

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

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

05/601

ITAL GOV'T, APPOINTMENTS, ITALIAN
OFFICIALS
APR. 1944 - JULY 1945

MINUTES SHEET

Minute No. 10

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission.

Please see Folio 12A which is a reply to ^{your} letter at 123.

I should add from personal experience that Lt. Col. Quin-Smith's remarks about unofficial leave are very typical of what must inevitably happen in the early stages. In fact, in my own Province I had one of these officers as a Prefect for a short time. I feel that disciplinary action by the Italian Government Ministry of War would be most regrettable as Provincial Commissioners, etc., are often put in a position where, if they find an Army Officer who is really suitable, they must compel him to take on a Civil Administrative job in an emergency.

16 Jul 45.

Civil Affairs Section.

D. S. Bunka

A.D. BUNKA-CARRER, Lt. Col.,
CSO CA Section.

C. A. Section

11

Minute 10 noted. I understand that Provincial Commission asked in experience of the fact that Caproni was a serving officer. We therefore

take no further action.

(Signature)
D. S. Bunka
Land Forces Sub-Com.

16 Jul 45.

Civil Affairs Section.

C. A. Section

11

On 10 noted the note you. I understand
that Provisional Commission acted in accordance of the
that that Caproni was a serving officer. We therefore

had no further action.

 W. P. Kelly
S. A. Kelly
S. A. Kelly

24 Jul 45.

2234

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

U.S. Department of Defense
A.D. BOWMAN-CARTER, Lt. Col.,
OSO CA Section.

MINUTE SHEET

Minute No. 6.

TOAPEX Commission.

8a is submitted for approval and signature of CC.
It has been drafted in reply to 4a, and as indicated in
your letter of 5a, no matter of the opinion of H.F.C. has been made.
The report - the Editor's background are at 6a & 7a.

C.H.S.

25 MAR 1955

X.608.

R.R. Higgins

26/3

7

C.A.Sec:

Ref Minute 6 above. Letter to the PM
is returned signed by chief clerk after
dispatched.

Office, E.C.
28 MAR 1955.

Shewell
28/3

Executive Commission papers

7

CASec:

Ref minute volume. Letter to the PM
is turned signed by Chief Commissioner
dispatched.

Office, EC.
28 March 5.

[Signature]
SA 21/3

8/10/54

Executive Commission prepared for CC's signature please

1st page 15

[Signature]
C. D. Henderson
CAS

2

CASec

Letter signed by Chief Commissioner returned for despatch copies have been
withdrawn for EC & CC files

[Signature]

21/10/54

[Signature]
W. H. Gordon

22/5/54

Minute Sheet.

Minute 1.

To: Public Safety.

Reference Folio 4a and 5a. It has been pointed out to Executive Commissioner's Office that action in this matter should have been directed to Public Safety Sub-Commission and that this Section will frame a reply to 4a for the Chief Commissioner's signature. Will you therefore please:

- a) make any recommendations that you have to make regarding the appointment;
- b) obtain the agreement of Finance Sub-Commission to your recommendations;
- c) pass your remarks to this Section as soon as possible.

R. R. Chitts
R. R. CHITTS, Col.
CSO CA Section.

16 March 1945.

- 2 -

Security Division:
Please investigate General Oxilia and report to me in order that I can make proper reply to Minute 1. Please expedite as the matter is urgent.
17 Mar. 45

Chapman
Col. D.P.S.

3.

Director, Public Safety.
Report attached, 6A.

22. 3. 45.

J. H. Hannon
Security Division

4.

VP. CAS.
6A for information. On basis of this report PS has no objection to the appointment.
23 Mar. 45.

Chapman
Col. D.P.S.

5.

Finance Sub-Commission concurs in the granting of P.S.
23 March 1945

J. J. Zander
Comdr. U.S.C.G.R.

2236

C.S.O. Civil Affairs Section
H.Q. Allied Commission.

13A
15 JUL 1943

I have received the memo overleaf in hospital at Sorrento.

no reply?
Caponi was proposed late in 1944 by the District CAO as being the only suitable candidate. Lucignano Comune was in a mess & several Sindaci had been tried. Caponi at the time was living in his house at Lucignano. When interviewed he was wearing plain clothes. He was not keen on taking on a difficult and honorary task: he however agreed to try.

To the best of my belief he was at the time, like so many officers in the province, on a sort of unofficial leave at home, waiting to be vetted and given a job. The Colonel i/c the Italian District (Bonfiglia) also attended the interview. As a result we at once wrote to Col Spicer asking that the man be seconded "in carica civile" - their expression.

The Col Spicer applied promptly to the Government, little or no coordination seems to have taken place between the Ministries. An unreasonably long time afterwards, Major Caponi was "disciplined" by the War Ministry & A.M.G. had the mortification of having a most useful official removed at a moment's notice.

I suggest that had the Ministries concerned acted promptly in collaboration with A.C.C., the matter could have been regularised at once. Instead A.M.G.'s nominee had to suffer.

I feel we should protect Caponi and arrange for the disciplining to be applied elsewhere. The term "active service" did not arise: it seems to have little meaning as applied to personnel in the position of Major Caponi.

24th June.

Lt Col.

F. A. Smith 2231

Staff
File 9/11/CA
please

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFC 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

9/1.1/CA

15 June 45

SUBJECT : Major CAPONI Cesare.

TO : Lt Col Quin Smith
HQ Toscana Region.

- 1 It seems that the above officer of the Italian Army was, while still on the active list, and actually employed, appointed Sindaco of Lucignano, Province of Arezzo.
- 2 The War Ministry, through MIA, are asking whether it was known that this Officer was on active service.
- 3 Any information which you can give will be very helpful. The War Ministry are seeking to regularise the position and apply proper disciplinary action for failure to comply with their orders.

A.D. Boshart Carter
A.D. BOSHAART CARTER
Lt Colonel,
GSO CA Section

Copy to : R.O. Toscana Region

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 594
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

9/1.1/CA

15 June 45

SUBJECT : Major CAPONI Cesare.

TO : Lt Col Quin Smith
R.O. Toscana Region.

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- 2 The War Ministry, through MIA, are asking whether it was known that this Officer was on active service.
- 3 Any information which you can give will be very helpful. The War Ministry are seeking to regularise the position and apply proper disciplinary action for failure to comply with their orders.

AB
A.D. BONGHAT CARTER
Lt Colonel,
CSO CA Section

Copy to : R.O. Toscana Region

2230

1686

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

RESTRICTED.

SUBJECT: Major CAPONI, Cesare.

14 GIU. 1945

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E .
A 260 .
12 June 45.

TO :Executive Commissioner, A.C.

1. The Italian War Ministry has informed this H.Qs that the subject officer a regular Italian Army officer was at AREZZO on duty with an Italian Recovery Unit when, sometime in January 1945, he was appointed mayor of LUCIGNANO by AMG, TUSCANY.
2. Action by the Italian War Ministry to regularize the position of this officer and apply proper disciplinary action for failure to comply with War Ministry orders has been complicated by AMG to the extent that recommendation has been made that the subject officer be not disciplined because of his cooperation with the Allies.
3. This H.Qs requires to know whether the above statement is correct, and if so whether AMG was aware of the fact that he was on active service as an Army officer and therefore not eligible for additional duties.
4. An early reply to this and any other points that may assist in clarifying this situation will be appreciated.

2229

W. P. Delaney
Colonel
Major General,
M.M.I.A.

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

Ref: 9/1.1/GA

16 June 1945

Your Excellency.

I have your letter No. 518 of 9 June 1945 with regard to the Commissioner appointed in Turin for the Grande Magistero Mauriziano.

I have passed your views to the Director of the Education Sub-Commission, and he will communicate with the Regional Commissioner with whom the responsibility in this matter rests.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone
ELLERY W. STONE,
Rear Admiral, USNR,
Chief Commissioner.

His Excellency Mario Brosio,
The Minister,
Secretary of State,
Italian Government. R O M E

Copy to: Education Sub-Commission.

2228

Translation

The Minister Secretary of State
Manlio Brosio
818

Rome, 9 June 1945

12 GIU. 1945

Dear Admiral,

I have been told that a man who does not have all the requisites necessary for such a charge has been appointed to replace the commissioner appointed in Turin for the Grande Magistero Mauriziano.

Besides, the appointment has been made without the knowledge of the central authorities of the Grande Magistero which thus finds itself divided in two. The above mentioned authorities therefore suggest that it would be advisable to put back in this post the former director general of the Ordine Mauriziano, Cav. Gr. Gr. Domenico Lanza (Turin - via Pastrengo, 15) formerly dismissed by the republican fascists.

Knowing Mr. Lanza - he never belonged to the fascist party, his probity is above suspicion and his attitude of opposition never changed - I am most happy to submit his candidature to you, asking you to see whether it would be possible for him to be given back his charge.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

S. M. Brosio

2227

Admiral Eliery Stone

Rome

c.c.

EC INT - 12 June 45

Action: C.A.S. (12)

Info: C.A.S. Comm

Ex. Comm

*Il Maestro Agostino de' Todi
Mantle Brosie*

JUN 11 1945

m. 818

Roma, 9 giugno 1945

12 GIU. 1945

Caro Ammiraglio,

mi viene segnalato che a sostituire il commissario nominato a Torino per il Grande Magistero Mauriziano, è stata chiamata una persona che non avrebbe tutti i requisiti che si richiedono a tale carica.

Inoltre la designazione è stata fatta ad insaputa delle autorità centrali del Grande Magistero il quale viene così a trovarsi scisso in due tronconi. Da parte delle predette autorità viene fatto perciò presente che occorrerebbe reintegrare nel suo posto l'antico direttore generale dell'Ordine Mauriziano, Cav. Gr.Cr. Domenico Lanza (Torino - Via Pastrengo, 15), a suo tempo allontanato dal servizio dai fascisti repubblicani.

Poichè conosco il Lanza - mai iscritto al partito fascista, persona proba ed irremovibile dal suo atteggiamento di opposizione - mi è grato sottoporle tale candidatura con la preghiera di voler esaminare la possibilità del suo reintegro.

Mi creda con i migliori saluti Suo

Amm. ELLERY STONE
ROMA

21220-
4429

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

9a

Ref: 9/1.1/CA.

28 March 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I have given consideration to the appointment of General Oxilia as Commander of the Guardia de Finanza and am pleased to inform you that it has the approval of the Allied Commission.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Elmer W. Stone

ELMER W. STONE,
Rear Admiral, USN,
Chief Commissioner.

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government
ROME.

Copy to: Finance Sub-Commission,
Public Safety Sub-Commission.

Encl. Copy 12.
cc. FILE

2225

C O P Y

SECRET

8a

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Finance Sub-Commission
Tel 417/553

13148/F

13 March, 1945

17 MAR 1945

SUBJECT: Appointment of General Commanding Guardia di Finanza.

TO : Chief Commissioner.

1. The Italian press has carried a story that General Oxilia has been appointed Commanding General of the Guardia di Finanza in place of General Aymonino.
2. Neither Finance Sub-Commission nor Public Safety Sub-Commission was consulted as to this appointment. I understand that the Minister of War consulted General Browning, Land Forces Sub-Commission, who said he knew of no objection to Oxilia but that he could not speak as the Allied Commission on this matter. The Minister of Finance has stated to us that he reminded the Minister of War that the post of Commanding General of the Guardia di Finanza could be filled only after approval of the Allied Commission. The Minister of War is said to have stated that it is the duty of the President of the Council of Ministers to submit appointments to the Allied Commission for approval.
3. Since the MacMillan statement reserved the post in question for approval by SACMED, this apparent violation by the Italian Government is being brought to your attention.

/s/ A.P. GRAFFTEY SMITH, Brig.

Joint Director,
Finance Sub-Commission.

Major Q.

Write Bonomi asking if correct and if so pointing out list of appointments attached to MacMillan Aide-Memoire, which must be approved. Say his name not yet submitted.

2224

E.W.S.

9558

Memorandum for Major Garvey, Head of Security Branch, Public Safety and Commission - Allied Commission.

Subject: Details of information about Divisional General GILLES G. BATTISTE.

Divisional General (regular soldier) GILLES G. BATTISTE, present General Commandant of the Royal Finances Guard, was born in Turin on the 12th of November 1887.

He left the military academy in Turin on the 30th of September 1907 with the rank of 2nd Lieutenant of Artillery, and graduated in 1908 the "Scuola di Applicazione di Artilleria e Genio" also in Turin.

He took part in the last war with several commanding posts proving to be a capable and courageous soldier.

In 1933, after he graduated with the rank of Major the regular course of the War School and was transferred to the General Staff, he was appointed Commandant of the Military Division in Milan.

In September 1937, as Lieutenant Colonel he was appointed military attaché at the Italian Legation in Budapest until April 1938.

As Colonel he commanded the 5th Artillery Regiment of Legnano from March 1935 to October 1937. Shortly after he became head of the Staff of the Army Corps in Bologna (1938), and from August 1938 until January 1940 he commanded with the rank of "Generale di Brigata" the artillery of the Army Corps Alessandria. During the present war he was head of the Staff of the 8th Army (June-October 1940), Commandant of the Artillery of the 1st Army on the West Front, and head of the military mission in Croatia since the month of June 1941.

When appointed Divisional General on the 31st of January 1942 he remained at the head of the above said mission until August 1942 when he took the command of the Infantry Division "Brescia" in North Africa which he held until September 1942.

When Armistice was signed he commanded the Division "Venetia" in Yugoslavia and received the Honour of "Cavaliere of the O.E.S. For the W.V. he directed the military operations against the Germans.

General BATTISTE is one of those officers who, immediately after the 8th of September 1943 tried, but in vain, to have prevailed amongst the Italian Commanders of this theater of operations, the tactics of winning time with the Germans, in order

reorganize the troops and move them on more safe positions.

However, after the failure of his manoeuvre he fought with his troops against the Germans succeeding in joining Marshall Tito's forces and in reorganising a Division of about 20,000 men called "Garibaldi".

The remnants of the Division "Garibaldi" which fought courageously losing 75% of its men, are in these days returning to Italy.

General Oxilia has recently been attacked by some roman newspapers because he was at the head of the Italian military mission in Croatia, and commanded an important division in the Balkans. If such attacks can influence the most violent opposers of the Italian army who defaming our senior officers, try to have their ideas prevailing, they don't touch most part of the people who consider General Oxilia an energetic and well prepared officer capable of having his country respected by others.

He remained faithful to the path he took when he joined the Army, and is very much esteemed in the circles he frequents. After his return to Italy in March 1944 he was appointed head of the General Staff, and from July to December 1944 he took part in the First Generali Cabinet as Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of War. During same period he also has been a member of the Commission which approved the proposals made in favour of the soldiers and officers having had special merits during the clandestine struggle.

He is "Cavaliere del SS. Maurizio e Lazzaro", "Grande Ufficiale della Corona d'Italia", and has the following decorations:
Croce d'oro per anzianità di servizio (golden cross for seniority of service)

Croce al merito di guerra (cross for war merits)

Campagna di guerra 1915-16-17-18 (war campaign of 1915-16-17-18)

Medaglia commemorativa nazionale della guerra italo-austriaca 1915-1918 (commemorative medal for the Italo-Austrian war)

Medaglia a ricordo dell'Unità d'Italia (medal commemorating the unity of Italy).

He is married and has a son.

F.C.

Rome, 23 March 1945

ndp

2222

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 394

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION

SECURITY DIVISION

REF : SD/260.05

22 March 1945

SUBJECT : Gen. OXILIA Giovanni Battista

TO : Director, Public Safety Sub Commission.

1. Subject was born on 18.11.1887 and entered the Italian Army in 1907.

2. In 1941 he was sent to Yugoslavia as Head of the Italian Military Mission to Croatia. The main object of this Mission was to organize and train the Croatian Army and the Croatian Fascist Militia (USTASIA) in the new State created by MUSSOLINI after the occupation of that country.

3. Gen. OXILIA's appointment to such an important and delicate post suggests that he was very favourably regarded by the fascist authorities as this Mission was as much political as military.

4. In 1942 OXILIA reported to the Italian Government that 80% of the population in Croatia was against PAVELICH, the head of the State appointed by MUSSOLINI and that the CHETNIKS and partisans had not been liquidated as claimed by the Axis authorities. When this report was received by the Croatian Government they demanded and eventually secured his removal. He later took over the command of the "Brigata Venezia" (Venezia Brigade) and remained in Yugoslavia. After 8th September 1943 he is reported to have refused to obey the order to surrender to the Germans and immediately attacked them. He joined TITO's forces and formed the Garibaldi Division which fought with the partisans until recently. This Division is now being repatriated to Italy bringing with them a good reputation and it is understood

1. Subject was born on 18.11.1887 and entered the Italian Army in 1907.

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5. It is generally agreed that Gen. OXILIA is one of the few Italian Generals who, after the fall of Fascism, made any effort against the Germans, at the same time he is the subject of much discussion on the grounds of his former association with the Fascist regime, as it is viewed that only a good Fascist would be appointed to the Croatian Mission.

6. It is reported that OXILIA is better as an administrator than as a soldier.

7. He was Under Secretary of the Ministry of War in the first BONOMI Government.

CONFIDENTIAL

1003

8. Gen. CALIA was recently the subject of an article in the weekly satirical paper "CATTACHIAO".

Attilio Ellis

A.H. ELLIS,
Captain,
Security Division.

AEE/nb

2220

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

15 MAR 1945

5a

Tel: 735

15 March 1945.

Ref: 2E10/22/EC

SUBJECT: Guardia di Finanza - Approval of appointments.

TO : Economic Section.

4a

1. With reference to the attached letter addressed to the Chief Commissioner by the Prime Minister, dated 14 March 1945, will you please take appropriate action and prepare a reply for the signature of the Chief Commissioner.

2. No action by you is required on the reference to Land Forces Sub-Commission as this is already being dealt with.

Sh
Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

2213

Copy to: SO to Chief Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section

2582

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers

Rome, 14 March 1945

Dear Admiral,

on my return from my visit to the front, I was told that the Presidency of the Council must ask the assent of the Allied Commission for the appointment of the Commander of the Guardia di Finanza, even if, as in the present case, the Allied War Sub-Commission has already given its assent.

I therefore communicate to you that the appointment made by the competent Minister, with the agreement of his colleagues, was that of General Oxilia, ex-Undersecretary of State to the War Department.

If the Allied Commission agrees, we will have the Lieutenant sign the regular appointment.

I remain,

Your sincerely,

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
OF MINISTERS

s. I. Bonomi

2210

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission
R O M E

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 392

SUBJECT:- Minister Palermo.

7 Nov '44.

TO:- Land Forces Sub-Commission

Ref:- W/1.1/CA

1. The Local Committee of National Liberation at Naples are pressing strongly for AHC to appoint Palermo to be Sindaco there, and they have persuaded the Prime Minister to agree to his release from the Ministry of War for this purpose, if the Allies will appoint him.

2. There are a number of considerations against this appointment, but in particular the A/CC desires me to obtain your opinion on the question of Palermo's release from the Ministry of War.

3. It is understood that Palermo has worked well and is cooperative, and ~~it is for~~ that you would be reluctant to agree to his removal at the present time on the ground that such removal would prejudice the war effort.

4. May I have your opinion on this matter please?

[Signature]
C. E. TUNNICLIFFE, Brig.
VP CA Sec.
D. C. O. S.

2217

3035

U. S. SECRET
Equals British SECRET OUTGOING

UPJON/ear

8/07

3066

JULY

Scut on
1700 hr.
courier

SECRET

PRIORITY

ACC REAR

ACC ADV BUT IBS

BCHOMI STATED AT INTERVIEW THIS MORNING THAT HE WAS CONSIDERING
APPOINTING ALBISIO HIGH COMMISSIONER NICHY IN PLACE OF MURCOTTO PD
TO ACC ADV RE FOR SPICER RET IBS FOR ACC REGION ONE FOR HARGOOD
FROM ACC REAR FROM UPJON SIGNED STONE PD HE THINKS ALBISIO IS A
STRONGER MAN MORE LIKELY TO DEAL ENERGETICALLY WITH PROBLEMS OF
GRAIN COLLECTION PD PLEASE LET ME HAVE YOUR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSAL
SOONEST

AUTHENTICATED:

F. J. Chiocca
F. J. CHIOCCA
CWO USA
Adjutant

2210

DISTRIBUTION:

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- 1 Interior SC Rear
- 1 Adj Main

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Equals British SECRET

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION

2 APRIL 44.

9/1.1743.

TO: Interior Sub Commission.

FROM: Admin Section.

SUBJECT: Prefect of CHIETI.

1 The following telephone message received from RC & MG Section at 12.15 hours this day is forwarded for your action.

(a) Approval has been given for the appointment of GAETANO PETRELLA as Prefect of CHIETI PROVINCE.

(b) He will be instructed to report as soon as possible to S.C.A.O. at VASTO for instructions as to accommodation etc., before taking up his appointment.

(c) Interior Sub Commission will advise S.C.A.O. B Army of date of departure and E.T.A. with copy to RC & MG Section.

R.R. Cripps
R.R. CRIPPS,
CSO, ADMIN SECT.

2210

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