

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/484

TRANSFER OF CL
OCT. 1945 - JAN. 19

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

785017

10000/109/484

TRANSFER OF CLAIMS TO THE ITALIAN GOV'T
OCT. 1945 - JAN. 1947

785017

C.S.O. Ex Comm

24

Ref your min. at foot of folio 22.
Letter for signature at folio 23, please.

25.
C.S.O. Ex Comm

Do you wish a hardener sent to

folio 19. to the I.M. please. *Ans 24/9*

Yes, please draft

2001

28.

C.S.O. Ex Comm

Ref min 25, letter for signature at

folio 27. A.C.W.'s letter at 26 refer. *Ans 24/9*

29.

Chief Commissioner.

Approved
Attached is submitted for your signature
in connection

W. J. Van

27

27/9/46.

BRIGADIER
A. EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

SEP 27 1946

40.

Ex Comm.

40. Please see folio 37 in reply to our letter at folio
24. Please see folio 37 in reply to our letter at folio

785017

C.S.O. Ex Comm

Do you wish a last time not to
folio 19. to the I.R. please. Ans 29/9

Yes, please draft
me

28.

2001

C.S.O. Ex Comm

Ref main 25, letter for signature at
folio 27. A.C.W.'s letter at 26 refers. Ans 29/9

29.

SEP 27 1946

Chief Commissioner.

Approved
Submitted in submitted for your signature
in connection

myan

BRIGADIER
A EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

27/9/46.

(27)

40.

Ex Comm.

Ans. Please see folio 37 in reply to our letter at folio
19. At folio 39 is letter sending copies to all
addresses of folio 19. I do not think that there is
any further action by us unless or until the Claims
people reopen the subject, but ^{you} ~~it~~ ^{may} see. MR

Ans. 29/9
MS. 6111

Minute No. 15

27th July, 1945

To: Chief Commissioner.

The draft letter at Folio 12 which it is suggested you should address to the Prime Minister is submitted for consideration.

This draft letter is based on letters received from the British Claims Commission (Folio 5) and the United States Claims Service (Folio 6).

AFHQ have requested this Headquarters to take action with the Italian Government (Folio 8).

The draft letter at Folio 12 was prepared by the Office of the British Claims Commission in conjunction with the United States Claims Service, and as this is a subject which is not dealt with by this Headquarters, it is difficult to comment and I suggest the draft might be accepted as it stands.

McLan Rydeen

M. GARR, Brigadier.
A/c Executive Commissioner.

Min. 16

Draft is approved
Copies Covering Letters To Be 6 US
Admin Offices, AG & 5.
Distrib: CI, EC, CH, ES

End
cc

29/11

(20)

cc. for Comm.

Ref min 16. Letter for signature at 19. please.

Covering letter to H. & U.S. Claims Office will be
appended after signature. *ask* 30/17

(21)

AHQ have requested this Headquarters to take action with the Italian Government (Folio 8).

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McLan Byader
M. GALT, Brigadier.
A/c Executive Commissioner.

Min. 16
Draft is approved
Copies covering letters to Be GUS
Admin Offices, AG 5.
Distrib: CC, EC, CH, ES

End

29/11

cc. to Comm.

Ref min 16. Letter for signature at 19, please.
Covering letter to Br. & U.S. Claims Office will be
appended after signature. *at 17* N.S. 3017

Chief Commissioner.

Approval
Attached is submitted for signature *at 17*
information

Issue - *at 17* 3/8.

9
note: Ref 4's 3 and 8
Spoke Col Watson who will draft
letter to P.M. and forward to us
on about 24 July. H.S. 2017.

14.

Ex Comm.

1993

At 4's 1-6 are two similar letters
from the U.S. and British Claims authorities
requesting us to approach the Italian
government with regard to the transfer
of all claims to the I.G. for investigation etc.

These requests were referred to G-5 (47)
who replied at 48 that we were to
take up with I.G.

Brig Lusk divided me to approach Col
Watson to ask him to draft suitable
letter to I.G. His draft is at
4' 10-12 and I have not altered this
except at para 11 where I suggest
substituting "Allied" for "British"

I am passing this to you for
approval before putting it in the usual
form of a letter to the Prime Minister.

H.S. 2517

785017

989 8

43

HAK/cc

JAN 31 1947

Ref. 10/5615/DD

30 January 1947

SUBJECT: Certificate

TO : INVAD Company
Via 20 Settembre, Genoa

NR

1. Your letter of 30 December 1946, with 6 enclosures, has been given careful consideration.
2. There does not appear to be any basis for action by this Commission. The question of the validity of the action reflected by your enclosure No. 6 is a legal matter within the purview of the Italian Government. Any redress must therefore be obtained from appropriate civil authority.

M. CARP
Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

1998

BRIG. CARP

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

989 87
G 042

301230A NOV

DEC 1 1946
H/8273

NOV 020930

ROUTINE

GHQ CMF

1 ARMD DIV 1 AGRA 86 AREA ROME AREA NAPLES AREA 217 AREA INFO
2 CLAIMS AND HIRING ROME C IN C MED FLAGG OFFICER LIAISON ITALY
(ROME) AIR HQ ITALY ALCOM CASERTA ENCLAVE 41 CLAIMS AND HIRINGS
ROME 48 CLAIMS AND HIRINGS NAPLES 58 CLAIMS AND HIRINGS MILAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NR

Ref GHQ letter 7652/10/Q2 OK 7 Mar 46. Subject disposal of fixed assets. Following procedure will be used forthwith.

1. Fixed assets valued at 500 pound and less will be abandoned when property derequisitioned. No receipt required. Brief description retained by hirings for record purposes.
2. Fixed assets over 500 pound in privately owned buildings handed over in accordance with above quoted letter but to local command Genio Militare in place of Aran. Otherwise no change in existing procedure.
3. Fixed assets over 500 pound in state owned properties. No change in existing procedure except property will be handed over to local representative of Italian Govt dept concerned who will be contacted through the local representative of the Intendenza di Finanza who will act in Liaison capacity.
4. Amendments to above quoted letter follow.

AC DIST

INFO ACTION : ECON DIV 3

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMMISSIONER

FLOAT

FILE

DEC 2 1946
P.A.
4 Jan 47

989 5
3183
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

EX. COMM R

NOV 5 1946
41

G-5: 972.70

2 November 1946

SUBJECT: Settlement of Claims.

TO : Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
APO 794

1. Could a reply to our G-5: 972.70 dated 23 September 1946 be expedited, please. 26

2. Your letter reference 989/27/EC dated 28 September 1946 to the Prime Minister (copy to us) refers. 27

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

for *Shen* *Maj N*
A. L. HAMBLIN
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

1993

See 439.

Chapman

(Copy to)

PA. 4/1/46
boy

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref. : 989/33/33

14 November 1946

SUBJECT: Settlement of Claims against
the British and U.S. Forces.

TO : H.Q.

No. 2 Directorate of Mintage and Disposal
(Pined Amato)
APO 2 551

Reference is made to your letter No. 6025/38/1 dated
20 October 1946 on this subject.

Enclosed for your consideration is a copy of the
Italian Government's reply to this Commission's letter no. 789/17/30
dated 3 August 1946.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

A. W. Knisely

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encls. as above.

1995

Copy to: G-5 Section, AFHQ
U.S. Claim Service MTO APO 794
C.O.
Econ. Div.
Folded A
" B

P.A. 4/1/46

785017

989 48
EX-COMM
3058 38
No. 2 Claims Commission
and
No. 2 Directorate of Hirings and Disposals (Fixed Assets)

A.P.O. 1.551

C. I. P.

NOV 1 1946

Chief Commissioner,
 Headquarters Allied Commission,
 C. I. P.

COPY/384/1

30 Oct 46

Subject: Settlement of Claims Against
the British and U.S. Forces

27

Reference your letter 989/27/EC to the President of the Council of the Ministers of the Italian Government dated 23 Sept. 46, copies to the undermentioned addressees. Major General H.C. Cole, President, Claims Commission, War Office London will shortly be visiting this theatre and will no doubt require full details of the present position, for the information of the British Government. If, as we presume, no reply has been received to your 3/8 letter we should be much obliged if strong pressure could be brought to bear on the Italian Government with a view to their taking action as requested in your letter 989/17/EC dated 3 Aug. 46.

19

No Action

V.P.C. & R. of Hirings and Disposals.

1/438
 Tel. 66330.

Sign. Address: 2 Claims and Hirings, ROME

Copies to: C-5 AFHQ
 U.S. Claims Service HQ AFHQ 794
 Ex-Comm
 Room 200

Filed A
 Filed B

1994

PA. 6/1/46

(COPY 4)

989 *ST*

37

Translation

THE UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

NOV 1 1946

No. 82938/10744-1/7.2

Rome, 29 October 1946.

My dear Admiral,

The Ministry of the Treasury to whom I transmitted your kind communication of last August, Ref. no. 565/17/EE, have sent me a letter, a copy of which I am herewith enclosing, in which they put forward convincing explanations regarding the complex problem of payment and compensation for requisitions and damages resulting from the Allied occupation of Italy.

As you will note from the letter itself, the burden anticipated exceeds the enormous sum of 400 milliards of lire. While undertaking to renew the necessary instructions with a view to avoiding possible waste of work with depreciable innovations, I feel bound at the same time to associate myself with the provision made regarding the period of time necessary for the fulfillment of the heavy task compatible with the resources offered by the Italian State budget in the near future and with the numerous needs it will have to provide for.

With kind regards,
Sincerely yours,

/S/ Paolo Cappa

Admiral Ellery W. Stone,
Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

1993

See also 7.39

P.A. 4/1/46

(CAPT K)

785017

Translation

36

COPYMINISTRY OF THE TREASURY
GENERAL DIRECTION OF THE TREASURY

September 1946

SUBJECT: Payment and compensation for requisitioning
by the Allied Armed Forces.

Before discussing the matter referred to in the letter of the Chief of the Allied Commission addressed to the President of the Council of Ministers, I should like to make a brief sketch of the present method of dealing with the indemnities necessitated by the Allied occupation of Italy.

By means of various agreements which began to take place in April 1945, the Allies transferred to the Ministry of the Treasury the task of providing for the payment of requisitioning and damages caused by the Allied troops in Italy, exception being made for the requisitioning of motor vehicles which was a matter pertaining to the General Inspectorate of Civilian Motor Traffic.

The indemnities provided by the Treasury, made directly or indirectly through the suburban offices are divided as follows:

- (a) Compensation for the requisitioning and removal of furniture (machines, materials and goods).
- (b) Compensation for various goods supplied to the Allied troops by big industrial centres such as: Terni, Ilva, the Steel Companies of Puglia etc.
- (c) Compensation for damages paid out by the Allied authorities direct for motor accidents up to 1st November 1945.
- (d) Compensation for the requisitioning of property (houses, industrial establishments and lands.)
- (e) Compensation for hotel management.
- (f) Compensation for motor accidents after the 1st November 1945.

1992

The indemnities mentioned in paras a, b and c will be settled by the General Direction of the Treasury both directly and indirectly through the suburban offices when the amount does not exceed 2 million. These claims are dealt with as speedily as the large number of requests permit and have not caused any remarks on the part of the Allies.

The indemnities referred to in para f are being dealt with by the General Direction of the Administrative Commissariat c/o the War Ministry.

785017

- 2 -

35

All payments are made from the funds administered by the Treasury to which the suburban offices must render account and the regularizing of the whole matter was recently initiated by the decree of law of the 21st July 1946 No. 451.

The reasons for which it has been impossible to settle the payments particularly specified in the Allied letter are as follows:

- (1) Damages connected with the regular or irregular requisitioning of property (para d).
- (2) Damages caused by motor accidents which took place after the 1st November 1945 (para f).

The problem is a complex one both because of the number of cases involved (in No. 1 damages are estimated for more than 30 thousand buildings) and because of the imposing sum of more than 400 milliards calculated as necessary by the Comdo Militare for No. 1. Moreover there is the time limit within which the Treasury has to pay for the damages connected with the requisitioning of property: this has often been subjected to abuse such as the removal of objects, furniture or fittings, or destruction not connected with the requisition. This last matter will have to be investigated by the Committee called by law before any definite settlement can be adopted by the Ministry of the Treasury.

During the delay caused by such decisions this administration in their letter of 26 July 46, No. 66422 requested the Ministry of War to continue the investigation of the claims under consideration, before the publication of the decree.

While the Direction of the Administrative Commissariat has given assurances of having constituted an office for the purpose of the investigation of the claims for motor damages (para f) and has sent the required instructions to the dependent suburban offices, the General Direction of the Comdo has instead communicated that the personnel attached to the requisitioning offices (contained in para d) is inadequate for the work and ought to be increased by about 500 persons at least, which would mean an annual charge of about 400 millions.

1991

This Ministry, concerned over the seriousness of the request and after several discussions with functionaries of the Administration of War, of Industries and of Finance, sent a letter No. 6719 dated 23 August 1946 to the Ministry of Finance (General Direction of Landed Property and of Technical Offices) requesting their opinion on the advisability of keeping the military offices which are at present dealing with requisitioning, together with their competent engineers, their technical and administrative staff and the officers at present assigned to them.

- 3 -

34

A copy of this letter was sent to your Presidency and to the Ministry of War and it was requested in it that the latter should in the meantime continue the investigations of the claims received by them. For this purpose permission was given them to employ extra assistance in order to expedite the work as much as possible.

Having now stated the above, it is considered opportune that the following points should be specified to the Chief Commissioner of A.C.

1. That it is not possible to agree to the proposal of the Genie Militaire, on account of the enormous expense involved and that a plan is under consideration for the transformation of the present military offices into civilian offices, keeping the military personnel at present assigned there and completing the staff with technical personnel from other State Administrations.
2. That it is impossible to form an autonomous requisitioning office with facilities to pay any amount of compensation without the authority of the constitutional control officers: a procedure this which would set aside all the principles which govern the payments of public expenses.
3. That the Treasury from the moment of undertaking the work in question has already paid out 16 milliards and 500 millions for requisitions, damages and costs caused by the Allied occupation in addition to 19 milliards for the maintenance of the troops.
4. That whatever definite settlement is reached regarding the offices at present dealing with the requisitioning of property, several years will be required to pay off the claims both because the State has to carry a heavy burden and cannot charge it to one or two activities only, and because of the material impossibility of settling the enormous number of claims and requisitions, regular and irregular, concerning, as already stated, more than 60 thousand buildings.

In conclusion, it does not appear that there are dormant claims for compensation for requisitioning at the Ministries of Air, of Marine and of Transport, requiring special measures to be taken by the Treasury.

1993

FO.

*Il Segretario di Stato
alla Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri*

Roma, 25 ottobre 1946

33

n. 82968/10744-1/7.2 di prot.

Caro ed illustre Ammiraglio,

Il Ministero del Tesoro, cui ho comunicato la Sua cortese segnalazione dell'agosto scorso, n. 989/17/EC, mi ha fornito, con la lettera di cui le unisco copia integrale, convincenti chiarimenti in ordine al complesso problema del pagamento e degli indennizzi dovuti per requisizioni e per danni dipendenti dalla occupazione alleata in Italia.

Come rileverà dalla lettera stessa, l'onere previsto al riguardo supera l'ingente somma di 400 miliardi di lire e, pertanto, mentre mi riservo di rinnovare opportune disposizioni perchè non vi sia ulteriore dispersione di lavoro, con deprecabili innovazioni, e perchè sia assicurata alla materia precisa unità d'indirizzo, non posso non associarmi alla previsione fatta circa il periodo di tempo necessario per l'assolvimento del grave onere, compatibilmente con le risorse che offrirà il bilancio dello Stato italiano nei più prossimi esercizi e con i bisogni molteplici cui esso dovrà sopprimere.

Mi è gradita la circostanza per rinnovarle, caro Ammiraglio, l'espressione dei miei migliori sentimenti.

Avv. F. Cappa

Sottosegretario Presidenza Consiglio Ministri

Per affare Paris (aff)

All'Ammiraglio Ellery W. STONE

Commissario Capo della Commissione Alleata

R O M A

C O P I A

MINISTERO DEL TESORO
DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL TESORO

32
5 settembre 1946

OGGETTO: Pagamento e indennizzi per requisizioni e indennizzi per le
FF.AA. Alleate.-

Prima di entrare in merito alla lettera del Capo della Commissione Alleata diretta al Presidente del Consiglio dei Ministri tengo a riassumere brevemente come sono attualmente regolati i servizi riguardanti gli indennizzi dovuti in dipendenza della occupazione alleata in Italia.

Con diversi accordi iniziatisi nell'aprile 1945 gli alleati trasferirono al Ministero del Tesoro il compito di provvedere ai pagamenti dipendenti da requisizioni, danni e prestazioni riguardanti le truppe alleate in Italia, ad esclusione delle questioni riguardanti le requisizioni degli automezzi che vennero devolute alla competenza dell'Ispettorato Generale della Motorizzazione Civile.

Gli indennizzi per i quali provvede il Tesoro, sia direttamente sia tramite gli uffici periferici, sono ripartiti come appresso:

a)-Indennizzi per requisizione ed asportazione di mobili (macchine, materiali, merci ecc.)

b)-Indennizzi per forniture varie alle truppe alleate da parte di grandi complessi industriali come la Terni, l'Ilva, le Acciaierie Pugliesi ecc.

c)-Indennizzi per danni direttamente liquidati dalle Autorità Alleate per investimenti automobilistici fino al 1° novembre 1945.

d)-Indennizzi per requisizioni di immobili (case, stabilimenti industriali, terreni).

e)-Indennizzi per gestione alberghi.

f)-Indennizzi per danni dipendenti da investimenti automobilistici posteriori al 1° novembre 1945.

Per gli indennizzi di cui alle lettere a) b) c) provvede la Direzione Generale del Tesoro sia direttamente sia, quando gli indennizzi stessi non superino i 2 milioni, per tramite degli uffici periferici. Queste pratiche si svolgono regolarmente col ritmo consentito dalla importanza numerica delle richieste e non hanno dato luogo a rilievi da parte delle autorità alleate.

Gli indennizzi di cui alle lettere d) ed e) sono affidati alla Direzione Generale del Genio Militare.

Per gli indennizzi di cui alla lettera f) provvede la Direzione Generale di Commissariato Amministrativo presso il Ministero della Guerra

Tutti i pagamenti vengono fatti con fondi somministrati dal Tesoro al quale pertanto gli uffici periferici sono tenuti a rendere i relativi rendiconti e la complessa materia è stata avviata recentemente a regolarizzazione dal R. Decreto Legislativo 21 maggio 1946 n° 451.

OCCETTO: Pagamento e indennizzi per requisizioni e indennizzi per le
FF.AA. Alleate.-

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o/o/o

Si accenna, or alle ragioni per le quali non è si potuto dare ancora corso ai pagamenti cui fa speciale riferimento la nota alleata riguardanti:

- 1°) i danni connessi alle requisizioni regolari o irregolari di immobili; (lettera d);
- 2°) i danni dipendenti da investimenti automobilistici verificatisi dopo il 1° novembre 1945 (lettera f).

Trattasi di un complesso problema sia per il numero dei casi (si calcola infatti, per il n° 1, di dover accertare i danni per oltre 80 mila edifici), sia per la imponenza della spesa che il Genio Militare prevede, sempre per il n° 1, di oltre 400 miliardi, sia per la determinazione dei limiti entro cui il Tesoro è tenuto a pagare questi danni e connessi alle requisizioni di immobili che spesso sono determinati da evidenti abusi, come asportazione di oggetti, di mobili o di arredamenti vari, o da distruzioni non legate alle requisizioni, questione quest'ultima che dovrà essere esaminata dal Comitato previsto dal D. Legge su richiamato, prima dei provvedimenti definitivi che dovrà adottare il Ministro del Tesoro.

Nelle more di tali decisioni questa Amministrazione con lettera del 26 luglio u.s.n. 66422 interessava il Ministero della Guerra a continuare le istruttorie delle pratiche trasmesse dagli Alleati ed in corso di esame prima dell'emanazione del decreto stesso.

Mentre la Direzione del Commissariato Amministrativo ha assicurato di aver costituito un apposito ufficio per le istruttorie relative agli indennizzi da liquidarsi per danni automobilistici (lettera f) e di aver anzi emanato le relative istruzioni agli uffici periferici dipendenti, la Direzione Generale del Genio ha, invece, segnalato che il personale addetto agli uffici di requisizione (trattasi della lettera d) è numericamente inadeguato al compito e che dovrebbe essere rinforzato, con l'apporto almeno di 500 unità circa, ciò che implicherebbe un onere annuale di circa 400 milioni.

Questo Ministero, preoccupato della gravità della richiesta, dopo alcuni colloqui, con funzionari della Amministrazione della Guerra, della Industria e delle Finanze, con lettera n° 6719 del 23 agosto 1946 ha ritenuto di sentire il Ministero delle Finanze (Direzione Generale del Catasto e degli Uffici Tecnici) per esaminare se non sia opportuno che gli uffici militari che attualmente trattano i servizi di requisizione e in cui già prestano servizio Ingegneri degli Uffici erariali, mantenendovisi, con le loro rispettive attribuzioni tecniche o amministrative, gli ufficiali che vi sono attualmente adibiti.

Con la stessa lettera, che è stata pure comunicata per conoscenza sia a codesta Presidenza sia al Ministero della Guerra, si è interessato quest'ultimo a continuare, frattanto, le istruttorie delle pratiche ad esso affidate e gli si è consentito all'uopo l'esecuzione di lavoro straordinario per accelerare per quanto possibile il servizio.

Esposto tale stato di cose si riterrrebbe opportuno che al Commissario Capo della Commissione Alleata fossero precisati i seguenti punti:

785017

1. I danni connessi alle requisizioni regolari o irregolari di immobili; (lettera d);

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Mentre la Direzione del Commissariato Amministrativo ha assicurato di aver costituito un apposito ufficio per le istruttorie relative agli indennizzi da liquidarsi per danni automobilistici (lettera f) e di aver anzi emanato le relative istruzioni agli uffici periferici dipendenti, la Direzione Generale del Genio ha, invece, segnalato che il personale addetto agli uffici di requisizione (trattasi della lettera d) è numericamente inadeguato al compito e che dovrebbe essere rinforzato, con l'apporto almeno di 500 unità circa, ciò che implicherebbe un onere annuale di circa 400 milioni.

1987

Questo Ministero, preoccupato della gravità della richiesta, dopo alcuni colloqui, con funzionari della Amministrazione della Guerra, della Industria e delle Finanze, con lettera n° 6719 del 23 agosto 1946 ha ritenuto di sentire il Ministero delle Finanze (Direzione Generale del Catasto e degli Uffici Tecnici) per esaminare se non sia opportuno che gli uffici militari che attualmente trattano i servizi di requisizione e in cui già prestano servizio Ingegneri degli Uffici erariali, mantenendovisi, con le loro rispettive attribuzioni tecniche o amministrative, gli ufficiali che vi sono attualmente adibiti.

Con la stessa lettera, che è stata pure comunicata per conoscenza sia a codesta Presidenza sia al Ministero della Guerra, si è interessato quest'ultimo a continuare, frattanto, le istruttorie delle pratiche ad esso affidate e gli si è consentito all'uopo l'esecuzione di lavoro straordinario per accelerare per quanto possibile il servizio.

Esposto tale stato di cose si riterrrebbe opportuno che al Commissario Capo della Commissione Alleata fossero precisati i seguenti punti:

o/o/o

- 1°)- Che non è possibile aderire alle proposte del Genio Militare, dato l'ingente spesa richiesta, e che è in corso di esame la trasformazione degli attuali uffici militari in uffici civili, mantenendovi il personale militare attualmente assegnatovi e completandolo col personale tecnico delle altre Amministrazioni dello Stato;
- 2°)- Che non è possibile costituire un ufficio autonomo delle requisizioni che comporterebbe la facoltà di pagare qualunque somma per indennizzi senza il visto dei costituzionali organi di controllo, ciò che scardinerebbe tutti i principi che regolano i pagamenti delle spese pubbliche;
- 3°)- Che il Tesoro, dal momento che ha assunto il servizio di cui trattasi, ha già pagato 16 miliardi e 500 milioni per requisizioni, danni e servizi in dipendenza della occupazione alleata oltre a 19 miliardi e 800 milioni per mantenimento delle truppe.
- 4°)- Che qualunque sistemazione venga data in definitiva agli uffici che attualmente trattano il servizio delle requisizioni di immobili, occorreranno parecchi anni per la liquidazione degli indennizzi sia per l'ingente onere che deve sostenere lo Stato e che non potrà essere posto a carico di uno o due esercizi soli, sia per la impossibilità materiale di definire la trattazione delle numerosissime pratiche e requisizioni regolari o irregolari, riferentesi, come si è detto, ad oltre 80 mila edifici.
- Non risulta, in ultimo, che presso i Ministeri dell'Aeronautica, della Marina e dei Trasporti vi siano in giacenza delle domande di indennizzi di requisizioni per cui debbano essersi speciali provvedimenti del Tesoro.

=====

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

Ref. : 989/27/EC

28 September 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I refer to my letter No. 989/17/EC dated 3 Aug 46 on the subject of the Settlement of Claims.

I would be grateful if an early reply could be given to this letter, please.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

See m-28, p. 38

1985

Doctor ALUISE DE CASPERI,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

Copy to: 0-5 AFHQ
U.S. Claims Service MTC APO 394
N. 2 Directorates of Hirings
and Disposals. APO 3 554

Chief Commissioner
Mr. Conn.
Roon Sec
Polad A
Polad B
C.A. Section

See 7-41

PA 25
10/11/46

785017

989.9
8
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

SEP 25

G-5: 972.70

23 September 1946

SUBJECT: Settlement of Claims.

TO : Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
APO 794

1. On 3 August 1946 under reference 989/17/EC you wrote to the Italian Prime Minister concerning the unsatisfactory state of the procedure and action taken in connection with the settlement of claims.

2. Will you please inform this Headquarters whether any reply has yet been received

BY ORDER OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

19
Major 1984
A. L. HANBLEN
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

to 27 refers

See 7-41

14/10/46
P.A.

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

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

23

File

Ref: 939/23/33

20 September 1946

Dear Dr. Tison,

22

Thank you for your letter dated 18 September 1946, enclosing A.C. file No. 909/23, safely received.

Yours sincerely,

M. CARR

who authorized this me

Brigadier
Acting Executive Commissioner

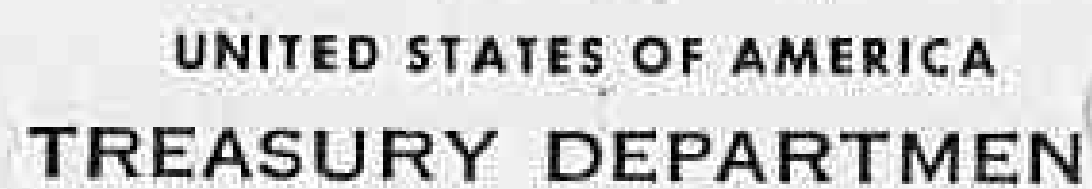
1983

See 17-24

Dr. Henry J. Tison
U.S. Treasury Representative
U.S. Embassy
ROME.

PA 2/1/46

785017



Rome, September 18, 1946

Dear Brigadier Carr:

Sincerely yours,

1982

Henry J. Lasca

Enclosure as stated

See 7.23 & 17.24



PA-219146

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commission
APO 794

19

Ref. : 939/17/20.

3. August 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

Shortly after the arrival of Allied troops in Italy an Agreement was entered into between the Italian Government and the British Claims Commission to the effect that the British Claims Commission would assess all claims against the British Forces (and other forces under their command, such as the Polish Forces), and serve demands for the payment of the compensation assessed on the Ministero del Tesoro who would effect payment.

A similar agreement relating to payment of claims against the U.S. Forces was also entered into between the Italian Government and the U.S. Claims Service.

In October 1945 a further agreement was entered into between the Italian Government and representatives of the British War Office transferring claims of certain categories to the Italian Government to be investigated and assessed as well as paid by them. The original agreement was made on 21/22 October 1945, and its scope was subsequently enlarged by additional agreements made on 23 January 1946 and 30 April 1946.

A similar agreement was entered into in December 1945 between the Italian Government and the U.S. Claims Service transferring all claims against the U.S. Forces to the Italian Government for investigation, assessment and payment.

1381

Insofar as claims against the British Forces are concerned, the Italian Government agreed to set up the necessary machinery in the following terms:-

- (a) At a meeting which took place on the 21st October 1945, at which were present Colonel Disney, Colonel Chariton and a committee nominated by the Italian Treasury, the whole plan was elaborated at length by Colonel Disney, and it was stressed, as appears from the minutes of the meeting, that it would be necessary for the Italian Government to provide an organisation for implementing the arrangements which they had agreed; detailed procedure was to be a matter for discussion between representatives nominated by the British Claims Commission and by the Committee referred to.

11/1/48
P. 2

See in 20-21-25
See 4-26, 37, 38

2)

- (b) D.A. Claims, British War Office, in a minute to the Treasury Minister dated 23 October 1945 said "It is hardly necessary for me after what has already been discussed to impress upon you the necessity of taking every possible step to ensure that your Government is ready to implement the arrangements in the enclosed agreement on the agreed date, viz: 1 November 1945." The Treasury Minister replied by letter dated 23 Oct. 45: "... I assure you that all the necessary steps will be taken to ensure that the contents of the agreement will be put into effect as from 1 November 1945."

It was also the Treasury Minister who agreed in each case in the agreement being enlarged as mentioned above.

Several months after signature of the agreement no steps appeared to have been taken by the Italian Government to implement it, and as the number of claims transferred increased without action being taken to deal with them and complaints of non-payment were being received, the British Claims Commission took the matter up with the Italian authorities with the result that ultimately a decree was promulgated in the Gazzetta Ufficiale on 10 June 1946, 133-2, about eight months after the signing of the original British agreement. This decree sets out the policy to be followed and gives directions as to the various agencies which will have to deal with the work. Responsibility for investigation, assessment and payment of claims was placed by agreement between the various Italian Government Departments, on the Italian War, Air, Navy and Transport ministries according to the nature of the claim. In fact, the bulk of the work will rest with the Italian War Ministry.

It is understood that the latter have made repeated requests for staff and credits necessary to carry out the work, and that the War Minister sent a communication to the Treasury Minister on 14 January 1946 setting out his requirements in detail.

No action appears to have been taken on this, and as a result about 12,000 claims, British and American, have accumulated in the Italian Government Departments without a single assessment or payment being made.

The situation is becoming most serious. Complaints are flowing in with repercussions as far afield as London and Washington, and the present state of affairs is proving most harmful to the prestige of the British and American Forces in Italy, besides being unsatisfactory from every other point of view.

1980

17

It is understood the Italian War Minister requires: -

- (a) that the offices of the Genio Militare for Allied requisitions take over and be responsible for the claims files;
- (b) that the Treasury Ministry gives authority to the War Ministry to provide for all the expenses necessary for the offices;
- (c) that the whole requisition service, which is at present directly dependent upon the Direzione del Tesoro, become "autonomous" in order that the files be dealt with more expeditiously. This office should come under the Treasury Ministry on technical and administrative matters.

Presumably, the Air, Navy and Transport Ministries' requirements will be similar to the above only less important.

I should be obliged, my dear Mr. Prime Minister, if urgent steps could be taken to ensure that the necessary credits are allotted and adequate machinery set up to deal with the claims which have accumulated as stated above in the various Italian Government Departments. Information as to the action taken and the results achieved would be appreciated. It cannot be stressed too strongly that the present situation is most unsatisfactory from both Allied and Italian points of view, and it is essential that steps be taken to implement the various agreements at the earliest possible moment.

1973

Yours very truly,

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier
HENRY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

Ex.Distr.: G-5 AFHQ
U.S. Claims Service MTO APO 794
H.2 Directorates of Hirings
and Disposals. APO S 551.

Int.Distr.: Chief Commissioner
Ex. Comm.
C.A.
Economic Section
Polad A
Polad B

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

~~989~~ ~~HEADQUARTERS~~

13

No. 2 Claims Commission
and
No. 2 Directorates of Hirings and Disposals (Fixed Assets)

A.P.O. S.551

C. M. F.

Executive Commissioner's Office,,
Allied Commission,
ROME.
(For the attention of Lt. Col. N.W. Hind-Smith).

CCID/384/1

22 July 46.

JUL 24 1946

Subject :- Transfer of claims to the
Italian Government.

1. Reference our telephone conversation of Saturday 20 July (Lt. Col. Hind-Smith - Colonel Watson speaking), we enclose herewith, as requested, a suggested draft of communication to the Italian Government.
2. We presume that you will adapt this to conform with your normal practice when drafting communications to the Italian Government.

J. A. Watson

J.A. Watson,
Colonel,

1978

D.D. Claims, Hirings and Disposals.

2/MR.

Tel : Rome 66285

Sigs Address :

No. 2 Claims & Hirings, ROME.

See M-14-16
File 19

(cso)

12/

My Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

12/

She is after the arrival of Allied troops in Italy an Agreement was entered into between the Italian Government and the British Claims Commission to the effect that the British Claims Commission would assess all claims against the British Forces (and other forces under their command, such as the Polish Forces), and serve demands for the payment of the compensation assessed on the Ministero del Tesoro who would effect payment.

A similar agreement relating to payment of claims against the U.S. Forces was also entered into between the Italian Government and the U.S. Claims Service.

In October 1945 a further agreement was entered into between the Italian Government and representatives of the British War Office transferring claims of certain categories to the Italian Government to be investigated and assessed as well as paid by them. The original agreement was made on 21/22 October 1945, and its scope was subsequently enlarged by additional agreements made on 23 January 1946 and 30 April 1946.

A similar agreement was entered into in December 1945 between the Italian Government and the U.S. Claims Service transferring all claims against the U.S. Forces to the Italian Government for investigation, assessment and payment.

Insofar as claims against the British Forces are concerned, the Italian Government agreed to set up the necessary machinery in the following terms :-

- (a) At a meeting which took place on the 21st October 1945, at which were present Colonel Disney, Colonel Charlton, and a committee nominated by the Italian Treasury, the whole plan was elaborated at length by Colonel Disney, and it was

payment.

2 A similar agreement relating to payment of claims against the U.S. Forces was also entered into between the Italian Government and the U.S. Claims Service.

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2 A similar agreement was entered into in December 1945 between the Italian Government and the U.S. Claims Service transferring all claims against the U.S. Forces to the Italian Government for investigation, assessment and payment.

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- (a) At a meeting which took place on the 21st October 1945, at which were present Colonel Disney, Colonel Charlton, and a committee nominated by the Italian Treasury, the whole plan was elaborated at length by Colonel Disney, and it was stressed, as appears from the minutes of the meeting, that it would be necessary for the Italian Government to provide an organisation for implementing the arrangements which they had agreed; detailed procedure was to be a

matter for

over/.....

discussion between representative nominated by the British Claims Commission and by the Committee referred to.

(b) D.D. Claims, ^{British} War Office, in a minute to the Treasury Minister dated 23 October 1945 said "It is hardly necessary for me after what has already been discussed to impress upon you the necessity of taking every possible step to ensure that your Government is ready to implement the arrangements in the enclosed memorandum on the agreed date, viz:

1 November 1945."

The Treasury Minister replied by letter dated 23 Oct 45: ".....I assure you that all the necessary steps will be taken to ensure that the contents of the agreement will be put into effect as from 1 November 1945."

It was also the Treasury Minister who agreed in each case to the Agreement being enlarged as mentioned above.

c. Several months after signature of the Agreement no steps appear^{as} to have been taken by the Italian Government to implement it, and the number of claims transferred increased without action being taken to deal with them and complaints of non-payment were being received, the British Claims Commission took the matter up with the Italian Authorities with the result that ultimately a Decree was promulgated in the Gazzetta Ufficiale on 10 June 1946, 133-2, about eight months after the signing of the original British agreement. This Decree sets out the policy to be followed and gives directions as to the various agencies which will have to deal with the work. Responsibility for investigation, assessment and payment of claims was placed by agreement between the various Italian Government Departments, the Italian War, Air, Navy and Transport Ministries according to the

is hardly necessary for me after what has already been discussed to impress upon you the necessity of taking every possible step to ensure that your Government is ready to implement the arrangements in the enclosed memorandum on the agreed date, viz:

1 November 1945."

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It was also the Treasury Minister who agreed in each case to the Agreement being enlarged as mentioned above.

B. Several months after signature of the Agreement no steps appear⁴ to have been taken by the Italian Government to implement it, and^{as} the number of claims transferred increased without action being taken to deal with them and complaints of non-payment were being received, the British Claims Commission took the matter up with the Italian Authorities with the result that ultimately a Decree was promulgated in the Gazzetta Ufficiale on 10 June 1946, 153-2, about eight months after the signing of the original British agreement. This Decree sets out the policy to be followed and gives directions as to the various agencies which will have to deal with the work. Responsibility for investigation, assessment and payment of claims was placed by agreement between the various Italian Government Departments, on the Italian War, Air, Navy and Transport Ministries according to the nature of the claim. In fact, the bulk of the work will rest with the Italian War Ministry.

11. It is understood that the latter have made repeated requests for staff and credits necessary to carry out the work, and that

over/.....

the War Minister sent a communication to the Treasury Minister on 11 January 1946 setting out his requirements in detail.

No action appears to have been taken on this, and as a result about 12,000 claims, British and American, have accumulated in the Italian Government Departments without a single assessment or payment being made.

The situation is becoming most serious. Complaints are flowing in with repercussions as far afield as London and Washington, and the present state of affairs is proving most harmful to the prestige of the British and American Forces in Italy, besides being unsatisfactory from many other points of view.

It is understood the Italian War Minister requires :-

(a) that the offices of the Genio Militare for

Allied requisitions take over and be responsible for the claims files;

(b) that the Treasury Ministry gives authority to

the War Ministry to provide for all the expenses necessary for the offices;

(c) that the whole requisition service, which is at present directly dependent upon the Direzione

del Tesoro, become "autonomous" in order that the

files be dealt with more expeditiously. This

office should come under the Treasury Ministry on technical and administrative matters.

Presumably, the Air, Navy and Transport Ministries' requirements will be similar to the above only less important.

It should be obliged if urgent steps could be taken to ensure that the necessary credits are allotted and adequate machinery set up to deal with the claims which have accumulated as stated above in the various Italian Government Departments. Information as to the action

The situation is becoming most serious. Complaints are flowing in with repercussions as far afield as London and Washington, and the present state of affairs is proving most harmful to the prestige of the British and American Forces in Italy, besides being unsatisfactory from many other points of view.

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- (a) that the offices of the Genio Militare for Allied requisitions take over and be responsible for the claims files;
- (b) that the Treasury Ministry gives authority to the War Ministry to provide for all the expenses necessary for the offices;
- (c) that the whole requisition service, which is at present directly dependent upon the Direzione del Tesoro, become "autonomous" in order that the files be dealt with more expeditiously. This office should come under the Treasury Ministry on technical and administrative matters.

Presumably, the Air, Navy and Transport Ministries' requirements will be similar to the above only less important.

my dear Mr. R. H. H. H.
It should be obliged if urgent steps could be taken to ensure that the necessary credits are allotted and adequate machinery set up to deal with the claims which have accumulated as stated above in the various Italian Government Departments. Information as to the action taken and the results achieved would be appreciated. It cannot be stressed too strongly that the present situation is most unsatisfactory from both ^{Allied} and Italian points of view, and it is essential that steps be taken to implement the various agreements at the earliest possible moment.

Y. V. T.

*Elly P. H. H.
Dear Mr. H. H.*

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

785017

989
INCOMING MESSAGE

ADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Ex 00

Originator's Reference: C 53985
Date/Time of Origin: 161747Z JULY

Message Centre No: H/4705
Date Time Rec'd: JULY 171000
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ G-5
TO: ALCOM ROME

JUL 17 1946

UNCLASSIFIED

Subject is transfer of claims to italian government. (Reur 4144 dated 12 July 46). Request you take action with italian government.

AC DIST

ACTION: EX COMMISSIONER

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER

FLCAT 2

FILE

1974

ACTION

RECEIVED

17 JUL 1946

C.

see M.9

(cso)

PA
20/2

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

785017

HQ ALCOM CITE ACHES

121100JUL1946

AFHQ

444

UNCLASSIFIED

3

6

REFERENCE LETTER CHARLIE HOW DOG SLAPT THREE EIGHT FOUR SLAPT ONE DATED FOUR
JULY FROM NUMBER TWO CLAIMS AND HIRINGS OMA HOME OMA COPY TO MIKE GEORGE ABLE PD HAVE
RECEIVED SIMILAR LETTER FROM UNITED STATES CLAIMS SERVICE OMA MIKE TAKE ODOE OMA PREPARED
JOINTLY WITH REFERENCE LETTER PD PRESUME YOU WILL WISH ME TO TAKE ACTION WITH PRICE
MINISTER PD

1973

ROUTINE

Office of the Executive Commissioner

300

A. W. Knisely.

NICHOLAS PICHOTING
CWO USA
Asst Adjt

See 7-6

13
P. H. H.

UNITED STATES CLAIMS SERVICE, MTO
Office of the Deputy Chief Claims Officer
APO 794 U.S. Army

8 July 1946

SUBJECT : Transfer of Claims by Inhabitants of Italy against US Forces
Arising out of Incidents in Italian Territory to the Italian
Government for Investigation and Adjustment as well as Pay-
ment.

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, Rome.

1. By exchange of letters dated 20 Dec 45 an agreement incorporat-
ed in a certain "Memorandum of Agreement", Subject as above, was placed
into effect as at 1 Jan 46 between the US Claims Service on behalf of US
Forces and the Italian Government, copy annexed.

2. Reference is made in particular to Paras 3 and 7 of said Memo-
randum.

a. Para 3 provides that the Italian Government deems itself
substituted as against inhabitants of Italy who have
sustained injuries or damages of any kind or character
in the course of incidents in which the US Forces have
been involved, to the position theretofore occupied in
relation to such persons by the US Claims Service in Ita-
lian territory, and undertakes not only as it has hereto-
fore and is now doing to make payment of such claims, but
also to investigate the incidents out of which such claims
may arise, to determine all questions relating to the fault,
etc. of the persons involved and to adjust all claims aris-
ing therefrom.

b. Paragraph 7 provides that the Italian Government will
establish an organization within itself for the investi-
gation, adjustment and payment of the claims referred to
and implementing and carrying into effect said arrangement,
and further that the Italian Government thru its appropriate
agencies will consult with the US Claims Service and it with
the Italian Government from time to time for the purpose of
making further and detailed arrangements to effectuate the
the purposes of the agreement.

4. Pursuant thereto the US Claims Service entered into further detailed arrangements to effectuate the Agreement which are incorporated in its letter dated 17 Apr 46 to the Minister of War. In accordance with said Memorandum of Agreement and the further detailed arrangements, the US Claims Service has transferred substantially all claims of the nature referred to to the Ministry of War.

5. The British Claims Commission, beginning in Oct 45, effected on behalf of British Forces agreements and arrangements not materially different and has likewise transferred pending claims against British Forces to the Italian War Ministry.

6. On 10 June 46 a decree No 133-2 was promulgated by the Italian Government in the Gazzetta Ufficiale setting out the policies to be followed by the appropriate Italian Agencies in adjusting the claims and setting forth the various agencies of the Italian Government to handle the different types. The bulk of the work is assigned to various agencies of the War Ministry.

7. The War Ministry has made, it is understood, repeated requests, since the execution of the agreements in November and December 1945, for adequate staff, vehicles and credits necessary to carry out the work. The War Minister communicated with the Treasury Minister by letter as early as 11 Jan 46 setting out his requirements in detail.

8. It is now apparent that nevertheless no effective action except the promulgation of the above mentioned decree has been taken by the responsible Ministries to place into actual operating effect these agreements with the result that about 12,000 claims, British and American, have accumulated in the hands of the various Italian Government agencies whose responsibility therefor has been confirmed by said decree, without being investigated or adjusted even partially, much less to a final conclusion.

9. This unsatisfactory situation is becoming most serious. Complaints are being made by claimants with repercussions in Washington and London. The present state of affairs is causing in the minds of claimants an impairment of the prestige of the American and British Forces in this theater, and is wholly unsatisfactory from many other obvious points of view.

10. It is, therefore, requested that representations be made by your Commission to the Italian Government on the highest possible level with a view to ensuring that: 1971

- 4
- a. Sufficient credits for the purpose are allotted to the Italian Agencies charged with responsibility for the settlement of these claims to enable them actually to make settlement.
 - b. That said agencies of the Italian War Ministry, and to the lesser extent necessary, those of the Air, Navy and Transport Ministries, be allotted sufficient funds and personnel to provide them with the staff and equipment, such as vehicles, to enable them to proceed immediately to the investigation and settlement of these pending claims.
 - c. That present experienced personnel of the War Ministry now staffing the War Ministry's agencies charged with responsibility for handling claims, be retained regardless of eligibility for retirement or other considerations until such time as the present staffs have been expanded and the new personnel are sufficiently trained and experienced to handle the work.
 - d. That, as suggested by it, the War Ministry agencies be retained as autonomous agencies responsible for the work as they are best equipped by reason of military experience to handle the job and are better able to liaison effectively with US and British Forces Claims Commissions, than would be agencies of a civil ministry, subject to whatever limited technical direction might be required from the Treasury Ministry.

11. Attention is invited to the fact that this Memorandum is presented jointly with a similar Memorandum by the British Claims Commission.

12. It is requested that this office be advised of the action taken by the Italian Government.


GEORGE J. HANTGAN
Major, JAGD
Deputy Chief Claims Officer

1970

HEADQUARTERS

No. 2 Claims Commission
and
No. 2 Directorates of Hirings and Disposals (Fixed Assets)

A.P.O. S.551
C. M. F.

Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission,
ROME.

COHD/304/1

4 July 46

Subject:- Transfer of Claims to the Italian
Government

1. Reference our recent conversation (Brigadier Lush - Colonel Disney and Colonel Watson speaking).

2. Sometime after the landings in Italy an Agreement was entered into between the British Claims Commission and the Italian Government to the effect that the British Claims Commission would assess all claims against the British Forces (and other forces under their command, such as the Polish Forces), and serve demands for the payment of the compensation assessed on the Ministero del Tesoro who would effect payment.

3. A similar agreement relating to payment of claims against the U.S. Forces was also entered into between the U.S. Claims Service and the Italian Government.

4. In October 1945, when it became evident that the "run-down" in C.M.F. would preclude the British Claims Commission from continuing to assess claims at the rate at which it had been doing so up to then, a further agreement was entered into between representatives of the British War Office and the Italian Government transferring claims of certain categories to the Italian Government to be investigated, assessed and paid by them. The original agreement was made on 21/22 October 1945, and its scope was subsequently enlarged by additional agreements made on 23 January 1946 and 30 April 1946.

5. A similar agreement was entered into in December 1945 between the U.S. Claims Service and the Italian Government transferring all claims against the U.S. Forces to the Italian Government for investigation, assessment and payment.

6. The Italian Government agreed to set up the necessary machinery in the following terms:-

- (a) At a meeting which took place on the 21 October 1945 at which were present Colonel Disney, Colonel Charlton and a committee nominated by the Italian Treasury, the whole plan was elaborated at length by Colonel Disney, and it was stressed, as appears from the minutes of the meeting, that it would be necessary for the Italian Government to provide an organisation for implementing the arrangements which they had agreed; detailed procedure was to be a matter for discussion between representatives nominated by the British Claims Commission and by the committee referred to.

Subject:- Transfer of Claims to the Italian
Government

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

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5. A similar agreement was entered into in December 1945 between the U.S. Claims Service and the Italian Government transferring all claims against the U.S. Forces to the Italian Government for investigation, assessment and payment.
6. The Italian Government agreed to set up the necessary machinery in the following terms:-
 - (a) At a meeting which took place on the 21 October 1945 at which were present Colonel Disney, Colonel Charlton and a committee nominated by the Italian Treasury, the whole plan was elaborated at length by Colonel Disney, and it was stressed, as appears from the minutes of the meeting, that it would be necessary for the Italian Government to provide an organisation for implementing the arrangements which they had agreed; detailed procedure was to be a matter for discussion between representatives nominated by the British Claims Commission and by the committee referred to.
 - (b) D.D. Claims, War Office, in a minute to the Treasury Minister dated 23 October 1945 said "It is hardly necessary for me after what has already been discussed to impress upon you the necessity of taking every possible step to ensure that your Government is ready to implement the arrangements in the enclosed memorandum on the agreed date, viz: 1 November 1945."

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The Treasury Minister replied by letter dated 3 October 1945:
"..... I assure you that all the necessary steps will be
taken to ensure that the contents of the agreement will be
put into effect as from 1 November 1945".

It was also the Treasury Minister who agreed in each case to the Agreement being enlarged as mentioned above.

7. The Italian Government was slow in implementing the agreement, and as the number of claims transferred increased without anything being done about them and complaints of non-payment began to flow in, pressure was brought to bear by the British Claims Commission on the Italian Authorities with the result that ultimately a decree was promulgated in the Gazzetta Ufficiale on 10 June 46 No. 133-2 - about eight months after the signing of the original British Agreement. This Decree sets out the policy to be followed in regard to compensation, and gives directions as to the various agencies which will have to deal with the work. Responsibility for investigation, assessment and payment of claims was placed by agreement between the various Government Departments, on the Italian War, Air, Navy and Transport Ministries according to the nature of the claim. In fact, the bulk of the work will rest with the Italian War Ministry.

8. The latter have made repeated requests for staff and credits necessary to carry out the work, and the War Minister sent a communication to the Treasury Minister on 11 January 1946 setting out his requirements in detail.

9. No action has been taken on this request despite numerous reminders, and the result is that about 12,000 claims, British and American, have accumulated in the Italian Government Departments without a single assessment or payment being made.

10. The situation is becoming most serious: complaints are flowing in with repercussions as far afield as London and Washington, and the present state of affairs is proving most harmful to the prestige of the British and American Forces in this theatre, besides being extremely unsatisfactory from many other obvious points of view.

11. The Italian War Ministry - to quote a translation of an extract from a recent confidential minute to this HQ - requires :-

- (a) that the offices of the Genio Militare for Allied requisitions take over and be responsible for the claims files;
- (b) that the Treasury Ministry gives authority to the War Ministry to provide for all the expenses necessary for the offices;
- (c) that the whole requisition service, which is at present directly dependent upon the Direzione Generale del Tesoro, become "autonomous" in order that the files be dealt with more expeditiously. This office should come under the War Ministry for matters of discipline and under the Treasury Ministry on technical and administrative matters.

Presumably, the Air, Navy and Transport Ministries requirements will be similar to the above only less important.

12. We shall be obliged if representations can be made by the Allied Commission to the Italian Government on the highest possible level with a view to ensuring that they allot credits and set up the

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13. A communication in similar terms is being addressed to you on this subject by Deputy Chief Claims Officer, U.S. Claims Service.

14. Will you please let us know in due course what action is being taken by the Italian Government.

3/EHB

Tel: 66330

Sigs Address:

No. 2 Claims and Hirings, ROME.

S.S. Disney

S.S. DISNEY,
Colonel,
V.P.C.C. and D. of Hgs and Disposals.

Copy to:

(for information)

M.C.A.,
G.H.Q.,
C.M.F.

M.M.I.A.,
Land Forces Sub-Commission,
H.Q. Allied Commission.

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