

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

ACC

10000/105/573

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

105/573

CA, REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS FROM
FRANCE
AUG. 1944 - JAN. 1945

MINUTE SHEET

1.

Col to info.

Feb 17th

1 The U.S. wrote Lend Jones Sub Commission in 30 Dec. stating that there would be no general repatriation of FICOMONTSE patriots from France and that they might be interested in those who wished to join the Italian Army.

Feb 18th

2 Lend Jones Sub Commission have taken the matter up and written to FFIHQ copy to us.

3 The U.S. may care to see.

Winston Redman

S. Jan.

V. J.

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

143.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

Col Cripps.

Col. 13.

With ref. to your note of 30/10 the present position is,-

- 3. On 2nd Oct. Brig Lush wrote to AFHQ raising a number of questions which should be answered before any movement takes place and asked them to confirm that all movement should be stopped.
- 5. On 14th Oct. AFHQ replied that a Mission was being sent to France to study the problem and that the Policy had not been determined, and that Co-ordination with SHAEF was necessary.

On 25th Oct. the Italian Ministry for foreign Affairs was informed that 6th Army Group is discussing the matter with SHAEF.

There the matter rests and we can only wait until we hear from AFHQ. and the Mission returns.

J.R. Cripps Maj.

1 Nov.

3 Nov Reported at COS meeting

To P.S.

See 14 a + 14 b. for information

One copy of 14 b may be retained by you

*CAS
9 Dec. 44
R. 608*

*Thank you
J.R. Cripps*

J.R. Cripps

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
C M F
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref :- 4/814/CA

28 Oct 44

SUBJECT : - Italians in France.

TO :- Col. Cripps.

1. I think that this file should be read by yourself and Brigadier Upjohn. Important policy decisions are being taken by SHAEF, etc. on this question. There is also a suggestion that Col. Hulls and Col. Brister are being reserved for the job. This probably applies only to Col. Hulls now.
2. Until decisions are taken it looks to me as if a plan in outline might be prepared now in the event of ACC having to run this show. The plan might probably take the line of a formation of a sub branch under Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission. This should be discussed with them.
3. Brigadier Upjohn is probably in the picture now, but if not, he would no doubt wish to discuss with Brigadier Lush.

7/11/44
Y. B. P. VP

Nov. 3.

J.S. REAKES, Major,
for CSO CA Sec.

Under any developments like please mention

JSR/82

29 Oct. 44

R. Cripps

Wes

Letter to Sup'intendent of Acc
is submitted in reply to
7. Letter is dropped by
Adm. Sect.

23/10.
10

Acting Chief Commissioner

Submitted for sanction — opposite
dated 28.8.1954

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

1440

Submitted for signature — opposite
Dated Jan 8. 1954

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

SECRET
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 383.2-6

2 October 1944

SUBJECT: Relief of Italian Citizens and Administration
of Italian State Properties in France.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.
(Attention: Vice President, Political Section).

1. Your letter (Ref 376/385) dated 16 August 1944 stated that you had received a request from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for authority to send to France, as soon as possible, one or more Italian officials to deal with the situation of Italian citizens in France and with the administration of Italian State property in France. Sixth Army Group is undertaking to discuss this subject matter with SHAEF. We will advise you when we hear further.

C-6
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Brigadier General, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Copy to: U.S. Poled
Er Res Min

1444

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CENTRAL COMMAND
POLITICAL SECTION
JAG 354

REF: 785016

10 August 1944

SUBJECT: Relief of Italian citizens and administration of Italian State Properties in France.

TO: 1. G-2, Allied Force Headquarters;
2. Chief, British Consulate General and U.S. Political Advisor.

A memorandum has been received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs requesting authority to send to France, as soon as possible, one or more Italian officials particularly concerned to deal with the situation of Italian citizens in France and the administration of Italian State properties in that country. It is stated that there are now in France approximately 750,000 Italians, mostly of the working class, which have required a large amount of administrative service and welfare work on the part of the Italian Government. Further, with the deterioration of many of the men from France to Germany, their families remaining in France are in financial and other difficulties. It also is pointed out that there has been no report on the condition of the Italian State properties in France, consisting of the Italian Embassy in Paris, the several consular offices in the country, welfare centers and so forth.

WILLIAM W. SCOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 75016

Ref: 6/505/24

12 January 1945

SUBJECT: Arrest of Italian Subject by the French Police.

To : 4-2 Section, Allied Forces Headquarters
 Copies to: H. B. Political Adviser
 British Resident Minister

1. Attached is a copy of a memorandum from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the arrest by the French Police Authorities of another Italian subject.

2. The Political Section fully shares the concern of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the arbitrary methods adopted by the French Authorities in cases of this sort, and it most earnestly requests the Allied Forces to raise this matter to the highest level through diplomatic channels in order that similar abuses of recognized nations may cease in the future.

For the Chief Commissioner:

H. B. D'A. ROBINSON
 Acting Vice President, Political Section

1 Ref: Memo No. 6/137/68 and 12 Jan 45.

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

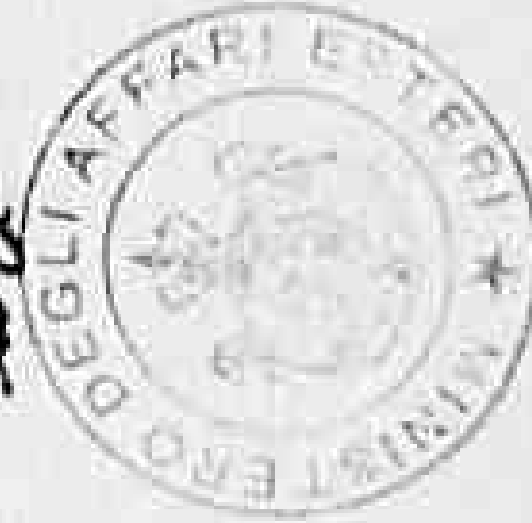
6/12/68

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.2.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs have been informed that the Italian citizen Claudio GALT, son of Edoardo and Caldesera Maria, born in Turin in 1922, repatriated for reasons of war from France (where his family is still resident) was arrested in Rome on November 1st, 1944, by the French Police and taken to the Carabinieri in via Leonardo, where he is held in custody as suspected of having drawn a false declaration of his civil status in order to expatriate from France.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the A.C. to kindly request the local French Authorities to promptly release the above mentioned individual as my Government's interest should call under the Italian legislation.

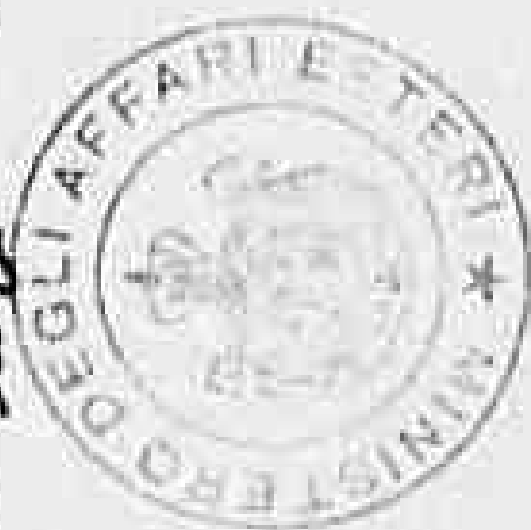
Rome, January 12th 1945



release of war from France (where his family is still re-
sident) was suggested to St. Louis, N. J., 1944. By the
French Police and taken to his General Headquarters in Via
La Cane, where he is still in custody as suspected of hav-
ing drawn a false declaration of his civil status in order
to expropriate from France.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the A.S. is kind-
ly request the local French authorities to promptly release
the above-mentioned individual as my Special Agent him
should fall under the Italian jurisdiction.

W.B.



ROME, January 12th 1945

The Head

We read your letter with interest

and we will be happy to

Very Sincerely

6/3/38

SUBJECT: Italian Army Screening Agency
for S. France

6/3/38 ✓

2 A Sect

CONFIDENTIAL

7/17

18a

Land Forces Sub Cos. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

TS/G/13

3 Jan 45

TO : A.F.H.Q.

Copy to: H.Q. A.C.

1. The Italian Authorities are concerned about the position of Italian Patriots from Piedmont who have taken refuge in S. France, and it is felt that amongst the large numbers at present held in French territory there are those desirous of joining the Italian Army.
2. No objection would be raised by H.Q. A.C. to the return of such volunteers to Italy provided that all patriots volunteering for service in the Italian Army were screened by an Italian Army Screening Agency.
3. It is recommended that a small screening Agency of about six Italian Officers be sent by the Ministry of War to S. France to screen Italian Patriots volunteers for the Army. These volunteers would be enlisted into the present Italian Army on arrival in Italy.
4. Will you please state if you agree to this proposal.

1410

L.M. Tongland
H.C.

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4. Will you please state if you agree to this proposal.

1440

L.M. Tagliabene H.C.

Major General
M.A.I.A.

Copy to: Patriots Branch A.C.
Political Section A.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 725016

ALLIED [REDACTED] COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Italian Patriots in S. France.

FILE No. 4/37.4/CA

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission.

30th December 1944

Reference Political Section Inter-Office Memorandum No. 376/385
dated 27th December.

1. It is not the policy of this Commission, or the Patriots Branch, to make any general repatriation of Piedmontese patriots who are now taking refuge in the South of France. However, if there are any of these men who wish to join the Italian army and are considered suitable by your Sub-Commission this Section would raise no objection to their return to Italy for that purpose.

2. The matter therefore appears to be one entirely for you to take any action in the screening, selection, and repatriation that may be deemed necessary.

Copy to:
Political Section.

[Signature]
C.M. UPJOHN, Brig. 14.9
VP Gd Section
DOOS.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

ALLIED ~~CONTROL~~ COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Political Section

SUBJECT: Italian Patriots in S. France.

FILE No. 376/385

TO : Civil Affairs Section
Copy to: Land Forces S/C.

27 December 1944

1. A paraphrase is attached of a telegram from the Italian Ministry of War regarding the position of Italian patriots from Piedmont who have taken refuge in S. France.

2. After consultation with the Land Forces Sub-Commission, the Political Section recommends that a small screening commission of about 5 Italian military personnel might be sent to S. France to screen or select patriots who desire to join the Italian Army as it is at present being re-constituted and that those selected as suitable should be shipped back to Italy. If you agree with this proposal, you will no doubt take it up with G-3 Section, Allied Force Headquarters.

J. L. A. Hopkinson

H. L. A. HOPKINSON
Acting Vice-President, Political Section

1430

1 Encl: Tel 242 dtd 10 Dec 44.

637

COPI

PARAPHRASE of telegram No. 242, December 10, 1944, from the American Legation, Bern, addressed to AMDEL ROME.

No. 651, dated December 8, from Italian Foreign Ministry, from Magistretti.

15a
-
Sent 6000 from Southern France that many Italian patriots, some wounded included, are there now and especially in vicinity of Giar Aix Les Bains. They escaped from Piedmont and took refuge there. The nephew of the former Premier, Antonio Giolitti, Commander of the Piedmont patriot Division of Piedmont, is with them. He reports that the French military authorities, through having specially meant for this purpose, are providing food and shelter. Therefore, patriots suggest that the Royal Government examine the possibilities of the creation of an Italian unit for Eastern Alps, or for their repatriation through Marseille and Naples.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 304
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Tel: 608

Ref. 4/37.4/CA

9th December, 1944.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italians from France.

TO : Political Section.

1. The attached papers are returned to you after perusal, and it is noted that you have the matter in hand concerning the return of Italian civilians and military personnel from the South of France.
2. There are three points that I consider need stressing.
 - (a) With regard to the civilians in Southern France, I consider that it is essential that no large movements of these persons be allowed.
 - (b) That only those persons who are resident in presently liberated territory should be allowed to return to Italy.
 - (c) The return of the Carabinieri from Switzerland should be pressed to the utmost as we are extremely short of these personnel and even 1,500 would be of great assistance, particularly later on in the north.
3. Copies have been taken of your 394/385 dated 4th December, 1944, for the information of Public Safety Sub-Commission and for this Section's files.


E.E. GRIFFITHS, Col.,
CWO CA Section.

Encls.

1 6 2 1
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 73506

COPY

1461

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref. 394/385

4th December, 1944.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Carabinieri from Switzerland.

TO : G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters.
Copies to: U.S. Political Adviser.
British Resident Minister.
U.S. Representative on the A.C.I.
British High Commissioner.

1. Reference is made to Political Section's 394/385 of 22nd November on the subject of the repatriation of Italian military personnel interned in Switzerland.
2. There has been received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs memorandum No. 6/1107/467 dated November 24th, stating that amongst the Italian troops now interned in Switzerland and whom it is desired to repatriate to Italy are 1500 carabinieri whose presence in the country would be of great use to the General Command of the Carabinieri for the preparation and organisation of the police service in Northern Italy. The request, therefore, is made for the repatriation of these carabinieri and further that they be given precedence over all others who may be repatriated from Switzerland.
3. The Director of Public Safety Sub-Commission, A.C., states that the presence of these 1500 carabinieri is urgently required to increase the police strength in Italy and the Director of Land Forces Sub-Commission (M.N.I.A.) has indicated his desire to see repatriated as many carabinieri officers and men as may be possible.
4. The Political Section concurs, sincerely, in this opinion and recommends earnestly that the repatriation of the carabinieri be effected as soon as possible.
5. An early indication of AFHQ's decision in this matter is requested.

For the Chief Commissioner:

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section.

1430

13.

Major Recker

No action on the particular question, which I
raised at COS meeting this morning. Coming
from it however, arose "What is the position
with regard to the large number of It
and other ~~refuge~~ ^{refugees} whom A.P. & D. were
requesting us to accept in Italy."

I believe Big had asked to accept and
called a "halt".

Find out from Sirpa what the
present situation is.

So out 14

R. A. B. 14

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 705016

To VP
 La. Inf.

Other? Holly

Kim Noyes
 is willing to go

I believe it must better to leave
 these people where they are, and
 make arrangements in time for their care.
 If we move them South we have
 still to move them back again
 eventually as they belong to the North.

R.R. Lepp

27 Oct 44

Bring up at work C.O.S. party.
 I recommend no action.

1400

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

Cup
Paul LaPine
Trinity

TOP SECRET

To: Colonel T. Hearty,
Patriots Branch,
A.C.C.

From: Col. Haldsworth, U.S.O.,
R.N.V.R.,
No. 1 Special Force,
A.C.C.

Copies to: Mr. H. Caccia,
A.C.C.
G (OPS) B,
A.C.C.
SO(12) Liaison Staff,
A.C.C.

Ref: J/1560

20th October, 1944

Subject: ITALIAN REFUGEES IN FRANCE

1. The attached note was written by Major Hamilton, our F.I.O. operating in the Franco-Italian frontier areas.
2. Major Hamilton, who arrived here on the 17th October, 1944, for a short visit and has since returned to Italy via France, addresses the importance of the problem and asks that it be given immediate consideration.

W. H. H.

Squadron Leader,
For Commander, R.N.V.R.,
Commanding No. 1 Special Force.

1. The attached note was written by Major Hamilton, our A.I.O. operating in the Franco-Italian frontier area.
2. Major Hamilton, who arrived here on the 17th October, 1944, for a short visit and has since returned to Italy via Rome, stresses the importance of the problem and asks that it be given immediate consideration.

W. H. H.

Squadron Leader,
For Commander, R.N.V.R.,
Commanding No. 1 Special Force.

1-1-45

Col Luff

I think the Vice President should
see this also Col Luff

OK the entry, H.
26/10

I understand, from the Office of the Chief Staff,
that the question of repatriating Italian refugees from
France has been handed over to C.A.S. together with all
correspondence on the subject.

P. H. Raymond
17th May 1945

TOP SECRET

10

COPY

22nd October, 1944

ITALIAN REFUGEES IN FRANCE

Owing to the difficult situation prevailing in North Western Italy, and especially in some of the valleys between VAL GRUNDA and VAL D'OSTA, where the Germans and Fascists are very active, Italian partisans and even civilians have on several occasions had to cross the mountains to seek refuge in France, this being their only way of escape.

During the summer months it was generally possible for these partisans to return to their valleys after a few days, when the Germans had left their villages; but now that the Germans seem, more or less, to keep the valleys under their control and that both weather conditions make the crossing of the mountains most difficult, it is probable that the Italians who come now into France will not be able to return to Italy.

As a rule - there are, of course, a few exceptions - the French disarm those of the partisans who still have their weapons, and then send them to some sort of barracks or camp. The Italians complain about the food that is provided for them, the lack of liberty, and that they are treated like prisoners, being guarded by P.F.I.s.

The French, on the other hand, say that it is quite impossible, whilst the war is still on in France, to let Italians wander freely about (there might be spies and Fascists among the refugees), and that food and clothing and fuel are so scarce that they can hardly do more for these refugees.

The best solution for all concerned would be that these refugees be sent, let us say, towards Marseilles and from

Italians who come down into France will not be able to return to Italy.

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The French, on the other hand, say that it is quite impossible. Whilst the war is still on in France, to let Italians wander freely about (there might be spies and saboteurs among the refugees), and that food and clothing and fuel are so scarce that they can hardly do more for these refugees.

The best solution for all concerned would be that these refugees be sent, let us say, towards Marseilles and from there by ship to Southern Italy, where those of the partisans who are still able to fight could join the regular Italian forces.

Signed: HAMILTON,
Major.

1431

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MEMO

SECRET

From: Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel: 388

SUBJECT: Transfer of File 2205/003.

FILE No. 996/003.

TO: DOOS Civil Affairs Section.

26 Oct 1944

This file is dormant for the time being and there is the opportunity to transfer it to your Section as has been done with "Repatriation of Italians from Greece" (8257/003).

File 2410

Ernest Davis
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

14.0

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 725016

RWS/ajp

23 October 1944

Ref: 2205/B/COS

Dear Marchese Visconti Venosta:

This is in reply to your letter No. 02690/4 dated 12 October 1944, which referred to memorandum No. 6/245/122 of 14 August 1944 from your Ministry and restated your views on the question of the protection of Italian citizens and property in France.

This matter was taken up with Allied Force Headquarters immediately upon receipt of the memorandum under reference and a reply now has been received in which it is stated that Sixth Army Group is undertaking to discuss this subject matter with Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd) ELMERY W. STONE

ELMERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

H. E. Marchese Giovanni Visconti Venosta,
Undersecretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Rome.

1420

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

ALTELLI W. HARRISON

Rome, 11th October, 1944.

N. 02690/4

Dear Admiral,

Through the Allied Commission the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has received copy of a telegram despatched by the American Minister at Bern to the State Department concerning the question of the protection of Italian citizens and property in France.

The information transmitted by Minister Harrison confirms the apprehensions expressed by this Ministry as far back as last August to the Allied Commission concerning the precarious situation of Italian citizens and property in, at the time of the liberation of French territory, no timely measures should have been taken in order to ensure them adequate protection and safeguard. In this connection I refer to the Memorandum of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 22nd August last, no. 1, whereby the Ministry suggested that, in common agreement with the Allied Commission and the French authorities, one or more Italian officials, entrusted with administrative tasks, should be sent to France in order to give protection and assistance to Italian citizens and property.

With reference now to the communication forwarded

The information transmitted by Minister Harrison confirms the apprehensions expressed by this Ministry as far back as last August to the Allied Commission concerning the precarious situation of Italian citizens and property in the time of the liberation of French territory, no timely measures should have been taken in order to ensure them adequate protection and safeguard. In this connection I refer to the Memorandum of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated 22nd August last, no. 37, submitted to the Political Section whereby the Ministry suggested that, in common agreement with the Allied Commission and the French authorities, one or more Italian officials, entrusted with administrative tasks, should be sent to France in order to give protection and assistance to Italian citizens and property.

With reference now to the communication forwarded by Minister Harrison, this Ministry finds itself obliged to have again recourse to the courtesy of the competent Allied authorities and ask for an early reply to the suggestion contained in the above mentioned memorandum. I also wish to call your attention on the necessity of reaching, as soon as possible, a decision on this delicate question which affects about 500,000 Italians.

With kindest regards,

Adm. L. VISCONTI VENOSTA

Adm. L. VISCONTI VENOSTA
Acting Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission.

14.1

8
SS

*Al Vicesegretario di Stato
per gli Affari Esteri*

Roma, 11 19 OTT 1944

Caro Ammiraglio,

pel tramite della Commissione Alleata è pervenuta al Ministero Affari Esteri copia di un telegramma diretto al Dipartimento di Stato dal Ministro degli Stati Uniti a Berna e relativo alla questione della tutela degli interessi italiani in Francia.

Le notizie comunicate dal Ministro Harrison non fanno che confermare le preoccupazioni manifestate da questo Ministero fin dall'agosto scorso alla Commissione Alleata nei riguardi della precaria situazione in cui sarebbero venuti a trovarsi le persone e gli interessi italiani nel caso in cui, al momento della liberazione del territorio francese, non fosse stato tempestivamente provveduto ad assicurare una loro adeguata protezione e tutela: mi richiamo a tale proposito alla Promemoria del Ministero Affari Esteri n. 37 del 12 agosto c.a. Questo Ministero ebbe a tale riguardo, a suggerire che, di comune accordo con la Commissione Alleata e con le Autorità francesi, venissero inviati in Francia - con mansioni di carattere amministrativo - uno o più funzionari italiani incaricati della tutela e dell'assistenza dei beni e delle persone italiani.

Riferendosi adesso alla comunicazione del Ministro Harrison, questo Ministero si vede costretto a ricorrere nuovamente alla cortesia delle competenti Autorità Alleate per sollecitare una risposta alla richiesta contenuta nel Pro-

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Riferendosi adesso alla comunicazione del Ministro Harrison, questo Ministero si vede costretto a ricorrere nuovamente alla cortesia delle competenti Autorità Alleate per sollecitare una risposta alla richiesta contenuta nella Promemoria su citato ed attirare la Sua cortese attenzione sulla necessità di concretare al più presto una decisione su questa delicata questione che investe la situazione di circa 800.000 italiani.

Cordiali saluti

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Acting Chief Commissioner of the
Allied Commission

R o m e

G. Lipari 13.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

2205
SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 383.7-32

14 October 1944

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italians to Italy from France.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.
(Attn: Chief of Staff.)

Reference your 2205/1/COS

1. Following a meeting of representatives of interested Sections, this Headquarters, a mission limited in numbers, is being sent to France to study problem of sending displaced persons and others from that country into and through the Mediterranean Theater of Operations.
2. Policies governing repatriation of any appreciable part of estimated 325,000 Italians in France have not yet been determined.
3. Movement of Prisoners of War, Displaced Persons, and others to Italy and to other countries in this Theater, during the period of military operations, will naturally be governed to a large extent by military necessity, as well as by wishes of the governmental authorities both of the country holding these persons and of the country receiving them.
4. Coordination with SHAEF in all of these matters is agreed to be important. When the Mission, referred in paragraph 1, has reported, you will be informed and the benefit of your views obtained.
5. Grateful for your offer of the services of Colonel Halls and Lt. Colonel Brister, which will be taken up with you again on the return of the Mission from S. France.


CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Brigadier General, G. S. C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.



1420

SECRET

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 383.2-6

2 October 1944

SUBJECT : Relief of Italian Citizens and Administration
of Italian State Properties in France.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.
(Attention : Vice President, Political Section.)

1. Your letter (Ref 376/385) dated 16 August 1944 stated that you had received a request from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for authority to send to France, as soon as possible, one or more Italian officials to deal with the situation of Italian citizens in France and with the administration of Italian State property in France. Sixth Army Group is undertaking to discuss this subject, matter with SHARP. We will advise you when we hear further.

CHARLES M. SPOTFORD
Brigadier General, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Copy to : U.S. Polad
Br Res Min.

1 6 3 7
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 765016

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394

Office of the Chief of Staff

SECRET & URGENT. 3

Ref: 2205/1/cos.

2nd October 1944.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italians to ITALY from FRANCE.

TO : G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters.

1. I understand that there are some 200,000 Italians in FRANCE who it is intended to repatriate to ITALY. These are to be sent to ITALY by ship. Movement of 1000 has already taken place.

2. It is of paramount importance that no further movement of refugees to this country take place unless it is a part of an agreed and considered plan, co-ordinated between SHAEP, AFHQ and this Commission.

3. It would be desirable that a survey of the situation be made in the South of France at a very early date. Questions to be considered are:-

- (a) screening;
- (b) selection of individuals;
- (c) concentration at assembly centres;
- (d) the establishment of a liaison team of responsible representatives of the Italian Government;
- (e) nominal rolls to be submitted to AFHQ for approval by Italian Government;
- (f) AFHQ to grant rail and road movement facilities from port of disembarkation to holding centre and subsequent dispersal to communes.

4. Please confirm that further movement will be stopped until this has been done. I am prepared to furnish Colonel Hulls and Lt. Col. Brister late of the Italian Refugee Branch of this Commission to help in S. FRANCE.

MSL/JC.

MS LSL
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff,
for Acting Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: Displaced Persons Sub-Commission.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref 376/395

16 August 1944

SUBJECT : Relief of Italian Citizens and Administration of Italian
State Properties in France.

TO : G-5, Allied Force Headquarters;
Copies to: British Resident Minister and U.S. Political
Advisor.

A memorandum has been received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs requesting authority to send to France, as soon as possible, one or more Italian officials particularly competent to deal with the situation of Italian citizens in France and the administration of Italian State properties in that country. It is stated that there are now in France approximately 750,000 Italians, mostly of the working class, which have required a large amount of administrative service and welfare work on the part of the Italian Government. Further, with the deportation of many of the men from France to Germany, their families remaining in France are in financial and other difficulties. It also is pointed out that there has been no report on the condition of the Italian State properties in France, consisting of the Italian Embassy in Paris, the several consular offices in the country, welfare centers and so forth.

WILLIAM W. SCOTT
Vice-President, Political Section.

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MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

Nr. 6/246/122.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.C.

There are at present in France approximately 750 thousand Italian citizens, the greater part belonging to the working class. The presence of such a great number of Italians in French metropolitan territory has always necessitated vast administrative activities and welfare work.

Owing to the events in France this problem becomes now even more difficult. Of particular concern is the situation of all those families who following the deportation of their men to Germany for compulsory labour, were left in great need and lack any financial support.

Moreover, there are in France important Italian State properties. These consist - apart from the Italian Embassy in Paris, where furniture and objects of great artistic value are to be found - of all Consular offices, Welfare Centres etc. of which the Italian Government is completely without news since September 8th, 1943.

As Allied troops are liberating French territory, the necessity arises of immediately dealing with the serious problem of the administration and custody of the State properties situated in all the most important French towns, as well as of the relief of needy Italian citizens.

It is the desire of the Italian Government - naturally in accordance with the Allied and French Authorities - to send to France, as soon as possible, one or more Italian Officials particularly competent for the said tasks.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs should greatly appreciate if the Allied Control Commission would kindly take the matter into benevolent consideration and obtain from the Allied Governments a favourable acceptance of the above proposal.

Rome, 14th August 1944.

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