

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/531

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785017

10000/109/531

REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS FROM DODECANESE
OCT. 1944 - JULY 1945

785017

14

TO: CSS*Explain*

Your attention is drawn to correspondence on this file with reference to the repatriation of Italians from the DOECANESE.

Folio 6: AFHQ request AC to obtain immediate acceptance of Italian Government to principle of repatriation of a total of 665 persons owing to risk of outbreaks of violence due to anti-Italian feeling.

Folio 8: Is copy of letter from MFA which says that in principle it cannot favour the repatriation of Italians who have been settled abroad for many years and that its policy is to favour emigration rather than repatriating emigrated Italians. It has no objection however to the repatriation of Italian officials not employed by EAA.

Folio 12: Signal from C.A. Section to AFHQ agreeing with the Italian view pointing out that the proposal amounts to a mass evacuation of all resident Italian population, which is a matter which should await determination at the Peace Conference.

Folio 13: Is personal for General Robertson pressing for authority for the repatriation and increases the number of persons to 2,170, which figure however includes some refugees held in camps which it is desired to close. Details of the latter have not yet been submitted to the Italian Government.

*It looks very much as if Folio 12
was seen by Dowler. We have
11 July 45. made an escape plan.
I suggest to action it.
believe we might have more
appended.*

*So 11/7.
15*

9 agree. 11/7

*Ala
5273*

1532
CONFIDENTIAL

WGA28349
JULY 100840B

2212
10
E/8975
JULY 101300B
IMMEDIATE

JUL 10 1945

From: S ALEXANDRIA

To: FREEDOM INFO ALCON TROOPERS

CONFIDENTIAL

Personal for Gen ROBERTSON from DOWLER.

1. Question of repatriating to ITALY Italian nationals who cannot for security and other reasons remain in DODECANESE has been under reference to you Hq since Oct last. No progress seems to have been made in spite of your support.

2. Small number involved VIZ 2170 including refugees should not I imagine cause any great embarrassment in ITALY but we cannot keep them much longer in DODECANESE without risk of serious trouble. Hope however that once these have left opposition will die down and no further repatriation will be necessary while DODECANESE remain under BEA.

3. Grateful earliest authority for repatriation to proceed. Nominal rolls will be sent if required.

Dist

Info-Action - Disper
Info - Chief Commissioner
Exec Commr
CA Sec
File 2
Float

CONFIDENTIAL

(Per N. Koen)

see M/K 715
5422
HEADQUARTERS
17 JUL 1945
13/7

DPR/24/G-II (IT)

C O P Y

12

GEORGE FIVE ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS RPTD MIDEAST

JUL 11 1945

1259

5 July 1945

ROUTINE

CONFIDENTIAL PD

SUBJECT IS ITALIANS IN DODECANESE PD

PAREN TO FOR ACTION GEORGE FIVE ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS RPTD MIDEAST FROM ALCOM
CITE ACLEP PAREN

6 PARA ONE PD ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN APPROACHED AS REQUESTED IN YOUR FOX XRAY
NINE ZERO ZERO TWO SIX DATED EIGHT JUNE FOUR FIVE PD THE FOLLOWING IS PARAPHRASE
OF TRANSLATION OF ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REPLY PD PAREN ABLE PAREN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
HAVE NO OBJECTION TO REPATRIATION OF ITALIAN OFFICIALS IN THE DODECANESE NOT EMPLOYED
BY THE ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT PD PAREN BAKER PAREN AS REGARD OTHER ITALIANS
IT IS POINTED OUT THAT MOST OF THEM HAVE SETTLED IN THOSE ISLANDS CMA PARTICULARLY
IN RHODES CMA SINCE ONE NINE TWO TWO AND HAVE BECOME PART OF THE ECONOMY OF THE
COUNTRY PD IN RETURNING TO ITALY THEY WOULD RUIN THEMSELVES AND BECOME A VERY HEAVY
BURDEN ON ITALY AT A TIME WHEN HER PRISONERS OF WAR ARE RETURNING AND WILL SURELY
NEED ASSISTANCE AND RELIEF PD PAREN CHARLIE PAREN THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT CANNOT
FAVOUR IN PRINCIPLE REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS WHO HAVE SETTLED OUT OF THE COUNTRY
FOR MANY YEARS BOTH ABROAD AND IN THE ITALIAN COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS PD ITALY IS
COMPELLED FOR OBVIOUS REASONS TO FOLLOW A POLICY WHICH AIMS AT EMMIGRATION RATHER
THAN REPATRIATING EMMIGRATED ITALIANS PD PAREN DOG PAREN WITH REGARD TO THE DANGER
OF ITALIANS IN THE DODECANESE CMA THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FAILS TO SEE
WHY THEY SHOULD FIND THEMSELVES IN ANY DANGER AS CMA APART FROM ANY OTHER REASON
CMA THERE ARE LARGE OCCUPATION FORCES ON THE ISLAND PD

5171
CONTINUED

CONTINUED

PARA TWO PD ALLIED COMMISSION AGREE WITH THE ITALIAN VIEW PD

PARA THREE PD IN EFFECT MIDEAST IS ASKING ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE MASS EVACUATION OF NORMAL RESIDENT ITALIAN POPULATION OF DODECANESE AND IT IS CONSIDERED THAT THIS IS A MATTER WHICH SHOULD WAIT DETERMINATION AT PEACE CONFERENCE PD

PARA FOUR PD PLEASE ASK MIDEAST TO PREPARE NOMINAL ROLL DISCHARGED OFFICIALS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS WHOM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE AGREED TO ACCEPT PD

PARA FIVE PD NEW SUBJECT PD REFERENCE YOUR FOX XRAY NINE THREE NINE SIX TWO OF THE ONE SIX JUNE FOUR FIVE PARA TWO PD BEFORE APPROACHING ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AS TO WHETHER THEY WILL ACCEPT REPATRIATION OF METROPOLITAN ITALIANS EVACUATED FROM ISLANDS AND NOW HELD IN REFUGEE CAMPS REQUEST MIDEAST INFORM THIS COMMISSION OF THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE INVOLVED STATING NUMBERS OF MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

489081 Ext . 594

5170

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
MEMORANDUM

2 Jul 45

SUBJECT: Italian Subjects in Dodecanese.

JUL 4 1945

TO: Displaced Persons & Repatriation S/C.

- 1 The Chief Commissioner considered DPR/24/G-2 (IT) dated 30 Jun 45 at his Political Advisers' Meeting this morning.
- 2 The Chief Commissioner decided that the Italian view, set out in their Memorandum of 26 June 45, was correct and directed that a signal paraphrasing that Memorandum be sent to MID EAST together with a statement that the Allied Commission agreed with such views.
- 3 Please prepare a draft signal for my approval. Such signal should also initiate details of discussions for the repatriation of the class mentioned in para 2 of the Italian Government Memorandum.

G. R. Upjohn
G.R. UPJOHN, Brig.,
VP CA Section.

COPY TO: Chief Commissioner,
Executive Commissioner,
Poled (A)
Poled (B)

5163

2212 A
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AFR/24/0-2 (IT)

30 June 45

JUL 2 - 1945

SUBJECT : Italian subjects in DOBROVANSKY.

TO : Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)

- 1 On 9 June 1945 AFHQ on the instigation of ISOP, requested the Commission to ask the Italian Government if they would accept into this country 665 persons now in the Dobrovansky. At a later date this number was increased to 1157.
- 2 On 26 June the Italian Government answered to the effect that they have no objection to the repatriation of officials, but that they could not favour the repatriation of Italians who settled abroad many years ago.
- 3 This Section is of the opinion that the Italian view is a correct one, despite the alleged danger to these persons. It would be appreciated if you would consider this view and say whether you are in agreement.
- 4 Copies of the relevant documents are attached.

G. R. Upjohn
G. R. UPJOHN Brig,
VP CA Section.

Copy to: Chief Commissioner
Exec Commissioner

See (10)

5-68
PA 3/7

URGENT

C O P Y

MINISTRY OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

SUBJECT : Italians in the Dodecanese.

1. Reference is made to Mem-DEP/24/G-II(IT) of June 18th 1945.
2. The Italian Government have no objection to that the Italian officials in the Dodecanese, not employed by the A.M.G., be repatriated to Italy.
3. As regards the other Italians, it is pointed out that most of them have settled in these islands, and particularly in Rhodes, since 1922 and many of them have set up an economic activity which is useful to the life of the local populations and to the general economy of the country. Their return to Italy where they have no possibility of finding work, would bring about their ruin and lay into the Italian Government a very heavy burden just at a time in which the latter must face the return of the ex-prisoners of war who surely need assistance and relief.
4. The Italian Government cannot favour, on principle, the repatriation of Italians who many years since settled out of the country, both abroad and in the Italian Colonies and Possessions: Italy is compelled, for obvious reasons, to follow a policy which aims at favouring emigration rather than at repatriating emigrated Italians. The Italian Government expect the Allies to share and further this policy.
5. As regards the Italians in the Dodecanese, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs fail to see for what reason they should find themselves in some danger, all the more so as the local populations have drawn nothing but benefits from the exploitation of those islands by the Italians. Should there, however, be some threats of sporadic disturbances, the Italian Government trust that the Forces of occupation will be able to forestall them without having to resort to the forcible mass-transfer of persons from their place of residence.

Rome, June, 26th 1945.

5.62

COPI

FX 93962

JUN 161210B

E/5310
JUN 161725B
PRIORITY

FROM : AMIR, SIGNED SACRED CITY PHARO
TO : ACTION ALQOM INFO. MIDEAST

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference our FX 30025 of 8 June.

1. MIDEAST state Group 2 now 265 men 100 women 218 children total 583. Total for whom acceptance required from Italian Government now 1157.
2. NEW SUBJECT. Request agreement of Italian Government to repatriation of metropolitan Italians evacuated from Islands and now held in refugee camps. Camps being disbanded.
3. MIDEAST pressing for clearance above subjects owing tense situation in Islands. Request your urgent attention.

5100

C O P Y

FZ 90026
JUNE 081934

E/4237
JUNE 090845
PRIORITY

FROM : AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITY ARK
TO : HQ ALGER BOMB INFO : MIDAST,

SECRET.

1. Anti-Italian feeling in DODECANESE Island so strong MIDAST consider serious risks outbreaks violence unless certain classes removed at early date. Appreciated by MIDAST difficult for Italian Government to agree any large scale repatriation but considered essential following to be repatriated at once:

(1) 56 men, 38 women being Metropolitan Italians ex-rhodes whose presence likely to cause trouble with Greek population. 56 children would accompany.

(2) 82 Metropolitan Italians ex-rhodes who are discharged officials. 6 women and 7 children would accompany.

(3) 169 men, 440 women and 119 children being whole Metropolitan Italian population of Island of COS. Local Greek feeling in COS against these is stated dangerously hostile.

2. Total of all above 665 persons.

All of classes 2 and 3 above and some of Class 1 desire return Italy.

Request you secure immediate acceptance of Italian Government to principle of repatriation all above and signal reply. Nominal rolls will then be demanded of MIDAST and details repatriation worked out.

5165

For MIDAST your 123068100/CA delivered hand Col LAMPS refers.

785017

2212
SECRET

(0.0.505)

To: AIDCM

0/1097

110/16

From: AFHQ, SICRED SACRED

F 53523

NOV 16 1918

PRIORITY
CITE: PIREG

27 NOV 1944

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

(2)
plus 3-4
refer

SECRET.

Urgently require reply letter G5: 01/1.3-62 November 5. Disposal Italians in

DOECANISE



DIST

ACTION C & SEC (2)
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
COS
WMD & POW
POL SEC
FILE

5162

PA 81

SECRET
NOV 17 1944

PA

SECRET

2212/1

4

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section
APO 394

Ref:- 1/37.1/CA

14 November 1944.

SUBJECT:- Disposal of Italians in the Dodecanese.

TO:- AMHQ 6-5, APO 514.

2

1. Your letter 6-5 OM. 35-62 dated 5 November '44, has been carefully considered by this Commission.
2. I am directed to state that it is the considered opinion of this Commission that the repatriation of the categories mentioned in sub paras. A.C. & D of para 2 of the letter dated 22 October '44 from GHQ MTF, would at the present time be undesirable.
3. It cannot be doubted that a large proportion of such persons will have to be treated as refugees and will cause an already extremely difficult problem to be even more so.
4. Furthermore it would be most undesirable to receive these subjects in view of their politically undesirable background and outlook. It is therefore requested that such persons be not repatriated to this country while hostilities continue.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

By deduction
Ch Sec agrees to B

PA

Pg C.R. UPJOHN

G.R. UPJOHN. Brig.
VP CA Sec.
D.C.C.S.

5 DEC 3

P/M

Copy to CCS (your 2212/1/003 of 8 Nov '44 refers).

What about those in para B of para 2

1254

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 324
Office of the Chief of Staff

SECRET

3

Ref: 2312/3/008

8 November 1944

SUBJECT: Disposal of Italians in the Dodecanese.
TO : Civil Affairs Section, A.S.

1. Attached letter G-5: 014.53-62 dated 5 November 1944 from G-5, AFHQ, subject as above, and accompanying copy letter from G-5 HQ is passed for appropriate action and reply, with copy to us.
2. A copy of attached correspondence is being sent to W.M.D. & I.P.C.W. Sub-Commission for information and liaison with you.

SW
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

Encls: 2.

Copy to: BO to A/CS.

W.M.D. & I.P.C.W. Sub-Commission (for action as in para 2 above)
Political Section

5162

see H

B/U 15 Nov. 1944
cc

PA 9/11

1-548
2212-2
2
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

WD-W/ceb

G-5: 014.33-62.

5 November 1944

Rec'd 6 Nov

SUBJECT: Disposal of Italians in the Dodecanese

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
APO 394.

1. Attached is copy of letter received from
GHQ, MEF dated 27 (?) October 44.

2. Before decision is taken and reply sent
your views are requested on the desirability of
repatriating the categories listed in para 2.

3. Please treat as urgent.

For Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

W.D.
W. DRIFFIELD-WHITE
Major.

Incl:
as above.



SECRET

COPY.

SUBJECT: Disposal Italians in the DODECANESE.

SECRET

CHQ LER

01/3454

27(?) Oct. 44

AFHQ

Copy to:-

MGA

GSI

AG(O)

AG(PS)

MOV & Tn

SIDE

CCAO

1. It is our policy that Italians are to be given no part in our administration of the DODECANESE when we occupy these Islands. While the future of the DODECANESE is not yet decided, it can safely be assumed that they will not be returned to Italian sovereignty.

2. There will be certain categories of Italians whom it will be most desirable to repatriate to ITALY as soon after the occupation of the islands as possible. An estimate of these is given below, but the accuracy of the figures can only be verified after occupation.

(a) Discharged Civil Servants who would be a focus for political intrigue	-	200
(b) Discharged Carabinieri etc., who have military status and are subject to treatment as PW	-	400
(c) Italians on Security Black Lists not sufficiently dangerous to justify internment	-	450
(d) Wives and families of persons in (a), (b) and (c) above	-	250

1,280

5,611

A certain number of persons of various nationalities who are on the Security Black Lists will have to be interned as being dangerous to security. These are not thought likely to exceed 20, in the first instance and it is intended to intern them in the DODECANESE since their removal to another part of the MIDDLE EAST would involve political complications.

3. In the early stages of the occupation there will be a number of PW in the islands who will be concentrated and imprisoned in a central cage at RHODES. These PW will be evacuated to the mainland in the MIDDLE EAST as shipping is available, but this may take some time. It is desired to avoid a further commitment of

2. There will be certain categories of Italians whom it will be most desirable to repatriate to ITALY as soon after the occupation of the islands as possible. An estimate of these is given below, but the accuracy of the figures can only be verified after occupation.

(a) Discharged Civil Servants who would be a focus for political intrigue	-	200
(b) Discharged Carabinieri etc., who have military status and are subject to treatment as PW	-	400
(c) Italians on Security Black Lists not sufficiently dangerous to justify internment	-	430
(d) Wives and families of persons in (a), (b) and (c) above	-	250

1,280 5,61

A certain number of persons of various nationalities who are on the Security Black Lists will have to be interned as being dangerous to security. These are not thought likely to exceed 20, in the first instance and it is intended to intern them in the DODECANESE since their removal to another part of the MIDDLE EAST would involve political complications.

3. In the early stages of the occupation there will be a number of PW in the islands who will be concentrated and imprisoned in a central cage at RHODES. These PW will be evacuated to the mainland in the MIDDLE EAST as shipping is available, but this may take some time. It is desired to avoid a further commitment of keeping the Italians in para 2 above under restraint, and as they will ultimately have to be repatriated to ITALY, it is suggested that they should be moved by direct shipment from RHODES to ITALY as soon after occupation of the islands as possible.

4. Will you please say whether you agree to this proposal for the disposal of Italians in the DODECANESE?

/s/ ? ? ? ? Brigadier
(Sgd) W. P. OLIVER
for General,
Commander in Chief,
MIDDLE EAST FORCE.

G(Ops)1
JB

1551