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

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10000/109/435

SCOUT MOVEMENT IN ITALY
AUG. 1944 - JULY 1946

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

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19

Ex. Com: (for Captain Kennedy)

Ref: folio 18. has been supplied to. Captain Kennedy
has been informed that we shall approach him
again to see what we can do to help. very little

appear.
J. C. A. Redin.

29 June.

1457

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

SUBJECT : Scouting in Italy.

TO : Captain V.A.J. Gifford, R.E.M.E.
27 L of C Postal Unit, R.E.
C.M.F.

1 July 1946

JUL 1 1946

Your letter Scout/P1/4110 of 2 June 46 is acknowledged.

1. Delay in replying to your letter is regretted but this was unavoidable as Education Sub-Commission is now closed and a search through their files was necessary to enable the points raised in your letter to be dealt with.

2. So far as equipment for Boy Scouts is concerned this can now only be obtained from ARAR. It is known that Col. Washburne had several meetings with ARAR who promised to consider his requests. A representative from this H.Q. will approach ARAR with a view of obtaining their assistance for the Italian Boy Scout movement.

3. This H.Q. thanks you for your co-operation in this matter and will be pleased to have a meeting with you when you come to Rome.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

M. CARR, Brig.
VP CA Section.

9. *[Signature]*
(CAPT K)

see M19 4919

PA 117

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COPY

ACTION

COPY

18

Subject: Acting in Italy.

Ref. : Scout/PI/4110

Brig. M. Lush,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ Allied Commission
Rome

Capt. V. A. J. Clifford, REEF,
27 I. of C Postal Unit, RM,
CMF

Milan 13973

13 GIU. 1946

2 June 46

Ref. attached HQ Allied Commission, Education Subcommittee's
ED/10/1.1./AS dated 4 Apr 46.

Sir,

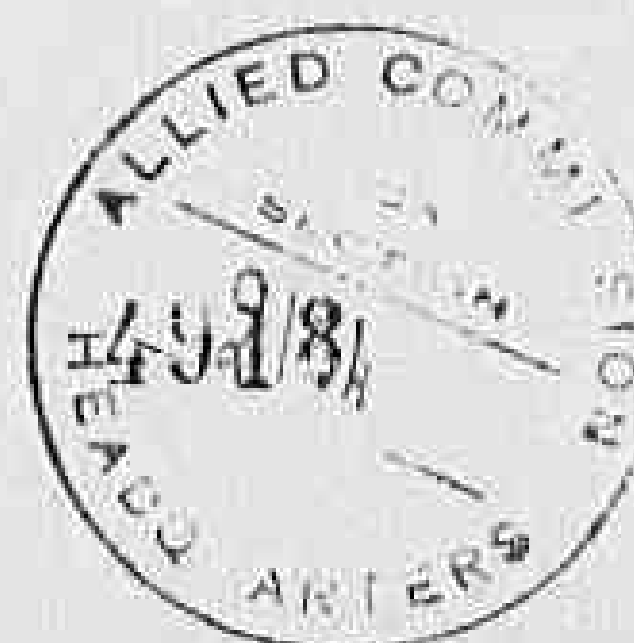
1. I have the honour to present the above personal introduction from Col Washburne, which he gave me when he requested me to take over the work of the Education Subcommittee where it concerned the Scout movement.
2. Since that time, I have worked mainly in Milan and have notified the Chief Liaison Officer there of the work I have been doing.
3. Military duties have not permitted a personal visit to Rome, so I am venturing to present this introduction by post for your information, and to make a request which I should otherwise have made personally.
4. A letter stating separately this request is being submitted for your consideration, in the hope that you may be able to take a matter up at a high level with GHQ, which is very important to the assistance which the Allied Commission might give to the Scout Movement.
5. It is felt that anything that we can do to continue to help this Movement, which has always been encouraged by the Allied Commission, should receive your attention. It is only by encouraging a recognized non-political movement, accepted internationally, that the Youth of Italy can be re-instructed away from the ideas of the Fascist Balilla - failing that other less-desirable politically biased movements will win the main influence in this country.
6. I hope that you may see your way to granting me a short interview on my next visit to Rome (probably in about a month) to give you a brief account of the work which is being done on behalf of the AC for the Scout Movement in Italy.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

/s/ V. A. J. CLIFFORD
Capt REEF

AC LIST
ED/10/1.1./AS - CA Sec
ED/10/1.1./AS - CC
- EC - 600



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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APC 394

ED/CWW/ams

17

HE/10/1.1/AC

4 April 1945

SUBJECT: Introduction of Capt. Vernon A. J. GIFFORD.

TO : Brig. N. Lach,
Executive Commissioner, A.C.

1. This will introduce Capt. Vernon A. J. GIFFORD, British Army Education Officer in Milan, who is representing Col. Wilson, Director of the International Boy Scouts in Italy.

2. Capt. GIFFORD is going to carry on such activities in fostering the Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements as were fostered by the Education Subcommittee, as well as the work he has already been doing in this field.

Cordially,

CHARLETON W. WASHBURN
Lt.Col., A.U.S.
Director of Education,



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

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16

Subject:- Scouting in Italy - Equipment.

Ref. Scout/A/3530

Brig. M. Lush,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ Allied Commission,
Rome.

Capt. V.A.J. Gifford, RSM,
27 L of C Postal Unit, RE,
GMP.

2 Jun 46.

1. The commencement of the second summer for Italian Scouting, with its main programme of Camping, has revealed a greater shortage than ever of the necessary equipment, due to the considerable development in numbers during the winter months.
2. If any appreciable benefit is to be gained from this season, immediate steps will have to be taken to provide the necessary equipment.
3. The equipment exists in two main sources; the withdrawing Allied Forces and the GI (organisation for liquidation of the Salvia assets), but - except for local action by the stronger and more-favourably disposed Military Governors in certain parts - no appreciable action has been obtained.
4. The ex-Salvia equipment under the GI's control has not been made available on any great scale to the Scout Movement, and there is now talk of 'freezing' it for future use in as-yet only projected National Boys' Movement. In some cases, there are even reports of tents, etc., being converted to use ~~as~~ the materials for workmen's overalls.
5. Surplus Army Equipment. RSD's and Depots are full of the type of equipment needed, and a substantial release of this would be ideal solution. The normal channels of disposal are unpracticable for the following reasons:
 - a) Ministry of Supply Disposal demands payment in sterling which involves either purchase on the Black Market of sterling or the introduction of speculative buyers who will obtain the capital reimbursing themselves by private sale of the surplus not absorbed by the Scout Movement.
 - b) ARAR (Italian) Organisation who then take over the Disposal of the balance unsold by the MOS, sell for lire, but at greatly increased prices to cover their overhead expenses, and - it is reported - by 'unseen auction' (that is by a bid by letter) which is often concluded by those having inside information.
6. It is felt that Allied Commission could obtain the release of some of this equipment as part of the needs for rehabilitation in Italy by direct demand on Q(AS) at GFC and equivalent American department. Accordingly would it be possible to take this matter up at this or even the highest levels from HQ Allied Commission?
7. UNRRA have been approached. They have not the military status to make this request, but state that their HQ at Rome will undertake the responsibility of supervising the distribution of the equipment and that it will be used in fact by the Scout Movement and not transferred or re-sold into other channels.

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8. The materials more-immediately available in great demand by the Scout movement in Italy are:-

Tents and tentage materials,
Groundsheets,
Rope, of all sizes,
Discused KD shorts, slacks and shirts for conversion into uniforms
Discused battledresses for winter uniforms.
Blankets,
Mess tins, cooking-gear, mugs and plates.
Maps (of all areas and scales)
Haversacks,
Socks.

9. Other requests, which are probably not so easy are:-

Sports equipment, especially footballs.
Triangular bandages and first-aid boxes
Stationery, especially paper,

Motor transport - Jeep, Utility or truck or even motorcycles
for use of travelling commissioners.

Kitchen Huts, for use as Headquarters.

10. It is hoped that this matter can be raised with GHQ and that it may be possible to obtain even a part of this material, which has been the subject of various fruitless local attempts for many months past.

(V.A.J. GIFFORD)
Capt. RENE

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

ED/97/3.12/AC

26 July, 1945

SUBJECT : Tents for Boy Scouts.

JUL 27 1945

TO : Father Vincenzo Cardone,
Parish of S. Camillo,
Rome, Via Piemonte.

Reference your letter of 17 July to Admiral Stone.

1. The Allied Commission is much interested in the Boy Scout movement in Italy and is doing all it can to foster it.

2. It cannot, however, deal with requests of individual troops throughout Italy. The two national associations of Boy Scouts (ASCI and GSI) are, as you must know, federated, and it is with this Federation that the Allied Commission must deal. Requests from individual troops should be made to their own national association. It, in turn, may ask the Federation to apply for help from the Allied Commission.

3. The Allied Commission is trying to get tents, camping equipment, etc., for the Federation as soon as army surpluses or salvage are available. Meantime it has no such materials to give.

4. The Allied Commission extends its best wishes to you and greatly regrets its inability to comply with your requests.

For the Chief Commissioner:

G.D. Bonham-Larkin 1/6/1
h O.R. UPJOHN, Brig
VP, CA Section.

✓ Cy to FREE Comm.

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785017

Translation

parish of S. Camillo
Rome, Via Piemonte

To Admiral Stone - Chief of the Allied Commission

JUL 23 1945

The undersigned, Parish Priest of San Camillo and Head of the 50th Rome Boy-Scouts Unit, cannot organize the usual summer camping because of the lack of tents. I sent a request to the Italian Red Cross and also to the War Department, but this was of no avail, for ever since the 8th of September 1943, they have no tents.

Only Your Excellency can do me this favour, which will also benefit the children. About fifty boys were to go camping; we therefore require an adequate number of tents to house them.

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Yours truly,

Il Parroco

S. P. Vincenzo Cardone

Rome, 17 July 1945

R.C. DIST - 23 JULY 45

ACTION : O.A. SEC
INFO: CHIEF COMR
: EXEC COMR.

e/o

RA POK

4914

810-91

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Education Subcommittee
APO 394

ED/CWW/ans

ED/6.12A/AC

24 November 1944

SUBJECT : Boy Scouts and Girl Guides.

26 NOV Recd

TO : Regional Commissioners (for information)
Regional Education Officers (for information and action)
Regional Public Health (Welfare) Officers (for information).

Boy Scouts in Italy.

Before the Fascist Regime there were two official Scout Associations in Italy: Associazione Scutistica Cattolica Italiani and Corpo Nazionale Giovani Esploratori Italiani. On the whole they worked quite independently, one being sectarian and the other non-sectarian. As a rule they only met on terms of friendship at International Jamborees and the like.

Immediately after the liberation of Rome both Associations sprang into life, unknown to each other; and Associazione Cattolica at the request of His Holiness the Pope changed its name to "Associazione Giovani Esploratori d'Italia" in a effort to achieve a unity of Scouting unknown in previous days.

The two Associations have now federated together although keeping their internal administration separate, AGEI by mutual arrangement resuming its old name of ASCI. The present organization is therefore:-

"Federazione Esploratori Italiani"

The two Associations of which it is composed are (1) Corpo Nazionale Giovani Esploratori, whose Chief Commissioner is Dr. Piretta, and (2) Associazione Scutistica Cattolica d'Italia, whose Chief Commissioner is Prof. Mazza.

The Federation has been achieved to the complete agreement of all parties, and with the blessing of His Holiness the Pope.

Scout Troops not yet affiliated with either association can communicate with either Commissioner through the A/Director of Education, Education Subcommittee, Allied Commission, or if in doubt as to which they should join, may address their enquiry to the President of the Federation, who is the Minister of Public Instruction. It is most important that all bona-fide Scout Troops should belong to one of the other Association.

Girl Guides in Italy.

The Girl Guide Movement has been later in starting than the Boy Scouts, but it is now following similar lines. Enquiries about it can be addressed to the A/Director of Education, Allied Commission, pending the appointment of their own proper officials.

C. W. Washburne
4913

CARLETON W. WASHBURN
Major, AUS
A/Director of Education.

Distribution:
VP CA Section (3)
C of S (1)
Public Health S/C (3)
Regional Commissioner

Sicily Region

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Distribution:

VP CA Section (3)

C of S (1)

Public Health S/C (3)

Regional Commissioner

Regional Education Officer

Regional Public Health (Welfare) Officer

Zone Commissioner, Naples Zone

Sicily Region
Southern Region
Sardagna Region
Lazio-Umbria Region
Marche-Abruzzi Region
Toscana Region
Emilia Region
Liguria Region
Piemonte Region
Lombardia Region
Venezia Region

CARDEN W. WASHBURN

Major, AUS

A/Director of Education.

Clowson

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CSP
Office of the Chief of Staff

14

REF : 810//com.

16 October 44.

To whom it may concern

The Rev. V.E.G. Logan who holds the appointment of Assistant International Commissioner of Boy Scouts Association and Commissioner for Scouts serving in the Forces is visiting Units in the Italian Theatre. He is to be given every assistance and facility while carrying out these duties.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner.

Russell Brown,
Inf. Col.

B/A

4912

12

6 Oct 64

10

The Rev Logan apparently
has arrived at Caserta.
Maj Quales notified this
office that he was to ar-
rive by air at Lattina
Airport this morning at
0800 hrs. Arrangements were
made to have transport
for him - No planes will
arrive today but have
arranged for Dispatchers
office to be on the look
out for him

Brook Brown
Lt Col

11 Liaison Div

P/A.

4911

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785017

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Mr. Brown

Let's send the letter
to the office

You will have to tell
Sullivan Brown. Co. Transport
to Rome but
his name is not
white, can be put
in Naples

Mr. Brown

"Scout Movement in Italy"

2196

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

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

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cos.

6843 8

TO: ACC
FROM: AFHQ, BIGNED SACRED
REFERENCE No: F 33457
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: OCT 02 2053
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 1/03
CLASSIFICATION: IN CLEAR
PRECEDENCE: P PRIORITY
OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE FHGG

SCOUTING IN ITALY IS SUBJECT. (REF YOUR LETTER 080-14 OF 21 SEPTEMBER)
INFORMATION RECEIVED HERE THAT REV LOGAN LEAVING CAIRO 2 OCTOBER FOR NAPLES WHERE HE WILL
REPORT TO GROUP CAPTAIN PICKELS SP50. REQUEST YOU CONTACT

D/S
Act: C.O.S. ②
Inf: A/EC
Pub. Safety Sk
File ②
Flm t

4919
A.C.C.

DATE and Time of RECEIPT OCT 03
Distribution:

2197

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

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24120
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/as

G-5: 080-14

SUBJECT: Scouting in Italy.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to G-5 080-14 of 21 Sep to Rev V.
K.L. Logan - copy to you.

2. Attached for information is copy of letter of 25 Sep
from the Rev Logan.

6 For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

Incl:
as above

HEADQUARTERS
20 SEP 1944
A.C.C.

W. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel

4909

28 September 1944

20 Sep Recd

2198

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785017

COPIY

THE BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION

from Rev. V.K.C. Logan
& The Assist/ Adjutant

RAC Station

Heliopolis KFF

SUBJECT: Scouting in Italy

DATE: September 25th 1944

REFERENCE: your letter of 21/9/44 -- G-5; OEO-14/ TBJ/JJJr

- 1) I have to thank you for your letter of above reference & subject, giving permission to enter Italy.
- 2) As soon as I have arranged with the RAC here about transportation, I will get a signal sent to you indicating place & time of arrival.
- 3) On arrival I will report at the earliest opportunity to the H. of Allied Control Commission.

/s/ V.K.C. LOGAN
Assistant International Commissioner

4908

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785017

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Lieut. C.J. MACHANARA

HQ. HQ 1132100m South Commission

Ref/271/CA.

C.M.G.
S

1 September 44.

I am sorry not to have replied before to your letter.

The Education Sub-Commission regret that at the present they are unable to do anything for the Boy Scout Movement in that the A.C.C. is a Military Organisation. However they would welcome the visit of the Commissioner if he came to plan rather than organise. There again they would be unable to help as the personnel problem with them is rather acute.

Their suggestion is that of tentative approach to interested people bearing in mind the danger of an essentially international movement falling into political hands. They judge the time not ripe for further action.

They cannot do anything more but would be interested if the Commissioner came but again I would add that they would be unable to give any active help in the matter.

Majors Douglas GORDON R.A.M.C.,

45 UK. General Hospital,

C.M.F.

4907

2200

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Education Subcommittee

ED/HRB/tjr

ED/6.12A/ACC

30 August 1944

1 SEP Recd

SUBJECT: Boy Scout Movement.

TO : Lieutenant C. MACNAMARA,
A.C.C. HQ.

1. With reference to the two letters you brought to the Education Subcommittee this morning on the subject of Boy Scouts and signed by Major Douglas GORDON.

2. The presence of either the Rev. V.K.C. Logan or Father Smith (who has been mentioned in earlier correspondence on this subject), or of both, in Italy might be of the greatest value in any long term policy for the preparation of Italian children as citizens of a democratic, peace-loving and good-neighbourly Italy.

3. Owing to the limited personnel available this Subcommittee cannot do more than encourage any initiatives of this kind, and even encouragement has to be done with an eye to what will have to be controlled thereafter.

4. In a ferment of political rebirth such as Italy is going through at present there is a grave danger, for example, that a movement like the Boy Scouts be eyed with evil intent by politicians and sectarians, and "corruption of best is ever worst corruption".

5. Other points to consider are that the Boy Scout movement is essentially international and pacific (in the best sense of the word), whilst A.C.C. is an Allied military organization. The Italian Ministry of Public Instruction, too, is burdened with fundamental problems regarding the schools, universities and other educational institutions, but is intensely interested nevertheless in forwarding the work of any such movement as this represents.

6. Bearing this in mind, we would advise that any "Ambassador" of the International Boy Scouts Association would be a boon to Italy if he came here to plan rather than to organize, to contact possible leaders and aspirants to the position of leadership in the Boy Scout movement, to interpret to such as these the ideas of the International Boy Scouts Association, and by bringing them up to date ~~and~~ keeping them in touch with the central and international body, keep them out of the clutches of local and political parties.

7. In all this the Education Subcommittee would take an enthusiastic interest, but we repeat, with its present limited personnel, it could not set out to take an active part.

For the Director of Education:

H. R. Beard
H. R. BEARD
Captain

2201

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1

785017

Lieut. C. Macnamara,
Headquarters,
Allied Control Commission,
C.M.F.

3
6th August 1944.
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Thank you for your letter.

Will you please tell me who your High Commissioner is, stating his present position so that if it be necessary to call on him our Education Sub-Commission could do so.

I do not know whether the occasion may arise but on your reply I will put the matter fully to them as naturally they will wish to know his standing.

Major Douglas Gordon, R.A.M.C.,
No. 45 U.K. General Hospital,
C. M. F.

4905

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 1

785017

Subject. Scouting.Major Douglas Gordon. R.A.M.C.
No 45 K. General Hospital.
I.I.F.

August 1st 1944.

Dear Macnamara.

Since I saw you a month ago a great deal of progress has been made on paper but very little progress has been made in actual fact with the co-ordinating of Services Scouting. I find more and more that until we have a full-time officer over here, it will be impossible to achieve much.

Arrangements are being made for a full time Commissioner for Italian Scouting in the form of an Army Chaplain from Alexandria but the W.O. has only just been approached by G.H.Q.M.E.F. and it will be a long time before the padre can get over here at the best.

In the meantime the International Commissioner for the Mediterranean Area has twice applied to be allowed to visit Italy and each time C.I.F. have turned it down. Can you advise me how best to proceed? Is it possible for A.C.C. to authorise his journey in view of Scouting being included in the Education Sub-Commission programme? I am quite certain that a tour of the various Service Rover Crews would make all the difference to the whole show but of course I cannot possibly do it myself and the International Commissioner is the obvious person. He can get air transport from the R.A.F. without difficulty if only he can get a permit or movement order from somebody.

Yours

ministry
Douglas Gordon

 Major R.A.M.C.
 Scouting Liason Officer for Italy.

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

785017

Major Douglas Gordon R.A.M.C.
 No 45 U.K. General Hospital.
 C.A.F.

August 10th 1944.

Dear Macnamara,

Many thanks for your letter. It was silly of me not to include fuller particulars in my previous letter.

The International Scouting Commissioner for the Mediterranean Area appointed by the Boy Scout Association in London to control the reorganisation of scouting in Southern Europe, is the Rev V.K.C. Logan, c/o Assistant Adjutant, R.A.F. Station, Helipolis. Until he resigned his chaplaincy to take up this job full-time, he was chaplain at St Michael's Anglican Church at Helipolis and Districting Chaplain to the R.A.F. Station at Helipolis.

At the request of Lord Hampton the British Ambassador to Egypt, he was appointed Commissioner from British Scouts in Egypt and later Commissioner for Service Rovers in the Mediterranean Area.

Under Army and R.A.F. auspices he has already visited Alexandria, Tripoli, the Sudan, Beirut and Aden but the one place where he is needed most for the work for which he was appointed is Italy and if you can in any way facilitate his coming here it will be of the very greatest value to the de-Fascistisation of the Italian Youth.

Douglas Gordon

Lieut C.J. Macnamara.
 Headquarters.
 A.S.C.
 C.A.F.

Major R.A.M.C.
 Scouting Liaison Officer for Italy.

see 5

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