead to disorder. It can be prevented. I submit that the provision of 934 men from the Italian Army requested by the Italian Government is a small price to pay for the avoidance of these dangers.

9. An early decision is necessary. We cannot have a repetition of 2000 refugees crowded in a disorderly and unhealthy mass on Naples Station. We cannot see trains loaded with military supplies being over-loaded with returning refugees. We cannot have uncontrolled migration into devastated areas of hungry and homeless people.

10. I would ask therefore, that the provision of the troops asked for by the Italian Government be made at the earliest possible moment in order that the Italian Government may set about its task of proper control of a potentially very dangerous situation.

58971

Hq ACC - Sec'y Gen.
DISPATCHED
Date Time 27 Aug 1400
VIA H.H.
Initials WRR

ELBERT W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

Copy to: G-5, AMHQ
MMIA
Italian Refugee Branch

1037

157

1621

1704 1A

FROM: CINC AFHQ INFO AGO ROME
FROM: LT BULLOCK HQ 2678 C REOT
REF NR: 322363.
DATE/TIME/ORIGIN: JUL261903B

CL: ROME
PRIO: ROUTING

Adm Sec

CABLE RECEIVED FROM LEMMAN 21 JULY IS PARAPHRASED AS FOLLOWS:
"WHENIN ALGIERS I DISCUSSED PROBLEM OF ITALIAN OBSERVERS MISSION WITH
GENERAL WILSON. (FOR UNHRA FOR COCHRAN FROM LEMMAN HUB 200) AT THAT
TIME EMPHASIS WAS ON SMALL MISSION OF 3 OR 4 INDIVIDUALS TO OBSERVE
DISPLACED PERSONS PROBLEMS. UPON RETURN PROBLEM FURTHER EXPLORED.
NOT FEEL IT DESIRABLE TO BROADEN MISSION AGAINST POSSIBLE DIVISION
BY CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL INDICATING DESIRABILITY MORE EXTENSIVE
EXAMINATION ITALIAN RELIEF AND REHABILITATION SITUATION. ACCORDINGLY
HAVE APPROVED COMPLETE BUDGET FOR FOLLOWING 16 POSITIONS: CHIEF OF
MISSION, INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION SPECIALIST, ADVISOR ECONOMIC AND
FINANCIAL PROBLEMS. (NO COMMANDER IN CHIEF AFHQ FOR Q-5 FOR SPOFFORD
ACTION REPEAT FOR INFORMATION TO AGO ROME FOR KERRY UNHRA SIGNED
BOND FROM COCHRAN GARC) CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, AGRICULTURAL REHABI-
LITATION SPECIALIST, REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY SPECIALIST, TRANSPORTATION
SPECIALIST, CHIEF WAREHOUSEMAN, WELFARE SPECIALIST. 4 DISPLACED PER-
SONS SPECIALISTS, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS, 2 STENOGRAPHERS. PLEASE
DISCUSS WITH GENERAL WILSON AND OBTAIN APPROVAL AGAINST ABOVE CONTIN-
GENCY. IN ANY EVENT OBTAIN IMMEDIATE APPROVAL FOR WILLIAM WALK,
ADVISOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, WHO WILL OBSERVE ECONOMIC,
FINANCIAL AND DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS IN ITALY. WALK PROCEEDING
ALGIERS. MEANTHILE, KEEP KERRY INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS." URG
14141/ REQUEST FOR APPROVAL BE TAKEN UP WITH GENERAL WILSON WITH
PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON IMMEDIATE APPROVAL OF WALK. PLEASE ADVISE ME
ALGIERS REPEAT CAIRO

ACC DIST
ACT- UNHRA 10
INF- SECY GEN
CA RM
ADM SEC
ECOM SEC
DISP- HQ

1622

GENERAL WILSON. (FOR UNHRA FOR COCHRAN FROM LENMAN RUE 200) AT THAT TIME UNHRA WAS ON SMALL MISSION OF 3 OR 4 INDIVIDUALS TO OBSERVE DISPLACED PERSONS PROBLEMS. UPON RETURN PROBLEM FURTHER EXPLORED. NOT FEEL IT DESIRABLE TO BROADEN MISSION AGAINST POSSIBLE DECISION BY CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR COUNCIL INDICATING DESIRABILITY SOME EXTENSIVE EXAMINATION ITALIAN RELIEF AND REHABILITATION SITUATION. ACCORDINGLY HAVE APPROVED COMPLETE REQUEST FOR FOLLOWING 16 POSITIONS: CHIEF OF MISSION, INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION SPECIALIST, ADVISOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS. (TO COMMANDER IN CHIEF AFHQ FOR G-5 FOR SUPPORTED ACTION REQUEST FOR INFORMATION TO AGO ROOM FOR KENNY UNHRA SIGNED BOND FROM COCHRAN CATC) CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION SPECIALIST, REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY SPECIALIST, TRANSPORTATION SPECIALIST, CHIEF WAREHOUSEMAN, WELFARE SPECIALIST. 4 DISPLACED PERSONS SPECIALISTS, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS, 2 STENOGRAPHERS. PLEASE DISCUSS WITH GENERAL WILSON AND OBTAIN APPROVAL AGAINST ABOVE CONTINGENCY. IN ANY EVENT OBTAIN IMMEDIATE APPROVAL FOR WILLIAM REXX, ADVISOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, WHO WILL OBSERVE ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND DISTRIBUTION PROBLEMS IN ITALY. WELK PROCEEDING ALGIERS. MEANTHILE, KEEP KENNY INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS." URGE ~~WVWV~~ REQUEST FOR APPROVAL BE TAKEN UP WITH GENERAL WILSON WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS OF IMMEDIATE APPROVAL OF THEM. PLEASE ADVISE ME ALGIERS REPEAT CAIRO

AGG DIST 10
 AGO- UNHRA
 INT- SECY GEN
 CA BR
 ADM SEC
 ECON SEC
 DISPER SO
 A/CC
 FILE 2
 FLOAT

HE
 27 JUL 1944
 A. C. C.
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785016

CONFIDENTIAL

Adm Ccc

H/17A/AS

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-5 AUG 1944

AFTER REAR FOR CO LES FOR CO CHAN INFO MIDNIGHT FOR HERRA

AFTER SIGNED SIGNED

FM 70295

AUG 021200

22/09
CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

CITE FILES

HEADQUARTERS
AUG 1944
A.C.C.

REFERENCE YOUR CD 2369 OF 25 JULY. IMPORTANCE OF PLANS TO BROADEN MISSION FULLY APPRECIATED. IT IS NOT HOWEVER FELT THAT AT THIS STAGE IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO GIVE UNQUALIFIED APPROVAL TO PROPOSAL, STILL LESS AGREE TO RESUME OF MISSION OF THE SIZE SO REQUESTED. UNTIL POSITION OF HERRA IS MORE CLEAR IT IS FEARED THAT ANY BROADENING OF THE MISSION AS SUGGESTED MIGHT LEAD TO DUPLICATION AND OVERLAPPING WITH ACC WHOSE RESPONSIBILITIES ARE AT PRESENT CONSIDERABLE. RELUCTANT NOW TO ADD ANYTHING TO THESE RESPONSIBILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE BURDENSOME. ALTHOUGH WILLING TO RECONSIDER IN MAY 8 WEEKS. PARA REQUESTED ACCEPT WELK ON BASIS ATTACHED TO ACC AND UNDER ITS ORDERS

ACC DIST

INFO-ACTION	HERRA	1
INFO	SEC GEN	1
	C A BR	1
	ADM SEC	1
	ECOM SEC	1
	DISSEM	1
	A/CC	1
	FILE	2
	FIAT	1

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CONFIDENTIAL

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A/387

