

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

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

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ITAL GOV'T, ITAL WAR MATERIAL  
AUG. 1944

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
R.C. & A.C. SECTION  
APO 39A

Ref : 360/41/CA

SUBJECT : Italian War Material etc.

TO : Regional Commissioners, Region I - IX & "M"  
Provincial Commissioner, Puglia Province  
S.C.A.C. 5 & 6 Armies.

11 AUG 1944

10 August 1944

1. This constitutes a full authority for the Italian Armed Forces to collect all vehicles and other war material originally held on charge by them.

2. Attention is drawn to:

(a) ARMI Circular 13 of 1 May 1944, which clearly states:

"Italian Material. All Italian material belonging to all arms and services of the Italian Ground Forces and in the possession of the Italians at the time of the armistice is considered as Italian material and, except as otherwise directed by this headquarters is reserved for the use of the Italian Army under the direction of the Army Sub-Commission, Allied Control Commission."

(b) A.C.I. letter 2050/12/32 dated 1 July 1944 of which the following are extracts:

"Cases have occurred (particularly in R.C.I. and other newly occupied localities) where property, transport and materials belonging to the Italian Forces have been removed from them without proper authority and when the operational need for such action no longer existed."

"In future no buildings, real estate, transportation or other materials belonging to the Italian Armed Forces, or in the possession of effective units of the Italian Navy, Army or Air Force, will be occupied, requisitioned, seized or made use of without prior reference to this H.Q."

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(a) ATRQ Circular 13 of 1 May 1944, which clearly states:

"Italian Material. All Italian Material belonging to all arms and services of the Italian Ground Forces and in the possession of the Italians at the time of the armistice is considered as Italian material and, except as otherwise directed by this head-quarters is reserved for the use of the Italian Army under the direction of the Army Sub-Commission, Allied Control Commission."

(b) A.L.I. letter 2030/12/02 dated 1 July 1944 of which the following are extracts:

"Guns have occurred (particularly in MIE and other newly occupied localities) where property, transport and materials belonging to the Italian Forces have been removed from them without proper authority and when the operational need for such action no longer existed."

"In future no buildings, real estate, transportation or other materials belonging to the Italian Armed Forces, or in the possession of effective units of the Italian Navy, Army or Air Force, will be occupied, requisitioned, seized or made use of without prior reference to this H.Q."

"The Italian Commanders concerned have been authorized to place notices on their property indicating its ownership. These notices will be respected."

3. Every assistance should be given to the Italian Armed Forces in their efforts to maintain themselves by the salvaging and collecting into Depots of war material scattered throughout the country.

4. When ownership of any material is in dispute the matter will immediately be referred to this HQ for investigation and final decision.

DISTRIBUTION:

Italian Minister of War.  
H.Q., A.S.I.  
Head Army Command.  
"C" & Group 2 List "A"

M S Lusk.  
H.S. LUSH,  
Brigadier,  
Executive Commissioner.

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