

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

7850/6

ACC

10000/105/672

POLITICAL,
MAR. 1945 -

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850/6

10000/105/672

POLITICAL, TREATMENT OF JUGOSLAV NATIONALS
MAR. 1945 - JAN. 1946

1.
To Displaced Persons Sub Com.
Ref conversation (Lt. Col. Rathgill - Maj. Reaker)
Please see folios 1-6.
18 Apr. J. Reaker, Maj
C.A. Section.

C.A. Section
Folios 1-6 noted
20. Mar.

C. Rathgill
C.A. Section
DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DISPLACED PERSONS & REPATRIATION
SUB-COMMISSION

2.
Maj. Reaker
Action on 11a is being taken by V.P. on
D.P.R. / 24-1/4-2.
R. R. Kipp

PK 78/3

CHS
22 Mar 45 4.

To Displaced Persons S.C.
Please see folios 13a, 16, 14 a & b.
26 April J. Reaker, Maj
C.A. Section. 5137

5.
To Displaced Persons S.S.
Please see folios 15a, b, c, & d. J. Reaker, Maj
C.A. Section.
5 April.

C.A. Section-

Folios 13a - 17a noted
9.4.45.

C. Rathgill
C.A. Section
DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
DISPLACED PERSONS & REPATRIATION
SUB-COMMISSION

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

7850/6

Chief Commissioner.

14/8/83/CA ✓



29 GEN 1983

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

File pl. yll

I agree with Bro Carr.

Return to
CA SECTION

778/27/1

V.P. Ferinpu

5136 JK 30/1.

ALLIED [REDACTED] COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

SUBJECT:

Tel. Ext. 525.
FILE No.

TO Executive Commissioner.

26 Jan 1946

Reference attached.

This is somewhat old history. The suspension placed on the newspaper "Primorski Dnevnik" has long since been withdrawn. The matter has been discussed with the Director Education Sub-Commission. The article is substantially correct but the situation is well-known and being satisfactorily handled within the limitations of personnel and general conditions.

It is not considered that any action is called for.

MQ
M. CARR, Brig.,
VP CA Section
5133

(20)

Copy of Transcript of Press Cable filed by Sylvia Sprigge of
the Manchester Guardian on December 19, 1945.

"Trieste, Wednesday, December 19, 1945
Education in Venezia Giulia.

Last Saturday Trieste had what was meant to be general strike but was partial strike with three-quarters of shops open, trams running by eleven o'clock and many of dockyards working. For ten days now "Primorski Dnevnik", Trieste Communist daily in Slovene been suspended by AMG. Strike was protest strike at suspension of this paper. Suspension was on account of "broken promise to withdraw allegations about AMG's Fascist education policy". Offending paragraph printed in article on November 24th reads as follows, "Whole superior administration of Slovene Allied schools chosen by Mr. Simoni (our AMG Education Officer) is Nazi, Fascist and Domobranci....it seems that Simoni wishes conscientiously and with perseverance to impregnate the Slovene secondary schools with Fascist elements." Acting editor of "Primorski Dnevnik" was asked to retract these allegations and according to AMG promised would. Days passed and no retraction so on December 6th paper suspended and has not appeared since. In Gorizia Slovene Communist organs have staged big demonstrations outside AMG on education and on suspension. Villian of piece so far as Communists concerned is Slovene Doctor Srecko Paragga who acts as interpreter to American AMG Education Officer Simoni. Here I found everyone gathered because question been asked in House Commons about it all. Briefly situation is this: For twenty years this region has not had Slovene schools. Musso- lini forced children into Italian schools. Today after only six months AMG has given Slovenes here over 100 schools already with nearly 400 teachers. More are on way. Fuel is also being pro- vided, an unknown luxury in Italy proper. There have these teachers come from? Region had very few. Slovenia itself has not enough because hundreds walked out of Lubliana end April be- fore Tito's arrival in trek headed by Bishop Rosman. Bishop Rosman of Lubliana blessed Domobranci movement which kind of special constabulary German and Fascist occupation with Eagle of Carniola as badge and with civilian members. It was Catholic

Here I found everyone gathered because question been asked in House Commons about it all. Briefly situation is this: For twenty years this region has not had Slovene schools. Mussolini forced children into Italian schools. Today after only six months AMO has given Slovenes more over 100 schools already with nearly 400 teachers. More are on way. Fuel is also being provided, an unknown luxury in Italy proper. There have these teachers come from? Region had very few. Slovenia itself has not enough because hundreds walked out of Lubiana and April before Tito's arrival in trek headed by Bishop Hoeman. Bishop Rosmar of Lubiana blessed Domobranec movement which kind of special constabulary German and Fascist occupation with Eagle of Carniola as badge and with civilian members. It was Catholic Royalist and certainly anti-Tito. We found 4,000 of them in Klagenfurt early in May and hurried them down to Treviso and other refugee camps. I saw 700 of them at Treviso camp early June and spent some time visiting class rooms and dormitories, all very neat with handpainted portrait King Peter and cross and bible text on walls in many rooms. Here I found many clerks, doctors, lawyers, teachers and priests, in fact the bourgeoisie of Lubiana's small population. Doctor Faraga was school organizer in this camp. All these people are considered as criminals in Jugoslavia today, just as "white" Russians were considered as traitors and criminals after civil war '17 to '21. In fact this week Doctor Faraga is being tried in absentia as war criminal in Lubiana. If he found guilty he doubtless be in danger of life or kidnapping as many Jugoslevs are kidnapped from Carinthia and Venezia Giulia when wanted by revolutionary tribunals across border. I have met mild fifty years old Doctor Faraga and he says he has never done anything his life except teach in Zagreb Novc Mes Te and other secondary schools. Says up to early '43 when he subscribed Tito's Liberation Fund then Tito partisans killed his brother, brother's wife and children and he ceased payments. Like everyone in Domobranec movement he is most unhappy man saying that Domobranec movement he believed England supporting Peter and never knew "we would let them all down in end". This man struck me as ordinary schoolteacher and doubtless AAA faithful interpreter.

5134

HEAD OFFICE

Lieutenant Simoni is exceedingly young Education Officer who hardly knew what Domobranci were, indeed few our AMG here have studied various trends across border.

Simoni has worked hard to achieve present Slovene schools and says his directives from American Colonel Ashburne, Director Education Allied Commission Rome are "plain education with political bias". No history be taught. post 1920 to avoid controversy. These directives are not observed in Slovene schools where one sees Tito pictures on walls and story recent war is taught. Without big staff school inspectors we could not enforce directives. Simoni asked Helgrude for textbooks. I have seen ones firing their way across page. Another is a small boy "Young pioneer" with Tommy gun and text reads for armed youth movement. These we can not use and Marshal Tito will not understand why not. We must explain why we can not use them, frankly and fully so that everyone knows why. AMG here lacks essential simple and clear policy statements and it lacks skilled and experienced department heads for task which among most difficult and among most important in Europe though one hesitates to criticize AMG because most of its officers work a twelve hour day here. AMG decree allowing employment non-Italian national teachers just been revoked but this is still present teaching position Trieste: Teachers of Slovene in secondary schools 45, Jugoslavs 27, rest bilingual Italian nationals. Of the 27, 12 one ex-Domobranci. If Jugoslavs dismissed they will not be replaceable for some time and new schools must close. Since partisan movements are matter of passionate interest to young European today we should have own textbook covering movements Norway, Belgium, France, Italy, Jugoslavia, etc. Where Tito posters go up in classrooms seems only fair that Mazzini posters should go up too. One wonders too whether it would not be possible to get education ministers up from Rome and from Lubiana to brief conference here to work out modus vivendi. In Gorizia now 1,465 pupils are attending the three new Slovene secondary schools. 21 of 47 teachers there are Jugoslav nationals and 11 of the Jugoslavs are ex-Domobranci. Latter observe AMG rule reference 1920 as closing date for history.

without
CWS

14/8 BTOP ✓

10011945

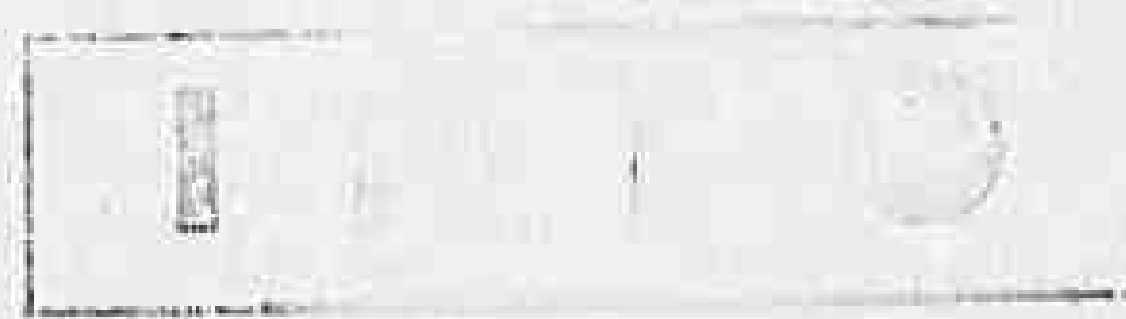
SECRET

PAS (19A)

PZ 25496
ZNY 291740A 4-0 11-19

Wef/10 P/9598
ZNY 3-1080
IMMEDIATE

PRKTRM RICHTR BACHED CIPS FUGBI
SA AMR ALCON



SECRET.

Subject is SLIBOR and STUKAN the 2 JUGOSLAV airmen who landed at
TORNICELLA airfield near FUGGIA in a German trainer plane on 15
September 1945 with alleged intention to desert from the JUGOSLAV ARMY.
They were inadvertently handed over to the JUGOSLAV Mission in BARI.
A demand was made on the Chief of JUG Mission in BARI for their return
which was categorically denied.

Information has come to our attention that SLIBOR and STUKAN
will be deported to JUGOSLAVIA by JUGOSLAV boat about 1st October. You
are requested to inform the Chief of JUGOSLAV Mission BARI that he will
be held responsible personally responsible by this Headquarters to
insure these 2 men will not be removed from ITALY without the consent
of Allied Force Headquarters.

To ALCON you will notify the head of the JUGOSLAV Advisory Com-
mission to ITALY of the foregoing.

DIST

ACTION HQ COMMISSIONER 2
INTL CHIEF COMMISSIONER
POLAD (A)
POLAD (W)
CA SRC
FILE

5132

SEP 1945

SECRET



14/5B/CA ✓

INCOMING MESSAGE

CAS. 18A

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: PR/LE/219
Date/Time of Origin: JUNE 08 11 GIU. 1945

Message Centre No: E/4559
Date Time Rec'd: JUNE 111030
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: HQ PIEMONTE REGION AMG
TO: HQ ALCOM CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION INFO G.2 5th ARMY

(Handwritten signature)

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
11 JUN 1945
A C

RESTRICTED.

Complaint received from Comitato Provvisorio PANSLAVISTA against Capt SACCHI VINCENZO now detained at Caserma BERGIA in TORINO accusing him of maltreatment of Yugoslav POW. All papers have been forwarded to G.2 5th ARMY through IV CORPS.

DIST

ACTION C A SEC
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE 2
FLOAT

(Faint handwritten text)

RESTRICTED

5131
(Handwritten mark)

SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

174
- 7 APR 1945

Ref: 2217/57/EC.

7 April 1945.

SUBJECT: ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Yugoslav Organisations
and Missions in ITALY.

TO: CA Section ✓
Political Advisers.
Liaison Division.

1. Reference Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 20 of 3 April 1945,
(copies attached for Political Advisers and Liaison Division).
2. Attached is extract from the Minutes of SACMED's
Political Conference of 5th April at which this paper was dis-
cussed.

/JG.

G. Gordon
Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

5130

301

EXTRACT.SECRET.SECRET.

Extract from the Minutes of SACM s (Political)
Conference of 5th April 1945 - Original on 217/50.

Minute 5."5. JUGOSLAV ORGANISATIONS AND MISSIONS IN ITALY.

(Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 20).

THE CONFERENCE had before them a paper recommending that diplomatic approaches should be made to the Yugoslav Government to obtain their approval for the closure of the Yugoslav military missions in ITALY and to the method of disposal of the personnel concerned, and further recommending that no action should be taken to request the closure of the Yugoslav Army military mission in ROME or the reduction in size of the similar military mission at BARI.

MR. MACMILLAN pointed out that in fact the old Royalist missions in ROME and NAPLES, which had consisted of elements who refused to recognise the new government in JUGOSLAVIA, had now been closed and the closure of the similar mission at BARI was in progress. The question of obtaining the formal approval of the Yugoslav government did not, therefore, arise. He did not consider it was desirable to make official representations on the question of the disposal of the personnel of these missions as the Yugoslav government would undoubtedly order them back to JUGOSLAVIA and, equally certainly, the people concerned would refuse to go. The Yugoslav personnel involved had certain funds in ITALY on which they could continue to subsist, and individual cases of hardship could be dealt with in the normal way as displaced persons. The Yugoslav Army military missions, in respect of which the Supreme Allied Commander had previously decided to press for the closure of the one at ROME and the reduction of that at BARI, had however previously been partisan missions and were composed of personnel favourably disposed towards the new Yugoslav Government. Mr. Macmillan now believed, in view of the advice he had received from the British Ambassador at BELGRADE, that it would be unwise to apply such pressure. The decision, as to whether the advantages obtained from our present military missions in JUGOSLAVIA outweighed the disadvantages involved by allowing the partisan missions in ITALY to continue to function at their present scale, was, however, a military one.

THE DEPUTY SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER felt that it would be unwise to press at present for the reduction of the Yugoslav military missions in ITALY. He considered that no further action should be taken in this respect at least while the present Yugoslav offensive operations continued. The matter should, however, be brought up at once if any Yugoslav tendency to increase their missions was observed.

THE DEPUTY SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER felt that it would be unwise to press at present for the reduction of the Yugoslav military missions in ITALY. He considered that no further action should be taken in this respect at least while the present Yugoslav offensive operations continued. The matter should, however, be brought up at once if any Yugoslav tendency to increase their missions was observed.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERTSON, referring to the discussion at SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting, Minute 3, requested direction as to whether the procedure which Air Marshal Slessor had provisionally agreed with Marshal Tito, in regard to personnel of the Royal Yugoslav Air Force, should be applied generally to all Yugoslav personnel throughout the theatre. There were at present being held in the heel of ITALY some 750 Yugoslavs who did not wish to return to JUGOSLAVIA and were not required for enrolment in or employment with the Allied forces. He wished to treat these personnel as displaced persons.

THE DEPUTY SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

- 5129
- (a) Took note of the report by the British Resident Minister regarding the closure of the Royalist Yugoslav missions in ITALY and directed that no approaches should be made to the Yugoslav government either in respect of the closure of these missions or in regard to the disposition of the Yugoslav personnel thereof.
 - (b) Directed that no further action be taken to request the closure of the Yugoslav Army (formerly Partisan) military mission in ROME or the reduction of the similar mission at BARI, and instructed the Chief of Staff to inform 37 Military Mission accordingly.
 - (c) Directed that a procedure similar to that described by Air Marshal Slessor at SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting, Minute 3, should be followed in respect of any Yugoslav personnel, in regard to whose disposition the Allied authorities in the Mediterranean Theatre were concerned.

SECRET

K 137

ALLIED FORCES IN ITALY

Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat

4 APR 1945

SAC (P) (45) 2C
3 April 1945

SECRET

COPY NO. 36

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

JUGOSLAV ORGANIZATIONS AND MISSIONS IN ITALY

Note by Secretary

1. At SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting, Minute 3, the Supreme Allied Commander:
 - (a) Invited the British Resident Minister and the U. S. Political Adviser to obtain the formal approval of the Yugoslav Government to the closure of the Royalist Yugoslav Missions in Rome, Naples and Bari, and to the disposition of the Yugoslav personnel of those missions in a manner agreeable to the Allies.
 - (b) Instructed the Chief of Staff to make representations to the Yugoslav military authorities, through 37 Military Mission, to the effect that the Yugoslav Army Military Mission in Rome should be closed and the similar delegation at Bari reduced in size.
2. The British Resident Minister subsequently reported at SAC (P) (45) 4th Meeting, Minute 2, that although he had made arrangements for the matter of the closure of the Royalist missions to be taken up with the Yugoslav Government, he did not consider it was yet opportune to raise the question of the disposal of the Yugoslav personnel concerned. The Supreme Allied Commander, therefore, directed that the latter question should not be raised until the United States Ambassador had arrived in Belgrade, when joint representations on the subject would be possible.
3. The British ambassador in Belgrade has now reported that both he and Air Vice Marshal Lee consider that a request for the closure of the Yugoslav military mission in Rome should not be pressed, as it might react most unfavorably on the position of the Allied Sub-Commissions in JUGOSLAVIA. Mr. Stevenson states, for instance, that if questioned by the Yugoslavs, we might find it difficult to justify on military grounds the retention of certain of our intelligence officers in the field and at key points such as SKOPLJE.

3. The British ambassador in Belgrade has now reported that both he and Air Vice Marshal Lee consider that a request for the closure of the Yugoslav military mission in Rome should not be pressed, as it might react most unfavorably on the position of the Allied Sub-Commissions in JUGOSLAVIA. Mr. Stevenson states, for instance, that if questioned by the Yugoslavs, we might find it difficult to justify on military grounds the retention of certain of our intelligence officers in the field and at key points such as SMOPLJE.

4. The British ambassador further understands that so far as the military mission at Bari is concerned, the Yugoslavs themselves are only too anxious to cut down their establishment. He therefore considers that it is unnecessary for this subject to be raised at the moment.

5. The U. S. Political Advisor has received reports in similar terms from the head of the independent United States Military Mission in Belgrade.

6. The Supreme Allied Commander is accordingly requested:

5128

(a) To direct that in regard to the Royalist Yugoslav Missions his existing policy should not be changed, and that

(i) The formal approval of the Yugoslav Government to the closure of these missions should be obtained as soon as possible.

(ii) Joint representations should be made by the British and United States ambassadors, on the subject of the disposal of the Yugoslav personnel of these missions, as soon as the United States ambassador is established in Belgrade.

SECRET

K 137

- (b) To revise his previous policy in regard to the Yugoslav Army military missions, and to direct that
 - (i) No action should be taken to request the closure of the mission in Rome or the reduction of that at Bari.
 - (ii) The direction at SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting, Minute 3 (b), should be regarded as cancelled.

J. G. Sweetman
 J. G. SWEETMAN,
 LIEUTENANT COLONEL,
 SECRETARY.

DISTRIBUTION

- Supreme Allied Commander
- Deputy Supreme Allied Commander
- Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
- Air Commander-in-Chief, USAF
- Commander, Eighth Fleet, USN
- Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief, MAAF
- Commanding General 15th Army Group
- Chief of Staff
- Chief Administrative Officer
- Deputy Chief of Staff
- Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
- Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3
- Chairman, Mediterranean Joint Planning Staff
- Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5
- Chief, Liaison Section
- Director of Operations and Intelligence, HQ MAAF
- U. S. Political Adviser
- British Resident Minister
- Director, P P

COPY NO.

- 1
- 2
- 3-4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10-11
- 12
- 13-14
- 15-16
- 17
- 18-19
- 20
- 21-25
- 26-28
- 29-32
- 33

Chief Administrative Officer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3
Chairman, Mediterranean Joint Planning Staff
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5
Chief, Liaison Section
Director of Operations and Intelligence, HQ MAF
U. S. Political Adviser
British Resident Minister
Director, P P
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat
Spares

E. C. DIST - APR 4 1945

C. Com. - (34)
Ex. Com. - (35)
~~Asst. CA Sec~~ - (36)

5121

- 2 -

SECRET

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

C.A. Sec

15a

4 APR 1945

SECRET

EXTRACT

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat

SAC (P) (45) 5th Meeting
29th March 1945

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

2. JUGOSLAV ORGANIZATIONS AND MISSIONS IN ITALY

(Previous reference SAC (P) (45) 4th Meeting, Minute 2)

MR. ORTIE stated that he had received a message from Lieutenant Colonel Thayer, head of the independent American Military Mission in BELGRADE, expressing the hope that representations to the Yugoslav government concerning the matter of closing or reducing the number of personnel in Partisan Missions in ITALY would not be unduly strong as Marshal Tito might consider this sufficient cause for requesting similar reductions in British and American missions in JUGOSLAVIA. In reply to a question by the Supreme Allied Commander, he agreed that the Partisan missions in ITALY were unduly large.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER pointed out that Marshal Tito should welcome the proposal to abolish the Yugoslav Royalist Missions in ITALY.

MR. MACMILLAN stated that an Ambassador Patterson would not arrive in BELGRADE until 30th March, joint action as directed at SAC (P) (45) 4th Meeting, Minute 2, had not yet been possible.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

Directed that his previous decisions, in regard to this subject, remain unaltered.

SECRET

5120

Copy to: CA Section (Ref 2214/91/Co of 31 Mar 45 and previous correspondence).

346

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

14A

Ref: 2214/80/EC.

31 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Alleged Yugoslav Deserters.

TO : CA Section.

1. Reference Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 17 of 20 March 1945 and this office letter 2214/80/EC of 21 March 1945.
2. Herewith for your information extract from the Minutes of SACMED's Political Conference of 22 March at which this matter was again discussed.
3. The letter mentioned in the last para of the extract from the minutes has now been issued by AFHQ and a copy is attached herewith (G-5: 250.1-5 of 24 Mar. 45).

5125

9A

8A

E. A. D. Dyer

Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

/JG.

3307

Extract from the Minutes of SACRED Political Conference
1948 Oct 22 March 1949

14B

SECRET

4. JUGOSLAV NATIONALS IN ITALY
(Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 17)

THE CONFERENCE had before them a revised paper setting out policy to be adopted in connection with Yugoslav claims to jurisdiction of their nationals in ITALY, together with a draft letter to Headquarters, Allied Commission, giving directions on the communication to be addressed to the delegate to JUGOSLAVIA on the Advisory Council, concerning the status of such Yugoslav nationals in ITALY.

BRIGADIER GENERAL STOFFORD said that a previous letter, approved by the Supreme Allied Commander, had not been forwarded by the Allied Commission to the Yugoslav delegate, as it had been forestalled by a note from the latter setting out certain claims in regard to Yugoslav nationals. The letter circulated under paper No. SAC (P) (45) 17 was designed to cover the procedure to be followed in connection with the apprehension of deserters from Yugoslav units, and to set out the Allied policy in connection with the treatment of Yugoslav nationals. In regard to alleged deserters the procedure suggested followed that which was informally in operation as between Allied forces but added two safeguards, by requiring notification of the alleged desertion within ninety days and a statement of the date of enlistment of the person concerned. The object of these provisions was to protect Yugoslav nationals whom the Yugoslav partisan elements might seek to have declared deserters on political grounds.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE considered that paragraph 3 of the draft letter should be amended, as the Allied Commission could not, of itself, take the action suggested. He agreed with Mr. Macmillan that the wording "prior to initiating any action towards the apprehension of deserters you will require the competent Yugoslav authority to secure in writing the following particulars", would be suitable.

REAR ADMIRAL STONE considered that paragraph 3 of the draft letter should be amended, as the Allied Commission could not, of itself, take the action suggested. He agreed with Mr. Macmillan that the wording "prior to initiating any action towards the apprehension of deserters you will require the competent Yugoslav authority to secure in writing the following particulars", would be suitable.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL EAKER, referring to his statement at the previous meeting concerning Yugoslav nationals now serving with the United States Army Air Forces, suggested that paragraph 6 should be re-worded to read, "that the Yugoslav nationals who are now serving in or with the Allied forces will not be classified as deserters and are not subject to call-up".

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER :

Directed the Chief of Staff to revise the letter circulated under paper No. SAC (F) (45) 17, in accordance with the above discussion and subsequently to despatch it as amended.

5124

SECRET

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 250.1-5

24 March 1945

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Nationals in Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394
(Attn: Chief Commissioner)

1. On 12 March 1945 a letter was forwarded to this Headquarters in which the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council in Italy set forth certain policies of the Yugoslav government with respect to Yugoslav nationals in Italy. Heretofore, under date of 30 November 1944 a letter from Major Koljensic of the Yugoslav Delegation in Rome, on the subject of Yugoslav deserters, was referred to this Headquarters.

2. You should advise the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council in Italy that it will be your policy to assist the Yugoslav government in every way in the apprehension of deserters from the Yugoslav armed forces. It will be necessary for Yugoslav military authorities to conform to a procedure similar to that now in use in the Allied forces, in order to establish the identity of each deserter. It is the policy of the Supreme Allied Commander to return deserters who have been apprehended to the formation from which they have deserted, whether military, naval or air force.

3. Prior to initiating any action towards the apprehension of deserters you will require the competent Yugoslav authority to secure, in writing, the following particulars from the Commanding Officer of the man who is sought :

- a. Name and rank of deserter.
- b. Military unit from which deserted and location thereof.
- c. Date of enlistment or induction.
- d. Date and circumstances of desertion.
- e. Full description of deserter.
- f. Probable whereabouts.

5123

Such statement will be required to be submitted within 90 days from the date of desertion.

4. The letter of the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia also deals with the status of Yugoslav nationals in Italy who are not on active military service but who have failed to report

SECRET

for all any service in accordance with existing Yugoslav military regulations, and those who have failed to report to appropriate Yugoslav authorities in accordance with Yugoslav regulations generally requiring the return of Yugoslav subjects to Yugoslavia. The letter of the Deputy Delegate also requests that all persons who have failed to report in accordance with the Yugoslav military service requirements or who have collaborated with the enemy or who have otherwise acted against the national liberation struggle of Yugoslavia be interned. You are requested to advise the Deputy Delegate that it is and will continue to be the policy of the Supreme Allied Commander to detain, pending further investigation, any person suspected of committing or intending to commit any act hostile to the Allied Forces or engaging in any political or other activity in the interest of the enemy or hostile to the Allied Forces. You are further requested to advise the Deputy Delegate that with respect to the internment of any other persons the Yugoslav government may take appropriate steps through diplomatic channels.

5. The letter of the Deputy Delegate further requests that no aid of any kind be furnished to any Yugoslav national who refuses to return to Yugoslavia as such refusal constitutes a violation of existing Yugoslav law. The policy of the Supreme Allied Commander is that relief will be furnished in accordance with need and without discrimination by reason of race, creed or political belief. You are requested to advise the Deputy Delegate of this policy.

6. In communicating your reply to the Deputy Delegate you are requested to advise him further that it is the understanding of the Supreme Allied Commander that the Yugoslav nationals now serving in or with the Allied Forces will not be classified as deserters and are not subject to call up. If it is desired to know the identity of Yugoslav subjects in this class, this may be arranged through appropriate military channels.

5122

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850/16

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

13A

Ref: 2214/91/EC

31 March 1955

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Organizations and Missions in ITALY.

TO : GA Section.

10A

Reference this office letter 2214/78/EC of 21 March, herewith for your further information extract from the Minutes of SACRED's Political Conference of 23 March at which this matter was again discussed.

/jc.

E. TULLA 17-1 5121
Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

3305

SECRET

2. JUGOSLAV ORGANIZATIONS AND MISSIONS IN ITALY

(Previous reference SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting, Minute 3)

10B. 13B

X MR. MACMILLAN, referring to the Supreme Allied Commander's invitation to the British Resident Minister and U.S. Political Adviser to obtain the formal approval of the new Yugoslav government to the closure of the Royalist Missions in ROME, NAPLES and BARI, reported that he had forwarded a communication on this matter to the British Ambassador to the Yugoslav government; no action had, however, been taken to raise with the Yugoslav government the questions of the disposition of the Yugoslav personnel of these missions or the enlistment of Yugoslavs in Allied forces. He was of the opinion that this matter should be taken up jointly by the British and United States Ambassadors to JUGOSLAVIA after the latter had assumed office.

MR. OFFIE stated that no diplomatic action in regard to the closure of the missions had yet been taken by the United States. The matter would, however, be raised when the United States Ambassador had arrived in BELGRADE. He agreed with Mr. Macmillan's proposal in regard to the question of the disposition of Yugoslav personnel.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

(a) Directed that the reference to the disposition of the Yugoslav personnel, contained in Minute 3(a) of SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting, be regarded as cancelled.

10B

(b) Invited the British Resident Minister and the U.S. Political Adviser to arrange for joint representations to be made to the Yugoslav Government, in accordance with Mr. Macmillan's proposal at 'X' above, when the United States Ambassador to JUGOSLAVIA had arrived in BELGRADE.

5120

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

24 MAR 1945

12A

Ref: 2214/82/EC.

24 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Organisations and Missions in ITALY.
Yugoslav Deserters.

TO : CA Section.
Liaison Division.

1. AFHQ have notified the following amendments to the Minutes of SACMED's Political Conference of 16 March 1945:

(a) Minute No. 3, Para 3, line 2: Delete the words "in LONDON". — JB

(b) Minute No. 5, Para 3, line 2: Delete the words "in FRANCE" and substitute the word "heretofore". — JB

2. Minute No. 3 was circulated by this office to both addressees with covering letter 2214/78/EC of 21 March: Minute No. 5 was circulated to CA Section under cover of letter 2214/80/EC of 21 March. Please amend copies accordingly.

/JG.

Edward Martin
Chief Staff Officer,
to the Executive Commissioner.

5119

2988

Original
OP. 124-1/311
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512
27 MAR. 1945

(11A)

G-5: 334-108

20 March 1945

SUBJECT: Petition for Royal Yugoslav Military Mission in Rome.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. A petition has been received by the Supreme Allied Commander from a number of Yugoslavs in Italy requesting that the Royal Yugoslav Military Mission in Rome be not disbanded.
2. This petition has been considered and it is the opinion of this headquarters that the attitude expressed by this headquarters in letter, file G-5: 334-108 of 20 February 1945, same subject, must remain unchanged.
3. It is not the intention of this headquarters to reply to subject petition in writing. You are instructed, therefore, to inform Lt. Colonel Vukotic, head of the mission, verbally through your Displaced Persons Sub-Commission that the petition has been received, but that much as it is appreciated that individual cases of hardship may arise, this headquarters will not interfere with the decision taken by the Yugoslav War Minister in ordering the disbandment of the Royal Yugoslav Military Mission.

sgd/ Charles M. Spofford

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

Copies to: CAO
G-1(B)
G-2
MAAF (ALS)
Brit Res Min
US POLAD
Liaison

Actin

5118

(2855)

SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

(100)

Ref: 2214/78/EC.

21 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Organisations and Missions in ITALY.

TO : CA Section.
Liaison Division.

— DPR / 24-1 / G 11.

1. Reference Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 14 dated 7 March 1945, subject as above, copy of which was forwarded you by this office.
2. Herewith for your information extract from the Minutes of SACMED's Political Conference of 16 March 1945, at which this paper was discussed.

11-13

/JG.

JG
Shorden
 Chief Staff Officer
 of the Executive Commissioner.

SECRET.

5117

ABSTRACT

SECRET

ABSTRACT

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat

F 111

SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting
16th March 1945

SECRET

COPY NO 24

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

3. JUGOSLAV ORGANISATIONS AND MISSIONS IN ITALY

(Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 14)

THE CONFERENCE had before them a paper surveying Yugoslav organisations and missions in ITALY and recommending that the so-called Royalist missions in ROME, NAPLES and IARI were redundant, that the delegations of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation in ROME should be closed and the similar delegation at BARI reduced in size.

MR. BROAD stated that about a month ago a communication had been received from Dr. Subasic ordering the disbandment of the Royal Yugoslav Mission in ROME, and asking the Allied authorities to pass this instruction to the Mission. The latter, however, had refused to acknowledge the order, stating that as their oath of allegiance was to the Royal Yugoslav Government, and they were accredited to the displaced persons Sub-Commission of the Allied Commission, the order could not be accepted unless it were delivered in the form of a command from the Supreme Allied Commander. In answer to a question by the Supreme Allied Commander, he observed that the communication from the Yugoslav government did not apply to the Royal Yugoslav Missions in BARI and NAPLES. However, we could state to the Yugoslavs that it was presumed they would wish the Supreme Allied Commander to take similar action in respect of these missions to that which they had requested in regard to ROME.

MR. COTTE observed that it would be desirable to have this order from the Yugoslav government ~~in the form of a request~~ in the form of a request in writing, after which, if the mission in ROME still persisted in its refusal, their rations, fuel and utilities could be withheld.

AIR MARSHAL GLESSON stated that the entire matter of allegiance of Yugoslavs was a complicated one as it applied also to members of the Royal Yugoslav Air Force. He had reached a provisional agreement with Marshal Tito that such personnel would be divided into three categories :-

1. Those who were willing to return to JUGOSLAVIA.

...it is desired that it could be desirable to have this order from the Yugoslav government in the form of a request in writing, after which, if the mission in RWB still prevailed in its refusal, their rations, fuel and utilities could be withheld.

AIR MARSHAL CLESSOR stated that the entire matter of allegiance of Jugoslavs was a complicated one as it applied also to members of the Royal Yugoslav Air Force. He had reached a provisional agreement with Marshal Tito that such personnel would be divided into three categories :-

1. Those who were willing to return to JUGOSLAVIA.
2. Those who were unwilling to return but could usefully be enlisted in, or employed by the RAF.
3. Those who were unwilling to return, but were not of use to the Allied forces. Such Jugoslavs would be sent to a displaced persons camp.

X

5116

He had, however, experienced difficulties with the Yugoslav representative at BARI, who was endeavouring to order otherwise.

VICE ADMIRAL HAMILTON observed that a similar difficulty presented itself in regard to the Royal Yugoslav Navy, since those personnel who refused to serve in the ATLANTIC under the new arrangements, would have to be shipped to a displaced persons camp in MIDEAST. It was not proposed, however, to enlist any Yugoslav personnel into the RNF.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER said that he did not believe this presented

EXTRACT

- 2 -

SECRET

X 111

EXTRACT

a serious problem as it was his opinion that members of the Royal Yugoslav Navy and the Partisan Navy would eventually unite without undue difficulty.

REAR ADMIRAL FACKER remarked that it was expected a decree declaring the United Yugoslav Navy would be issued in the near future.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL EMMER stated that there were at the present time twelve Yugoslav airmen serving with the United States Air Force, but under War Department regulations these men could not be properly enlisted in the United States Army without the approval of the Yugoslav Government. He suggested that the United States Ambassador to JUGOSLAVIA should take this matter up on a diplomatic level, and in the event of a negative reply, these twelve men might be enlisted in the RAF.

AIR MARSHAL GLESSOR stated that as the policy of the Royal Air Force had been to accept such enlistments in the past without seeking the concurrence of the Yugoslav government, the question of the enlistment of these personnel in the United States Air Force should be raised in such a way as not to prejudice previous Yugoslav enlistments in the RAF.

THE SUBMITTED ALLIED COMMANDER :

- (a) ~~Invited the British Resident Minister and the U.S. Political Adviser to obtain the formal approval of the new Yugoslav government to the closure of the Royalist missions in ROME, NAPLES and PARIS, and to the disposition of the Yugoslav personnel concerned in a manner similar to that suggested by Air Marshal Glessor at 'X' above, and report to him the result of their representations.~~

*Cancelled
by file 15B.
3/11/45*

- (b) Instructed the Chief of Staff to make recommendations to the Yugoslav military authorities, through 27 Military Mission, in accordance with the conclusions in paragraphs 3(b) and 3(c) of paper No. SAC (P) (45) 14.
- (c) Approved the conclusions of paragraphs 3(d), (e) and (f) of paper No. SAC (P) (45) 14.

(b) Instructed the Chief of Staff to make recommendations to the Yugoslav military authorities, through 57 Military Mission, in accordance with the conclusions in paragraphs 5(b) and 3(c) of paper No. SAC (P) (45) 14.

(c) Approved the conclusions of paragraphs 2(d), (e) and (f) of paper No. SAC (P) (45) 14.

(d) Invited the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander to take up with the Yugoslav Government, through diplomatic channels, the question of the enlistment of Yugoslavs into the U.S. Air Forces, as raised by Lieutenant General Baker at 'Y' above.

5113

EXTRACT

EXTRACT

SECRET

• 2 •

SECRET

SAC (2) (45) 17
20th March 1945

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat

K 120

C.A. Sec. *QW*

SECRET

COPY NO 38

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

JUGOSLAV NATIONALS IN ITALY

Note by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

1. The SAC at his conference (Political) of 15 March 1945 directed that a report be prepared together with a draft communication for transmission by the Allied Commission to the Yugoslav Delegation, incorporating the points set out in paper No. SAC (2) (45) 13, together with a statement of Allied policy drafted in the light of the discussion at the conference.
2. In November 1944 the Yugoslav Delegation in ROME notified its desire to obtain custody of certain Yugoslav nationals residing in ROME on the grounds that they were deserters from the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation. It was then decided that the policy of this HQ should be :
 - a. that deserters from the Yugoslav armed forces should be apprehended and returned to Yugoslav military jurisdiction,
 - b. that the liberty of other persons whose custody might be sought by the Yugoslav authorities for political or other reasons should be protected.
3. After the formation of the joint provisional government for JUGOSLAVIA a letter was sent by this HQ to the Allied Commission instructing them to inform the Yugoslav Delegation that this HQ would assist in the apprehension of deserters from the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation but would require certain particulars to establish the identity of each deserter.
4. Before the substance of this letter had been communicated to the Yugoslav Delegation, a further letter dated 4 March 1945 was received by the Allied Commission from the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council. This letter stated that the instructions of the Yugoslav government were to the following effect :

before the substance of this letter had been communicated to the Yugoslav Delegate. A further letter dated 4 March 1945 was received by the Allied Commission from the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council. This letter stated that the instructions of the Yugoslav government were to the following effect:

- a. That all males born between 1895 and 1927 are to report personally to the Yugoslav army for military duty.
- b. That all other Yugoslav subjects are to report to the reception centre of the Yugoslav army in BARI for return to **JUGOSLAVIA**.

5113

The letter further laid down the following policies of the Yugoslav government:

- c. That all Yugoslav subjects unwilling to return to **JUGOSLAVIA** are not entitled to obtain assistance or relief in ITALY from any source.
- d. That those Yugoslavs who collaborated with the enemy or "acted in any other way against the national liberation struggle of **JUGOSLAVIA**" or who have refused the call up should be interned and treated as enemies of the United Nations.

5. The Allied authorities are requested to support the Yugoslav authorities in carrying out these instructions.

I

- 1 -

*See List
21 MAR 45*

*CHIEF COMINT
EXEC COMINT
C A SEC*

SECRET

2003

SECRET

X 120

- 6. A copy of this letter is attached at Annex I.
- 7. It is apparent that the instructions as to deserters from the Yugoslav Government are considerably beyond the requests which have heretofore been made and run counter to the policy referred to in paragraph 2. It would also seem clear that the instructions requiring the Allied agencies, including non-military relief agencies, to withhold relief as a measure to assist enforcement of the Yugoslav call up and repatriation orders are not acceptable, nor should the Supreme Allied Commander apply principles as to internment in the case of Yugoslavs other than those which are applicable generally.
- 8. It is believed that the reply to the Deputy Delegate should be framed as a statement of the following policies:
 - a. Deserters from the Yugoslav Army. Assistance will be given in the apprehension of deserters from the Yugoslav Army. The Yugoslavs must, however, conform substantially to the procedure for notification of deserters required of other armed forces in ITALY. The Allied Forces will, in principle, return deserters to the unit or formation from which they deserted.
 - b. Those failing to report for military service. These will not be treated as deserters nor interned except in accordance with the existing policies of this HQ regarding internment. Any further action required by the Yugoslav Government in respect of such persons should be made through diplomatic channels. The call up regulations are understood to be inapplicable to Yugoslav nationals serving in or with the Allied Forces.
 - c. Assistance to the substitute. Relief will be furnished in accordance with need and without discrimination by reason of race, creed or political belief.
- 9. A draft letter to the Deputy Delegate of Jugoslovia is attached as Annex II. It is recommended that the Supreme Allied Commander approve the letter for despatch.

(intd) C.M.S.

DISTRIBUTION

COPY NO

- Supreme Allied Commander
- Deputy Supreme Allied Commander
- Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
- Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean

- 1
- 2
- 3-4
- 5

DISTRIBUTION

Supreme Allied Commander
 Deputy Supreme Allied Commander
 Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
 Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
 Commander, Eight Fleet, USN
 Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
 Commanding General, 15th Army Group
 Chief of Staff
 Chief Administrative Officer
 Deputy Chief of Staff
 Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
 Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3
 Chairman, Mediterranean Joint Planning Staff
 Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5
 Chief, Liaison Section
 Director of Operations and Intelligence, HQ MAAF
 U.S. Political Adviser
 British Resident Minister
 Director, IWB
 Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
 Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat
 Spares

5113

COPY NO
 1
 2
 3-4
 5
 6
 7
 8
 9
 10-11
 12
 13-14
 15-16
 17
 18-19
 20
 21-25
 26-28
 29-32
 33
 34-36
 37-39
 40-42

SECRET

SECRET

SI 120

C O P Y

ANNEX I

JUGOSLAV NATIONALS IN ITALY

Pr. br. 218/45

The Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council in Italy presents his compliments to the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, and has the honour to inform him of the following instruction received from the Yugoslav government referring to Yugoslav subjects in Italy :

1. All males born between 1895 and 1927 have forthwith to report personally to Representatives of the Yugoslav Army for the purpose of regulating their military duty.
2. All other Yugoslav subjects have forthwith to report personally to the Reception Centre of Base HQ of the Yugoslav Army (Prihvratna Stanica Stara Baza Jugoslavenske Armije), in Terzi, which will care for their return to Yugoslavia.
3. Since there are a number of Yugoslav subjects in Italy not willing to return to Yugoslavia, any in their respect the following policy of the Yugoslav government please be noted :

Jugoslav subjects who are not willing to return to Yugoslavia are not entitled to obtain any assistance whatsoever (food, location, clothing, pecuniary means, etc) which refugees in Italy may get through the United Nations (i.e. Displaced Persons and Repatriation S/C of UNRRA, ICGR, and any other similar Institution). The Yugoslav government insist on their objection to any kind of assistance to such persons. The Yugoslav government will moreover reimburse no expenses for same subjects.

The Yugoslav government differentiate among these persons three groups

- (a) who collaborated with the enemy or have acted in any other way against the national-liberation struggle of Yugoslavia;
- (b) who have refused the government's call-up and are accordingly to be considered deserters;
- (c) who, not belonging to either of the above two groups, do not want for any reason to return to Yugoslavia, but wish to stay in Italy.

The Yugoslav government request that persons belonging to groups under (a) and (b) be interned in camps and treated as enemies of the United Nations; those ones who are responsible for having committed war crimes should in due time be put on trial in Yugoslavia.

- (c) who collaborated with the enemy or have acted in any other way against the national-liberation struggle of Yugoslavia;
- (b) who have refused the government's call-up and are accordingly to be considered deserters;
- (c) who, not belonging to either of the above two groups, do not want for any reason to return to Yugoslavia, but wish to stay in Italy.

The Yugoslav government request that persons belonging to groups under (a) and (b) be interned in camps and treated as enemies of the United Nations; those cases who are responsible for having committed war crimes should in due time be put on trial in Yugoslavia.

Subjects belonging to group under (c) who have to fear nothing if returned to Yugoslavia and yet refuse to do so, do not deserve any assistance

It is requested that all competent Allied authorities support the Yugoslav authorities in carrying out these instructions for the sake of the common war effort of the United Nations.

4. This Delegation is only authorized to grant exceptionally subsidies or any other assistance to Yugoslav subjects in Italy who have duly reported to the Delegation, if latter finds that the person in question for medical reasons is unable to travel. This applies however only to those who are definitely in need, and is limited to an amount sufficient to meet minimum expenses for life.

5. Would you please inform of above all Allied Institutions concerned.

Rome, March 4th 1945

To: The Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission

SECRET

SECRET

W 120

ANNEX II

DRAFT LETTER TO ALLIED
COMMISSION

March 1945

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Nationals in Italy.

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission.

1. On 12 March 1945 a letter was forwarded to this Headquarters in which the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council in Italy set forth certain policies of the Yugoslav government with respect to Yugoslav nationals in Italy. Heretofore, under date of 30 November 1944 a letter from Major Meljensic of the Yugoslav Delegation in Rome, on the subject of Yugoslav deserters, was referred to this Headquarters.
2. You should advise the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council in Italy that it will be your policy to assist the Yugoslav government in every way in the apprehension of deserters from the Yugoslav armed forces. It will be necessary for Yugoslav military authorities to conform to a procedure similar to that now in use in the Allied forces, in order to establish the identity of each deserter. It is the policy of the Supreme Allied Commander to return deserters who have been apprehended to the formation from which they have deserted, whether military, naval or air force.
3. Prior to taking any action towards the apprehension of a deserter you will require, in writing, the following particulars from the Commanding Of-

deserters who have been apprehended to the formation from which they have

deserted, whether military, naval or air force.
3. Prior to taking any action towards the apprehension of a deserter you will require, in writing, the following particulars from the Commanding Officer of the unit who is sought:

- a. Name and rank of deserter.
- b. Military unit from which deserted and location thereof.
- c. Date of enlistment or induction.
- d. Date and circumstances of desertion.
- e. Full description of deserter.
- f. Probable whereabouts.

5111

Such affidavit will be required to be submitted within 90 days from the date of desertion.

4. The letter of the Deputy Colonel of Jugoslavica also deals with the status of Jugoslav nationals in Italy who are not on active military service but who have failed to report for military service in accordance with existing Jugoslav military regulations, and those who have failed to report to appropriate Jugoslav authorities in accordance with Jugoslav regulations generally requiring the return of Jugoslav subjects to Jugoslavia. The letter of

IV

SECRET

SECRET

K 120

the Deputy Delegate also requests that all persons who have failed to report in accordance with the Yugoslav Military service requirements or who have collaborated with the enemy or who have otherwise acted against the national liberation struggle of Yugoslavia be interned. You are requested to advise the Deputy Delegate that it is and will continue to be the policy of the Supreme Allied Commander to detain, pending further investigation, any person suspected of committing or intending to commit any act hostile to the Allied Forces or engaging in any political or other activity in the interest of the enemy or hostile to the Allied Forces. You are further requested to advise the Deputy Delegate that with respect to the internment of any other persons the Yugoslav government may take appropriate steps through diplomatic channels.

5. The letter of the Deputy Delegate further requests that no aid of any kind be furnished to any Yugoslav national who refuses to return to Yugoslavia as such refusal constitutes a violation of existing Yugoslav law. The policy of the Supreme Allied Commander is that relief will be furnished in accordance with need and without discrimination by reason of race, creed or political belief. You are requested to advise the Deputy Delegate of this policy.

6. In communicating your reply to the Deputy Delegate you are requested to advise him further that it is the understanding of the Supreme Allied Commander

...constitutes a violation of existing Yugoslav law. The policy of the Supreme Allied Commander is that relief will be furnished in accordance with need and without discrimination by reason of race, creed or political belief. You are requested to advise the Deputy Delegate of this policy.

6. In communicating your reply to the Deputy Delegate you are requested to advise him further that it is the understanding of the Supreme Allied Commander that the Yugoslav nationals now serving in or with the Allied Forces are not subject to the call-up referred to in paragraph 2 of his letter. If it is desired to know the identity of Yugoslav subjects in this class, this may be arranged through appropriate military channels.

5110

V

- 2 -

SECRET

SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

(Circular stamp containing the letters "PW")

Ref: 2214/89/EC.

21 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Alleged Yugoslav Deserters.

TO : VP, CA Section.

1. Reference Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 15 of 6 March 1945 and letter 2214/56/EC of 12 March 1945, copy of which were forwarded you by this office. *12*

2. Herewith for information is extract from the Minutes of SACRED's Political Conference of 16 March 1945 at which this Paper was discussed. *ja* *SB*

/JC.

ja
Shorden
Chief Staff Officer *Cap*
to the Executive Commissioner.

SECRET.

5189

2834

SECRET 913

SECRET

EXTRACT

X 111

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat

SAC (P) (45) 3rd Meeting
16th March 1945

SECRET

COPY NO. 34

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

COPY
EXTRACT

5. ALLEGED JUGOSLAV DESERTERS
(Paper No. SAC (P) (45) 13)

THE CONFERENCE had before them a letter which had been despatched to Headquarters, Allied Commission, for delivery to the Yugoslav delegation in Rome, outlining the procedure to be adopted and the particulars which the Allied Commission should demand from the Yugoslavs in connection with the apprehension of alleged deserters from the Yugoslav National Army of Liberation.

BRIGADIER GENERAL SPOTTISWOODE then referred to a letter forwarded by the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, from the Deputy Delegate of JUGOSLAVIA to the Advisory Council in Italy, which he had mentioned in connection with Minute 3. This letter had been received by the Allied Commission previous to the communication which the Conference now had before them and, as a result, the contents of this letter had not been passed to the Yugoslav subjects to report personally to the Reception Centre in ~~Italy~~ ^{Yugoslavia} DAPI. The Yugoslav delegate requested the Chief Commissioner to notify all military agencies that Yugoslavs who failed to report at once were to be considered deserters.

Jugoslav males, born between 1917 and 1917 to report immediately and sign and all other

MR. OFFICE, in answer to a question by the Supreme Allied Commander, stated that this policy had not been followed ~~heretofore~~ ^{heretofore}, nor was it desirable from the political viewpoint inasmuch as it would require all political refugees to be considered as deserters.

the Yugoslav delegate requested the Chief Commissioner to notify all military agencies that Yugoslavs who failed to report at once were to be considered deserters.

MR. OFFER, in answer to a question by the ~~Chief~~ *heretofore* Allied Commander, stated that this policy had not been followed. Her was it desirable from the political viewpoint inasmuch as it would require all political refugees to be considered as deserters.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL LAKER, referring to his statement in Minute 3 concerning the twelve Yugoslavs serving with the Army Air Corps, then observed that if the terms of this directive were implemented, the twelve airmen could be accused of desertion by the United Yugoslav government. A proviso was required that no Yugoslav serving in or employed by Allied forces would be considered a deserter.

VICE ADMIRAL HAMILTON observed that alleged deserters from the Royal Yugoslav Navy ought to be handed back to their own Commanding Officer, and not to the Partisan Navy, until a United Yugoslav Navy was formed. **5100**

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:
Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to prepare, for his consideration at the next Political Conference, a report, together with a draft communication for transmission by the Allied Commission to the Yugoslavs, incorporating the points set out in paper No. SAO (P) (45) 13, together with a statement of Allied policy drafted in the light of the above discussion.

EXTRACT

SECRET

SECRET

Ref: 2214/56/80

12 March 1945

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Nationals.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters.
Attention: G-5 Section.

1. Attached hereto is copy of letter from the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council for Italy dated 4 March 1945.

2. Reference to note by the Secretary of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political), SAC (P) (45) 13 of 6 March 1945, and the Chief of Staff's letter to this HQ dated 4 March 1945, the attitude expressed in these two documents would appear to be that the Yugoslav military authorities in this country should be supported in their attitude to apprehend proven deserters from the Yugoslav Armed Forces, but not in any way to assist the Yugoslav authorities to restrict the liberty of persons whose custody they are seeking for political or other reasons. It would appear that in the attached letter all those who have refused to answer the Yugoslav Government's call-up are defined as deserters and this category would therefore include both anti-Tito Yugoslavs, who for political reasons are unwilling to cast their lot with Tito's Government, and also Italian subjects of Slav origin who the Yugoslav Government would claim to be its nationals.

3. I am therefore referring to you the attached letter for a precise definition of the term "proven deserters from the Yugoslav Armed Forces".

M. S. LUSH
Signature
MILTON W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: Political Advisers.
Civil Affairs Section.

5107

9161

Ref: 2214/56/80

12 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Yugoslav Nationals.

10 12 1945

TO : Allied Force Headquarters.
Attention: G-5 Section.

1. Attached hereto is copy of letter from the Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council for Italy dated 4 March 1945.

2. Reference to note by the Secretary of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political), SAC (P) (45) 13 of 6 March 1945, and the Chief of Staff's letter to this HQ dated 4 March 1945, the attitude expressed in these two documents would appear to be that the Yugoslav military authorities in this country should be supported in their attitude to apprehend proven deserters from the Yugoslav Armed Forces, but not in any way to assist the Yugoslav authorities to restrict the liberty of persons whose custody they are seeking for political or other reasons. It would appear that in the attached letter all those who have refused to answer the Yugoslav Government's call-up are defined as deserters and this category would therefore include both anti-Tito Yugoslavs, who for political reasons are unwilling to cast their lot with Tito's Government, and also Italian subjects of Slav origin who the Yugoslav Government would claim to be its nationals.

3. I am therefore referring to you the attached letter for a precise definition of the term "proven deserters from the Yugoslav Armed Forces".

M. S. LUSH
By order
JERRY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner 5106

Copy to: Political Advisers.
Civil Affairs Section.

2461

C O P Y

Pr. br. 218/45.

The Deputy Delegate of Yugoslavia to the Advisory Council in Italy presents his compliments to the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, and has the honour to inform him of the following instructions received from the Yugoslav Government referring to Yugoslav subjects in Italy:

1. All males born between 1895 and 1927 have forthwith to report personally to Representatives of the Yugoslav Army for the purpose of regulating their military duty;
2. All other Yugoslav subjects have forthwith to report personally to the Reception Centre of Base H.Q. of the Yugoslav Army (Prihvatna Stanica Staba Baze Jugoslavenske Armije), in Bari, which will care for their return to Yugoslavia;
3. Since there are a number of Yugoslav subjects in Italy not willing to return to Yugoslavia, say in their respect the following policy of the Yugoslav Government please be noted:

Jugoslav subjects who are not willing to return to Yugoslavia are not entitled to obtain any assistance whatsoever (food, location, clothing, pecuniary means etc.) which refugees in Italy may get through the United Nations (f.i. Displaced Persons and Repatriation B/O of A.C., UNRRA, I.G.C.R., and any other similar Institution). The Yugoslav Government insist on their objection to any kind of assistance to such persons. The Yugoslav Government will moreover recognise no expenses for same subjects.

The Yugoslav Government differentiate among those persons three groups:

- (a) who collaborated with the enemy or have acted in any other way against the national-liberation struggle of Yugoslavia.
- (b) who have refused the Government's call-up and are accordingly to be considered deserters;
- (c) who, not belonging to either of the above two groups, do not want for any reason to return to Yugoslavia, but wish to stay in Italy.

The Yugoslav Government request that persons belonging to groups under (a) and (b) be interned in camps and treated as enemies of the United Nations; those ones who are responsible for having committed war crimes should in due time be put on trial in Yugoslavia.

Subjects belonging to group under (c) who have to fear nothing if returned to Yugoslavia and yet refuse to do so, do not deserve any assistance.

5103
218/45

- 2 -

It is requested that all competent Allied authorities support the Yugoslav authorities in carrying out these instructions for the sake of the common war effort of the United Nations.

4. This Delegation is only authorized to grant exceptionally subsidies or any other assistance to Yugoslav subjects in Italy who have duly reported to the Delegation, if latter finds that the person in question for medical reasons is unable for the travel. This applies however only to those who are definitely in need, and is limited to an amount sufficient to meet minimal expenses for life.
5. Would you please inform of above all Allied Institutions concerned.

Rome, March 4th, 1945.

To : The Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission.

5104

14/5/45 ✓

3/4

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

Tel : 735

9 March 45

10 MAR 1945

Ref/2214/55/20.

SUBJECT : Yugoslav Subjects in Italy.

TO : Political Advisors.

D.P.R. S/c.

1. Reference our 2214/47/ of 6 March 1945.
2. A further letter has now been received from the Yugoslav Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy amending their 213/45 as follows :
 Para 2 should read :
 " All other Yugoslav subjects have forthwith to report personally to the Reception Centre of Base H.Q. of the Yugoslav Army (Prihvatna Stanica Staba Base Jugoslavenske Armije), in Bari, which will care for their return to Yugoslavia; "
3. Your attention is also drawn to SAC (P) (45) 13 of 6 March 1945 which has some bearing on this subject.

14

Dub.
for Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

Copy to : Civil Affairs Section (2)

Copy to D.P.R. S/c. 10/3.

52
510

2351

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ext : 525 *JA*
8 March 45

Ref 14/24/3

SUBJECT : Alleged Yugoslav deserters

TO : Legal S/C
Public Safety S/C
NF & P S/C

- 1 Instructions have been received that persons who have deserted actual-ly from the Yugoslav Army, as distinct from nominal deserters who have failed to answer a call-up, are to be apprehended and handed over to the Yugoslav authorities; but that the liberty of those whose persons may be sought for political or other reasons is to be protected.
- 2 The procedure to be followed is to be similar to that in use by other Allies in cases of desertion. Full particulars of the alleged desertion, must be supplied and the identity of the alleged deserter must be proved.
- 3 Prior to any action being taken by this Commission the following informa-tion in form of an affidavit will be supplied within 60 days of the date of the alleged desertion:
 - a) Name and rank of deserter.
 - b) Military unit from which deserted and location thereof.
 - c) Date of enlistment or induction.
 - d) Date and circumstances of desertion.
 - e) Probable whereabouts.

J B
C. J. HAYDEN Brig.
VP CA Section

Copy to : Land Forces S/C
Adviser

SECRET

- 8 MAR 1945

8 MAR 1945

C. A. SEC

1A

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

K 100

SAC (F) (45) 13
8th March 1945

SECRET

COPY NO 34

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

ALLEGED JUGOSLAV DESERTERS

Note by Secretary

1. In conclusion 4(a) of FC (44) 3500 Meeting, dated 9th December 1944, the Supreme Allied Commander directed that action on paper No. FC (44) 118 be deferred pending the results of Dr. Subasic's conversations then proceeding in LONDON, which have resulted in the establishment of a joint provisional government of JUGOSLAVIA in BELGRADE. This paper notified the desire of the Yugoslav delegation in HQAE to obtain custody of certain Yugoslav nationals residing in HQAE on the grounds that they were deserters from the Yugoslav National Army of Liberation and suggested that a procedure be set up whereby the Yugoslav authorities would be required to set forth certain particulars in regard to each person. The paper further suggested that the Allied Commission should be instructed that policy should be :-

- (a) That proven deserters from the Yugoslav Armed forces should be apprehended and returned to Yugoslav military jurisdiction.
- (b) That the liberty of other persons whose custody might be sought by the Yugoslav authorities for political or other reasons should be protected.

A draft letter to the Allied Commission stating the procedure to be adopted was laid before the meeting.

2. Having regard to the recent developments in connection with the formation of the joint provisional government of JUGOSLAVIA, the Chief of Staff has now approved and despatched the draft letter previously proposed and a copy of this letter is attached as an annex to this paper.

3. The Supreme Allied Commander is requested to take note of the despatch of this letter.

J.H. LSCHELLS
J.H. LSCHELLS, Colonel

2. Having regard to the recent developments in connection with the formation of the joint provisional government of JUUGSLAVIA, the Chief of Staff has now approved and despatched the draft letter previously proposed and a copy of this letter is attached as an annex to this paper.

3. The Supreme Allied Commander is requested to take note of the despatch of this letter.

J.H. LSCHELLS, Col
J.H. LSCHELLS,
COLONEL,
SECRETARY.

DISTRIBUTION

Supreme Allied Commander
Deputy Supreme Allied Commander
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Commander, Eighth Fleet, USN
Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Chief of Staff
Chief Administrative Officer
Deputy Chief of Staff
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3
Chief, G-3 Operations Section
Chief, G-3 Plans Section
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5
Chief, Liaison Section
Director of Operations and Intelligence, HQ MAF
U.S. Political Advisor
British Resident Director
Director, IWB
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
Secretary, General Staff
Inter-Service and Political Secretariat
Commanding General, 15th Army Group
Spares

COPY NO

1
2
3-4
5
6
7
8
9-10
11
12
13
14
15
16-17
18
19-23
24-26
27-30
31
32-34
35
36-37
38
39-41

5101

EC Inst
7 MAR 45
CHIEF COMM
EXEC. COMM
C. A. SAC.

227

SECRET

SECRET

SECRET

COPY

K 100

ANNEX

4 March 1945

SUBJECT: Alleged Yugoslav Deserters

TO: Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

1. Under date of 30 November 4 (reference Dpr/2/G2/DF) a letter from Major KOLJESIC of the Yugoslav Delegation in Rome, on the subject of Yugoslav deserters, was referred to this Headquarters.
2. You should advise Major KOLJESIC that it will be your policy to assist him in every way in the apprehension of deserters from the Yugoslav National Army of Liberation, but that it will be necessary for him to conform with a procedure similar to that now in use in the Allied Armies. Each individual case will require to be considered separately, with a view to safeguarding the rights of a person whose apprehension is sought.
3. It will therefore be necessary for the Yugoslav National Army of Liberation to establish the identity of each deserter, and to furnish full particulars respecting his desertion. Prior to taking any action towards the apprehension of a deserter it is suggested that you require, in affidavit form, the following particulars :-
 1. Name and rank of deserter.
 2. Military unit from which deserted and location thereof.
 3. Date of enlistment or induction.
 4. Date and circumstances of desertion.
 5. Probable whereabouts.

1. Name and rank of deserter.
2. Military unit from which deserted and location thereof.
3. Date of enlistment or induction.
4. Date and circumstances of desertion.
5. Probable whereabouts.

Such affidavit will be required to be submitted within 60 days from the date of desertion.

By command of Field Marshal ALEXANDER:

JOHN H. RIDDING
Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff

5100

SECRET

