

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

ACC

10000/105/577

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

0/105/577

CA, POLICE AGENCIES, ARMS & POLICY
APR. - OCT. 1946

Chief Commissioner

Enclosed letter is submitted for signature. After you have signed I will have further copies taken for distribution for both Folds and LFSC. Distribution will be entered on the appropriate copies.

4 October 1946.

McLan Brydies
M. CARR,
Brigadier,
A/Executive Commissioner.

Public Safety S/C

His approach signed by CC for dispatch 66, EC copies withdrawn.

C.S.O. - D.V.

Re 299

Additional Copies attn.

8/10

McLan Brydies

41

4/10

Public Safety S/C

His appeal signed by CC for dispatch 66 + EC copies
withdrawn.

LR 4/31
7/10

41

C.S.O. 5/10/51

Re 299 Additional Copies att'd.

8/10

E. J. Byrne, Col.

1683

34

after Commr.

Letter at 27^e - from signature of
approved per. Reply to 25^a will be sent in
28/9 - due course. (copy to E.D.) E. J. Stange Colonel

2.

Chief Commissioner.

Enclosed is a final copy of Aide Memoire.

The AFHQ letter which directed that this matter should be raised with the Prime Minister is at Folio 22A.

If you consider that this matter should be raised in a letter the Aide Memoire can be converted into a letter for your signature.

M. Carr,
Brigadier,
A/Executive Commissioner.

2 October 1946.

OCT 8 1946

36.

A/F.C.

Please convert to letter for my sig.
Note slight changes

The Army letter which directed that this matter should be raised with the Prime Minister is at Folio 22A.

If you consider that this matter should be raised in a letter the Aide Memoire can be converted into a letter for your signature.

2 October 1946.

M. Campbell

M. CAMPBELL,
Brigadier,
A/Executive Commissioner.

OCT 8 1946

A/E.C.

36.

Please convert To letter for my sig.
Note slight changes

37.

3/x

1682

Direct. R.S.P.

let's hope. will you please take Desp.
action.

3/10

M. Campbell
3/x. A/E Ex Comm

ap. Ex Comm. 38.

Letter prepared for signature per

4.10.46

E. J. B. B. B.

H.S. 4/10

Minute No. 29

10th September 1946

To: Public Safety S/Commission.

Reference 19A and AFHQ's reply at 22A.

Will you please draft an aide-memoire for the Chief Commissioner on which he can discuss the matter with the Prime Minister.

If the Chief Commissioner decides to write to the Prime Minister on the subject, the aide-memoire can be converted into a letter.

The aide-memoire will be mainly composed of relevant portions of paras 2-6 of 19A.

Triffle cast
J. M. CAUER, Brigadier.
VP. Co. Section.

after Comm.

30.

24^a is submitted for consideration.

19-9-46.

Ex 416.

Deputed ^{Triffle} 19/9 cast
L. H. Dye Colonel

after Comm.

31

2nd drafts for consideration are per

23-9-46.

E. J. Dye Col.
W. J. Dye Col.

after Comm.

24^a re-submission for consideration.

19-9-46.

Ex 416.

De Joseph ^{19/9/46} ~~19/9/46~~ E.H. Dye Colonel

31

after Comm.

2nd Draft for consideration via PCC

23-9-46.

E.H. Dye Col. ^{19/9/46} ~~19/9/46~~

Minute No. 32

To: Chief Commissioner.

27th September 46

1081

With reference to the letter you wrote to ACHQ dated 20th August 1946 (at 17A) on the subject of re-appointment of Public Safety Agents which is being placed, ACHQ (22A) have requested that you bring this to the notice of the Italian Minister and warn him of the apparent implications of the present Italian Government's proposals.

At 24A is submitted, for your consideration, a draft Aide Memoire for the Prime Minister.

Min #33

To EC.

MC

Draft Aide Memoire is excellent & is

approved

27/10

McLarbig

M. CARR, Brigadier.
Acting Executive Commissioner.

Enc cc

Minute No. 23

To: Executive Commissioner.

2nd August 1946

The enclosed letter is for signature by the Chief Commissioner.

* Draft at 14A was approved by him. Letter heading is AFO 394, but I believe CC's office has a stamp rectifying this.

At present there is only one copy available of the enclosures which is with the top copy to go to AFHQ C-5. Other copies are being prepared. Copies of the letter are also being prepared for distribution to your office, 14A and Polads.

MC

MS. 38

M. Carr, Brigadier.
VP. CA. Section.

Signed.

24

P.A. to see the headline please. MS (3/8)

CAS.

25

Letter signed is returned for dispatch. No copies have been withdrawn for CC files. Will you please arrange interview distribution to include CC HQ.

MS. 38 1000

Minute No. 26

To: Director,
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

6th August, 1946

With reference to 13A, now that the letter at 14A has been despatched, I think we should write to the Minister of the Interior

C.A.S.

Letter signed & returned for dispatch. No copies have been withdrawn for the file. Will you please arrange internal publication to include CC REC.

Minute No. 26

1050

To: Director,
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

6th August, 1946

With reference to 13A, now that the letter at 14 has been despatched, I think we should write to the Minister of the Interior and inform him that this Commission is not competent to authorize the manufacture of these armoured cars, and that the question has been referred to higher authority for decision.

M. L. B. B. B.

M. CARR, Brigadier.
VP. CA. Section.

27.

V.P. C.H.S.

Letter attached to Ministry of
Interior. In signature of J. J. B. B.

(28)

7.8.46.

Public Safety Sub-Commission

1804
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Chief Commissioner.

22

1679

Attached is submitted for your ~~approval~~
~~signature~~
~~indorsement~~

AUG 1 1946

Before letter is typed in signature I should like you
to consider the final paragraph 12 which is on the lines
agreed with you but I have amplified it somewhat in order
to cover all points
3/7/46
McCam Bury
in Ex. Comm.

MINUTE No. 20

To: Chief Commissioner.

29th July, 1946

1. Please see 124 which is the result of APHQ's study of information about the army of the Police (other than CC.RR).

(contd.)

APHQ apparently did not share the concern of MHA or the view that heavily armed civil police constitute a potential reserve army. The draft letter at 14A to APHQ gives the result of our enquiries about the alleged manufacture of armoured cars and certain small arms.

2. Par. 11 of the draft at 14A gives information about the militarization of the civil police. You will remember that when you asked for an aide-memoire (which is now being edited) on the police as a whole for discussion with the P.M., you suggested that we might deal with the subject of militarization after your discussion.

I recommend that the information we have be included in 14a. It will give APHQ a complete picture as we now know it.

3. Draft at 14A is submitted for your consideration.

McCauley
M. CARR, Brigadier.
A/c Executive Commissioner.

21

*Bury Can
Q. Ols See me*

24/11

JUL 29 1946

*Jus
cc*

1675

1896

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

I recommend that the information we have be included in 14a.
It will give AFHQ a complete picture as we now know it.

- 3. Draft at 14a is submitted for your consideration.

McCan Bayader
M. CANE, Brigadier.
A/c Executive Commissioner.

21

Bury Can
Q. No See me
24/11

JUL 29 1946

Jus
cc

1678

Chief Commissioner.

17

Attached is submitted for signature
information

(1111) 3 2 1977

P 11 A.

Brie Cam reflects Safety has the matter in hand Refat will
be submitted to you. 175 12/17

F.C. A very good intelligence source
which could be used within para 5 is
The U.S.A. - S.S.V. I can put you in touch
with their head, Capt. Angleton, whom
you've met

End
cc

18

V.P. CAS

For action - Then Fda CD Buge verbally
1671

175/13/17

will come in
The U.S.A. - S.S.U. I can put you in touch
with their head, Capt. Drysdale, whom
you've met
Jus
cc

V.P. CAS. 18

For action - There's a CD Byge verbally 1677

13/17

19

cyber/comm.

Draft letter ^{also} for signature
Please if approved!

25.7.46

Sgt Dyke. Colonel

CAS 12
Letter signed by C.E. Copies withdrawn
for cc see files. Ex 20.

13
Dea. Public Safety

Reference 11A call you please draft an interim
report (based on info already obtained) as requested
in para 6 of 11A.
Please discuss what further action we should take
with particular reference to 2nd sentence of para 5
of 11A

W. Van Buren
U.P.C.H.S.

5/7/46

14.

1676

V.I. C.A.S.

Reur. Further enquiry is in hand
and, we agreed with you, an interim
report will be submitted in the near

1 para 6 of 11A

Please discuss last para. act. we should take
with particular reference to 2nd sentence of para 5
of 11A

Mr. Bayader
U.S.C.A.

5/7/46

14.

1676

V.I. C.A.S.

Reun. Further enquiry is in hand
and, as agreed with you, an interim
report will be submitted in the near
future.

10.7.46

C. J. Bayader

Ex. Comm. ✓ 15.
M. M. I. A. (Col. Ridsley)

to see 11A. but reference to para 6 of
is proposed to send an interim report as soon
as additional info expected shortly is to hand.

10/7/46

C.S.O. For discussion tomorrow 9/7

10/7/47

Mr. Bayader
U.S.C.A.

10/7/47

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 715016

Chief Commissioner.

Approved
Attached is submitted for signature
information

JUN 18 1961

Mem No 10.

VP CAS
Letter as amended to issue
15/61

MS 13/6.

Ed. While not agreeing
with all of the last
para of Mem 10, I prefer
my revised para 8
MS

MINUTE No. 16.

To: Executive Commissioner.

11th June, 1945

1. The "clear" evidence referred to in the last sub-para of para 4 of 94 is a statement by Dr. Ferrari, Chief of Police, to the Director of Public Safety Sub-Commission that ~~several~~ automatic weapons up to the number of 4,000 light automatics have been purchased through agents operating in a clandestine trade in arms. The Chief of Police has given us the procedure under which such arms are purchased, but is unwilling to give any names as he states he would be betraying a confidence.

2. The basis of the estimates in the second sub-para of para 4 is letters from the Chief of Police, general statements made by him and confidential information obtained by this Headquarters:

(a) TANKS.

The Chief of Police has stated in writing that Public Safety Agents are in possession of five tanks.

(b) ARMORED CARS

The Chief of Police has stated in writing that Public Safety Agents have twenty in their possession. Confidential information obtained by Public Safety Sub-Commission is that number approximates to 40. The figure of 20 armored cars has, therefore, been given as an estimate.

(c) HEAVY MACHINE GUNS.

The Chief of Police has stated in writing that 539 machine guns are in possession but agrees that his figure may not represent the maximum number. His information is that the number approximates to 4,000 which is considered excessive. A figure of 1,000 has, therefore, been quoted.

(d) LIGHT AUTOMATICS.

The Chief of Police has stated in writing that 4,443 are in possession, but has admitted in discussion that this excludes a considerable number which may be in the hands of Public Safety Agents in the north and of which full details are not available. In view of the number of automatic weapons which were obtained for Public Safety Agents by ABC Public Safety Officers and the numbers which were introduced by partisans, it is considered that 4,000 is a fair estimate.

(e) MORTARS AND RIFLES.

1673

have been stated in writing that Public Safety Agents have twenty in their possession. Confidential information obtained by Public Safety sub-commission is that number approximated to 40. The figure of 50 considered more than, therefore, been given as an estimate.

(c) CONFIDENTIAL

The Chief of Police has stated in writing that 539 machine guns are in possession but agrees that his figure may not represent the maximum number. Public's information is that the number approximated to 4,000 which is considered excessive. A figure of 1,000 has, therefore, been quoted.

(A) LIGHT AUTOMATICS.

The Chief of Police has stated in writing that 4,000 are in possession, but has admitted in discussion that this excludes a considerable number which may be in the hands of Public Safety Agents in the north and of which full details are not available. In view of the number of automatic weapons which are obtained for Public Safety Agents by Anglo Public Safety Officers and the numbers which were introduced by partisans, it is considered that 10,000 is a fair estimate.

1670

(B) ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

The Supreme Court cover the normal armament of Public Safety Agents.

3. I do not concur in the additional paragraph 8. I thought it was agreed that a Police Mission could operate effectively only if a request for it were made by the Italian Government and suitable terms of reference both as regards its powers and financial costs were agreed.

I cannot see any Clause under the Revised Arbitration terms under which it would be appropriate to impose upon the Italian Government a British Police Mission (for which, presumably, the British taxpayer would have to pay) on the grounds that Civil Police forces are now too heavily armed. This over-argument has arisen through the failure of the Italian Government to observe the Arbitration terms and their own rules and regulations, and might have been avoided had there been no mission, as directed in November 1945, ordered the Italian Government to have all stocks of arms reported to the Allied authorities and put under guard.

McLan Brigadier
Major, Brigadier.
VI. CA. Section.
OK 11/11/46
Ki. 11/11/46

Chief Commissioner.

7

1. Page 8A and Minute 6 are submitted to you for reading.

2. The arming of the civil police forces and agencies is becoming a serious problem. Whereas the arming of the forces of the Italian armed services have been controlled by the Service Sub-Commissions, the fact is that no control has been exercised over the arms of the various police agencies and it is now estimated that these agencies are very heavily armed. I think there has been a sudden spurt in this arming during the last month and no doubt there has been a certain amount of political resentment behind it. The fact is, however, that it does infringe on the present terms of the long armistice and will have to be tackled under the revised terms under which SACRED controls the production of arms. It all, of course, emphasises the necessity of a Police Mission to advise on the re-organisation of the police forces in Italy.

3. At 2A is a draft letter to AMM which is submitted for your approval.

MSL
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

4. June, 1946

JUN 4 1946
1720

JUN 6 1946

E.C.

What is the "dear evidence"
returned to I know part of it?

it all, of course, emphasizes the necessity of a Police Mission to advise on the re-organization of the police forces in Italy.

5. At 9A is a draft letter to AMQ which is submitted for your approval.

4. June. 1946

M 3/2
Brigadier,
Executive Commission.

JUN 4 1946
1720

8.

JUN 6 1946

F.C.

What is the "dear evidence" referred to in last para of #4?
What is basis of estimate 1674
Second para of #4?

Only a short-time ago relatively, the police were most ~~indignantly~~ armed. I am astonished at this sudden reversal.

END

9.

LL

8/VI VP CAS

Will you ~~could~~ be reply to C.C. general

172/116

Ex Comm

1. To see 8A which M.M.1 A handed to me in connection with the subject of control of production of arms and which I do not think you have seen. The subject of control of production is being dealt with separately on another file.
2. M.M.1 A are anxious that the situation should be brought to the notice of M.F.H.Q. principally on the grounds that it is illogical to put a ceiling on strength and armament of the Armed Forces and at the same time set to control the strength and armament of the Civil Police forces. This section is ~~mainly~~ more concerned over the heavy armament of the Police because it is unnecessary and contrary to sound Police policy.

3. M.F.H.Q. is draft of a letter which it is suggested should be sent to A.F.H.Q. It has been agreed with M.M.1 A & P.S. S/C. The only complication about this letter is that M.F.H.Q. may cause the question as to how uncontrolled issue of arms lead to the Civil Police has taken place in view of their letter of 8th November 1945

M. C. B. D. 246

the strength and armament of the Civil Police forces. The Section is ~~very~~ more concerned over the heavy armament of the Police because it is unnecessary and contrary to sound police policy.

3. ATQA is draft of a letter which it is suggested should be sent to AFHQ. It has been agreed with MMIA & PSSC.
- The only complication about the letter is that AFHQ may raise the question as to how uncontrolled issue of arms lead to the Civil Police has taken place in view of their letter of 8th November 1945

3/6/46

McLean Bywater, P. 46
V.P.C.A.S. 1070

SECRET NO. 3

1st Mar, 1946

To: Executive Commissioner.

3.

As this concerns an important matter of policy, I should like you to see this file before I despatch the letter at 21.

The difficulty, I find in dealing with a matter of this nature is, that in Italy the organization of the police force is out of gear.

Normally the first line of police should be armed with non-lethal weapons such as truncheons and tear gas, with some lethal weapons available for use under exceptional circumstances. In Italy the first line is furnished by the carabinieri who are armed only with lethal weapons including ordered cars. This complication arises out of the fact that the first line, i.e. carabinieri, are part of the Army which is basically organized as far as organization of police forces is concerned and I think this is viewed in principle by the Italian Government, but there are great obstacles to making any change.

The non-lethal weapon tear gas is only to be found with the Italian Army proper which is called in aid of the civil power as a last resort.

Although the Italian Government are responsible for maintenance of law and order I doubt whether under existing circumstances, we should give the Italian authorities a free hand and allow them to arm public Safety Agents and Finance Guards with automatic weapons.

Italian Brigades #45.
M. G. B. Brigadier.
77. C.A. Division.

4.

They must be in a position to be sent to

decide on whether having regard to the conditions in the country the order for more

and order I doubt whether under existing circumstances, we should give the Italian authorities a free hand and allow them to use Public Safety Agents and Financier Guards with automatic weapons.

Mr. Bryan #145.
M. Cassin, Brigadier.
Mr. Ch. GENTIL.

4.

Why must we refer to ACCESS? We want to decide ourselves whether, having regard to the conditions in this country, the wider perspective of the civil population at the moment of fact of the C.C.R.R. alone is sufficient. I think there is a case for assuming that I think Ag. of P.S. with good reason. Will you now then proceed with the matter, with the view of giving us the necessary information.

Ref. taken May 6th
as at 3A

5
S/Sgt. Bay (Maj 1911) 6/5 - H.H.Q. authority must be obtained if used in Italy. All a needed authorities are provided for C.C.R.R. have and in 10 off or 20 can still only become available one person July to Nov 1943

1910

Public Safety Dept.
Ref folio 1 please forward your views
P. K. S. way
to Section

27 April

2.

V.P.C.H.S.

This SPC agrees with the observations in 1A. The muskets and pistol, normally carried by the Civil Police are sufficient for ordinary Police duty. Letter, attached for signature if approved.

30/4/46

G. J. Dyke. Colonel

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 794

6/14.1/31.

14 October 1946.

SUBJECT : Arming of Police.

TO : ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
Attention: G-5 Section.

1. Reference is made to your letter G-5 940.25 P of 10 October 1946.
2. So far no reply has been received from the Italian Government. As the question of the arming of the Police concerned more than one Ministry the letter asking for the scheme to be submitted was addressed to the Prime Minister to enable him to take the matter up with the Ministries concerned.
3. The matter is being expedited and the result will be communicated to you as early as possible.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

E.J. EYE, Colonel,
Acting Director.

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

C O P Y

30A

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

G-5: 940.25 P

10 October 1946

SUBJECT: Arming of Police.
TO : Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
APO 794.

When may the scheme for re organisation of the
Italian Police which was asked for by this Headquarters
letter G 5: 940.25P of 25 September be expected. please.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN :

A. L. HAMBLIN.
Colonel. G.S.C.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

1669

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

298

/ October 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

Recently it has come to the notice of the Allied Authorities that the Agents of Public Safety are being organized and armed on Military lines, parallel with the O.L.P.S.

It is understood that this Police Body is to be a thoroughly Military Corps comprising Mobile Battalions, Groups and Companies and that it is to be subject to Military Code and Discipline.

As regards the arming of the Force, a report submitted by the Ministry of Interior to the Allied Commission on 14th May last, revealed that as applications for automatic arms by the Ministry of War had not been met, the Ministry of Interior had procured, apparently without Allied authority, 4000 mitra, which, after repair had been issued to the Civil Police.

The report also disclosed that the Force possessed 3 Tanks, 21 Armoured Cars and 14 Armoured tractors. Furthermore, in a letter from the Ministry of Interior to the Allied Commission dated 10th July 1946, it was stated that the Ansaldo Society of Genoa, Ltd, on request of the Ministry, forwarded to Rome, two new armoured cars of the under-mentioned types:-

- a. "Pino" type (5 tons).
- b. "Sps AB/43" type (7 tons).

The first Ansaldo were prepared within a short time, to supply 50 of each type fully equipped to the Ministry and authority of the Allied Commission to proceed with the purchase was requested.

It is appreciated that the responsibility for law and order in Italian territory rests with the Italian Government and that the proposals to change the character of the Corps of Public Safety Agents were initiated before the elections and the institutional changes when outbreaks of disorder may have been considered by some as a possibility.

Further it is realized that many sections of the population are still in unlawful possession of Arms.

Should the changes mentioned continue to be implemented, it will be necessary to give serious consideration to the question as to whether this re-organization and armament brings the Corps of Public Safety Agents within the category of the Armed (Defence) Forces, on a par with the O.L.P.S. for whom ceilings have been set under the Armistice

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735046

(Long or Revised) and by the Draft Peace Treaty, as it stands at present.

In view of all the circumstances, I would appreciate, my dear Mr. Prime Minister, if full details of the scheme for the re-organisation and re-equipping of the Corps of Public Safety Agents could be furnished to this Commission as early as possible. Meanwhile, pending the examination of the scheme, the Supreme Allied Commander is unable to give authority for the proposed manufacture of armoured cars for the Police.

Yours very truly

/s/ Henry V. Stone

HENRY V. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner.

Int. Dist.:-
Reled (A)
UB)
Land Forces etc.

1667

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner
A.P.O. 794

28A

AIDE MEMOIRE

ARMING OF CIVIL POLICE

1. Recently it has come to the notice of the Allied Authorities that the Agents of Public Safety are being organised and armed on Military lines, parallel with the CC.RR.

It is understood that this Police Body is to be a thoroughly Military Corps comprising Mobile Battalions, Groups and Companies.

It is to be subject to Military Code and Discipline.

2. As regards the arming of the Force, a report submitted by the Ministry of Interior to the Allied Commission on 14th May last, revealed that as applications for automatic arms by the Ministry of War had not been met, the Ministry of Interior had procured, apparently without authority, 4000 mitra, which, after repair had been issued to the Civil Police.

3. The report also disclosed that the Force possessed 5 Tanks, 21 Armoured Cars and 14 Armoured tractors. Furthermore, in a letter from the Ministry of Interior to the Allied Commission dated 10th July 1946, it was stated that the Ansaldo Society of Genova, had, on request of the Ministry, forwarded to Rome, two new armoured cars of the undermentioned types:-

- a. "Pinci" type (3 tons).
- b. "Spa Al/43" type (7 tons).

The firm Ansaldo were prepared within a short time, to supply 50 of each type fully equipped to the Ministry and authority of the Allied Commission to proceed with the purchase was requested.

4. It is appreciated that the responsibility for law and order in Italian territory rests with the Italian Government and that the proposals to change the character of the Corps of Public Safety Agents were initiated before the elections and the institutional changes when outbreaks of disorder were ~~regarded~~ ^{may} as a possibility.

Further it is realised that many sections of the population are still in unlawful possession of Arms.

5. Should the changes mentioned continue to be implemented, it will be necessary to give serious consideration to the question as to whether this re-organisation and armament brings the Corps of Public Safety Agents within the category of the Armed (Defence) Forces, on a par with the CC.RR. for whom ceilings have been set under the Armistice (Long or Revised) and by the Draft Peace Treaty, as it stands at present.

1600

-2-

6. In view of all the circumstances, it would be appreciated if full details of the scheme for the re-organisation and re-equipping of the Corps of Public Safety Agents could be furnished to this Commission as early as possible. Meanwhile, pending the examination of the scheme, ~~the~~ authority for the proposed manufacture of the armoured cars for the Police ~~cannot~~ be given.

1917
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

FA DQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A P O 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

27A

6/14.1/CA

30 September 1946.

SUBJECT : Release of model 91 muskets to P.S. Guards.
TO : M.H.I.A.

1. With reference to your letters SD/109/2/8 of 7th August
and SD/109/2A of 24th September 1946.
164

2. The 1891 Musket is part of the normal armament of the
Civil Police Force and is recognised as such, therefore this
Commission raises no objection to authority being given for the issue
to be made.


M. GARR, Brigadier
a/Executive Commissioner.

1664

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

SUBJECT: Issue of ~~Automatic~~ Carbines
to Finance Guards

24 SET 1946

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MIA)

(429081 Ext. 401) SD/109/2A

18 Sep 46

TO : ARMED COMMISSION
(Executive Commissioner)

1. Letter from Min. of Interior (with translation) is hereby passed to you for necessary action.
2. This HQ letters SD/109/2A of 2/8/46 and 10/Sept refer.

RHC/sb

Internal: 'Q'

M. W. Hope.

B.C.S. for
Major General M.S.I.A.

166-



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

COPY

TRANSLATION

From : Ministry of Interior
To : M.M.I.A.

Ref : 209.1606 AGG 20954
Date: 4/5/46

SUBJECT: Request of approval for the release of
10,000 Carbines mod. 1891

In letter 209.1606 AGG of 20/7/45 this Ministry, in pointing out the critical situation on armament of the P.S. Corps, asked your M.M.I.A. to kindly consider with particular attention such state of affair and to authorize the release of the arms through the M. of F.

At present, having approached the M. of F. on the urgent issue of 10,000 Carbines mod. 91, which are essential for the training of P.S. Guards attending the courses, said Ministry stated that the request was forwarded to you for approval and that in your SD/10/2 you replied that the question had been forwarded to Superior Authority for examination.

In view of the above and since about 4000 P.S. Guards have recently started the courses without arms, we beg your M.M.I.A. to examine urgently this question, and, since the matter deals with normal scale of issue of arms, to authorize the release of the requested 10,000 carbines mod. 91.

for the Minister
(illegible)

Distr: SD/10/2

1662

2063

MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO
Direzione Generale

P.S.

Roma 4 Settembre 1946

Alla LORO CORTESE SUP-CORR., A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

R O M A

Divisione GCP Sez. 3

Prot. N. 399.0606 A.C.C. 20054

OGGETTO: Richiesta nulla osta per la cessione di n.10.000
moschetti mod. 1891.

Con lettera 20/7/46 n. 399.0606 A.C.C. questo Ministero, nel prospettare la critica situazione dell'armamento del Corpo delle Guardie di P.S. chiese a codesta Commissione di voler considerare con particolare riguardo tale stato di fatto e di compiacersi autorizzare la definitiva cessione di armi da parte del Ministero della Guerra.

Ora, avendo rivolto premure al Ministero della Guerra per la urgente cessione di n. 10.000 moschetti mod. 91, indispensabili per l'addestramento degli allievi Guardie di P.S. dei corsi in atto, detto Ministero ha comunicato di aver trasmesso la richiesta, per il prescritto nulla osta, a Codesta Cn. Commissione, che, con nota n. SD/102/2, ha informato che la questione era stata sottoposta all'esame delle superiori Autorità.

Ciò stante, poiché circa 4.000 allievi Guardie di P.S. hanno di recente iniziato i corsi di addestramento, del tutto privi di armi, si prega vivamente codesta Cn. Commissione di voler esaminare con cortese urgenza la questione e, trattandosi di arma che costituisce la dotazione ordinaria degli allievi, concedere il nulla osta per la cessione dei 10.000 moschetti mod. 91 richiesti.

Ora, avendo rivolto premure al Ministero della Guerra per la urgente cessione di n. 10.000 moschetti mod. 91, indispensabili per l'addestramento degli allievi guardie di P.S. dei corsi in atto, detto Ministero ha comunicato di aver trasmesso la richiesta, per il prescritto nulla osta, a Codesta On. Commissione, che, con nota n. SD/102/2, ha informato che la questione era stata sottoposta all'esame delle superiori Autorità.

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160 -

DEL MINISTRO
(?)



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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

15 September 1946.

G-5: 940.25P

SUBJECT: Arming of Police.

TO : Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
APO 794.

Reference this Headquarters letter 940.25P of 5 September.

Please expedite submission of the scheme for the reorg-
anisation of the Italian Police.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A.L. HARRIS
Colonel, D.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

SECRET

File Revised

ARMED OR CIVIL POLICE

1. Recently it has come to the notice of the Allied Authorities that the Agents of Public Safety are being organised and come on Military lines, parallel with the C.I.M.

It is understood that this Police body is to be a thoroughly Military Corps comprising Mobile Battalions, Groups and Companies.

It is to be subject to Military Code and Discipline.

2. As regards the grades of the Force, a report submitted to the Ministry of Interior to the Allied Commission on 10th May last, revealed that as no positions for authorisation by the Ministry of War had not been met, the Ministry of Interior had proceeded, apparently without authority, 4000 officers, which, after repair, had been issued to the Civil Police.

3. The report also disclosed that the Force possessed 5 tanks, 21 armoured cars and 71 armoured tractors. Furthermore, in a letter from the Ministry of Interior to the Allied Commission dated 10th July 1946, it was stated that the Armado Society of Brazil, had, on request of the Ministry, forwarded to Rome, two new armoured cars of the underspecified types:-

a. "Pinto" type (5 tons).

b. "Sica 25/43" type (7 tons).

On July 20, 1942, it was revealed that the Italian Government had authorized the Ministry of War to supply the Ministry of War with 100,000 rifles, the Ministry of War had procured, apparently without authority, 1000 rifles, which, after repair had been issued to the army units.

The report also disclosed that the Force was composed of 21 armored cars and 11 armored trucks. Furthermore, in a letter from the Ministry of Interior to the Allied Command dated July 1942, it was stated that the Asesido Society of Genoa, Italy, on request of the Ministry, forwarded to Rome, two new armored cars of the aforementioned type:-

a. "Panda" type (7 tons).

b. "Gepa 45/1" type (7 tons).

The firm Asesido was prepared within a short time, to supply 50 of each type fully equipped to the Ministry and authority of the Allied Commission to proceed with the purchase was requested.

It is appreciated that the responsibility for law and order in Italian territory rests with the Italian Government and that the proposals to change the character of the Corps of Public Safety Agents were indicated before the elections and the institutional changes were on the basis of disorder were regarded as a possibility.

Further it is recalled that many sections of the population are still in unlawful possession of arms.

1655

3
-2-
b. Should the proposed amendments continue to be implemented, it will be necessary to give serious consideration to the question ^{of} whether this re-organization and armament belong to the Corps of White Guard agents within the category of the Armed (Defense) Forces, or a way with the CO. HQ. for which settings have been set under the Armistice (long or revised) and by the Draft Peace Treaty, as it stands at present.

c. In view of all the circumstances, it would be appreciated if full letting of the scheme for the re-organization and re-equipping of the Corps of Public Safety Agents could be furnished to the Commission as early as possible. Meanwhile, pending the examination of the scheme, the authority for the proposed manufacture of the weapons and for the police cannot be given.

1926
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

SECURITY OK

X43

23A

SUBJECT: Issue of Arms to Civilian Police Forces

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC (MMIA)

(489081 EXT 400) SD/109/2A

2 Sep 46

TO : HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

18A

Ref MMIA letter SD/109/2/A of 7 Aug 46.

May a reply to this letter be given shortly please.

MWH/rr

M. W. Hope

BGS

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Internal: 'G'
ORD
G/16/2

1657

1927
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 725016

CIV-REF.

1366

MC

(22A)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

5 September 1946

G-5: 940.25P

SUBJECT: Police Agency - Arms.

TO: Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
APO 794.

(19A)

The recommendation contained in para. 6 of your letter 6/14.1/CA of 20 August is approved.

Please invite the Italian Prime Minister to furnish you with details of the scheme for the reorganization and re-equipment of the Corps of Public Safety Agents. At the same time, the Prime Minister should be warned of the apparent implications of the present proposals and informed that, pending examination of the scheme, approval for the proposed manufacture of armoured cars for the police cannot be given.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:



A. D. HAMBLÉN
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

1650



7 SEP 1946

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7076

COPY:TRANSLATION

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

77127/35784/1.6.4

Rome, 28 August 1946

Dear Admiral,

In reply to the requests formulated in your letter No. 9/28/CA of 25 June 1946, I transmit to you the following data supplied to me by the competent offices with regard to the type and calibre of the arms assigned to the "Carabinieri" and to other police forces as well as with regard to the system of governmental control over the production repair and transit of war material.

The Ministry of War provides for the armament of the Carabinieri of the finance guards, of the P.S. guards, of the corps of custody agents of penitentiaries and of the local police agents (communal guards, sworn guards etc.) according to the specialities as indicated in the enclosed list.

As to the Public Safety corps in particular, the relative rule establishes as individual armament the sabre and the pistol for the warrant officers, the pistol and the musket for the "brigadieri", "vicebrigadieri", chosen guards and guards.

The detachment armament is not definitely set in the ruling. Practically it is composed of armoured cars for 20mm guns, heavy machine-guns for 3mm, of 6,5 mm machine-guns and of hand grenades and tear bombs.

Such arms are however not sufficient for the total need of the corps, regardless of the fact that the General Direction of P.S. of the Ministry of the Interior provides to integrate the supplies furnished by the Ministry of War (see enclosure) with the distribution to the detachment of automatic muskets, machine-guns and heavy machine-guns which have been obtained second hand and then opportunely revised and repaired.

The control over the production and repair of arms in military establishments and in the armament factory "Beretta" of Gardone Val Trompia is being exercised by the Ministry of War, while for the remaining civilian factories of arms and ammunition is competent the Ministry of the Interior. The latter provides also - according to art. 28 and the following of the P.S. laws approved by Royal Decree 18 June 1931 No. 773 and of paragraph 7 of title I of the rules for the carrying out the P.S. law, approved by R.D. 21 January 1929 No. 62 - for the vigilance of the transit of war material across the borders and the various regions of the national territory.

E.C. Dist 3/9/46

Sincerely yours

Act. CA Secs
Inf. C. Com
E.C.
Land Forces S/C
Navy S/C
Air Forces S/C
Econ Sec.

/S/ De Gasperi

Note: The origin of this letter is in
34/9/28/CA
7/11/46 Capt
C.M.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 73506

C O P I A

Roma, 28 Agosto 1946

Po. 77127/35784/I.6.4.

IL PRESIDENTE
DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

Caro Ammiraglio,

In esito alle richieste da lei formulate con la lettera n.9/28/CA del 25 Giugno scorso, Le comunico i seguenti dati fornitimi dagli uffici competenti sia in merito al tipo e calibro delle armi in dotazione all'arma dei carabinieri e alle altre forze di polizia che per quanto riguarda il sistema di controllo governativo sulla produzione, riparazione e transito del materiale bellico.

Il Ministero della Guerra provvede all'armamento dei carabinieri, delle guardie di finanza, del corpo delle guardie di P.S., del corpo degli agenti di custodia degli stabilimenti penali e degli agenti di polizia locale (guardie comunali, guardie giurate, ecc.), nella misura secondo le specialità di cui agli specchi allegati.

Per quanto concerne più in particolare il corpo di P.S., il relativo regolamento prevede come armamento individuale la sciabola e la pistola per i marescialli, la pistola ed il moschetto per i brigadieri, vicebrigadieri, guardie scelte e guardie.

L'armamento di reparto non è espressamente considerato dal regolamento. In pratica esso si compone di carri armati da mitragliere da 20 mm. di mitragliatrici pesanti da 8 mm., di fucili mitragliatori da 6,5 mm. e di bombe a mano e lagrimogene.

Tali armi, però, non sono sufficienti al totale fabbisogno del corpo, nonostante che la Direzione Generale di P.S. del Ministero dell'Interno provveda ad integrare i quantitativi forniti dal Ministero della Guerra (v. allegato specchio) con la distribuzione ai reparti di moschetti automatici, fucili mitragliatori e mitragliatrici di ricupero, opportunamente revisionati e riparati per proprio conto.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7506

- 2 -

Il controllo sulla produzione e riparazione delle armi negli stabilimenti militari e sulla fabbrica d'armi "Beretta" di Gardone Val Trompia viene esercitata dal Ministero della Guerra, mentre per le restanti fabbriche civili di armi e munizioni la competenza spetta al Ministero dell'Interno. Quest'ultimo Ministero provvede pure, ai sensi dell'art. 28 e seguenti del T.U. delle leggi di P.S., approvate con R.D. 18 Giugno 1931 n. 773 e del paragrafo 7 del titolo I° del regolamento per l'esecuzione della legge di P.S., approvata con R.D. 21-I-1929 n. 62, alla vigilanza sul transito del materiale bellico attraverso le frontiere e le varie regioni del territorio nazionale.

La prego di gradire i miei cordiali saluti.

Firmato: DE GASPERI.

All'Ammiraglio Ellery W. STONE,
Commissario Capo della Commissione Alleata
R O M A

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

Alleg.1

SPECCHIO ARMI IN DISTRIBUZIONE AI CARABINIERI ALLA DATA
DEL 9 LUGLIO 1946

A r m i	Quantita
Pistole	37.888
Moschetti 91	75.621
Mosch. Aut. Beretta	20.155
Fucili mitragl.	5.254
Mortai da 45	127
Bombe a mano per dotaz. Rep.	147.000
Bombe a mano concesse per addestramento e servizi d'isti tuto	3.273

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7506

Alleg. 2

SPECCHIO ARMI CEDUTE ALLA GUARDIA DI FINANZA

Data della cessione	Materiali ceduti	Quantità
14/9/45	Pistola aut. Beretta mod.34 cal.9	2
18/9/45	Mosch. " " " 38/A cal.9	60
10/10/45	Moschetti mod.91 cal.6,5	2.774
	Mitra Breda cal.8	100
30/10/45	Mosch.aut. Beretta mod.38 cal.9	4
14/12/45	Mosch.aut. Beretta mod.38/A cal 9 (in conto completamento organici)	200
13/12/45	Moschetti mod.91	50
9/1/46	Moschetto mod.38 cal 6,5 (in conto completamento organici)	1.200
	Moschetti mod.91 cal 6,5	400
	Moschetti mod.91 TS cal.6,5	400
19/1/46	Fucili mitra Breda 30 cal.6,5	79
5/1/46	Fucili mitra Breda 30 cal 6,5	5
	Moschetti aut. Beretta mod.38/A cal.9	3
	Moschetti mod.91 cal.6,5	234
9/3/46	Moschetti mod.91 TS cal.6,5 (in conto completamento organici)	300
	Moschetti mod.38 cal.7,35	60
31/1/46	Moschetti mod.91 cal.6,5	950
29/5/46	Moschetti mod.38 cal.6,5 (in conto completamento organici)	700
14/3/46	Moschetti mod.38 cal.6,5	52
	Moschetti aut.Beretta mod.38/A cal.9	8
25/5/46	Moschetti mod.91 cal 6,5	95

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

Alleg. 3SPECCHIO ARMI CEDUTE AL MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO PER L'ARMAMENTO
DEL CORPO DELLE GUARDIE DI P.S.

Data della cessione	Materiali caduti	Quantita
6/4/45	Fucili mod.41 cal.6,5	255
12/10/45	Moschetti mod. 38 cal.6,5	10.000
4/12/45	Moschetti aut. Beretta	200
	Moschetti mod.38 cal.6,5	830
5/1/46	Fucili mod.41 cal.6,5	1.742
27/11/45	Moschetti mod.91 cal.6,5	1.900
	Moschetti aut. Beretta	100
31/12/45	Moschetti mod.91 cal.6,5	100
12/2/46	Moschetti mod.91 cal.6,5	200
13/3/46	Moschetti mod.38 cal.6,5	85
4/12/45	Mitragliatrici Breda cal. 8	300
	Mitragliatrici Fiat. cal. 8	173
	Moschetti automatici Beretta	70
19/2/46	Fucili mitragl. Breda 30	6
20/2/46	Pistole Beretta (urgente cessione in occasione	59
	Mosch. aut. Beretta (repress. banditismo in Sicilia)	10
17/1/46	MITRAGLIATRICI Breda 37 (da servire per comple	12
	Mitragliatrici Breda 38 tare ed in parte per	10
	Mitragliatrici Fiat 35 la sostituzione di al-	12
	Mitragliatrici da 20 m/m trattate fuori uso dei	4
	mezzi blindati	
25/10/45	Moschetti aut. Beretta mod.38/A cal.9	50

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

Alleg. 4

SPEDIZIONE DELLE ARMI ORDATE AL MINISTERO DI GRACIA E GIUSTIZIA PER
L'ARMAMENTO DEL CORPO DEGLI AGENTI DI CUSTODIA DEGLI STABILIMENTI PENALI

Data	Denominazione	Quantità
27/XI/45	Moschetti mod./38 cal. 7,35	754
	Fucili mitr. Hotakiss	140
	Mitragliatrici Mit mod. 35 cal. 8(1)	73
	Moschetti mod. 91 cal. 6,5	40
18/VI/46	Fucili mod. 38 cal. 7,35	5.000
	Pistole a rotaz. mod. 89 cal. 10,35	200

- (1) Di cui 20 date temporaneamente in consegna alle carceri Giudiziarie di Sassari in sostituzione di 20 fucili mitr. Hotakiss spediti con ritardo. E' già stato richiesto alle predette Carceri di restituire le 20 mitra alla Sez. Staccato Artiglieria di Nuoro.

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

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SPEDIZIONE DELLE ARMI ELETTRICHE AD UFFICI VARI PER ADDEBITO IN RELAZIONE
DI SOSTITUIZIONE (Guardie comunali, Guardie giurate ecc.).

Data della cessione	Descrizione	Quantità
4/7/345	Pistole a rotar. mod. 39 cal. 12,75	14
	Pistole aut. Beretta mod. 34 cal. 7	2
	Fucili mod. 70/37-16	35
	Moschetti mod. 38 cal. 7,35	45
	Pistole aut. Beretta cal. 7,65	4
24/7/345	Moschetti mod. 91 cal. 6,5	2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 73506

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 794

Ref: 9/28/CA

20 June 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I am somewhat disturbed by information which reaches me from time to time regarding the manufacture and transit of arms and munitions in Italy.

Under Article 13 of the Armistice Terms, the manufacture of war material and its transit is prohibited except as directed by the United Nations. Further, as you will be aware, under Article 3(a) of the Revised Armistice which is now being considered by your Government, the responsibility for the control of production of armaments will be vested in the Allied organization to be set up to supervise the Armed Forces in Italy.

My attention has been particularly drawn to the extent to which the Civil Police Forces (other than CC.RR) are being armed for the maintenance of law and order.

In connection with this matter I would much appreciate, my dear Mr. Prime Minister, information from you on the following matters:

- (a) The type and scale of weapons authorized for each of these Police Forces (other than CC.RR) under Italian law;
- (b) The system of control by your Government of the manufacture repair and transit of war material, and the Ministry by which this control is exercised.

Very truly yours,

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

1647

Dr. Alcide de Gasperi,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
ROME.

*See file 9/28/CA
at file 11A*

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Exec Commissioner
Land Forces S/C
Navy S/C
Air Forces S/C
Econ Sec.

1937

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 73506

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

A.P.O. 384

Ref: 6/14.8/51.

20 August 1946

Subject: Police Agencies - Gen.

To : UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
Attention: G-3 Section.

1. I refer to your airtel 7.7586 dated 9 August 1946. The reason why in this case more specific recommendations were not made is given in para 12(b) of my 6/14.8/51 dated 6 August 1946; namely, that para 6-5: 340.05 dated 9 July 1945 states that the arming of the civil police is entirely a matter for the Italian Government.

2. In my letter of 5 August 1946 I have given details as to the extent to which the Corps of P.S. Agents is already armed and organized on apparently military lines and the suggested plans for the extension of this policy. It is the opinion of the AC that if these plans are allowed to develop, a state of affairs may arise which could enable certain members of the Advisory Council to claim that the Corps should be prescribed (and controlled) under Article 39 of the Long Armistice Terms or in any case should be considered as part of the Italian Armed Forces under the Revised Terms and the Peace Treaty.

3. The point is whether the implementation of these plans, particularly with regard to the arming of the civil police agencies, is necessary for the maintenance of internal public safety in Italy. If it is not considered necessary, then, it is submitted, the Italian Government should be invited to modify its plans in regard to this Corps. The Directors of the Public Safety Sub-Commission and Law Enforcement Sub-Commission held the opinion that the necessity for the re-arming of the Corps of P.S. Agents as proposed by the Ministry of Interior is not now sufficiently warranted. It will be remembered that the proposals were initiated before the institutional change took place and indeed before the elections, when outbreaks of disorder were widely regarded as more than probable. The present position is that in spite of the fact that large numbers of the civil population are still in unlawful possession of arms, public order in most areas is tranquil and normal.

4. While it is realized that the responsibility for the maintenance of law and order in Italian territory rests with the Italian Government, it seems to my advisors that the U.S. in their present organization are competent to deal with civil disorders provided that they are supplemented by the Corps of P.S. Agents in their customary role, that is to say, as individual police agents armed with personal weapons only.

1646

Declassified E.O. 12856 Section 3.3/NND No. 7516

5. To sum up, the Italian Government are proposing to equip their Corps of P.M. Agents with heavy armament. Such a course is not considered necessary for police purposes. If it is not necessary, then we must consider whether such a heavily armed force does not come into the category of the Armed (Defense) Forces, on a par with the G.I.B., for whose armaments have been set under the Armistice (Long or Revised) and by the Peace Treaty.

6. Conscious of your letter of 9 July 1946 and of our policy of non-intervention in Italian civil police organizations under the Armistice Armistice 1947, I recommend that I be authorized to take the matter up with the Prime Minister asking him to furnish officially the present detailed scheme for the re-arming of the Corps of P.M. Agents, giving justification for any heavy armament, warning him of the implications described above and telling him that in the meantime the employment of armoured cars for and issue of automatic weapons to these Agents cannot be permitted, although there is no objection to the use of such equipment by the G.I.B.

7. Admittedly the whole question is made more difficult by the present unsatisfactory organization of the Italian Police Forces as a whole by which the G.I.B. comes for organizational purposes under the Ministry of War who actually is in favour of organizing and arming them on military lines, and the Corps of P.M. Agents come under the Ministry of Interior who in competition perhaps tend to pursue the same policy. Both policies are in the opinion of the A.C. detrimental to the Police Forces as a whole. This can only really be solved by a reorganization of the total police forces, a matter in which (as stated in my letter 22/1454/21 of 28 July 1946, para 5(a)) I hope to find an opportunity with your authority to address the Prime Minister.

/s/ Henry V. Jones

Major H. Jones
Rear Admiral, RCNVR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Polad (A)
Polad (B)
Land Forces S/C
Public Safety S/C
File

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A P O 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

CAS

Letter signed & returned for
dispatch. Copies have been
withdrawn for CC & EC files

[Signature] 78/1

1644

SECRET

SUBJECT: Police Agencies - Arms.

TO : G-5, AFHQ.

1. I refer to your signal P.70256 dated 9 Aug 1945. The reason why in this case more specific recommendations were not made is given in para 12(b) of my 5/11.4/45 dated 6 Aug 45; ^{namely, that} our 5-5: 940.05 dated 9 July 45 states that the arming of the civil police is entirely a matter for the Italian Government.

2. In my letter of 6 Aug 45 I have given ~~the~~ details as to the extent to which the Corps of P.S. Agents is already armed and organized on apparently military lines and the announced plans for the extension of this policy. It is the opinion of the AG that if these plans are allowed to develop, a state of affairs may arise which could enable certain members of the Advisory Council to claim that the Corps should be prescribed (and controlled) under Article 39 of the Long Armistice Terms or should be considered as part of the Italian Armed Forces under the Revised Armistice

~~Terms and The~~ ^{in any case} ~~The~~ ^{internal} point is whether the implementation of these plans, particularly with regard to the arming of the civil police agencies, is ~~needed~~ ^{internal} necessary for the maintenance of public safety in Italy. If it is not considered necessary, then, it is submitted, the Italian Government should be invited to modify its plan in regard to this Corps. The

Directors of the Public Safety S/C and Land Forces S/C hold the opinion

1643

allowed to develop a state of affairs may arise which could enable certain members of the Advisory Council to claim that the Corps should be prescribed (and controlled) under Article 39 of the Long Armistice Terms or should be considered as part of the Italian Armed Forces under the revised Armistice

Terms and The Peace Treaty.

3. ~~The~~ point is whether the implementation of these plans, particularly with regard to the arming of the civil police agencies, is ~~of~~ necessary for the maintenance of public safety in Italy. If it is not considered necessary, then, it is submitted, the Italian Government should be invited to modify its plans in regard to this Corps. The

164c

Directors of the Public Safety S/C and Land Forces S/C hold the opinion that the necessity for the re-arming of the Corps of P.S. Agents as proposed by the Ministry of Interior is not now sufficiently warranted. It will be remembered that the proposals were initiated before the institutional change took place and indeed before the elections, when ~~the~~ outbreaks of disorder were wrongly regarded as more than probable. ~~It is~~ that there was a political and party background for the re-organisation. The present position is that in spite of the fact that large numbers of the civil population may still be in unlawful possession of arms, public order in most areas is tranquil and normal.

4. While it is realised that the responsibility for the maintenance of law and order in Italian territory rests with the Italian Government, it seems to my advisers that the G.I.A. in their present organisation are

competent to deal with civil disorders provided that they are supplemented by the Corps of P.S. Agents in their customary role, that is to say, as individual police agents armed with personal weapons only.

6. To sum up, ~~the~~ Italian Government are proposing to equip their Corps of P.S. Agents with heavy armament. Such a course is not considered necessary for police purposes. If it is not necessary, then we must consider whether such a heavily armed force does not come into the

category of the armed (defence) forces, on a par with the ^{any} ~~SS.~~, for whom ^{have been} ~~collaborating~~ ^{under} ~~the~~ ^{officially, the present} armistice (long or revised) and the Peace Treaty.

7. Conscious of your letter of 9 July and of our policy of non-intervention in Italian civil police organisations under the Macmillan Memorandum FAN 457, I recommended that I be authorised to take the matter up with the Prime Minister asking him to furnish ^{officially, the present} detailed schemes for the re-arming of the Corps of P.S. Agents, giving justification for any heavy ~~armament~~, warning him of the implications described above and telling

him that in the meantime the manufacture of armoured cars for and issue of automatic weapons to these Agents cannot be permitted, ^{although there is no objection to the use of such equip-} ment by the CCRR.

8. Admittedly the whole question is made more difficult by the present unsatisfactory organisation of the Italian Police Forces as a whole by which the SS. are seen for organisational purposes under the Ministry of War who naturally is in favour of organising and arming them ¹⁶⁴ on military lines, and the Corps of P.S. Agents come under the Ministry

the re-arming of the Corps of P.S. Agents, giving justification for any heavy ~~armament~~, warning him of the implications described above and telling him that in the meantime the manufacture of automatic arms for and issue of

automatic weapons to these Agents cannot be permitted, *although there is no objection to the use of such equipment by the C.C.P.R.*

6. Admittedly the whole question is made more difficult by the present unsatisfactory organization of the Italian Police Forces as a whole by which the C.C.P.R. comes for organizational purposes under the Ministry of War who naturally is in favour of organizing and arming them **164** on military lines, and the Corps of P.S. Agents come under the Ministry of Interior who in competition perhaps ^{to} ~~themselves~~ the same policy. Such policies are in the opinion of the AG detrimental to the Police Forces as a whole. This can only really be solved by a reorganization of the total police forces, a matter in which (as stated in my letter **A** of July 27) I hope to find an opportunity with your authority to address the Prime Minister.

*L. C.
L. C.
L. C.
L. C.
L. C.
L. C.
L. C.*

SUBJECT: Issue of Arms to Civilian Police Forces

LAND FORCES SUB COM A2 (MILIA)
(L39081 EXT 400) SD/109/212

4 AUG 46

TO : HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

1A in file 6/141/CP

1. Ref is made to this HQ letter SD/109/1 of 2 Apr 46 to which no answer has yet been received.

2. This HQ has received further requests from the War Ministry to issue weapons to civilian police forces copies of which are attached at Appendices 'A' and 'B'.

3. Although 91 type Carbines are not a particularly vicious type of weapon, the issue of 10,000 of these to a civilian police force would seem to be an act of encouragement to the policy of the Ministry of Interior, now becoming apparent, of developing the Public Security Police into a Military Force similar in all respects to the Carabinieri.

As this appears to be a breach in the spirit, if not in the letter, of the Armistice Terms I am not prepared to grant permission for the issue of the weapons in question by the War Ministry until or unless specifically instructed to do so by the Chief Commissioner and I have replied to the War Ministry to this effect.

Edmund Blunden

Major-General.
M. W. I. A. 1641

WMI/c11

1945

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

Although 91 type Carabines are not a particularly vicious type of weapon, the issue of 10,000 of these to a civilian police force would seem to be an act of encouragement to the policy of the Ministry of Interior, now becoming apparent, of developing the Public Security Police into a Military Force similar in all respects to the Carabinieri.

As this appears to be a breach in the spirit, if not in the letter, of the Armistice Terms I am not prepared to grant permission for the issue of the weapons in question by the War Ministry until or unless specifically instructed to do so by the Chief Commissioner and I have replied to the War Ministry to this effect.

Spencer

Major-General.
M. M. I. A.

16:11

MMR/c11

Internal Distribution

'Q'
CED
G/16/2

2666

Appendix 'A' to MIA
letter SD/109/2/2
Dated Aug 46

COPY

FROM - Ministry of War

Ref 219569/II

TO - MICA

Date 29. 7. 46

SUBJECT : Request for arms for PG CA Corps

Further to letter No 218995 dated 27th inst.

Enclosed here with please find copy of phonogram
No 9847/999/9707 from Ministry of Interior.

You are kindly requested to say whether you have
any objection to the issue of the arms requested.

(sd)
Col LOMBAUD

COPY

INCOMING MESSAGE

FROM Ministry of Interior

Ref 9847/999/9707

TO Ministry of War

Date ?

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

1640

Ref agreement unde kindly hasten the issue

(sgd)
COL LOMBARDI

COPY

INCOMING MESSAGE

FROM Ministry of Interior
TO Ministry of War
Ref 9847/999/9707
Date ?

1640

Ref agreement made kindly hasten the issue
of 10,000 carbines mod 91 (.) at least 4,000
of said arms are urgently required to arm
4,000 cadets (.) kindly ack receipt by phone

(sgd) DS CASPARI



1 9 4 8

Appendix 'B' to 1824A
Letter SD/109/21A
Dated Aug 46

COPY

FROM - Ministry of War
TO - 1824A
Ref 218995/II
Date 29 Jul 46

SUBJECT: Issue of Arms and Amn to Public and Private Ests

This Ministry is continually receiving requests for Arms and Amn from the Ministry of Interior for the arming of Communal, Estate, Sworn Gds etc., and from the Ministry of Grace of Justice, for their prison gds.

This Administration would not be unwilling to release on payment - as has been done in the past - carbines and ordinary repeating rifles, which are no longer in use in the Army.

We would like to know if your Mission has no objection to same.

(sgd)
Col LOMBARDI

SUBJECT: Issue of Arms and Amn to Public and Private Estab

This Ministry is continually receiving requests for Arms and Amn from the Ministry of Interior for the arming of Communal, Sat, te, Sporn Gds etc., and from the Ministry of Grace of Justice, for their prison gds.

This Administration would not be unwilling to release on payment - as has been done in the past - carbines and ordinary repeating rifles, which are no longer in use in the Army.

We would like to know if your Mission has no objection to same.

(sgt)
COL LOMBARDI



INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: F 70256

Date/Time of Origin: AUG. 081617B

Message Centre No. H/5474

Date Time Recd. AUG. 090900

Precedence: IMPORTANT

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACHED CITE FHGEG

TO: ALCOM ROME

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Your views and recommendations desired as matter of urgency. Reference your letter Police agencies arms file 6/14.1/CA dated 6 August. You should, as routine matter, ~~expected~~ views and recommendations when forwarding matters for decision at AFHQ.

AC DIST

ACTION
INFO

C.A. SEC
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
P. SAFETY S/C
FLOAT 2
FILE

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

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Your views and recommendations desired as matter of urgency. Reference your letter Police agencies crms file 6/14.1/CA dated 6 August. You should, as routine matter, expected views and recommendations when forwarding matters for decision at AFHQ.

ACTION
AC DIST
ACTION C.A. SEC
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
P.SAFETY 3/C
FLCAT 2
FILE



17A

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NNND No. 73506

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

A.P.O. 794

SECRET

15A

AG/14634/PM

6/14/48 3-1/2

17 July 1948

SUBJECT: Police Issues.

TO: G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters.

1. I feel that the time has come when the whole question of an Allied or British Police Mission to the Italian Government should be reviewed, as there appears to be considerable confusion both as regards the prospect of such a mission being set up in this country and as regards the personnel resources for a police mission.

2. From the Allied point of view, it seems to be agreed in principle with a view to the re-organization of the Italian police forces and their training in modern police methods and procedure that in accordance with the original proposal of this Commission made in June 1945, a police mission to the Italian Government could be highly desirable.

There are doubts, however, as to the prospect of imposing such a mission on the Italian Government under the revised Institute terms or under the Peace Treaty under discussion as far as the content of its terms.

There appears, however, to be no realistic prospect of the Italian Government extending an invitation to the Allies to provide a police mission. Aside apart from the present international political situation and the changes pending in the Italian Constitution, granting as a sovereign power, in my opinion, precludes the possibility of the Italian Government asking for an Allied, still less an all-British, police mission for which, incidentally, the Italian Government would presumably be mainly financially responsible. Any further observations are made in para. 4 below should, unexpectedly, the Italian Government extend an invitation.

3. From the purely Allied angle, the present position is as follows:-

Within the framework of Allied Forces sub-Commission Allied Commission (A.F.C.A.) there is a G-5 Section with a S.A. of 10 police officers (plus two military staff officers). The police strength of the section is now reduced to 6 officers and under normal release program will gradually waste away.

163

2587

1953

Declassified E.O. 12958 Section 2.3/AND No. 7574

Apart from the matter of a Police Mission, this G.C. Section has, in general completed its immediate objective of re-equipping and rehabilitating the units of the G.I. and the Section could, therefore, be allowed to waste away.

2. 661 of the 11th May 1946, however, has the following effect:

- (a) approves an increase in the G.I. Section (G.I. L.A.) from 10 Police Officers (plus 3 staff officers) to 15 Police Officers (plus 2 staff officers).
- (b) constitutes the G.I. Section (G.I. L.A.) as a Provision for a Police Mission which Section, in the meantime, is to endeavour to extend its influence over the Italian Police Force as a whole.

In regard to (a) above, there are no known sources in this country from which personnel can be recruited to increase the strength of the G.I. Section (G.I. L.A.) with regard to maintaining its existing strength, it would not be desirable to draw Police Officers as operationally vital missions there are for recruits of the Italian Government regarding a Police Mission in the very near future, nor could it appear to be justified when there is such a shortage of Police Officers in U.K. and in Central Europe. In this connection it has been necessary to draw officers as operationally vital in order to maintain the American Civil Police Force.

In regard to (b) above, I do not consider it practical for a G.I. Section in Land Forces (the G.I. Section, Allied Commission (G.I. L.A.) to extend its influence unilaterally over the Police Force as a whole. Land Forces (the G.I. Section, Allied Commission (G.I. L.A.) only deals with the G.I. in their capacity as an advisory body to the Italian Army of which the G.I. Force part.

3. Should, unexpectedly, the Italian Government extend an invitation to the Allies for a Police Mission, and agreement be reached on terms of reference and financial responsibility, we could, in my opinion, deal more appropriately at that stage with the question of personnel.

Police Officers who have had experience in this country would still be serving as Police Officers in U.K., U.S., or in Central Europe and suitable arrangements could be made for some of them to be included in the Police Mission.

4. In the light of the foregoing, if it is accepted that the prospects of the Italian Government regarding a Police Mission are very faint or non-existent, my recommendations are as follows:-

- (a) That an opportunity should be found to advise the Italian Government that its Police Force require re-organization and to recommend an Allied Police Mission.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 78016

- (b) That no reference should be made by the U.S. Section, Joint Forces sub-Commission, Allied Commission, (J.F.C.) to extend its influence over the latter Force as a whole.
- (c) That there should be no increase in the strength of the U.S. Section, Joint Forces sub-Commission, Allied Commission, (J.F.C.) but so long as there are sufficient officers to perform the duties should continue with officers normally available or those who prefer voluntarily, but that wherever it should be possible to make to a station of 2 officers.

4. Will you please say if you agree.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

Major General, USA
Joint Forces sub-Commission,
Allied Commission.

cc. Chief Operations,
Executive Commission,
Joint Forces sub-Commission, (J.F.C.)
Civil Affairs Section,
Public Safety sub-Commission,
and (1)
and (2)

1955
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 735016

1
1
HEADQUARTERS ARMY OFFICERS
Civil Affairs Section
APO 72.

1511
Tel : 47327.

6/11.1/02.

5 August 1946.

SUBJECT : Police Agencies - Army.

TO : Ministry of Interior,
General Direction of P.S.

1. With reference to your letter 99/1444/1450 dated 10th July 1946 regarding the proposal to manufacture armoured cars for use by the Civil Police.

2. This HQ. is not competent to authorize the manufacture of armoured cars therefore the matter has been referred to higher authority for decision, which will be communicated to you as early as possible.

FOR THE CHIEF OFFICERS,

R. DUN, Brigadier
VP. CA. Section.

1634

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

SECRET

6/11.1/CA

6 August 1946

(14A)

Subject: Police Agencies - Arms.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
Atta: G-5 Section.

With reference to your letter 949.05 of 1st July.

1. The information received by this Headquarters from confidential sources, regarding the arming of the Public Safety Agents with armoured cars and automatic weapons is briefly as follows:

2. During May it had been alleged that the Ministry of Interior had placed an order with Messrs. Ansaldo of Genoa for more than 200 armoured cars. At that time no application had been made to the Allied Authorities for permission to manufacture and issue armoured cars for the civil police.

3. Discreet enquiry in Genoa elicited from a reliable source that:-

(a) One armoured car, constructed at the Stabilimento Frassati, Genoa, had been despatched to Rome for approval and any suggested modifications.

(b) The firm of Ansaldo had received an invitation from the Ministry of Interior to submit a tender for the construction of

(1) 100 armoured cars.

(11) 50 heavy armoured cars with "SPA" motors.

It was believed that in the early stages of the negotiations the "SPA" firm of Turin would not agree to manufacture engines as they were considered "War Material", but their reluctance was later overcome.

4. In a letter dated 25th June 1946 to the Ministry of Interior the Ansaldo firm had stated that at their establishment at Frassati, Genoa, they had 60 chassis of the "Lince" type complete with engines. It was proposed, subject to approval by the Allied Authorities to convert them into armoured cars. Should approval be given the firm would within a short time be in a position to supply 50 fully efficient armoured cars of the "Lince" type complete with radio sets.

The letter further stated that, at the Spa works at Turin there were about 50 chassis of the heavy type ready for work to be commenced on them and they too could be completed without delay.

1633

(14A)

5. Subsequently a letter dated 10th July 1945 from the Minister of the Interior was received by this Headquarters stating that the Ansaldo Society had, on request from the Ministry forwarded to Rome one specimen each of the "Lince" and "Sps" A.B./45 armoured cars for examination, and asking whether this Commission had any objection to the manufacture of 50 cars each of these two types.

6. In consequence of this information, on the 22nd July Dr. Luigi Ferrari, Director General of Pubblica Sicurezza, Ministry of Interior, was seen by the Director of Public Safety Sub-Commission. The Director together with the Security Officer A.C. accompanied Dr. Ferrari to the Ministry of the Interior's garage in Via San Pietro Cortona, Rome. There they saw the two armoured cars, both were new vehicles and fully equipped.

Lince Type armoured car.

Weight	-	3 tons.
Engine	-	Lancia Astura (6 cylinders)
Armament	-	One 8 mm machine gun (Breda)

Vehicle constructed by Messrs. Ansaldo, Genoa.

Radio	-	Two-way net.
Speed	-	Maximum 90 Km. an hr.
Crew	-	One driver. One Radio operator/ gunner.

Records at the garage show this vehicle was delivered on the 21st May 1945.

SPA Type armoured car.

Weight	-	7 tons.
Engine	-	SPA (Societa' Piemontese Automobili, Turin)
Armament	-	One 20 mm machine gun (Breda) Two 8 mm machine guns
Radio	-	Two-way net.
Speed	-	Maximum 90 Km. an hour.
Revolving gun turret.	-	
Crew	-	One commander. Two drivers. One radio operator One gunner.

This vehicle has four wheel drive, steering on both front and rear axles. Six speeds forward and six speeds reverse.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7304

It was delivered to the Ministry of Interior on about the 10th July 1946 according to the garage records.

7. It will be observed that the information contained in the letters received from the Ministry of Interior corroborates (with the exception of the actual numbers of armoured cars) the information obtained by the Security Officer of this Headquarters in Rome and Genoa.

8. With regard to the re-arming of the Police with automatic carbines. During May reliable information was received that the Ministry of Interior had acquired 1300 Beretta Automatic Carbines from the Beretta factory at Gardone for issue to the Public Safety Agents. The only application received at this Headquarters for authority to acquire such weapons was on from the Ministry of War to MDA in April last for permission to issue Beretta Automatic Carbines to the Civil Police as shown hereunder:-

To the Finance Guards	5712.
To the Public Safety Agents	6642.

Permission has not been given for the acquisition of these weapons. As a preliminary, the Director General of Pubblica Sicurezza was asked to supply to this Headquarters a return of the numbers of automatic weapons already in the possession of the Public Safety Agents. In a reply dated the 14th May the Director General stated that the Ministry of War had supplied the Force with 448 automatic weapons (tommy gun type), 507 heavy machine guns and 32 light machine guns. In consequence of the small numbers supplied by the Ministry of War the Ministry of Interior had, without Allied authority, acquired 4000 automatic arms (tommy gun type). These weapons had been reconditioned and issued to the Public Safety Agents.

9. On the 24th May the Director of Public Safety Sub-Commission saw Dr. Ferrari and pointed out to him that in the opinion of this Headquarters the numbers shown in his return was an underestimate when taken into account the number of ex-partisans in the Nord who had been enrolled into the Public Safety Agents Corps, the majority of whom were known to possess automatic arms. Dr. Ferrari agreed that it was doubtful if the Ministry knew the true figures.

10. On being asked how the Ministry had come into possession of the 4000 shown in his return and by whom the weapons had been repaired, he replied that they had been obtained from various sources. On being pressed he said "We bought them privately from individuals". He could not or would not disclose the identity of these sources of supply. He further stated the weapons were rusty when received by the Ministry and had been re-conditioned in the Beretta factory at Gardone. Dr. Ferrari went on to say that the Government had authorised Prefects to purchase arms under similar conditions and such purchases had actually been carried out.

1959

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

11. It has recently come to the notice of this Headquarters that the Public Safety Agents are being re-organized by the Government on military lines similar to the CC.RR. with Mobile Battalions, Groups and Companies. On request, the Director General of Pubblica Sicurezza has supplied this Headquarters with copies of directives issued by the Ministry of Interior to the Police and Prefects in which is set out the re-organization of the Pubblica Sicurezza (copies of these directives are attached for information). It will be observed that in the first paragraph it is laid down that "the Corps of Public Safety Agents is a thoroughly military corps" from which it might be argued that the Armed Forces of Italy have been raised by an addition of 47,000 this being the present strength of the Pubblica Sicurezza.

12. (a) As regards the matter of possible militarization referred to in paragraph 11 above there would appear to be no doubt that the Corps of Public Safety Agents is being re-organized on lines not consistent with normal police duty. But the possession by large elements of the civilian population of machine guns, grenades and other arms supplied by the Allies is, of itself, not a normal condition.

(b) As regards the manufacture and transit of such equipment which may be classified as "war materials", I have no general recommendation to make. If this question is to be considered not in the light of the Long Armistice Terms but in that of the ruling given in your letter 3-5; 24.65 of the 24th July 1946, namely, that the arming of police agencies is entirely a matter for the Italian Government.

I should be glad, however, to be informed as to what reply is to be given to the Minister of Interior's request for permission to put in hand the manufacture of 100 armoured cars referred to in paragraph 5 above.

This application may be the forerunner of other requests and it seems to me that some policy should be agreed now as to the general extent of the arming of these police agencies.

In any case, I feel that a request of this nature should not be made on a ministerial level, but that it should be considered only if made by the Council of Ministers and as soon as a decision is taken in this matter I would so inform the Prime Minister.

M O 34
HARRY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner.
(absent - leave)

cc to CC for Affair
EC
PS 1/2
MM 1A
PS 1/2 (1)
PS 1/2 (B)

1630

DRAFT.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

SECRET 14A

July 1946.

SUBJECT : Police Agencies - Arms.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
attn G-5 Section.

6 Capris

With reference to your letter 940.05 of 1st July ~~1946~~

1. The information received by this Headquarters from confidential sources, regarding the arming of the Public Safety Agents with armoured cars and automatic weapons ^{is} ~~was~~ briefly as follows.

2. During May it had been alleged that the Ministry of Interior had placed an order with Messrs. Ansaldo of Genoa for more than 200 armoured cars. At that time no application had been made to the Allied Authorities for permission to manufacture and issue armoured cars ^{for civil} ~~for police~~.

3. Discreet enquiry in Genoa elicited from a reliable source that:—

(a) One armoured car, constructed at the Stabilimento Frassati, Genoa, had been despatched to Rome for approval and any suggested modifications.

(b) The firm of Ansaldo had received an invitation from the Ministry of Interior to submit a tender for the construction of

(i) 160 armoured cars.

(ii) 50 heavy armoured cars with "SPA" motors.

It was believed that in the early stages of the negotiations the "SPA" firm of Turin would not agree to manufacture engines as they were considered "War Material", but their reluctance was later overcome.

18
Aug

4. In a letter dated 25th June 1946 to the Ministry of Interior the Ansaldo firm had stated that at their establishment at Fassati, Genoa they had 60 chassis of the "Lince" type complete with engines. It was proposed, subject to approval by the Allied Authorities to convert them into armoured cars. Should approval be given the firm would within a short time be in a position to supply 50 fully efficient armoured cars of the "Lince" type complete with radio sets. The letter further stated that, at the Spa works at Turin there were about 50 chassis of the heavy type ready for work to be commenced on them and they too could be completed without delay.

5. Subsequently a letter dated 10th July 1946 from the Minister of the Interior was received by this Headquarters stating that the Ansaldo Society had, on request from the Ministry forwarded to Rome one specimen each of the "Lince" and "Spa" A.B/43 armoured cars for examination, and asking whether this Commission had any objection to the manufacture of 50 cars each of these two types.

6. In consequence of this information, on the 22nd July Dr. Luigi Ferrari, Director General of Pubblica Sicurezza, Ministry of Interior, was seen by the Director of Public Safety ^{Sub Commissioner}. The Director together with the Security Officer A.C. accompanied Dr. Ferrari to the Ministry of the Interior's garage in Via San Pietro Cortona, Rome. There they saw the two armoured cars, both were new vehicles and fully equipped.

Lince Type armoured car.

Weight - 3 tons.
Engine - Lancia Astura (6 cylinders)
Armament - One 8 mm machine gun (Breda).
Vehicle constructed by Messrs Ansaldo, Genoa.
Radio - Two way set.
Speed - Maximum 90 Km. an hr.
Crew - One driver.
One radio operator/gunner.

1623

Records at the garage show this vehicle was delivered on the 21st May 1946.

SPA Type armoured car.

Weight - 7 tons.
Engine - SPA (Societa Piemonte Automobili, Turin)
Armament - One 20 mm. machine gun (Breda)
Two 8 mm. machine guns (")
Radio - Two way set.
Speed - Maximum 90 km. an hour.
Revolving gun turret.
Crew - One commander.
Two drivers.
One radio operator.
One gunner.

This vehicle has four wheel drive, steering on both front and rear axles. Six speeds forward and six speeds reverse.

It was delivered to the Ministry of Interior on about the 10th July 1946. *according to the garage records.*

7. It will be observed that the information contained in the letters received from the Ministry of Interior corroborates ~~the~~ (with the exception of the actual numbers of armoured cars) the information obtained by the Security Officer of this Headquarters in Rome and Genoa.

8. With regard to the re-arming of the Police with automatic carbines. During May reliable information was received that the Ministry of Interior had acquired 1800 Beretta Automatic Carbines from the Beretta factory at Cardone for issue to the Public Safety agents. The only ¹⁶² application received at this Headquarters for authority to acquire such weapons

- was one from the Ministry of War to MMIA in April last for permission to issue Beretta Automatic Carbines to the Civil Police as shown hereunder:-

To the Finance Guards - 5712.

To the Public Safety Agents - 6622.

Permission has not been given for the acquisition of these weapons. As a preliminary, the Director General of Pubblica Sicurezza was asked to supply to this Headquarters a return of the numbers of automatic weapons already in the possession of the Public Safety Agents. In a reply dated the 14th May the Director General stated that the Ministry of War had supplied the Force with 448 automatic weapons (tommy gun type), 507 heavy machine guns and 32 light machine guns. In consequence of the small numbers supplied by the Ministry of War the Ministry of Interior had, without Allied authority, acquired 4,000 automatic arms (tommy gun type). These weapons had been reconditioned and issued to the Public Safety Agents.

9. On the 24th May the Director of Public Safety ^{Sgt. Crumpton} saw Dr. Ferrari and pointed out to him that in the opinion of this Headquarters the numbers shown in his return was an underestimate when taken into account the number of ex-partisans in the North who had been enrolled into the Public Safety Agents Corps, the majority of whom were known to possess automatic arms. Dr. Ferrari agreed that it was doubtful if the Ministry knew the true figures.

10. On being asked how the Ministry had come into possession of the 4,000 shown in his return and by whom the weapons had been repaired, he replied that they had been obtained from various sources. On being pressed he said "We bought them privately from individuals". He could not or would not disclose the identity of these sources of supply. He further stated that the weapons were rusty when received by the Ministry and had

Redraft of final page

been re-conditioned in the Beretta factory at Gardone. Dr. Ferrari went on to say that the Government had authorized Prefects to purchase arms under similar conditions and such purchases had actually been carried out.

11. It has recently come to the notice of this Headquarters that the Public Safety Agents are being re-organized by the Government on military lines similar to the CC.RR with Mobile Battalions, Groups and Companies. On request, the Director General of Pubblica Sicurezza has supplied this Headquarters with copies of directives issued by the Ministry of Interior to the Police and Prefects in which is set out the re-organization of the Pubblica Sicurezza (copies of these directives are attached for information). It will be observed that in the first paragraph it is laid down that "the Corps of Public Safety Agents is a thoroughly military corps" from which it might be ^{argued} ~~argued~~ that the Armed Forces of Italy have been raised by an addition of 47,000—this being the present strength of the Pubblica Sicurezza.

12. (a) As regards the matter of ^{possible} militarization referred to in para 11, there would appear to be no doubt that the Corps of Public Safety Agents is being reorganized on lines not consistent with normal police duty. But the possession ^{by} ~~of~~ large elements of the civilian population of machine guns, ^{supplied by the Police} grenades and other arms ^{alone} is, of itself, not a normal condition.

(b) As regards the manufacture and transit of war materials, I have no general recommendations to make if the ^{such equipment which may be classified as} matter is considered ^{question to be} in the light of the ruling given in your letter G-5:940.05 of the 9th ^{long} ~~long~~ ^{promote the} ~~promote the~~ ^{namely} ~~namely~~ ^{police} ~~police~~ July 1946, that the arming of ~~such~~ agencies is entirely a matter for the Italian Government.

1620

I should be glad, however, to be informed as to what reply is to be given to the Minister of Interior's request for permission to put in hand the manufacture of 100 armoured cars referred to in para 5 above.

This application may be the fore-runner of other requests and it seems to me that some policy should be agreed now as to the general extent of the armament of these police agencies.

In any case, I feel that a request of this nature should not be made on a Ministerial level, but that it should be considered only if made by the Council of Ministers and as soon as a decision is taken in this matter I could so inform the Prime Minister.

CC CC
EC
PS 3/4
MMH
PAdm(A)
PAdm(S)

been re-conditioned in the Beretta factory at Gardone. Dr. Ferrari went on to say that the Government had authorized Prefects to purchase arms under similar conditions and such purchases had actually been carried out.

The private information received that the arms were purchased from the Beretta factory has not been substantiated.

11. It has recently come to the notice of this Headquarters that the Public Safety Agents are being re-organized by the Government on military lines similar to the O.S.M. with Mobile Battalions, Groups and Companies. On request, the Director General of Pubblica Sicurezza has supplied this Headquarters with copies of directives issued by the Ministry of Interior to the Police and Prefects in which is set out the re-organization of the Pubblica Sicurezza (copies of these directives are attached for information).

It will be observed that in the first paragraph it is laid down that the Corps of Public Safety Agents is a thoroughly military corps, ^{from which it might be drawn} and if this is ^{the case then} the Armed Forces of Italy have been raised by an addition of 47,000 ^{being} this ^{is the present strength of the Pubblica Sicurezza.}

12. From the foregoing there would appear to be no doubt that the Civil Police Force is being re-organized on lines quite incompatible with normal police duty. The reasons for such re-organization ^{as to whether the re-organization is not clearly it is not clear} ^{is not clear} would appear to be unnecessary ^{in any case} the facts as disclosed ^{officers} constitute a definite breach of the Armistice Terms.

These arms is of itself work a internal revolution

Publica Sicurezza (copies of these directives are attached for information).
It will be observed that in the first paragraph it is laid down that the Corps of Public Safety Agents in a thoroughly military corps, ^{the case then the Armed Forces of Italy have been raised by an addition of 47,000} ~~and it is to be~~ ^{the present strength of the Pubblica Sicurezza.}

12. From the foregoing there would appear to be no doubt that the Civil Police Force is being re-organized on lines quite incompatible with normal police duty. The reasons for such re-organization ^{is not clear} it would appear to be unnecessary but in any case the facts as disclosed ^{officers} constitute a definite breach of the Armistice Terms.

Then arms is at itself with a normal condition

Alternative Para 12.

1623

12. From the foregoing, there would appear to be no doubt that the Civil Police Force is being reorganized on lines quite incompatible with normal police duty. ^{not consistent} But the possession by elements of the Italian population of submachine guns, machine guns and other arms is entirely a matter for the Italian Government which appears to be inconsistent with the control of manufacture and transit of war materials to be exercised by the United Nations, and clarification would be appreciated. ^{Such} These are facts disclosed in this report appear to constitute breaches of the Armistice Terms.

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

(translation M.B.)

13A

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
U.S. General Direction
G.C.F. Div. 2nd sec.

Yere, 10/7/46

Mr. 999/14461/14600.F

Re : UNITED GARIBOLDI
P.S. Sub-Commission

SECRET

SUBJECT : Supply of armoured cars for the Police services.

The "AN ARBO" Society, on request by our Ministry, forwarded a specimen of the "Lince" and "BPAAB/43" armoured cars pointing out with a letter, a copy of which is attached herewith, that the Society is in the position of supplying within a short time about 50 armoured cars of the said types for the Police Command.

Before proceeding to the purchase of the cars in question, we should like to enquire whether your Commission has any objections against the aforesaid equipment.

For the Minister

sgd/ TITANI

1622

13A

COPY

all constructions - Railway constructions - Industrial, mechanic,
Electromechanic constructions - Tools.

SHARE COMPANY - CAPITAL 1.500.000.000 - GENERAL DIRECTION : Geneva
Corniglians, Via A. Regnier - tel. 40.555

WORK OFFICE

Correspondence : 86, Via Regina Elena, Rome. Telegrams : Ansaldo
Rome, tel. 437451.

Re. 5/21/200

Re : Chief of Police

9 0 8 8

Subject : supply of armoured vehicles for police services.

On your appreciated request, we forwarded recently to your
ministry a selection of two "Lince" and "SPA A.B./43" armoured cars of
our production.

From informations here received, we learn that our cars
got your full approval and are deemed to be especially fit for police
services.

As we are informed that your ministry intends to supply a
greater number of such armoured cars to the Police Department, we beg
to draw your attention on the following :

1) - Type "Lince" - At Our Establishment Sementi (Geneva)
there are now 50 chassis of such type belonging to the A.S.A.R. These
chassis are complete with the engine and only need the tyres. Of course
they would be revised. On these chassis we should build the car-body
and adapt the radio-set and the armouring. We should consequently be
within a short time in the position of supplying you with about 1621
fully efficient armoured cars. The A.S.A.R., on our request, would
be ready to hand over the chassis in question to your ministry.
Furthermore, an order of this kind by your ministry, besides satisfying
the service exigencies, would put us in grade of giving for a certain
time work to our specialized personnel, thus helping us to solve the
problem of our unemployment.

2) - Type "SPA A.B./43" - At Turin, at the SPA Stabilimento
there are about 50 chassis, which are liable to be completed within

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

relatively short time. Also here it would be necessary to proceed to the building of the car-body and to the applying of the armouring and radiorob.

We reserve to communicate in the next days to your Ministry the estimate of the total cost of our armoured cars.

As the problems of great importance for our society, we should be grateful to your Ministry if the necessary steps by the allies could be quickly done and an early reply forwarded to us.

We thank you in advance.

sgt. ANNAIDG. 124. Co.

163
1620

BB

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

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

9/02

12A

G-5: 940.05

9 July 1946

SUBJECT: Police Agencies - Arms.

11 AUG 1946

TO : Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
APO 764.

Reference is made to your 6/14.1/CA, subject as above,
19 June 46.

1. While it is agreed that tanks, armored cars and heavy machine guns are not normally appropriate to the functions of civilian police, it is considered that the arming of these agencies is entirely a matter for the Italian Government.

2. The policy to be followed in this matter is therefore that described in paragraph 8(h) of your reference letter.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:


A. L. HAMBLEN
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Copy to:
G-3 AFHQ
G-2
BR POLAD
US POLAD
SACS
C/S MTO
G-5

1619

Copy handed MM/PT.
on 25/7

6/2

12A



1972
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET

CIV. AFF

8824

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APC 512

3-5: 940.05

1 July 1946

2 LUG

SUBJECT: Police Agencies - Arms.

TO : Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
APC 79.

Reference AG letter 6/14.1/CA, subject as above, 19 June 1946.

1. The establishment of an arms policy for Italian police agencies other than CC.RR is under study.

2. Entirely apart from the matter of such an arms policy are the implications of your comments in para 4, concerning the rumored production of armored cars and the black market purchase of arms by the Italian Government.

3. As you know, the "Instrument of Surrender of ITALY," 29 September, by Article 13, prescribed that "the manufacture, production and construction of War Materials and its import, export and transit is prohibited, except as directed by the United Nations." These terms will remain effective until the signing of the "Agreement Modifying the Italian Armistice Regime," at which time they will be abrogated. However, this New Agreement provides by para IIIa that the New Section of IFM to be established "shall control the production of armament."

4. It clearly is and will continue to be the responsibility of ALLIED or of a organization assuming ALLIED's remaining functions, to insure that no production or distribution of war materials is effected without prior Allied authority.

5. It is desired that you initiate action to verify the "unconfirmed rumors" mentioned in your para 4. You are authorized to seek the cooperation of such other Allied agencies as are available to assist you in this matter. As this is the first instance to come to attention that the Italian Government may be violating the spirit of the Armistice Terms, the JAC is anxious that he be fully informed of the results of your investigations. Confirmation of the alleged violation might well have serious repercussions on the Allied attitude in future relationship with the Italian Government.



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

SECRET

6. A report of your findings with a subsequent report of the Italian Government's action will be forwarded to this headquarters. If it is found that some delay will be incurred before either of these reports can be made an interim report to that effect is desired.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORAN:

*Copy handed to MMIA
on 25/7*

(Ex 12)



A. L. HAMBLEN
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

161.

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 757016

SECRET

10A

Ref: 6/14.1/25

19 June 1944

SUBJECT: Police Agencies - Arms.

TO: ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
ATTN: G-5 Section.

1. I wish to draw your attention to the present situation as regards the strength and armament of the Police forces and agencies in Italy.

2. Interim strengths and types of armament have been laid down by the AFM for the Italian Navy, Air Force and Army (including CC.BB) which are controlled by their respective Service HQ-Organizations.

The CC.BB numbering 75,000, although a Corps of the Italian Army, form a large part of the existing police forces in Italy. Considered as a police force they are very heavily armed.

3. As regards other Police forces and agencies no limit has been placed on their strength and armament which matters have been left in the hands of the Italian Government.

Their present approximate strengths are as follows:

Public Safety Agents	...	43,000
Railway Police	...	6,000
Finance Guards	...	31,000
Forest Guards	...	6,000
Local Police	...	7,000
Total	...	93,000

1610

The above strength is not considered in any way excessive especially having regard to the fact that their duties now include those previously carried out by the disbanded Fascist Militia which numbered about 17,000.

4. It is, however, the armament of these Police agencies which do not include CC.BB) which calls for comment.

It is estimated that these Police forces and agencies are now armed with:

Tanks	...	5
Armoured Cars	...	30
Heavy Machine Guns	...	1000
Light Machine Guns	...	10000
Snatch Cars	...	7000
Pistols	...	60000

10A

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

The armament of these police units normally consists of the light two piece, that is pistols and pistols for defensive purposes.

As far as is known the units and personnel were not involved in any way in the recent events which were taking place in the city of Saigon. The information is that the units of the police are not involved in the recent events.

In regard to the police units, it is known that in the past the policy of the police units was to be controlled by the police units and the police units. It is known that the police units were to be controlled by the police units and the police units. It is known that the police units were to be controlled by the police units and the police units.

However, the police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events.

There is evidence, however, that the police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events.

It is known that the police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events. The police units were not involved in the recent events.

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

-3-

7. As regards any provision in the existing or any revised Armistice Treaty or in any Peace Treaty it is not known whether such a formidable armed police force in addition to the recognized armed military forces was or is contemplated. It is pointed out, however, that depending upon the political situation such armed police forces are potentially either a valuable addition or a serious menace to the recognized armed forces.

8. Instructions are repeated as to whether:

(a) We should request or advise the Italian Government to reduce the armament of police agencies to a more reasonable scale.

(b) We should adopt attitude that this is purely an Italian internal matter, particularly in view of the forthcoming revision in the Armistice Treaty.

SECRET

WILLIAM F. BAKER
 Senior Advisor, NSC
 Chief Coordinator

Agued with
MIA + P.S. Sp
MIA + P.S. Sp

3/22/32

Subject: - Police Agencies - Arms.

TO : - A.S.H. 1. C-3 Section.

RECEIVED UNITED COMMISSION
APR 1932

9A

1. I wish to draw your attention to the present situation as regards the strength and armament of the Police Forces and Agencies in Italy.

Interim

2. *5* weapons and types of armament have been laid down by the C.C.S. for the Italian Navy, Air Force and Army (including C.S.S.S.) which are controlled by their respective Services Sub-Commissions.

attach a copy of the Italian Army
The C.C.S. numbering 15,000 form a large part of the existing

Police Forces in Italy. Considered as a police force they are heavily armed.

3. As regards other Police Forces and Agencies no limits have been placed on their strength and armament which matters have been left in the hands of the Italian Government.

Their present approximate strengths are as follows :-

Public Safety Agents	...	4,000
Italian Police	...	6,000
Business Guards	...	34,000
Forest Guards	...	6,000
Local Police	...	7,000
		95,000

The above strength is not considered in any way excessive.

especially having regard to the fact that their duties now include those

submerged

1615

is suggested that Police P Force had a number of limit has been placed on their strength and equipment which means have been left in the hands of the Station for them.

Their present approximate strengths are as follows :-

Public Safety Agents	...	4,000
Malaya Police	...	6,000
Finance Police	...	31,000
Forest Guards	...	8,000
Local Police	...	7,000

		55,000

The above strength is not considered in any way excessive especially having regard to the fact that their duties now include those previously carried out by the ^{disbanded} Militia which numbered about 100,000. **1613**

It is however the argument of these Police Forces ^{which do not include} (which do not include) J.C. I.L. which calls for comment.

It is estimated that these Police Forces and agencies are now

armed with :-

Knives	...	5
Assured Card	...	30
Heavy Machine Guns	...	1000
Light Automatics	...	10,000
Machine Pistols	...	70,000
Pistols	...	6,000

The argument of these Police Forces normally consists of the

last two items, that is machine and pistols for defensive purposes.

Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page.

as far as is known, the Survey and measured data are available
 which were taken over of the Public Safety Agency from the ^{discovered} colonial African
 Police Force. Unpublished information ~~is~~ is that manufacture of further
 armoured cars may be in hand.

As regards automatic weapons, this too appears to be completed in
 the past in the policy of arms scientific weapons being held by the public
 safety agents and military units. But such weapons were to be controlled and to
 be in the hands of authorized personnel in conjunction with ^{handovers S/C} ~~them~~
 stocks from factories or from captured enemy material.

Formerly A.L.S. Public Safety Officers in the north were dealing
 with disorganized and independent Follon Forces in the early days of liberation
 or used the type of automatic weapons in those police agencies from 1944
 captured enemy material. Further in agreement with the police intelligence
 and with the military authorities, large numbers of firearms were transferred on
 to the Police Agencies. These firearms brought with them the reform measures
 in their organization.

There is ~~no~~ evidence however that the Italian Government have been
 supplying much more as supplies of arms on that can be to ^a ~~see~~ that military
 through which the number of scientific weapons held has been considerably
 increased recently.

5. As regards control of production and of transit ^{of arms and munitions}
 some control was exercised over factories in the north by the military
 authorities in the early days of liberation. Such control was however

with the departure of military efforts has ceased.

with the ~~departure~~ ^{departure} of military efforts has ceased.

7. As regards any provision in the existing or any revised Convention or in any Peace Treaty it is not known whether such a provision would follow force in addition to the recognised armed military forces and in contemplation. It is pointed out however, that armed forces are potentially ^{very} extensive & valuable addition to a nation's defence to the recognised armed ^{forces} ~~armies~~.

8. The problem emphasized, in my opinion, the necessity of the establishment of a Police Mission with powers to advise on the reorganization of the Italian Police forces as a whole. The heavy armoring of the Public Safety Agents might be used, even under the revised armament laws, as a reason, viz. is via the Italian Govt., for setting up such a Mission.

8. Instructions are requested as to
cradvice 1611

8. The problem emphasized, in my opinion, the necessity of the establishment of a Public Safety Agency with powers to advise on the reorganization of the Italian Police forces as a whole. The heavy armament of the Public Safety Agency might be used, even under the revised armament proposal, as a weapon, vis à vis the Italian Govt., ~~openly~~ for ~~the~~ such a mission.

8. Instructions are requested as to ^{or advise the} 1611

whether

(a) We should request Italian Government to reduce the armament of Police Agencies to a more reasonable scale

(b) We should adopt attitude that this is purely an Italian internal matter - particularly in view of the forthcoming revision in the amnesty legislation?

DWS
R-7A
C-C-

Subject: Control of Arms Manufacture

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION AC
(H.M.I.A.)

Q.009

25 May 1946

TO : Hq Allied Commission

Reference AFHQ 05 940.09 of 20 May 1946.

1. Conversations between the Public Safety Sub Commission and the Land Forces Sub Commission (Carabinieri Branch) have brought to light certain matters in connection with :-

(a) The Control of Arms manufacture.

(b) Definition of the term "Armed Forces" which it is considered should be brought to your notice.

2. Regarding 1(a)

The Control of Arms manufacture. In accordance with AFHQ Directive of 2 August 1945, AFHQ controls production (under War Ministry contracts) of all arms for the Army and CC.RR. while all other production is prohibited.

(i) In fact, quantities of arms are reputed as being manufactured for the Prefecture, Municipalities, other bodies and even for civilians, apparently under no control.

(c) This arms manufacture, in addition to slowing down the War Ministry contracts in favour of ready cash available in large quantities from other sources, appears to be not in accordance with AFHQ instructions.

(d) It is felt that this needs controlling preferably by authority as suggested in AFHQ letter Q.009 of 7 May 1946 and C(SD) 109/4 of 25 April 1946, which is also connected with para 3 below concerning the use to which these arms are being put.

2. (a) Regarding 1(a)

The Control of Arms manufacture. In accordance with AMHQ Directive of 2 August 1945, MIA controls production (under War Ministry contracts) of all arms for the Army and CC, RR, while all other production is prohibited.

(b) In fact, quantities of arms are reported as being manufactured for the Prefecture, Municipalities, other bodies and even for civilians, apparently under no control.

(c) This arms manufacture, in addition to slowing down the War Ministry contracts in favour of ready cash available in large quantities from other sources, appears to be not in accordance with AMHQ instructions.

(d) It is felt that this needs controlling preferably by ²² authority as suggested in MIA letter Q.009 of 7 May 1946 and Q(SD) 109/4 of 25 April 1946, which is also connected with para 5 below concerning the use to which these arms are being put. 1610

3. (a) Regarding 1(b)

Definition of the term "Armed Forces". Strengths and types of armament have been laid down by the S.G.S. For the Italian Navy, Army (including CC, RR) and Air Force which are controlled by their respective service sub commissions.

(b) No limit appears to have been placed on the armament of the civil guards or police forces which it is estimated may by now have reached the following numbers :-

Finance Guards	34,000
Forest Guards	6,000
Public Security	42,000
Railway Police	6,000
Local Police	7,000

Total	95,000

-2-

(c) It is further estimated that the armament of these forces amounts to:-

Tanks	10
Armoured Cars	50
Heavy Machine Guns	1,000
Light Automatic Sub Machine Guns etc	10,000
Rifles	70,000
Pistols	90,000

besides large quantities of grenades, explosives and ammunition.

(d) It is not known whether the C.C.S. or the terms of the Peace Treaty permit of this formidable armed force at the same time as the recognised armed military forces of Italy, to which they are potentially either a valuable addition or a serious menace depending on the political situation.

4. Politically and largely due to divided control the C.C.S. and the other Police Forces do not always pull together as the following two incidents will show :-

(a) Dr. VERBAZI of the Public Security Police recently appealed to A.C. for additional arms on the grounds that now that the C.C.S. were being fully armed it was necessary to arm the civil police forces to maintain a balance of power.

(b) On 24 May following a mild anarchist demonstration in Rome, in which C.C.S. and Civil Police had been on duty, a party of Civil Police went by car to the vicinity of the Quadrinale where they deliberately assaulted the uniformed C.C.S. on duty.

It would appear that unless some control is imposed, the stage is being set for large scale disturbances on the part of the very Government services who are supposed themselves to be responsible for the maintenance of law and order. 1609

5. It is felt that these two anomalies (which are closely connected) should, if confirmed, be either connected or reported to A.M.Q. as being a threat to law and order in Italy.

to A.C. for additional arms on the grounds that now that the CC.RR. were being fully armed it was necessary to arm the civil police force to maintain a balance of power.

- (b) On 24 May following a mild momentary demonstration in Rome, in which CC.RR. and Civil Police had been on duty, a party of Civil Police went by car to the vicinity of the Quirinale where they deliberately assaulted the uniformed CC.RR. on duty.

It would appear that unless some control is imposed, the stage is being set for large scale disturbances on the part of the very Government services who are supposed themselves to be responsible for the maintenance of law and order.

5. It is felt that these two anomalies (which are closely connected) should, if confirmed, be either corrected or reported to AMHQ as being a threat to law and order in Italy.

W. P. ...

Major General,
M.M.I.A.

DRAFT.

CONFIDENTIAL.

*Copy given
to Mr. Gurney
for info 12/1/45
me*

7/1/45
NOTES ON THE ARMAMENT OF THE CC.RR. OF THE
AGENTS OF PUBLIC SECURITY.

1. The control of armament of the CC.RR. has for some time past been in the hands of MHA and strict control is exercised.
2. As regards the Agents of Public Security (who include the Railway Police) numbering approximately 45,000 their normal armament is a musket and pistol per man for defensive purposes.

Owing to war conditions and the state of disorganisation of the police forces at the time of liberation of territory, particularly in the North, this Headquarters has acquiesced in the policy of issue of automatic weapons to the Agents of Public Security. In late 1944 and early 1945 correspondence was taking place with A.M.G. Public Safety in the field, between this Headquarters and the Ministry of the Interior, Public Safety Sub-Commission and MHA, on the subject of automatic weapons for Public Security Agents. A letter was written in October 1945 by H this Headquarters to the Secretary to the President of the Council of Ministers in reply to an enquiry as to what arms could be issued to the various police forces, which stated that Public

1602

of the police forces at the time of liberation of territory, particularly in the North, this Headquarters has acquiesced in the policy of issue of automatic weapons to the Agents of Public Security. In late 1944 and early 1945 correspondence was taking place with AM.G. Public Safety in the field, between this Headquarters and the Ministry of the Interior, Public Safety Sub-Commission and MIA, on the subject of automatic weapons for Public Security Agents. A letter was written in October 1945 by H this Headquarters to the Secretary to the President of the Council of Ministers in reply to an enquiry as to what arms could be issued to the various police forces, which stated that Public Security Agents may be armed with automatic weapons. No scale was ever agreed upon but it was always intended that issues should be controlled by, and known to this Headquarters. ~~SA~~ Applications for automatic weapons for Public Security Agents were considered on the basis of being an authorized release from stocks in a factory or from captured enemy material.

After the liberation of the north, large quantities of automatic weapons became available and with large numbers of patriots being grafted on to the Police Forces no control could be exercised over the number of automatic weapons acquired in this particular way.

3. From the point of view of issues of automatic weapons to Public Safety Agents being authorized by this Headquarters, action presupposed some control being exercised by some authority or other over the production and release of arms and munitions.

There appears to have been considerable confusion in this

matter.

Letters were written from this Headquarters stating all the necessary steps were being taken, ~~as~~ that the situation in general was under control, and that the Italian Government would be directed to exercise strict control.

At the same time letters were written stating that the Allied Commission had neither the numerical or technical staff necessary ~~for~~ the exercise of any control and no directions were ever sent to the Italian Government.

From the point of view of the nation regarding itself as a ^{so-called} ~~so-called~~ ^{in fact} whole the situation ^{is} may be satisfactory.

From the more domestic point of view, however, the fact that considerable quantities of small arms and munitions could be manufactured or ~~prepared~~ ^{des} from scrap and existing stocks, and that irregular movement and issue of arms could take place ~~was~~ ^{does} not appear ~~to~~ ^{to} have been taken into account.

At the same time letters were written stating that the Allied Commission had neither the numerical or technical staff necessary for the exercise of any control and no directions were ever sent to the Italian Government.

From the point of view of the nation re-arming itself as a whole the situation may be satisfactory.

From the more domestic point of view, however, the fact that considerable quantities of small arms and munitions could be manufactured or prepared from scrap and existing stocks, and that irregular movement and issue of arms could take place ^{does} not appear to have been taken into account.

Some form of control was exercised over factories in the north by the military authorities in the early days of liberation but this was never systemised or handed over.

4. Approximately half of the Police Forces, that is the CC.RR, are now a heavily armed force as the result of their being a part of the Italian Army and the availability of equipment as the result of the end of the war.

It is considered that it can be safely stated that the Agents of Public Security which form a large part of the remainder of the Police Forces are now also a heavily armed force.

In addition to their normal armament of a musket and

a pistol per man, it is estimated, and it must be stressed that this is only an estimate, that their armament includes:

5 tanks
30 armoured Cars.
10,000 Automatic carbines.
500 Machine Guns.
Hand Grenades.

This armament has been obtained from old stocks, issues of automatic weapons arranged by AMT in the North, purchase of arms through irregular channels and in the Black Market.

The Agents of Public Security are still ascertaining for yet more arms.

5. The large number of modern arms in the hands of the civil population probably justified the formation of some heavily armed police reserves for use in certain districts. But there would appear to be no justification whatever for a large heavily armed police force, and normally always operating as such, throughout the country, particularly in all large towns and urban districts.

6. The serious disadvantages of a part of the Army forming a large element of the Civil Police Forces and all the worst features of the Italian authorities and at this

The Agents of Public Security are still clamouring for yet more arms.

5. The large number of modern arms in the hands of the civil population probably justified the formation of some heavily armed police reserves for use in certain districts. But there would appear to be no justification whatever for a large heavily armed police force, and normally always operating as such, throughout the country, particularly in all large towns and urban districts.

6. The serious disadvantages of a part of the Army forming a large element of the Civil Police Forces and all the worst features of divided control both among the Italian authorities and at this Headquarters, are exemplified in this matter.

On the Italian side political influences have taken charge and it seems clear that an armament race is taking place between the CC.FR (as being on the non-fascist side) and the Agents of Public Security and other police elements (as being on the side of the Left). It should not be inferred from this that armament has been engineered with a view to some form of coup d'etat. While this may be a possibility this aspect is not considered in this paper.

7. From the above and general information in possession of this Headquarters the following deductions may be made:-

(a) That contrary to democratic principles, contrary to the best interests of the country and contrary to all sound principles of police policy and organization, the Police forces in Italy are heavily over armed.

(b) That the spirit, if not the actual provisions of the Armistice terms have been and are being violated as regards manufacture, repair and transit of arms and munitions.

(c) That the Italian Government itself is party to breaking its own rules and is engaging in black market traffic in arms.

8. There is one redeeming feature in this situation and that is, that up to the present the Police forces have shown no disposition to make use of their armament.

69

SUMMARY OF REPORTS RECEIVED FROM G.O.P.R. 1970
CHIEF OF POLICE REGARDING WEAPONS OTHER THAN
MACHINE AND STICKS IN POSSESSION ON 15. 5. 46

Public Security Agents. D.S.S.P. Remarks.

Tank's 5 - -

Armoured Cars 20 - -

Heavy Machine Guns 507 100 -

Light Machine Guns 32 100 -

Automatic Car-
bines and Rifles 4,448 724

1602

Discussed with my M.A. (Al Ridsley) 20/5
Pointed out that number of automatic weapons
reported was probably 20 accurate particularly
as regards P Security Agent organization

1602

Discussed with M M A (Col Kdsley) 20th 5
 pointed out that number of auto make weapons
 reported was probably 20% accurate particularly
 as regard P Security Agent organization
 in the North.
 Agreed that P S S should discuss with M M A
 and evolve from the report at 1400-59. exact by that
 type of weapons were held by P S Agents and GRTF

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 73016

MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
Direction General P.S.

N° 999.9606
12116

14 May 1946.

SUBJECT : Automatic Arms for Civil Police.

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission . A.C.

In answer to yesterday's letter AG/14601/11/PS in which your Commission urgently asks what the actual amount of automatic arms with the P.S. is.

On this matter it is necessary to bear in mind, according to the actual ruling, that the P.S. in Italy is made up of two forces performing the same duties, and i.e. the Corps of the P.S. Guards and the CC.RR. Both constitute the Civil Police, as understood by the Allies, with the only difference that the CC.RR. is a more military organisation. Both, in fact, depend for employment on the Ministry of the Interior.

Both are Civil Police and any provision which might tend to determine an exceptionally different treatment on either side, would appear unjust and un-necessary.

Nevertheless, it is borne in mind that the armament of the Corps of the P.S. Guards was fixed, according to agreements made between the Commanding General CC.RR. and the Allied Command at a meeting, where representatives of the CG.P. - Army and Ministry of the Interior were present and where it was determined that the number of automatic arms to be assigned to the P.S. Guards was to be not less than 1 to 6 men.

According to the above proportion, this Ministry asked the Ministry of War for the assignment of 7500 automatic weapons, besides the completion of the requirements for individual ~~6~~ - 23.350 pistols.

But, till now the Ministry of War, which has not yet supplied one pistol has only given 448 mitra.

This Ministry has therefore been obliged to affront, on its own, the serious situation determined by the absolute deficiency of automatic arms, providing in recovering 4000 mitra, which, revised, repaired and turned new, have been distributed to bodies made up of effective guards from the ordinary enrollment.

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

-2-

Such a number of automatic arms, to which 507 heavy machine guns and 32 light ones have to be added, (also given by the Ministry of War), is greatly inferior to that which, as said before, should have been assigned to the Corps of the P.S. Guards and which would have been also inadequate owing to the exigencies of the services.

In fact, it is well known that the Corps of the P.S. Guards effects services of vigilance at the frontiers, at the ports, besides the duties of road police, having also taken on all the Traffic Police Control, organised by the Allied Military Govt. in northern Italy.

Finally it functions as railway police in Sicily and as escort on trains over the whole of Italy.

Automatic arms are indispensable for all these services as it seems affronting elements in possession of such weapons.

With regard to armoured vehicles, the Corps of P.S. Guards has only 5 tanks and 20 armoured cars which have been withdrawn from the ex P.A.I. in execution of a disposition of law, in which all the material of the ex P.A.I. has been transferred to the Corps of the P.S. Guards.

Considering the above, advantage is taken, in order to point out the necessity that the number of automatic arms for the P.S. Guards be brought, at least to the limit agreed on in the above mentioned meeting, to be, if possible, later increased to a quantity adhering with the exigencies of the many and complicated services entrusted to the Corps, duties which are none the less carried out by the other force of Civil Police and i.e. the CC.RR.

1602

For the Minister
/s/ Ferrari.

Translation ac/

TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
M. V. General Command

Rome, 15 May 1946.

Office of the General in Charge

To PUBLIC SAFETY S/C
HQ'S ALLIED COMMISSION

Bo 49432

APD 394

SUBJECT : Arms for the G.I.'s.

1. Reference to letter AP/14601/11/45 dated 13 inst.

2. The G.I.'s. units are provided with the following automatic weapons:

- 274 automatic machine ("Beretta" - mod. 38 A - cal 8,8),
- 500 automatic rifles ("Greco" - mod. 38 - cal. 6,6),
- 100 machine-guns ("Greco" - mod. 37 - cal. 8).

3. Such arms are distributed amongst about 30.000 G.I.'s; therefore they are absolutely insufficient.

4. An assignment of automatic-machine "Beretta" to the Corps is urgently needed. This in consideration of the fact that the G.I.'s.

- cooperate in the service of public order, together with the other police forces;

- perform the service of surveillance;

- a) to the land-frontier,
- b) along the coast,
- c) in the ports;

- carry out escorting services and services of protection to State Currency Paper work-shops, to the ministries, banks and stores.

5. The Ministry of War had already assigned 5712 automatic machine, but the Allied Sub-Commission for the Army (A.C.I.A.) forbade their distribution.

It is indispensable to obtain the assignment of the a/m weapons, accordingly your Commission's intervention

p.t.o.

in the matter is urgently required.

by order
(sgd) Giuseppe Annunelli
General of Brigade
in charge.

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

NOTE OF A MEETING.

Note of a meeting on May 6th with a representative (Dr. Ferari) of the Ministry of the Interior and the Chief of Police and representatives of the Ministry of Finance (General Oxilia and Colonel Pollizzi) which controls the Finance Guards.

As regards Finance Guards, the representatives of the Minister of Finance stated that existing conditions in the country were quite exceptional. Finance Guards have heavy responsibilities on the frontier where attempts at contraband traffic are numerous and contrabanders are well armed. The frontier, in general, used to be guarded by a system of wire fences with alarm bells. This system, due to the ravages of war, was now ineffective, but efforts were being made to repair it.

Raid against depots were always liable to be made by well armed bandits and Finance Guards were responsible for escorting valuable convoys.

As regards Public Security Agents, Dr. Ferari was of opinion that, in principle, Agents should not be armed or have to recourse to the use of arms. Steps were now being taken to arm Public Security Agents with rubber truncheons. In normal times a pistol and a rubber truncheon should be sufficient. A mask was an encumbrance.

Existing conditions, however, were such that he considered that Public Security Agents should have a proportion of automatic weapons. These were required mainly for moral effect. Moreover, some of the duties carried out by Public Security Agents were akin to those performed by the Finance Guards. Public Security Agents had recently taken over the patrolling of the roads, a duty which was previously carried out by Militia.

The use of automatic weapons by Public Security Agents on duty in cities and towns was not contemplated.

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

2A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

6/14.1/CA

April 1946

SUBJECT : Automatic Arms for
Use by Civil Police.

TO : AFHQ, G-5 Section.

1. 30,000 automatic carbines at the Serratta Arms factory, Brescia, have recently been handed over to the Italian War Ministry for distribution, when assembled, to the CC.RR. and the Army.

2. The War Ministry asked permission of the Land Forces Sub-Commission to allocate 12,394 of these weapons to:

Firance Guards	5,712
Public Safety Agents	6,682.

3. Land Forces S/C refused the request on the grounds that authority was only given for release to the Italian Military Forces.

4. M.E.I.A. have now asked that a ruling be given with regard to any further requests of a similar nature from the Civil Police.

5. The Italian Government no doubt feel that, as many of the criminals of today are armed with automatic weapons, the Civil Police should be similarly armed. However it is the opinion of this Hq. that the arming of the Civil Police with automatic carbines is not really necessary or desirable. 153

Their present arms i.e. the 1891 musket and pistol are considered sufficient for normal Police duties.

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

6. Should the Civil Police be unable to cope with a situation, then their normal recourse is to apply to the Military for aid to the Civil Power.

7. Except in extraordinary circumstances, the Military in such cases are restricted to the use of single shot weapons, therefore it would seem no good reason would be served by arming the Civil Police with automatic carbines which should never be used as such.

8. Furthermore in view of the fact that the armistice terms limits the size of the Army and CC.RR. to a maximum figure, it may be thought that the arming of the Civil Police Forces with weapons which would tend to make them equivalent to the Military Forces would be contravening the spirit of these terms.

9. May a decision be given please.

M. CARR, Brigadier
VP C A S.

Copy:- 14513/3/PS.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

6/14.1/CA

April 1946

SUBJECT : Automatic Arms for
Use by Civil Police.

TO : AFHQ, G-5 Section.

1. 30,000 automatic carbines at the Berretta Arms factory, Brescia, have recently been handed over to the Italian War Ministry for distribution, when assembled, to the CC.RR. and the Army.

2. The War Ministry asked permission of the Land Forces Sub-Commission to allocate 12,354 of these weapons to:

Finance Guards	5,712
Public Safety Agents	6,642.

3. Land Forces S/C refused the request on the grounds that authority was only given for release to the Italian Military Forces.

4. M.M.I.A. have now asked that a ruling be given with regard to any further requests of a similar nature from the Civil Police.

5. The Italian Government no doubt feel that, as many of the criminals of today are armed with automatic weapons, the Civil Police should be similarly armed. However it is the opinion of this Hq. that the arming of the Civil Police with automatic carbines is not really necessary or desirable. 185-

Their present arms i.e. the 1891 musket and pistol are considered sufficient for normal Police duties.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 73506

6. Should the Civil Police be unable to cope with a situation, then their normal recourse is to apply to the Military for aid to the Civil Power.

7. Except in extraordinary circumstances, the Military in such cases are restricted to the use of single shot weapons, therefore, it would seem no good reason would be served by arming the Civil Police with automatic carbines which should never be used as such.

8. Furthermore, in view of the fact that the armistice terms limits the size of the Army and CC.RR. to a maximum figure, it may be thought that the arming of the Civil Police Forces with weapons which would tend to make them equivalent to the Military Forces would be contravening the spirit of these terms.

9. May a decision be given please.

M. CARR, Brigadier
VP C A Section.

Copy:- AC/14613/3/PS.

13

SUBJECT: Issue of Automatic CARBINES to Finance Guards
and Public Security Agents.

25 APR 1946

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MILIA)

SD/109/1

13 Apr 46

TO : HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

1. Parts for 30,000 automatic carbines awaiting assembly at the Berretta Arms factory BRESCIA have recently been handed over to the Italian War Ministry for eventual distribution, when assembled, to CC.RR. and Army.

2. The War Ministry have asked the permission of the Land Forces Sub Commission to distribute 12,354 of these weapons as follows:-

To Finance Guards (customs agents)	- 5,712 (operating under treasury)
To Public Security Agents	- 6,642 (a private army of the Ministry of the Interior?)

This has been refused by this Mission on the grounds that authority was only given to release these weapons to the Italian Military Forces.

3. As it is possible that similar requests may be received in the future a ruling is required as to whether it is permissible to grant them or not.

4. Two points of principle seem to be involved.

(a) From the point of view of public security is it desirable or necessary that Civil Police Forces should be armed with automatic carbines.

(b) In view of the fact that the Armistice terms limit the size of the Army and CC.RR. to a maximum figure is it not contravening the spirit of these terms if Civil Police Forces are armed with weapons that would tend to make them the equivalent of Military or CC.RR. forces.

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

To Finance Guards (customs agents) - 5,712 (operating under treasury)
 To Public Security Agents - 6,642 (a private army of the
 Ministry of the Interior).

This has been refused by this Mission on the grounds that authority was only given to release these weapons to the Italian Military Forces.

3. As it is possible that similar requests may be received in the future a ruling is required as to whether it is permissible to grant them or not.

4. Two points of principle seem to be involved.

(a) From the point of view of public security is it desirable or necessary that Civil Police Forces should be armed with automatic carbines.

(b) In view of the fact that the Armistice terms limit the size of the Army and CC.RR. to a maximum figure is it not contravening the spirit of these terms if Civil Police Forces are armed with weapons that would tend to make them the equivalent of Military or CC.RR. forces.

5. It is possible that the answer to (a) is now purely for the decision of the Italian Government and that the Allied Commission would not wish to interfere. The answer to (b) however appears to be one that requires the ruling of AFHQ, and, if you agree, I would be glad if you would obtain their views on the matter.

The opinion of this Mission is that the issue of automatic weapons to Civil Police Forces is undesirable.

Copy to: 'Q'
 CC.PR.
 SD/47

MMH/IT

M. W. Hope
 Brigadier GS
 Major General,
 M. M. I. A.



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