

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

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785017

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ITALIAN GENERAL STAFF
APR. 1945

27 11

Ex. Com

To see folio 26; the CC is working on this problem.

By Action taken in folio ⁷~~29~~ 6 2

7 Apr.

12/4

9

A/Salmon

To 4 Dec 8

12/4

12/4 Notes 7

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571
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

CG 8253

11 April 1945.

APR 12 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

This will confirm the approval already given by me orally to the adoption of the draft decree left with me by Dott. Montanari dealing with the reorganization of the Italian General Staff (formerly Comando Supremo).

The appointment of General Tressani as Chief of the Italian General Staff, vice Marshal Messe, is approved.

Yours very truly,

Elery W. Stone
ELERY W. STONE

ELERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

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

cc. Executive Commissioner
Land Forces Sub-Commission
Navy Sub-Commission
Air Forces Sub-Commission
Political Advisor (A) * (8)
C.A. Section

3172

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SECRET

T 58754

APRIL 11/0010B

D/7423

APRIL 12/0057

PRIORITY

From: AFEL, SIGNED SACRED CITY F.B.M.

To: ACTION: ALCON ROSE

APR 12 1945

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

SECRET.

Reur 5000 of 7 April.

Approval is given to appointment General TREZZANI as head Italian General Staff
Vice Marshal 828-2. Confirmation given your action in approving proposed decree.

DIST

ACTION : GO to CHIEF COMMISSIONER (2)

INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER (2)
AIR SC
NAVY SC
LAND FORCES SC
CA SEC
FILE

~~**SECRET**~~

RECEIVED
12 APR 1945

3171

(Has traces)

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571

AFM FOR CHIEF OF STAFF

5000

7 April 1945

PRIORITY

~~SECRET~~ PW

ITALIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS APPROVED DRAFT DECREE RESTRICTING THE DUTIES OF THE ITALIAN GENERAL STAFF. PAREN FORMERLY COMMANDED SUPPLY PAREN TO ITS PRINCIPAL FUNCTIONS OF CONSULTATION AND ADVICE TO THE PRIME MINISTER ON TECHNICAL MATTERS AFFECTING TWO OR MORE OF THE THREE ARMED FORCES. PD IT WILL BE HEADED BY A GENERAL OR LIEUTENANT GENERAL ON A DIVALENT GRADE OF THE NAVY OR AIRFORCE PD IN EFFECT THE DECREE LEGALIZES THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE ITALIAN GENERAL STAFF AS IT HAS WORKED OUT BY DE IN AGREEMENT ONE NINE FOUR FOUR WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF COMMANDING GENERAL ARS ARS ITEM PD THE NEW DECREE IS PERSONALLY FAVORED BY EACH OF THE SERVICE MINISTERS AND BY THE HEADS OF MY SERVICE DEPARTMENTS AND ACCORDINGLY I HAVE NOTIFIED THE PRIME MINISTER THAT THERE IS NO ALLIED OBJECTION TO THE PASSAGE OF THIS DECREE PD

PAREN IS AFM FOR CHIEF OF STAFF FROM B. ALLEN CITE AFMCC BYMND STAFF PAREN
PAPA THE THE ELIMINATION OF THE GRADE OF MARSHAL AS HEAD OF THE ITALIAN GENERAL STAFF MEANS THE REMOVAL OF MARSHAL BRESSE ITS PRESENT HEAD PD IT IS PROPOSED TO APPOINT GENERAL TUCCEANI AS HEAD PD HE IS PERSONALLY ACCEPTABLE TO EACH OF THE

10/4

PAGE TWO OF TWO PAGES - REFERENCE NO 5000 - TO AFHQ FOR CHIEF OF STAFF

THREE SERVICE MINISTERS AND BY THE HEADS OF MY SUBCOMMISSIONS AND I RECOMMEND
THAT YOU AUTHORIZE ME TO APPROVE HIS SELECTION

C.C. Dist:

Ex. Commr.
NAVY SC
LAND FORCES SC
AIR FORCES SC
C A SAC
Pol. Advr (A)

Chief Commissioner

222

3109

ELBERT B. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

SUBJECT: A' ration in functions of S.M.G.

SECRET

SECRET

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.

(M.M.I.A.)

File No: SD/18

April 45.

TO : HQ A.C. (for Chief Commissioner)

APR - 7 1945

1. I was informed on Wednesday evening 4 Apr by the Minister of War (through my Liaison Officer) that the Italian Cabinet had that day: -

(a) considered and passed the attached decree on the functions of S.M.G.

(b) decided that Marshal MESSE should be replaced by another Officer.

2. The Minister of War invoked my good offices in order that Allied approval may be given at the earliest moment.

3. I wish to state that I am in complete agreement with 1(a) and (b) and would be grateful if you would secure Allied approval as soon as possible.

4. The Minister of War proposes as replacement of Marshal MESSE one General TREZZANI. I have examined the dossier of the latter and he appears entirely suitable. TREZZANI's nomination has not yet been before the Cabinet pending Allied approval of the decree mentioned in 1(a).

tv3.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

(b) decided that Marshal MESSE should be replaced by another Officer.

2. The Minister of War invoked my good offices in order that Allied approval may be given at the earliest moment.

3. I wish to state that I am in complete agreement with 1(a) and (b) and would be grateful if you would secure Allied approval as soon as possible.

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trs.

L. Browning

Major General
M.M.I.A.

*That
see photo*

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[Signature]
(1745 1745004)

TRANSLATION

PROJECT OF THE DECREE OF THE LIEUTENANT GENERAL OF THE REARM OF THE
FUNCTIONS OF THE CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF.

LEONARDO DI SAVOIA

PRIME OF MINISTERS

LIEUTENANT GENERAL OF THE REARM

By virtue of the authority in us invested;
In view of the Royal Decree - Law No. 661 dated 27/6/41, converted into law
under No. 1507 dated 5/12/41;
In view of the Royal Decree Law No. 158 dated 25/6/41;
In view of the decision of the Council of Ministers;
On the proposal of the Prime Minister, in agreement with the Ministers for
the Treasury, War, Navy, and Air Force;
We have sanctioned and promulgated the following:

ARTICLE I

The Chief of the General Staff acts as consultant to the Prime Minister,
President of the Defence Committee, on all the main technical matters affecting
in common two or more Armed Forces, insofar as such matters affect the present
situation or possible future developments. He submits studies and proposals
in respect of said matters to the Prime Minister, either on his own initiative
or upon request.

The Chief of the General Staff is chosen amongst the Generals, Acting
Generals, Lieutenant Generals, and equal ranks of the Navy and Air Force. He
is appointed by a Decree of the Lieutenant General of the Rearm on the proposal
of the Prime Minister advised by the Council of Ministers.

ARTICLE II.

In the execution of his above mentioned duties the Chief of General Staff
is under the direct control of the Prime Minister, President of the Defence
Committee.

ARTICLE III.

The Chief of the General Staff deals with the Chiefs of Staff of
each of the Armed Forces through their respective Ministers.

The Chiefs of Staff of each of the Armed Forces are in duty bound to
keep him informed, through their respective Ministers, of all matters dealt
with by them which can in any way whatsoever affect his activities.

ARTICLE IV

The Chief of the General Staff has

The Chief of the General Staff acts as consultant to the Prime Minister, President of the Defence Committee, on all the main technical matters affecting in common two or more Armed Forces, insofar as such matters affect the present situation or possible future developments. He submits studies and proposals in respect of said matters to the Prime Minister, either on his own initiative or upon request.

The Chief of the General Staff is chosen amongst the Generals, Acting Generals, Lieutenant Generals, and equal ranks of the Navy and Air Force. He is appointed by a Decree of the Lieutenant General of the Realm on the proposal of the Prime Minister advised by the Council of Ministers.

ARTICLE II.

In the execution of his above mentioned duties the Chief of General Staff is under the direct control of the Prime Minister, President of the Defence Committee.

ARTICLE III.

The Chief of the General Staff deals with the Chiefs of Staff of each of the Armed Forces through their respective Ministers.

The Chiefs of Staff of each of the Armed Forces are in duty bound to keep him informed, through their respective Ministers, of all matters dealt with by them which can in any way whatsoever affect his activities.

ARTICLE IV

For the carrying out of his duties the Chief of the General Staff has at his disposal an office of his own directed by a Brigadier or Colonel (or officer of equal rank of the Navy or Air Force) chosen by him.

This office, in addition to the Director, is staffed by nine officers of the three Armed Forces appointed, in the ratio of three officers per Armed Force, by their respective Ministers.

ARTICLE V

The Chief of the General Staff is considered to be excluded from the cadre of the war establishment of his own Armed Force. The other officers, to which preceding article IV refers, are included among those allowed by the war establishment stipulated by the mobilisation laws of each Armed Force.) (

ARTICLE VI

The Chief of the General Staff had under his control the office of the General Delegate with the Commission for the Technical Studies of Italian Frontiers which functions at the Foreign Office (one General or Colonel, two officers).

ARTICLE VII

The Prime Minister can appoint the Chief of the General Staff to preside or supervise commissions of any kind whatsoever dealing with matters affecting two or more Armed Forces.

ARTICLE VIII

Salary and every other allowance for the Chief of the General Staff are a charge on the Budget of the Armed Forces to which he belongs. This also applies to all expenses entailed by the running of his office.

Salaries of the personnel assigned to said office are a charge on the budget of each of the Armed Forces to which said personnel belong.

ARTICLE IX

All regulations in any way contrary to this Decree are hereby cancelled.

This Decree comes into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Realm.

We order whosoever it may concern to comply with this Decree and enforce its compliance as a Law of the State.

Salaries of the personnel assigned to said office are a charge on the budget of each of the Armed Forces to which said personnel belong.

ARTICLE IX

All regulations in any way contrary to this Decree are hereby cancelled.

This Decree comes into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic.

We order whomever it may concern to comply with this Decree and enforce its compliance as a Law of the State.

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