

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/725
(VOL. II)

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

10000/109/725
(VOL. II)

DISPOSAL OF AMMUNITION
APR. 1946 - JAN. 1947

1815

UNCLASSIFIED U.S. GOVERNMENT WORKING No.

3642/EC

2020
9/10

DISPOSAL OF AMMUNITION

(~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~)

DISPOSAL OF AMMUNITION

(no longer used) THE TOLLS AMMUNITION

VOL II

10000 / 109 / 725

CONV. 10000
FROM 10000
JAN 1974

1816

copy to [unclear]

175

Ref mem 172. letters for signatures
at folios 173-4, please.

CCB 11/10 18.12.10

176

S.O.

Signed. As this is a current controversial
matter please have copies of correspondence
referred to in our letter to G5 attached to
CC's copy for his record and ready
reference.

Done 15/10/10
15/10/10 15/10

Mr and Mrs
Ex Amm

11.10

Signed. As this is a current controversial
matter please have copies of correspondence
referred to in our letter to G5 attached to
DC's copy for his record and ready
reference

Mani Byader
Ex Amm

Done 15/10/66
15/10/66
15/10/66

166

C.S.O.

Cable at 165 for signature please.

As concurred. MS 12/9.

Aug
12/9

170

C.S.O.

I suggest a short ack and no further action on folio 169.

so you concur, please. Aug 7/10

172

C.S.O.

I discussed 169 with CC who directed that we should draft a letter merely acknowledging Dr. Prunas' letter and telling him that the matter had been referred to the military authorities. CC also directed that a copy of 169 should be sent to AFHQ, G-5, . We shall also have to send a copy of Folio 72 in the previous volume and explain in our covering letter briefly what led up to the issue of 72.

Will you please take action.

M. Carr

M. CARR,
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

269

8 October 1946.

151

to Conting

Your memo 150 noted.

Unrecovered letter for signature please. (151/150/151)

152

CSA. E. L. L. L.

Please see folios 157-158 for info. 1st - not

think that anything will be gained by

sending this to AFHQ and suggest a

suitably worded act. so you agree please

158

No action until we receive final from AFHQ.

CSA. E. L. L. L.

159

CSA. E. L. L. L.

By folio 157. We asked AMG III Corps to investigate the explosion and report. (folio 158)

III Corps (main) have replied, quoting 157-158 letter

My own enquiries to AMG, telling us to await

full investigation so you want any further

Please see folios 157-159 for info. I do not
 think that anything will be gained by
 sending this to AFHQ and suggest a
 suitably worded ack. so you agree please

158
 CDR WIS
 7/9

No action until we receive info from AFHQ.

158/45

159

CSA E. L. Brown

Ref folio 157. We asked AMG XIII Corps to
 investigate the explosion and report. (folio 148)
 XIII Corps (main) have replied, quoting BG's letter,
 of our enquires to AMG, telling us to await
 full investigation. so you want any further
 action to be taken at present, please

160
 CDR 9/9

WIS

268

Letter to GS to issue.

For the

158/45

133.

Ex Comm.

Letter at 132 for signature please

This is a hastine to folio 121

H.S. 415

AUB 3/5

138.

H.S. 27/5.

Folio 137 for info. I will follow up.

AUB 27/5

141

Ex Comm.

with reference to the explosion at noon
on 5 April. Herewith at 140, is a copy of
the call for info. In accordance with
para 1. I will return this when you have seen it.

Ack. written

AUB 27/5

AUB 27/5

149.

Ex Comm.

Ref folio 145. 3 letters for signature, please

at folios 146-7-8.

AUB 27/5

H.S.

2 letters to be amended.

When dealing with

Ex Comm.

on 5 April. Renewal at 140, is a copy of
the copy for info. In accordance with
para 1. I will return this when you have seen it.

(149)
Ack. action Mr. C. J. H.

27/8

149.

En Comm.

Ref folio 145. 3 letters for signature, please
at folios 146-7-8. 27/8

2 letters to be amended. When dealing with
accidents (1) never imply criticism before you

have the full report.

(2) never imply responsibility to
a third party until you know the facts.

28/8

785017

107

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner

1. Reference Minute 106.
2. Letter dated 8 March from AFHQ was acted upon as follows:

a) Received Economic Section	11 March
b) To TIS. Branch	12 "
c) Returned to PS with reply to P. M.	15 "
d) Sent to TIS. Branch with instruction to hold informal meeting with Gen Vatteina before submitting to the EC	18 "
e) Reverted to Exec. Comm. Office before clearance of A/WP - then back to PS.	19-21 March
f) Sent to Office of Exec. Comm.	23 March
g) Signed and returned from Chief Commissioner	26 "
h) To TIS. Branch for dispatch	27 "
i) Dispatched	28 "

Charles W. Walton
 CHARLES W. WALTON
 Colonel, AG.
 Acting Vice-President

110

E. S. O.

We must expedite this kind of case
Please discuss with Messrs. Gentry, Brown, etc.

- b) To TNS. Branch
- c) Returned to ES with reply to P. M.
- d) Sent to TNS. Branch with instruction to hold informal meeting with Gen Mattheina before submitting to ~~ES~~ *EC*
- e) Visited to Exec. Comm. Office before clearing of A/VP - then back to ES.
- f) Sent to Office of Exec. Comm.
- g) Signed and returned from Chief Commissioner
- h) To TNS. Branch for dispatch
- i) Dispatched

12 "

15 "

18 "

19-21 March

23 March

26 "

27 "

28 "

Charles W. Walton *MS* *4/4*
 CHARLES W. WALTON
 Colonel, AC.
 Acting Vice-President

110

C.S.O.

We must expedite this kind of thing.

Please discuss with Messrs. Gentry, Gentry, Gentry.

will convene.

MS *1014*

265

MS *1114*

110

Please see 112-114 pertaining to explanation of this.

MS *12/4/44*

MS *130*

CSO *folio 129 for info, please 268* *23/4*

MS *25/4/44*

101.

C.S.D. For your information *hereafter* 994-100. *SK 5/4*

102.

A/C.C.

At 100 is a report on the matter of ammunition dumping at ANCONA - MOLFETTA. AFHQ have been advised verbally and by signal of the favourable answer regarding ANCONA. - *104 1/2* We are pressing strongly for a reply re MOLFETTA.

Since writing above, reply from I.G. at 103 has come in. *105 1/4*

106.

V.P. Deca Sec

B 100. para 4.

Two reasons for delay between:

- (a) Receipt of letter March 8 from AFHQ
- (b) Making the Sec Matter. - March 18
- (c) Acceptance of letter by PM - March 28

20 days in all.

M. 2 (1/4)

1822

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785077

MSC/5856

11 January 1947

Subject: Dumping of Allied Ammunition from the Port of Venice.

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

1. Reference is made to your signals numbers FX 73434 dated 26 November and FX 73649 dated 10 December 1946 on this subject.

2. The Ministry of Marine has informed the Navy Sub-Commission that the regulations for the loading and unloading of dangerous cargoes in the port of Venice state that these operations are to be carried out in the Treporti zone, where ammunition is brought by means of motor vehicles and boats. For small cargoes (under 30 tons) loading may be carried out, provided proper precautions are taken, from Molo A at Marghera, where facilities exist for the direct loading from quayside to ship.

3. The Ministry of Marine, fully realizing the difficulty presented by the greater length of land transport to Ancona, which is, however, better adapted and equipped for such work, does not object to the use of the port of Venice for ammunition traffic, as indicated in Allied Commission Signal 111240 of December 1946. The necessity is emphasized, however, that at Venice only the Treporti zone should be used for the loading of ammunition, and that at Marghera, should that zone be used, the stay of ships should be as short as possible.

4. This matter was brought to the attention of the Navy Sub-Commission, Allied Commission, by the Italian Ministry of Marine because, it is stated, even though the risk may be reduced to a minimum, the grave consequences of an explosion in the Venice Area in view of the industrial zone of Marghera and the technical, artistic and constructional characteristics of the buildings in Venice, cannot be ignored.

For the Chief Commissioner:

263

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

3642 A
C 67552

131032A DEC

APHQ

GRQ CMF INFO C IN C MED ALCON

DEC 16 1946
H/8519

DEC 141000

ROUTINE

UNCLASSIFIED

Reference our C 67525 of 12 December 1946. For latitude 441 degrees read 41 degrees. Error is regretted.

AC DIST

INFO ACTION : NAVY

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMMISSIONER

FLOAT

FILE

36429

182

• O 67525
DEC 121555A

H/8497
DEC 131215

APHQ

ROUTINE

CHQ CBF CINC MED ALCOM

UNCLASSIFIED:

NP

Your CG 206 of 25 November refers. You are authorized to use the Port of Venice for dumping referred to in your above quoted signal. Such dumping will be carried out in position latitude 44.1, degrees 55 minutes North, longitude 17 degrees 5 minutes East.

See folio 153

AC DIST

INFO ACTION : NAVY

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMM

FILE

FLOAT

261

DEC 13 1946

PA 13
13

[Handwritten signature]
Case 4

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

785017

3642
QVR2

#18480
4980
181
Ex Comm

NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, A.C.

UNCLASSIFIED

APPRO

ALCOM

PRIORITY

CHIEF COMMISSIONER, A.C.

-179

-180

YOUR SIGNALS VI 73634 OF 26 NOVEMBER AND FX 73649 OF
10 DECEMBER REFER X THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS NO
OBJECTION TO THE PROPOSED DUMPING OF AECUMITIC PROVIDING
THAT THE OPERATION IS CARRIED OUT IN POSITION LAT 41
DEGREES 55 MINUTES NORTH, LONGITUDE 17 DEGREES 5 MINUTES
EAST APPROVED BY COMMANDER IN CHIEF MEDITERRANEAN STATION BX

[Handwritten signature]

2030
260
250

[Handwritten signature]

UNCLASSIFIED

J. C. RISK, LIEUT. COMMANDER,
NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, A.C.

111240/Dec.

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

785017

36429

~~334~~
180

FX 73645
DEC.091339A

H/8430
DEC.101030

ROUTINE

AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGEQ
ALCOM INFO: GHQ CMF

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Our FX 73434 of 26 November refers.

As no reply has been received to our above quoted signal it is presumed the Italian government has no objection.

Please confirm.

AC DIST

ACTION INFO
ECON DIV 3
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EX COMM
FILE
FLOAT

See 4104

259

~~RESTRICTED~~

DEC 10 1945

Capt H

259

3642 4

NOV 28 1948

171

FX 73434

H/8138

NOV 27 1000

ROUTINE

AFHQ SIGNED SACHED CITE FPGOT
ALCOM INFO GHQ ONF

g/m

RESTRICTED

YOU ARE REQUESTED TO INFORM THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT THAT WE PROPOSE TO DUMP
INTO THE SEA THROUGH THE PORT OF VESICE A CERTAIN QUANTITY OF SERVICABLE AMMUNITION
AND THAT THIS DUMPING PRESENTS NO GREATER RISK THAN NORMAL SHIPMENT. IT IS ANTICIPATED
THAT DUMPING WILL COME OFF IN EARLY JANUARY.

AC DIST

ACTION : ~~MEMO~~ DIV 3

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMMISSIONER

FILM

SKELTON

See 1/104

257
258

A. M. M.

1/6-11/11

3642 ~~3642~~ 178
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 941.44

19 October 46

SUBJECT: Explosions at Pola - Payment of Indemnity.

TO : Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
APO 794

Reference your 3642/274/EC dated 15 October 1946.

1. The form of reply to be made to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is under consideration.
2. As the question of ultimate liability or even the making of any ex-gratia payment to necessitous cases, can only be decided after consideration of all relevant facts, some time may elapse before a reply can be given.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:


A. L. HAMBLEN
Colonel, U.S.G.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

785017

EX72795

3642

41

H/7351

177

OCT 22 1946

ROUTINE

AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE PHGEG
SCAO VENEZIA GIULIA INFO ALCON ROME

OCT 22 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

NR

Subject is proposed ex-gratia payment to victims on Pola explosion
ref VG/AG/PIN/D/7/NTB dated 11 Oct 46.

Para 1. Before giving ruling recommendation of Scao is required.

Para 2. Do you consider that need for such payment is sufficient to out-
weigh possibility of ex-gratia payment being construed as an admission
of a weak legal position on the question of ultimate liability.

AC DIST

INFO ACTION: LEGAL 2

INFO; CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMMISSIONER

FILE

SKELETON

OCT 22 1946

256

CONFIDENTIAL

JS. 22/10

(J/comp m.m.)

785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A P O 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

File

Ref: 36A2474/80

15 October 1946.

SUBJECT: Explosion at Pola.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
Attn: G-5 Section.

169

1. There is enclosed for your information and any action you may consider necessary a copy of a letter dated 2 October 1946 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the above subject. The letter has been acknowledged.

2. To clarify para 2, there is enclosed a copy of this Commission's letter 36A272/80 dated 15 March 1946 which was based on information received from 13 Corps in reply to this Commission's enquiry regarding the previous explosion at Pola.

36A272/80

For the Chief Commissioner:

S/ M CARR
M. CARR
Deputy,
Executive Commissioner

Encls : as above.

(Copy of memo attached to G-5 memo)

255

PA 3/10/46

Aug 7-178

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 3645/173/20

15 October 1946

Dear Dr. Prunas,

I thank you for your letter No. Segr. Pol. 1392, dated 2nd October 46, addressed to Admiral Stone regarding the explosion at Pola.

This matter has been referred to the appropriate military authorities.

Yours truly,

S/ H. CARR
Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Dr. Renato Prunas
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Italian Government.
A.O.M.H.

254

P.A. 2/10/46

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: EX 72526
 Date/Time of Origin: OCT 061357 A
 Message Centre No: H/7035
 Date/Time Rec'd: OCT 071000 B

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SIGNED CITE FBUEG

TO: 8040 VENEZIA GIULIA, INFO: CHQ ONE ALCON ROME

OCT 7 1946

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

1. ROME daily American for Sunday 6 October 46 carries story that AMG VENEZIA GIULIA accepts responsibility for damages caused by POLA ammunition explosion. Alcom reports no knowledge of such decision. AFHQ is also uninformed. In view of decisions reached at conference with GOC in C 13 Corps, and 8040 VENEZIA GIULIA with AFHQ representatives on Wednesday 18 September assume that report is erroneous and such decision would not be taken without reference to higher authority. Request details of actual situation, and circumstances which led to publication of article.

2. News item also states payments in amount 25,000,000 IN backed by pound sterling and dollars would be made. Suggest you publish denial this statement promptly.

OCT 7 - 1946

AC DIST

INFO ACTION EX COM 2
 INFO CHIEF 253 MISSIONER

INFO - ACTION

P.R.BR

FILE 2

OCT 7 1946

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

1. ROME Daily American for Sunday 6 October 46 carries story that AMG VENEZIA GIULIA accepts responsibility for damages caused by POLA ammunition explosion. Alcom reports no knowledge of such decision. AFHQ is also uninformed. In view of decisions reached at conference with GOC in C 13 Corps, and 3040 VENEZIA GIULIA with AFHQ representatives on Wednesday 18 September assume that report is erroneous and such decision would not be taken without reference to higher authority. Request details of actual situation, and circumstances which led to publication of article.

2. News item also states payments in amount 25,000,000 L backed by pound sterling and dollars would be made. Suggest you publish denial this statement promptly.

OCT 7 - 1946

AC DIST

INFO ACTION EX COM 2
INFO CHIEF 253
P.R.BR
FILED
PLANT

INFO-ACTION

(b)(2)

785017

3642 SR

169

TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
The Secretary General

Rome, 2 October 1946.

Rome, Feb. 1946

Dear Admiral,

The Italian General Confederation of Labor, announcing the misfortune that has visited the city of Pola on 3 August 1946 owing to the explosion of 32 mines which were not duly guarded, has requested that the families be indemnified and has brought to attention that the repetition of incidents of the kind could cause in the localities where depots of war material are kept, serious consequences for the public order.

While informing you of the above and asking you kindly to take the necessary steps with the competent Allied authorities, I remind you in any case that the Allied Commission with letter no. 3642/EC of 12 March 1946 had given full assurance about the measures taken in Pola in order to avoid explosions of war material.

Very truly yours,

/s/ E. Prunas

EC Dist - 5/10/46

Action EC (file 3642/EC)
Lf Polad (A)
" (B)
C. A. Linton

Admiral Ellery W. Spence
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome.

See H-170, 173, F-174

252

PA 15
10
11

(Calc 2)



Ministro degli Affari Esteri

IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE

Roma, li 19 OTT 1942

Sup. Pol. 1392

168

Caro Ammiraglio,

la Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro, nel segnalare la sciagura che si è abbattuta sulla città di Pola l'8 agosto u.s. a causa dell'esplosione di 32 mine non debitamente custodite, ha chiesto che le famiglie vengano indennizzate, ed ha fatto presente che dal ripetersi di incidenti del genere potrebbero derivare nelle località sedi di depositi di materiale bellico gravi conseguenze per l'ordine pubblico.

Nell'informarla di quanto precede con preghiera di voler svolgere presso le competenti autorità alleate i passi del caso, rammento ad ogni buon fine che la Commissione Alleata con sua lettera n.3642/72/EC del 15 marzo u.s. aveva dato ampie assicurazioni circa le misure prese a Pola per evitare esplosioni di materiale bellico.

Caro Ammiraglio

R. Rina

Caro Ammiraglio,

la Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro, nel segnalare la sciagura che si è abbattuta sulla città di Pola l'8 agosto u.s. a causa dell'esplosione di 32 mine non debitamente custodite, ha chiesto che le famiglie vengano indennizzate, ed ha fatto presente che dal ripetersi di incidenti del genere potrebbero derivare nelle località sedi di depositi di materiale bellico gravi conseguenze per l'ordine pubblico.

Nell'informarla di quanto precede con preghiera di voler svolgere presso le competenti autorità alleate i passi del caso, rammento ad ogni buon fine che la Commissione Alleata con sua lettera n.3642/72/SC del 15 marzo u.s. aveva dato ampie assicurazioni circa le misure prese a Pola per evitare esplosioni di materiale bellico.

Caro Ammiraglio

R. Stone

251

All'Ammiraglio Ellery W. STONE
Capo della Commissione Alleata

ROMA

3642
INCOMING MESSAGE

H QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSIONER

Originator's Reference: 0 953

Date / Time of Origin: SEPT 13 1730B

Message Centre No: *W* 6560

Date Time Rec'd: SEPT 14 1045

Precedence:

ROUTINE

FROM: **MAIN 13 COHES**

TO: **ALCOM**

165
UNCLASSIFIED:

Four 4932 dated 12 September refers.

Copies of the court of inquiry will be fed to AFHQ shortly. Most important that no action be taken to prejudice Police investigations now being carried out.

AC DIST

ACTION - EA COMBR 2

INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER

FI CAT 2

FILE

57-250

Page 13 CORRECTIONS

TO : ALCON

ROUTING

UNCLASSIFIED:

Your 4952 dated 12 September refers.

Copies of the court of inquiry will be fwd to AFHQ shortly. Most important that no action be taken to prejudice Police investigations now being carried out.

AC DIST

ACTION - EX OMAR 2

INFO - CHINESE COMMISSIONER

FLCAT 2

FILE

ACTION

250

14 SEP 1946

ASAP

16/9/46
P. H. H.

HQ AIDOM

12 SEP 1950

(1) XIII CORPS MATH

(2) AFHQ FOR G-5 SECTION

4332

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED PD

SUBJECT IS EXPLOSION IN POLA PD. REFERENCE YOUR TELEGRAM DATED NINE ONE
THREE OF FOUR SEPTEMBER AND IN VIEW OF BUREAU STATEMENT NARRATION ON PAGE
YOUR ONE ONE UNION JACK OF ONE TWO SEPTEMBER MAY REPORT REQUESTED NOW
BE FORWARDED PD

COPY TO: G.O.
E.O.
OAS

See 11-165

249

A. W. Kalsely

(1) DIRECTOR
(2) BUREAU
Executive Commissioner

PAID ONE
1st Lt Air Corps
Inst 1836

37

P.A. 12/7/50

See 7-167

164

THIS mines explosion on a beach near Polé, Venezuela Gulf, which killed 62 people, was not accidental, reports 13 Corps.

THIS mines explosion on a beach near Polé, Venezuela Gulf, which killed 62 people, was not accidental, reports 13 Corps.

A statement said "A Court of Inquiry has been held into the explosion, which occurred at Vergarolla, near Pola, on August 18. The court has found that the explosion could not have been accidental, but was caused by the deliberate act of some person or persons unknown. The matter is now in the hands of the police."

Bomb is in the British-American occupied area within the Yugoslav-occupied zone of Venezia Giulia. There is much suspicion among the people whether political motives were involved in the explosion.—Reuters

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 Y
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Ray
 Bill
 Eric
 Lela
 Linda
 Mimi
 Sam
 Tracy
 David
 Susan
 Ted
 3
 Alvin
 Herb
 Peter
 Lou

SOUTHERN ITAL
Including circulation in

Extract from Union fact

Valid 12 Sept 46.

785017

Ex. Comm. ³⁶⁴² P.

163

TRANSLATION

SEP 1946

ITALIAN GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOR

Secretariat General

Rome, 9 September 1946.

File Nr 16026/46/TO

SUBJECT: Mines explosion in the city of Pola

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

This Secretariat has received the letter Nr 3642/146/EC of 29 August 1946 which gives the assurance that an inquest is being made by the competent Military Authorities in order to ascertain the causes of the recent explosion of mines on the beach of Pola, which has caused about a hundred victims. ¹⁴⁶

While sincerely thanking for such assurance, this Secretariat takes the liberty to draw your attention to the other requests made in the letter Nr 16170/46 of 29 August last, and namely that you kindly give orders that efficient precautional steps be taken in order to prevent the repetition of similar unlucky events and that the Allied Authorities kindly provide for an adequate payment of damages to the families of the victims. ¹⁴⁵

Trusting that you will kindly take into serious consideration also these points of our previous requests, we remain

Respectfully yours

THE SECRETARIAT

/s/ G. Di Vittorio

/s/ A. Chieri

/s/ E. Rapelli

EC 146-4/9/46

Adm. E C (fa 3642/EC)

Adm. Polad (A)

Adm. (B)

Adm. (C)

247

FA 12/9
H. R.

162

CONFEDERAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA DEL LAVORO

AGENTI ALBA

FEDERAZIONE SINDACATI MONDIALI

SEGRETERIA GENERALE

no. 16026/16/IV

occor. Esplosione mine
città Pola

Roma, 9 Settembre 1946

114.540.000.000, 19
10.000.000.000, 2.3.4

Ammiraglio
Ellery M. STONE

Capo della Commissione Alleata in Italia

R O M A

=====

Questa Segreteria Confederale ha ricevuto la lettera n° 3642/145/20 del 29 agosto u.s. nella quale viene data assicurazione che da parte delle Autorità militari competenti si stanno svolgendo le indagini per appurare le cause del recente scoppio di mine sulla spiaggia di Pola, che ha causato un centinaio di vittime.

Mentre si ringrazia vivamente per tale assicurazione, questa Segreteria Confederale si permette di attirare l'attenzione della S.V. sulle ulteriori preghiere espresse nella lettera n° 15170/16 del 22 agosto u.s., e precisamente sul desiderio che la S.V. voglia disporre perché siano prese efficaci misure precauzionali atte ad impedire il ripetersi di simili sciagure, e la sicurezza che le Autorità Alleate vorranno provvedere ad un adeguato risarcimento di danni verso le famiglie delle vittime.

Fiduciosi che la S.V. vorrà prendere in seria considerazione anche questi punti delle nostre precedenti richieste, salutiamo con distinta stima.

LA SEGRETERIA



Ed. Vittoria
246

ELLERY M. STONE

Capo della Commissione Alleata in Italia

R O M A

=====

Questa Segreteria Confederale ha ricevuto la lettera n° 3642/146/SC del 29 agosto u.s. nella quale viene data assicurazione che da parte delle Autorità Militari competenti si stanno svolgendo le indagini per appurare le cause del recente scoppio di mine sulla spiaggia di Pola, che ha causato un centinaio di vittime.

Mentre si ringrazia vivamente per tale assicurazione, questa Segreteria Confederale si permette di attirare l'attenzione della S.V. sulle ulteriori preghiere espresse nella lettera n° 15176/46 del 22 agosto u.s., e precisamente sul desiderio che la S.V. voglia disporre perché siano prese efficaci misure precauzionali atte ad impedire il ripetersi di simili sciagure, e la sicurezza che le Autorità Alleate vorranno provvedere ad un adeguato risarcimento di danni verso le famiglie delle vittime.

Fiduciosi che la S.V. vorrà prendere in seria considerazione anche questi punti delle nostre precedenti richieste, salutiamo con distinta stima.



LA SEGRETERIA

Ed. Victoria
Allegato 2.16

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

161

File

Ref: 342/154/23

11 September 1946

Subject: Explosion in FUL

To: A.F.H.Q.
G-5 Section

1. I refer to my 342/154/23 dated 29th August 1946 and enclose copy of telegram from XII Corps in reply to my request to XII Corps for a report. I think it is important that a report be made to the COM and other Italian authorities who are making enquiries.

2. Will you take such action as you think fit?

M 8 1034

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

245

245
10

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMIS IN

Originator's Reference: 0 913

Date/Time of Origin: SEPT. 04 1245Z

Message Centre No: 4/6304

Date Time Rec'd: SEPT. 05 1000Z

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: MAIN 13 CORPS

TO: ALCOM INFO AMG 13 CORPS (BY HAND)

RESTRICTED.

Ref your 3642/148/EC EAT dated 29 Aug.

1. Please refer to this HQ letter 5805/G dated 27 August 46.
 2. Full and detailed military and civil enquiries are in progress.
- Consider not desirable to prejudge their investigations.

AC DIST

ACTION INFO

EX COMR 2

CHIEF COMMISSIONER

FILE

PLANT 2

C. A. Section

244

ACTION

ADQUAT

FROM: MAIN 13 CORPS

TO : ALCOM INFO AND 13 CORPS (BY HAND)

RESTRICTED.

Ref your 3642/148/EC HIR dated 29 Aug.

1. Please refer to this HQ letter 6805/9 dated 29 August 45.
 2. Full and detailed military and civil enquiries are in progress.
- Consider not desirable to prejudge their investigations.

AC DIST

ACTION EX COMM 2
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE
FLOAT 2
C.A. Section

244

ACTION

HEADQUARTERS
213
5 SEP 1946

Box m-159 - 8161

A. C.

(Capt H)

PA 11-1-66

3802 40

155

Translation

COMUNE DI POLA

SEP 3

I/7581/45

22 August 1946

TO : Admiral Stone,
Rome.

I feel it my duty to forward you the attached
resolution voted on by the Communal Council as a result of the ter-
rible injuries caused by the explosion of a group of mines in
the Vergarolla area.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMUNE

(Giorgio Dagri)

E.C. Dist. 3 Sept.

Action - E.C. (file 3642)
Info - C.C.
C.A. Sec.

See m-156

243

(Copy K)

P.A. 4/9/46

4 D.

MINUTESTranslation

On the 19 Aug 46 the Communal Council met to examine the circumstances of the tragic explosion of a group of mines left unguarded near the beach of Vergarolla.

The Chairman of the Area gave regular authorization for the holding of this extraordinary meeting.

The meeting began at 18.10 hrs.

Those present were: the President of the Comune, Prof. Giorgio D'ACCI; the President of the Council, Ing. Nicolo' GALLIPI in addition to the members: ARRETTI Ernesto, Rag. Emilio VASCO, Dott. Vittorio RUDA, GIACCHETTI Francesco, SEPIETI Ruggiero, RINCHIO Angelo, Ing. MARTINELLI Bruno and DECELA Franco. The substitutes ARRETTI Giuseppe, MESTRADI Enrico and BELLAZ Attilio were also present.

The Communal Secretary PALIN Ottavio assisted.

The report of the President and of the individual Councillors was heard from which it appears that the principal cause of the terrible incident was due to the absence of any supervision or other precautionary measures destined to foresee and prevent the presence of unauthorized persons near the dangerous war explosives. It was also established, from an examination of the relative files, that as far back as last October the Communal Administration had drawn the attention of the Allied Authorities to the responsibility attaching to them for the presence of so much unguarded explosive material and had requested them several times to take adequate measures. The Council at the conclusion of the discussion unanimously approved the despatch of the following order of the day for the necessary measures, to the Supreme Commander of the Mediterranean, to Admiral Stone, to the Command of the 13 Corps, to Col. Bowman and to the Area Commander Col. Crawford.

"The Communal Council met on the 19 August 1946 to hear the report of the new and terrible tragedy which, as a result of the explosion of mines on the beach of Vergarolla, has caused mourning and ruin to many families.

They associate themselves with the deep distress which is felt by the city and express their profound sympathy to the families who are enduring such anguish of spirit.

In front of such a spectacle of pain and death, they wish to make an indignant protest against the guilty carelessness of 282 who, although knowing of the existence and extreme danger of 282 terrible war material, did not take any precautionary measures to prevent the accident, notwithstanding that the dangers had been pointed out to them by this Communal Administration who had made several requests

to them by this Communal Administration who had made several requests

The Comunal Secretary FALLEN OTTAVIO assisted.

The report of the President and of the individual councillors was heard from which it appears that the principal cause of the terrible incident was due to the absence of any supervision or other precautionary measures destined to foresee and prevent the presence of unauthorized persons near the dangerous war explosives. It was also established, from an examination of the relative files, that as far back as last October the Comunal Administration had drawn the attention of the Allied Authorities to the responsibility attaching to them for the presence of so much unguarded explosive material and had requested them several times to take adequate measures. The Council at the conclusion of the discussion unanimously approved the despatch of the following order of the day for the necessary measures, to the Supreme Commander of the Mediterranean, to Admiral Stone, to the Command of the 13 Corps, to Col. Bowman and to the Area Commander Col. Glywood.

"The Comunal Council met on the 19 August 1945 to hear the report of the new and terrible tragedy which, as a result of the explosion of mines on the beach of Vergarolla, has caused mourning and ruin to many families.

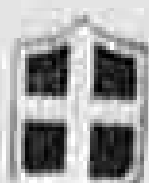
They associate themselves with the deep distress which is felt by the city and express their profound sympathy to the families who are enduring such anguish of spirit.
In front of such a spectacle of pain and death, they wish to make an indignant protest against the guilty carelessness of 212 who, although knowing of the existence and extreme danger of 442 war material, did not take any precautionary measures to prevent the accident, notwithstanding that the dangers had been pointed out to them by this Comunal Administration who had made several requests for adequate measures and had received written assurances from A.M.G. They request the Government Authorities, whose duty it is to keep order and discipline and see to the welfare of the people, to find out the persons responsible for this last and greater misfortune, in order that those guilty do not avoid just punishment.
They request their precise and categorical request for immediate measures to be taken for the removal of any other such dangerous war material, at the same time adopting all necessary measures by which the property of the citizens be safeguarded."

The meeting ended at 20.40.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
(Signature)

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
(Signature)

THE SECRETARY
(Signature)
Signature



COMUNE DI POLA

Ripartizione I°

Numero di Protocollo 7581/46

Pola, li 22 agosto 1946

Risposta a Nota N.º

OGGETTO:

All'Ammiraglio STONE

R O M A

Mi faccio un dovere di rimettere alla S.V. l'allegata risoluzione votata dal Consiglio Comunale a seguito della terribile strage provocata dall'esplosione di un gruppo di mine in località Vergarolla.-

Distintamente.-

Il Presidente del Comune :
(Giorgio Dagri)



PROCESO VERBALE

L'anno millenovecentotrentasei il giorno 19 agosto si è radunato il Consiglio Comunale per esaminare le circostanze del tragico scoppio di un gruppo di mine lasciate in custodia nei pressi della spiaggia di Vergarolla.

La convocazione della seduta straordinaria è stata regolarmente autorizzata dal Sig. Commissario di Zona.

La seduta ha inizio alle ore 18.10.

Sono presenti: Il Presidente del Comune Prof. Giorgio Da Gri. Il Presidente del Consiglio Ing. Nicolò Califfi nonché i membri: Argentini Ernesto; rag. Emilio Vasso; dott. Vittorio Fonda; Giacomelli Francesco; Setetich Remigio, Rinaldo Angelo, Ing. Martinelli Bruno e Deleva Franco. Sono pure presenti i sostituti Bronzin Giuseppe, Destradi Enrico e Ballaz Attilio.

Assiste il Segretario del Comune, Palin Ottavio.

Udita la relazione del Presidente e dei singoli Consigliari, dalle quali è emersa la causa prima della terribile sciagura nell'assenza d'ogni vigilanza o altra misura di cautela atta a prevenire e impedire la presenza di tanti ignari cittadini presso i micidiali ordigni bellici, è stabilito altresì, dall'esame delle relative pratiche, che l'Amministrazione Comunale aveva fin dal mese di ottobre dello scorso anno richiamate le Autorità Alleate alla responsabilità che loro derivava per l'incustodita presenza di tanto materiale esplosivo, sollecitando in tale senso a più riprese adeguati provvedimenti, il Consiglio, a conclusione della discussione che ne era derivata, approvava a unanimità il seguente ordine del giorno e il suo inoltro, per i dovuti provvedimenti al Comandante Supremo del Mediterraneo, all'Ammiraglio Stone, al Comandante del 13° Corpo, al Colonnello Bowman e all'Area Commissioner Col. Orpwood.

" Il Consiglio Comunale, radunatosi d'urgenza il giorno 19 agosto 1946 per udire la relazione sulla nuova, terrificante sciagura che, a seguito dello scoppio di mine verificatosi sulla spiaggia di Vergarolla, ha seminato lutti e rovina in tante famiglie,

si associa commosso al profondo cordoglio che opprime la città e manifesta alle famiglie gettate nella disperazione il sentimento di fraterna partecipazione al loro dolore,

Sono presenti: Il Presidente del Comune Prof. Giorgio Da
Gri. Il Presidente del Consiglio Ing. Niccolò Califfi nonché i mem-
bri: Argentini Ernesto; rag. Emilio Vesco; dott. Vittorio Ponda;
Giacomelli Francesco; Sepetich Remigio, Raimondo Angelo, Ing. Mar-
tinelli Bruno e Declava Franco. Sono pure presenti i sostituti
Bronzin Giuseppe, Destradi Enrico e Ballar Attilio.

Assiste il Segretario del Comune, Falin Ottavio.

Udita la relazione del Presidente e dei singoli Consigli-
eri, dalle quali è emersa la causa prima della terribile sciagura
nell'assenza d'ogni vigilanza o altra misura di cautela atta a
prevenire e impedire la presenza di tanti ignari cittadini pres-
so i micidiali ordigni bellici, e stabilito altresì, dall'esame
delle relative pratiche, che l'Amministrazione Comunale aveva fin
dal mese di ottobre dello scorso anno richiamate le Autorità Al-
leate alla responsabilità che loro derivava per l'incustodita
presenza di tanto materiale esplosivo, sollecitando in tale sen-
so a più riprese adeguati provvedimenti, il Consiglio, a conclu-
sione della discussione che ne era derivata, approvava a unanimi-
tà il seguente ordine del giorno e il suo incitamento, per i dovuti
provvedimenti al Comandante Supremo del Mediterraneo, all'Ammi-
raglio Stone, al Comando del 13° Corpo, al Colonnello Bownann e
all'Area Commissioner Col. Orwood.

" Il Consiglio Comunale, riunitosi d'urgenza il giorno 19 ago-
sto 1946 per udire la relazione sulla nuova, terrificante
sciagura che, a seguito dello scoppio di mine verificatosi
sulla spiaggia di Vergarolla, ha seminato lutti e rovina in
tante famiglie,

si associa commosso al profondo cordoglio che opprime la ci-
tà e manifesta alle famiglie gettate nella disperazione il
sentimento di fraterna partecipazione al loro dolore,
esprime, di fronte a tanto spettacolo di strazio e di morte,
un'indignata protesta per la colposa incoscienza di chi, pur
conoscendo l'esistenza e l'estrema pericolosità dei terribi-
li residuati bellici, non provvede a disporre alcuna misura di
cautela atta a prevenire la strage, benché ripetutamente que-

sta Amministrazione Comunale ne avesse segnalati i pericoli e richiesti solleciti provvedimenti e nonostante le assicurazioni scritte del G.M.A.,

invita l'Autorità di Governo, cui incombe il dovere di assicurare l'ordine, la disciplina e l'incolumità dei cittadini, a stabilire le responsabilità di questa ultima più grande sventura onde i colpevoli non si sottraggano alla giusta espiazione,

rinnova, il preciso, categorico invito di provvedere immediatamente alla rimozione di qualunque altra residua minaccia del genere, disponendo nel contempo l'adozione di tutti quei provvedimenti per cui la vita e le proprietà dei cittadini siano salvaguardate "w."

La seduta è stata tolta alle ore 20,40.-

IL PRESIDENTE DEL CONSIGLIO:

Califfi



IL SEGRETARIO:

Rever

IL PRESIDENTE DEL COMUNE:

Perf

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

785017

239

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

148

File

29 August 1946

Ref. : 362/148/40

SUBJECT: Explosion at POLA.

TO : HQAO
13 Corps.

1. I enclose for your information a translated copy of letter no. 15170 dated 22 August 1946 from the Secretary of the General Confederation of Italian Workers to the Allied Commission.
2. Will you please forward a full report on the explosion to this HQ without delay.

THE COMMANDER OF HEAD ARCADE, STONE

W. S. LUSH
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to: CA Section

238

See Memo 148 150 151

P.A.
28
H.S. 28

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

File 142

Ref. : 342/147/33

29 August 1946

SUBJECT: Explosion in P.S.A.

TO : G-5 Section,
ANSA.

145

I enclose for your information a translated copy of letter no. 13175 dated 28 August 1946 from the Secretary of the General Confederation of Italian Workers to the Allied Commission.

I promise that a court of inquiry will be held and would appreciate a sight of the proceedings when they have been confirmed.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

M. E. LUSH

Brigadier,
Executive Commission.

Encls. as above.

Copy to: GA Section.

237

See also 429 1502 (5) - 4101

PA
30/8
31/8

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

146

File

Ref.: 3642/146/20

10 August 1946

Dear Sir,

145

I have to thank you for your letter no. 15170 regarding the most unfortunate explosion that occurred recently in Pola

This matter has been referred to the appropriate military authorities who are making an investigation as to the cause of the accident.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

236

To the Secretary,
Confederazione Generale
Italiana del Lavoro,
Via Boncompagni, 19,
Rome.

20 Aug 1946 235

P.A.
11/8

Translation

CONFEDERAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA DEL LAVORO

AUG 27 1946

No. 15170

Rome, 22 August 1946.

We have received a telegraphic report from the Camera Confederale del Lavoro of Pola regarding the misfortune which has happened to the population because of the explosion of 32 mines that were collected by Allied Authorities and left unguarded on the beach of Pola, misfortune that has made several hundreds of victims and that continues the chain of similar misfortunes happened at Torre Annunziata, Acerra and other localities, and that were caused by the same carelessness.

As the interpreter of the natural feeling of indignation of the population of Pola and of the whole of Italy, for the continuous dangers menacing the safety of peaceful citizens, this Confederazione begs you to order that an inquiry be made to determine the causes of the explosion and sentence the proper punishment to the responsible people.

Meanwhile we beg your excellency to dispose so that efficient precautions be taken in order that such misfortunes shall not happen again.

Moreover this Confederazione trusts that the Allied Authorities will provide for the granting of an adequate indemnity to the families of the victims.

Hoping that you will kindly consider this request, we beg to remain,

Yours faithfully

THE SECRETARY
/s/.....

To : Admiral Ellery V. STONE
Chief Commissioner, A.C.
R O M E

235

CONFERENZA GENERALE ITALIANA DEL LAVORO

ADRIANO 4312

FEDERAZIONE SINDACALE MONDIALE

SECRETARIA GENERALE

15470 DV/mbp

OGGETTO

Regione mine
Città di Pola

Roma, li

22

AGOSTO

1945

VIA ROMANOVNA 12
TEL. 48131-2-3-4

Ammiraglio
Sir Harry W. STONE
Capo della Commissione Alleata in Italia

R O M A

Questa Segreteria Confederale ha ricevuto un rapporto telegrafico dalla Camera Confederale del Lavoro di Pola, sulla scia di Pola; scindere che ha fatto un centinaio di vittime e che contiene la difesa di sciagura unanime, provocata dalla stessa incuria, e forte anarchica, ed ancora, ed in altro io-
sull'.

Ritardando l'intervento del materiale necessario di indi-
cazione della popolazione di Pola e di tutta l'Italia, per i
piccoli uomini a cui è schiacciata l'eccezione di pacifini
cittadini, questa Segreteria Confederale pressa la S.V. di voler
disporre una indicazione esente lo scopo di determinare la causa
dell'esplosione e di inflettere una indicazione esente di es-
senti.

In pari tempo preghiamo la S.V. di voler disporre per-
chi siano presi efficaci misure precauzionali, alle di impedire
il ripetersi di simili sciagure.

Questa Segreteria Confederale confida inoltre che la autori-
tà alleata vorranno provvedere ad un adeguato risarcimento dei dan-
ni alle famiglie delle vittime.

Amiraglio

Miley W. Stone

Capo della Commissione Alleata in Italia

R O S A

Questa Segreteria Confederale ha ricevuto in risposta telegrammi dalla Camera Confederale del lavoro di Pola, sulla scia di cui si è abbattuta su quella popolazione in seguito all'espulsione di ben tredici mila che erano state raccolte a cura delle Autorità Alleate e lasciate incustodite sulla spiaggia di Pola; si aggiunga che ha inteso un centinaio di vittime e che continue la ostilità di sciagure analoghe, provocate dalla stessa incuria, e forse aumentate, ed ancora, ed in altre località.

Ritornando all'interpretazione del naturale sentimento di indifferenza della popolazione di Pola e di tutta l'Istria, per i pericoli continui a cui è sottoposta l'insalubrità di pacifici cittadini, questa Segreteria Confederale pensa che la S.V. di voler disporre una pronta azione lo scopo di determinare le cause dell'espulsione e di suffragare una soluzione equitativa di equazione.

In quel tempo, quando la S.V. di voler disporre dove siano prese efficaci misure preventivamente, si è adattare il rispetto di simili sciagure.

Questa Segreteria Confederale confida inoltre che la Autorità Alleata vorranno provvedere ad un adeguato risarcimento dei danni alle famiglie della vittima.

Più ancora che la S.V. vorrà prendere in seria considerazione la presente richiesta, salutiamo con distinta stima.

234

INTELLIGENZA

G. V. Vittoria

F. M. B. B.

File
143

Ref. : 3642/14/32.

1 July 1946.

SUBJECT: Ammunition Explosion - WSA.

TO : CIG Office
A.S.D.

140

Receipt of your letter No. 380/253 of 25 June enclosing copy of the proceedings of a Court of Enquiry regarding the explosion at WSA on 5 April 1946 is acknowledged with thanks.

The proceedings are returned as requested.

For the Chief Commissioner:

A. W. Amey

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encl. As above.

233

PA
1/72

785017

8777

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

C.A.O. Office

Ex Comm 140

CAO/233

MEMORANDUM FOR : HQ, Allied Commission

SUBJECT : Explosion at 16 B.A.D., HOLA

121

Reference your 3642/EC of 19 Apr 46 and 3642/132/EC of 6 May 46.

1. ¹³² The Court of Enquiry proceedings relating to the explosion at 16 B.A.D. on 5 Apr 46 are forwarded for your attention. May they please be returned when they have been seen.
2. The ammunition stacked at HOLA is now no longer a British military responsibility as it has been taken over by ARAB for breaking down.
3. The delay in answering your letters is regretted.

R. Hilbert

A.R. HILBERT,
Staff Captain,
CAO Section.

26 June 46

AHH/mm

Enc: Court of Enquiry proceedings.

See M-191-2 - 71K3

232

2
(last K)

952

3642
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 794

21 May 1946

ES/6 05

120

MAY 1946

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

I refer to your letter, dated 15 April 1946, No. 60956/56032/19.10, subject, Sinking of Allied Ammunition, in which you approved the use of the ports of Ancona and Brindisi for the dumping of allied ammunition into the sea, provided certain precautionary measures were taken by the Allies to safeguard lives and nearby property.

The Supreme Allied Commander has authorized me to assure you that the precautionary measures desired by the Italian Government at the ports of Ancona, Brindisi and Bari will be strictly adhered to.

Very truly yours,

Is/ Elmer V. Stone

ELMER V. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Doctor Alcide De Gasperi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

Copy to J5 Sec AFHQ

134 refers

231

230

30/5/46

Transmission

IN : The Ministry of the Interior,
Directorate General of P.S.

Copy to : R. Prefecture, Rome

" : Colonel Millonise "

26 MAY 1946
MAY 25 1946
No. 1000 II

Various Rome newspapers in publishing this morning an account of the disaster yesterday in the Strozzi Palace at Harvard establishment, state that according to the direction of the premises, the explosion could have been caused by advance in the location and said to have recently received threatening letters demanding the dismissal of certain elements employed in the powder factory who were considered undesirable and threatening to blow up the establishment if measures were not taken to substitute the men in question.

These newspaper reports are incorrect as from investigations carried out on the spot up to the present, it has not been possible to ascertain whether there was foul play or not.

The Guard CIVILIANI Amaldi and the watchmen MARMI Paolo state that the first explosion took place at 8.35 hrs yesterday in the "Trasverette" No. 526 which contained grenade cartridges recovered from Battlefields and deposited there during the period 12 Feb - 14 May of this year. Six other explosions followed in the "Trasverette" No. 522, 534, 535, 536, 537 and in the store 534. This last contained exclusively TNT, while the "Trasverette" contained Italian, German and American artillery shells picked up in the battle areas and stored there without vigilance.

It is not to be ruled out that the explosion which took place in the "Trasverette" 526 - seeing that the two watchmen were at about 20 metres from it - could have been caused by self-ignition of the explosives of which the various shells were made.

The director of the establishment, Ing. STACCHI, however, insists that the explosion was caused by foul play seeing that the explosion took place almost contemporarily.

As this last hypothesis could lend itself to speculations of an economic and political character, I have requested that the special commission for explosives of your Ministry should immediately visit the scene before attempts could be made to modify or alter things with a view to deviating the course of the enquiry.

Up to the present there are five dead and about 40 wounded. Material damage amounts to several millions. You will be kept informed of the results of further investigations.

Various news newspapers in obtaining this morning an account of the disaster yesterday in the Hacienda a field at Alvala established, state that according to the direction of the premises, the explosion could have been caused by sabotage as the direction was said to have recently received threatening letters demanding the dismissal of certain elements employed in the powder factory who were considered undesirable and threatening to blow up the establishment if measures were not taken to admit to the men in question.

These newspaper reports are incorrect as from investigations carried out on the spot up to the present, it has not been possible to ascertain whether there was foul play or not.

The guard GUERRERO ARVALDO and the watchman I. M. J. Paula state that the first explosion took place at 9.35 hrs yesterday in the "caserete" No. 506 which contained granade cartridges recovered from Battlefields and deposited there during the period 12 Feb - 14 May of this year. Six other explosions followed in the "caserete" No. 530, 531, 535, 536, 537 and in the store 538. This last contained exclusively TNT, which the "caserete" contained Stollen, German and American artillery shells picked up in the battle areas and stored there without priority.

It is not to be ruled out that the explosion which took place in the "caserete" No. 506 - seeing that the two $\frac{1}{2}$ m watches were at about 20 metres from it - could have been caused by self-ignition of the explosives of which the various shells were made.

The Director of the establishment, ING. SMO HILL, however, maintains that the explosion was caused by foul play seeing that the explosion took place almost exclusively.

In this last hypothesis could lend itself to speculations of an economic and political character, I have requested that the special commission for explosion of your Ministry should immediately visit the scene before attempts could be made to modify or alter things with a view to deviating the course of the enquiry.

Up to the present there are five dead and about 40 injured.

Material damage amounts to several millions.

You will be kept informed of the results of further investigations.

THE DIRECTOR
Sgt. (Ciro Verdugo)

by EC
250
255.

EC 25 May

AX COMM

CHIEF COMM

PR 10

CA see for MS 4/c

PA

of the disaster yesterday in the Stachurski Road at Rivoli establishment, state that according to the direction of the premises, the explosion could have been caused by sabotage as the direction was said to have recently received threatening letters demanding the dismissal of certain elements employed in the factory facility who were considered undesirable and threats ending to blow up the establishment if measures were not taken to rehabilitate the men in question.

These newspaper reports are inexact as from investigations carried out on the spot by the present, it has not been possible to ascertain whether there was foul play or not.

The guard DIVISIONALI Arnold and the watchman L. BERT Pardo state that the first explosion took place at 9.35 am yesterday in the 'trimer-vette' no. 506 which contained grenade cartridges received from Battle Field and deposited there during the period 12 Feb - 14 May of this year. Six other explosions followed in the 'trimer-vette' no. 532, 534, 535, 536, 507 and in the store 508. This last contained exclusively 500, while the 'trimer-vette' contained Italian, German and American artillery shells picked up in the battle areas and stored there without primers.

It is not to be ruled out that the explosion which took place in the 'trimer-vette' 506 - seeing that the two 400 m. watchmen were at about 20 metres from it - could have been caused by self-ignition of the magazines of which the various shells were made.

The director of the establishment, Ing. BRACCHI, however, maintains that the explosion was caused by foul play seeing that the explosion took place almost contemporarily.

As this last hypothesis could lead itself to speculations of an economic and political character, I have requested that the special commission for explosives of your Ministry should immediately visit the scene before attempts could be made to modify or alter things with a view to deviating the course of the enquiry.

Up to the present there are five dead and about 40 wounded.

Material damage amounts to several millions.

You will be kept informed of the results of further investigations.

230

THE (UNRECORDED)
Sgd. (Gino Verdiani)

seen by EC
& 650
25/5.

EC 210-25 May

EX COMM

CHIEF COMM

PROR

C.A. for P.S. 5/c

A

2/

(ART X)

785017

ALLIED COMMISSION

PUBLIC SAFETY LIAISON OFFICE
R. A. A. C. QUESTURA VIA SAN VITALE
TEL 478803

URGENT

Ref. PSL₁ A9

Rome, 28th May 1940

To: EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER
ACHQ.

FOR YOUR

- ✓ Information *please*
- Perusal & Return, please
- Necessary action, please
- Investigation & Report, please
- Onward transmission

REMARKS

see 137



R. Y. Milhouse
FOR LT. COL.
R. Y. MILHOUSE, L. O.

229



REGIA QUESTURA DI ROMA

N° 1000 II°

Roma, li 24 maggio 1945.

O G G E T T O: Scoppio allo stabilimento Stacchini a Bagni di Tivoli.

AL MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO
Direzione Generale della P.S.

ALLA R. P R E F E T T U R A

AL SIG. COLONNELLO MILLHOUSE

R O M A

Varî quotidiani della Capitale, nel pubblicare questa mane la notizia del disastro verificatosi ieri agli stabilimenti Stacchini a Bagni di Tivoli, riferiscono che, secondo la Direzione dello stabilimento stesso, potrebbe essere stato determinato anche da atti di sabotaggio in quanto recentemente la Direzione avrebbe ricevuto delle lettere minatorie in cui si chiedeva la rimozione di alcuni elementi addetti al polverificio ritenuti indesiderabili, minacciando di far saltare in aria lo stabilimento stesso qualora non fossero stati presi opportuni provvedimenti in merito alla sostituzione di detti elementi.

Le notizie riportate dai giornali sono da ritenersi inesatte in quanto dalle indagini finora esperite sul posto non è stato possibile accertare se vi sia o meno dolo.

Il guardiano Giovannozzi Arnaldo ed il sorvegliante Loretì Paolo ri-

firmano che lo scontro ha avuto inizio alle ore 9.15 di ieri della

228

AL SIG. COLONNELLO MILHOUSE

R O M A

Varî quotidiani della Capitale, nel pubblicare questa mane la notizia del disastro verificatosi ieri agli stabilimenti Stacchini a Ba-
gni di Tivoli, riferiscono che, secondo la Direzione dello stabilimen-
to stesso, ^{lo scoppio} potrebbe essere stato determinato anche da atti di sabotag-
gio in quanto recentemente la Direzione avrebbe ricevuto delle lette-
re minatorie in cui si chiedeva la rimozione di alcuni elementi addet-
ti al polverificio ritenuti indesiderabili, minacciando di far saltare
in aria lo stabilimento stesso qualora non fossero stati presi oppor-
tuni provvedimenti in merito alla sostituzione di detti elementi.

Le notizie riportate dai giornali sono da ritenersi inesatte in quan-
to dalle indagini finora esperite sul posto non è stato possibile ac-
certare se vi sia o meno dolo.

228

Il guardiano Giovannozzi Arnaldo ed il sorvegliante Loretì Paolo ri-
feriscono che lo scoppio ha avuto inizio alle ore 9,35 di ieri dalla
riservetta n°526 che conteneva cartocci-granata recuperate nei caspi
di battaglia ed ivi depositate nel periodo 12 febbraio-14 maggio cor-
rente anno. Dopo il primo scoppio ne seguirono immediatamente altri
sei nelle riservette n°532, 534, 535, 536, 537 e nel deposito 524.
Quest'ultimo conteneva esclusivamente cassette di tritolo, mentre le ri-
servette contenevano proiettili di artiglieria di fabbricazione italia-
na, tedesca ed americana, recuperati nelle zone di battaglia ed ivi
ammassati senza innesco.

Non è da escludere che lo scoppio verificatosi nella riservetta 526,

1.1

dato che si è verificato mentre i due sorveglianti suindicati si trovavano a circa 20 metri da essa, possa essere stato determinato da autoaccensione del materiale esplosivo di cui erano composti i vari proiettili.

Il Direttore dello stabilimento, Ing. Stacchini, afferma, invece, che lo scoppio è da ritenersi doloso in quanto le esplosioni si verificarono quasi contemporaneamente.

Comunque, poichè quest'ultima ipotesi potrebbe prestarsi a speculazioni di carattere economico e politico, ho già richiesto che l'apposita commissione per gli esplosivi di codesto Ministero provveda di urgenza al sopralluogo prima che si tenti di apportare modifiche o alterazioni dirette a deviare il corso delle indagini.

Si lamentano per ora cinque morti e circa 40 feriti.

Danni materiali ascenderebbero a vari milioni.

Si fa riserva di riferire l'esito delle ulteriori indagini.--

~~IL QUESTORE~~

(Ciro Verdiani)

Verdiani

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 471.

18 May 1946

MAY 20 1946

SUBJECT: Dumping of Ammunition through the
Ports of ANCONA, MISLETTA and
MARITTA.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission,
APO 394.

1. Reference the letter No. 66956/58024.2/19.10 of
15 April 1946 from the office of the President of the Coun-
cil of Ministers, forwarded with your letter AC/650/Tr.1 of
23 April 1946.

2. You may assure the President of the Council of Minis-
ters that the precautionary measures desired by the Italian
Government will be adhered to.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

ALH
A. L. HAMBIEN
Brigadier General, OSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Copies to: 'G'
C (Mov).
AHC.

227

EC DIST - 20 May

ACTION - ECON SEC
INFO - EC

see 139

9
H.S. 20/5 -
(LSC) - (CAPT K)

M
8
21/5

132

Ref. : 3642/132/80

6. May 1946.

SUBJECT: Ammunition Depots in HAPLES Area.

TO : GEN (MIA), GEP.

Referring to my letter No. 3642/80 of 19 April 1946, if the Court of Inquiry on the explosion at HOLA has been completed, I should be pleased to learn the result and if possible, be informed when the ammunition stacked in that area will be cleared.

For the Chief Commissioner

M. S. GOSH

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

*Spoke to 9th B. Sec to 133.
He would advise the
Gen. Sec. the
result of the report 6/6
DGP*

225

See 7-140 226

Ext. 482

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation and Shipping Branch

WP3/vr

AO/650/Tn.1

23 April 1946.

APR 24 1946

Subject : Use of Ports of Ancona and Molfetta
for Dumping Allied Ammunition.

To : G-5, AFHQ.,
Caserta, Italy.

1. There are attached two copies of translation of letter N°56956/56024.2/19.10 dated 15 April 1946, subject, The Sinking of the Allied Munitions, from the President of the Council of Ministers, Italian Government, authorizing the use of the ports of Ancona and Molfetta for the dumping of Allied ammunition into the sea.

2. It is requested that information be furnished this headquarters as to whether the precautionary measures as desired by the Italian Government will be adhered to.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner :

WALTER P. COGGINS
Lt. Colonel, G-5
Director.

225

785017

PL 64980
APRIL 1946

362

Ev. Comm.

H/2212
APRIL 2009003
PRIORITY

129

MTCOSA STAINED CONFIRMED

AGTAR SITE HANDS

INFO: PMS NAFED RAC W/O OFIC ALCOM

CONFIDENTIAL.

CONFIDENTIAL
APR 23 1946

AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED FOR DISPOSAL OF ALL GROUND FORCE AMMUNITION, APPROXIMATELY 30,000 TONS PREVIOUSLY COLLECTED FOR DUMPING AT SEA, TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT UNDER AGREEMENT WHEREBY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE OVER THE SAFEGUARDING OF DUMPS AND THE DEMILITARIZATION OF THE AMMUNITION IN ARIAS SPECIFIED TIME (3 TO 4 MONTHS) UNDER THE SUPERVISANCE OF QUALIFIED U S MILITARY PERSONNEL. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES INDICATE THE GOVERNMENT'S WILLINGNESS TO UNDERTAKE THIS TRANSACTION PROVIDED MATERIALS OBTAINED FROM DEMILITARIZATION ARE FURNISHED THE GOVERNMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION WITHOUT COST. THIS COURSE OF ACTION IS RECOMMENDED IN VIEW OF THE SLOW AND COSTLY OPERATION NOW UNDERWAY OF DUMPING THIS AMMUNITION AT SEA IN ACCORDANCE WITH W D LITTON ACT--S 100.7 (17 SEPTEMBER 45) SPORE DATED 18 SEPTEMBER 45 WHICH RECOMMENDS EMPLOYING A LARGE MILITARY ORGANIZATION TO SAFEGUARD AND CARRY OUT THE OPERATION. AND SECONDLY TO REMOVE INSTANTANEOUSLY THE CAUSE FOR UNWARRANTED COMPLAINTS MADE BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE HAZARDS THESE DUMPS PRESENT TO THE LOCAL INHABITANTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE DUMPS. IT IS CONSIDERED JUSTIFIABLE TO FURNISH THE MATERIALS REALIZED FROM DEMILITARIZATION TO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WITHOUT COST TO THE U S GOVERNMENT IN DUMPING AND SAFEGUARDING THIS MATERIAL. THE ESTIMATED SAVING TO THE U S GOVERNMENT WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 1,000,000 DOLLARS. DISPOSAL ACTION ON AIR FORCE AMMUNITION BY OFLC IS PENDING. REFERENCE WAX 82214 DATED 9 NOVEMBER 45, WAX 98179 DATED 22 FEBRUARY 46 AND WAX 98726 DATED 7 MARCH 46, THE OUTCOME OF STUDIES BY THE WD AND STATE DEPARTMENT OF THE DISPOSAL OF AMMUNITION TO FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.

AT DIST

INFO ACTION: ECUN REC 2

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EXEC COMMISSIONER
NAVY
FILE
SKELETON

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
23 APR 1946

224

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

128

EXTRACT OF DO LETTER TO BRIG. GEN. FROM AD CIO NAPLES D/O 178 OF 12 APRIL 45.
(P. 33 in file 167/36).

The Mola explosion resulted in the death of two British POWs and sixteen Italian workers engaged in loading up a lorry with anti-personnel grenades and mines. The lorry literally disappeared, there was a bit of a tyre and small parts of the vehicle near the crater and nothing more else. As all the people round the lorry were killed, no one will know just what happened, but I think it is another example of the capriciousness of high explosive.

Much of this explosive has now been exposed to the hot sun of at least one summer and I am not too happy about it with more hot weather coming on. I attach a copy of a letter I wrote on 14 March in case it has not reached you. In my opinion the responsibility rests entirely with the Army. My letter was written before the Mola explosion, anyone can drive a vehicle through the dumps and load up with explosives by day or by night as far as I could see.

Ref: 362.2/127/10

137
24 April 1946.

SUBJECT: Assassination at POLA.

TO : Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale,
POLA.

At the request of the Italian Government, I am forwarding
the enclosed letter addressed to you.

124

A. W. Knisely.

Brigadier,
Acting Chief Commissioner.

3642 87 *126*

Presidenza
del Consiglio dei Ministri

Cabinet

No. 66200/12321/1.2.2.

To the Liaison Office to the AG.

APR 23 1948

SUBJECT: Transmittal of correspondence.

Please forward the enclosed letter to the Comitato
Liberazione Nazionale of Pola.

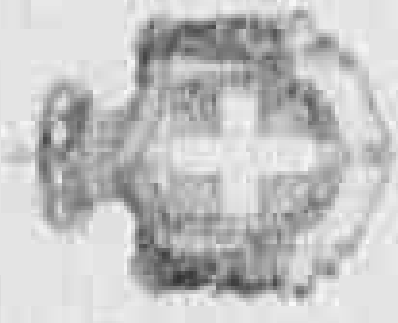
Signed: Illegible

127
221

125 / 10

18 APR 1946

Roma



*Presidenza
del Consiglio dei Ministri
Cabinetto*

All'Ufficio Italiano di Collega-
mento con la Commissione Alleata

R O M A

7066208/12321/1.2.2.

*Allegato al foglio del
N.°*

Oggetto : Trasmissione di lettera.

124

si prega di voler far pervenire al Comitato di
Liberazione Nazionale di Pola l'accolta lettera.

FIL CAPO DI G. BISOTTO
pratic

see 127

1. 56208/12321/1.2.2.

Repete al. F. 1. 2. 2.

OCCETTO : TRAMMISSIONE di lettera.

124
si prega di voler far pervenire al Comitato di
Liberazione Nazionale di Pola l'acclusa lettera.

FIL CAPO DI GABINETTO
pruente

127

220

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

785017

TRANSLATION

364251

124

Rome 18 April 1946

Presidenza
del Consiglio dei Ministri

-Gabinetto -

Al Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale

POLA

n.61822 1.2.2.
12321

SUBJECT: Settlement of explosive material.

Reference the cable of 14 January 1946 addressed to the Presidenza del Consiglio, you are informed that the AC has already taken the necessary action in order to eliminate the danger of explosions of the war material kept without any custody in Pola region. The A.C. assured that since the 15th April 1946 necessary action has been taken for settlement of the explosive material in Pola and will continue in the future in order to avoid any other accidents.

The A.C. informs that no Italian workers are working in the premises where are located the ammunitions captured to the enemy, except some specialists of whom Allies are needing for the preservation of their interests.

218

219

/S/ Il Capo di Gabinetto
illegible

Scat. 1.2.2.

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

3642 ST

123
L. L. Low

EX 69045
201231 P

H/2247
APR 21 0930
IMPORTANCE

STOUSA SIGNED COMBINED CITE RAGS

AGVAF

INFO: FBO: SAFOD - RAO FOR OFFIC - ALCOB

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

REFERENCE: EX 62980. CASE NO. 98750 REFERRED TO IN LAST PARAGRAPH SHOULD
BE CHANGED TO READ CASE 99750 DATED EX 7 MARCH 1946 (NOT TO ALL ADDRESSES).

Donald

AC DIST

ACTION: RECON SEC 2

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMMISSIONER

FIB-2

FLCAT

HEADQUARTERS
21 APR 1946
C.

218

CONFIDENTIAL

CR-2
2/24

785017

121

Ref: 362/TEL

19 April 1946

SUBJECT: Ammunition Depots in ITALY Area.

TO : CPE (MIA), CIG.

I refer to my letter 362/34/46 dated 3rd April 1946.

I should be glad to hear the result of the Court of Inquiry on the recent lamentable explosion at MIA, and also to learn, for the information of the Italian Government, when the ammunition stacked in that area is likely to be removed.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Acting Chief Commissioner.

HEL/DE.

Copy to: C-5 Section, AFHQ.
AG CIG, NAPLES.

215

216

See 132

See 7-140

PA 29
S. R. 29

Translation

3642

120

PRESIDENZA

DEL CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

-Gabinetto-

No. 65156/56024.2/19.10

Rome, 15 April 1946.

APR 18 1946

TO THE ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

R O M E

SUBJECT: The sinking of the Allied munitions.

103

Following letter No. 65156/56024.2/19.10 dated 5 April we communicate that the Navy Department states, that the preference in choosing a port for the embarkation of the munitions for sinking in the sea, should depend on the convenience. This is manifested by the Torre Annunziata incident. It should be avoided for the traffic of the damaged munitions to take place near the inhabited localities, or those frequented by the civil population, in other words, where there would be difficulty to inspect and to enforce.

These considerations justify the objections raised by the General Director of the Navy Department, General Mattaini, against the request made by the Allied Authorities to use the ports of Ancona and Molfetta for the embarkation of the munitions for sinking. As regards the port of Molfetta the operations could only be done in the very centre of the dwellings and at Ancona in a place frequented by the work people of the port and very difficult to watch over.

On account of circumstances obliging the Allies to use the a/m ports, it is necessary that the Command in charge of the embarking operations, in concord with the harbour master, shall give instructions, and adopt cautionary measures, so as to guarantee as far as possible, the safety of the public.

Under these conditions the Navy Department will agree to the use of the ports in question for the purpose already expressed, confirming all that has already been referred to your Commission, which is, that the port of Ancona is already in use, since more than a month, by the Allies for the embarkation of the munitions,

215

EC DIST - 1707

ACTION - RCON SEC (1) .1.

INFO - E.C.

- C.C.

See 131

See 7-134

(CAPT K)

119
- 2 -

and that the local Marine Authorities have protested for the danger to the citizenship on account of the prolonged deposit of the explosives on the wharfs of the port.

The Ministry in order to avoid as far as possible damage to the fishing industry, in consequence of the sinking of chemical substances, states that the occasion requires the greatest exigency, and that the poisonous explosives must be sunk at a determined distance from the coast, where the depth of the sea will give a sufficient surety, that no harm will be forthcoming for the fishermen.

THE SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

/s/ P. Arpenti

214

3642

118

ALCOM

15 APR 46

ALCOM LO NAPLES

2503

CONFIDENTIAL

109
REFERENCE YOUR NAN LOVE GEORGE SLANT ONE FOUR EIGHT SEVEN OF NINE APRIL
ONE NINE FOUR SIX ID PERMISSION GRANTED TO EMBARK ABOUT SEVEN THOUSAND
TONS OF NON EXPLOSIVE SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION INDEPENDENTLY FROM BACOLI
WITH USUAL PRECAUTIONS ID LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARMI NAVALI GASTANO PELOSI
CMA MINISTRY OF MARINE AMMUNITION INSPECTOR CMA 13 BEING SENT TO CONTACT
THE PETER BAKER SUGAR ORDNANCE OFFICER CMA MAJOR MISSELI CMA FOR AGREEMENT
ON TYPES OF NON EXPLOSIVE AMMUNITION TO BE DUMPED BY THIS ROUTE ID

213

212

ROUTINE

Office of the Acting Chief Comar

STEVE RIGGIO
Captain, AGO
Asst. Adj.

300

Ref. : 3642/116/80

13 April 1946.

SUBJECT: Dumping of Ammunition Bagnoli.

TO : The President of the Council of Ministers.

1. The Allied Forces are dumping explosives into the sea at Misano. This dumping is proceeding satisfactorily however since the quantity is very large it is proposed to use the port of Bagnoli independently to dump about 7000 tons of non explosive small arms ammunition. It is requested that you concur with this arrangement.

2. In addition to the above a request has been received that an Italian Government ammunition inspector be sent to Naples to contact the Portmular Base Section Ordnance Officer, Major Mimili. The purpose of this is to agree on the types of non explosive ammunition to be dumped independently by this route. The name of this inspector is requested so we may notify the proper authorities.

3. May this matter be considered urgent.

SIMEON D. HARRIS
Acting Chief Coordinator

Copy to Com Sec

212

15/4

PA 15/4

116

13 APR 46

RE ALGER

ALGER LO NALSS

CONFIDENTIAL

2621

109

REFERENCE YOUR VAN LOVE GROSS BLANT ONE FOUR NIGHT NEWS DATED NINE
APRIL ONE NINE FOUR SIX PERTAINING TO DUMPING OF EXPLOSIVES AT BAGNOLI PD
THIS MATTER IS NOW BEING TAKEN UP WITH THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO YOU
WILL BE ADVISED AT THE EARLIEST

117

Copy to Econ Section

211

4.15.14

RECEIVED

Office of the Acting Chief Counsel

My Nelson

8

300

3642
ALLIED [REDACTED] COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Explosion in Naples Corraone.
TO: Executive Commissioner.

10/14602/7/13
11th April, 1946
APR 11 1946

Attached is a copy of a report on the explosion which occurred at Naples on the 5th April.

Unlike the previous explosion at Torre Annunziata, casualties occurred only among military personnel or civilians employed by the Allies.

It is resumed that a full investigation is being made by the Military Authorities.

MCD
M. CAIR, Brigadier.
VP. CA Section.

See by the Commission

(130)

see P1115

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel : 478427

10 April 1946

AC/14602/7/PS

SUBJECT : Explosion in Naples
Commune.

TO : TP CA Section.

No 1400 hrs
HSL

1. With reference to the recent explosion
in the Naples Area.

The following information has been obtained
from the P.S. Liaison Officer Naples:-

"At 0200 hours, 5th April 1946, at San
Giuseppe Vesuviano, Naples Commune, a British 3 ton
truck was being loaded at an ammunition dump with anti
personnel bombs preparatory to dumping them in the sea.
The loading party consisted of 16 civilians supervised
by 2 British ORs.

When the truck was loaded the contents
exploded. 14 civilians and the 2 ORs were killed, 4
civilians injured. Cause of explosion unknown.

One house in the vicinity badly damaged.
The truck was completely destroyed.

The explosion was without doubt accidental.
The Chief Liaison Officer Naples visited
the scene on 9th April."

EJB/ae

EJB
E. J. BYE, Ce 209
Deputy Director.

1439

19.11.5

3642
HEADQUARTERS
NAPLES LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO. 394.

Ex Comm (112)
5873

9 April, 1946

Ref. : SLG/5/438

APR 11 1946

SUBJECT : Explosion at S. Gennaro Vesuviano (Naples Province).

TO : HQ. A. C.

1. On the 5th of April at about 1400 hrs. an explosion of British Ammunition occurred at S. Gennaro Vesuviano about 4 miles south of Nola, in which 16 persons were killed.
2. It appears that a lorry was being loaded with explosives including antipersonnel bombs or grenades when the load detonated. 2 British NCOs superintending the loading and 18 Italian men and women (one child) working round the lorry were killed. Two small farm-houses were damaged and persons in them received contusions, but otherwise no one else was hurt. The lorry and its load disintegrated, there is little left but a couple of shallow craters, and most of the people killed were literally blown to pieces.
3. There is still a very large tonnage of ammunition all round Nola forming part of the 16 B.A.D. and some of this has already been exposed to the full heat of a hot summer. The explosive is spread over a very large area and the majority of the stacks are away from buildings.

C/2400

JAC. Pennycook

J. A. C. PENNYCOCK
Colonel

Chief Liaison Officer
Naples Liaison Group
Allied Commission.

208

See in the Comm.

see MHS

ALCOM TPTN

APR 10 1200

APHQ G-5

2423

UNCLASSIFIED

PARA ONE PD SUBJECT IS USE OF PORT OF MOLFETTA FOR DUMPING AMMUNITION PD
PARA TWO PD THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS APPROVED
THE USE OF THE PORT OF MOLFETTA UNDER THE SAME CONDITIONS AS STATED
IN THEIR LETTER OF FIVE APRIL APPROVING THE USE OF THE PORT OF ANCONA
TRANSLATION OF WHICH WAS TRANSMITTED TO YOUR HEADQUARTERS BY OUR LETTER
ABLE CHARLIE BLANT SIX FIVE ZERO BLANT TARE NAB ONE DATED NINE APRIL PD
TRANSLATION OF LETTER APPROVING USE OF MOLFETTA WILL BE FORWARDED
IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT FROM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PD

COPY TO : EXEC COMMISSIONER
ECONOMIC SECTION
MOVEMENTS ROOM
ITALIAN MINISTRY OF MARINE ROSS, ATT: GEN. MATTEINA

PRIORITY

TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING BRANCH

WALTER P. SCOTT
LT. COLONEL, GSC.

C.J. LEONE
CNO USA
ASST ADJT

HLG/1487
AFB HST

3642
SE
1003
H/1815
APR 09 1715 D

PRIORITY

CHIEF LIAISON OFFICER NAPLES LIAISON GROUP ALLIED COMMISSION
ALOGN

APR 9 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference our U/2133 of 22 February 1946 explosive dumping
in sea FRTS Misano proceeding satisfactorily but quantity to be
disposed of is very large as none is being sold to Italian Government
It includes about 7000 tons of non explosive small arms ammunition.
Permission is requested to embark this independently from Regnelli
for dumping in the sea. Request Italian Government ammunition
inspector be sent to Naples to contact ordnance officer PMS Major
Miseli and agree on types of non explosive ammunition to be dumped
independently by this route.

AG DIST.

ACTION: ROOM-SEC 4 Ex Com.

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER

EX COMMR

FILE 2

FLOAT

CONFIDENTIAL

DR 11/4
(H)

see 116 11 206 205

Sent by Courier - 9 April.

108

Ext. 482

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation and Shipping Branch

WPS/vr

AG/650/Tn.1

9 April 1946

Subject : Dumping of Ammunition in the sea.

To : G-5, AFHQ.

There are attached two copies of translation of letter, dated 5 April 1946, received from the Under Secretary of State, Italian Government, authorizing the use of the port of Ancona for the loading of Allied Ammunition to be dumped into the sea.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner

WALTER P. SCOTT
Lt. Colonel, GSC
Director.

1 - Encl.
Ltr. (Dup).

Note:
J.C. has now agreed to use
of MOLFETTA and similar letter
to A 103 is coming in.
G-5 informed by
telephone at 1730 hrs
9 Apr. 46

105

F 64120
031615H

H/1500
APR 040930B

PRIORITY

AFHE SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGEG REUR 2239
ALCOX HOME INFO PENBASE

CONFIDENTIAL

Matter has now been outstanding since 8 March when urgent need for an early decision was stressed. Must insist on reply received here on or before 8 April.

AS DIST

ACTION: ROOM ENG 3

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER

FILE 2

FLOAT

rec 111

204

785017

3642

104

ALCOM TPTN

APR 041700

AFHQ 0-5

APR 5 1943

2309

CONFIDENTIAL

PARA ONE PD YOUR SIGNAL FOX SIX FOUR ONE TWO ZERO OF THREE APRIL
FOX NOW GEORGE EASY GEORGE IS SUBJECT PD
PARA TWO PD ITALIAN GOVERNMENT HAS AUTHORIZED THE USE OF PORT OF
ANCONA FOR LOADING OF SCHOONERS FOR AMMUNITION DUMPING AND HOPE
TO GIVE DECISION ON PORT OF SOLFETTA BY FIVE OR SIX APRIL PD

at 103

COPY TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER
ECONOMIC SECTION

203

202

PRIORITY

TRANSPORTATION & SHIPPING BRANCH

THURMAN OLIVER
CAPT. INF.
ACTG. ASST. ADJT.

WALTER W. SCOGGINS
LT. COLONEL, QMC

482

(cso)

Translation

103

RACCOMANDA DEL MINISTRO DI MARINA

Rome, 5 April 1946.

To the Office of the Chief Quartermaster,
Allied Commission.

No 6/156/56024.2/12.10.

SUBJECT: Dredging in the sea of Allied conditions.

90 APR 5 1946

With reference to the letter dated 16 March last, sent by Admiral Stone to the President of the Council regarding the use of some Italian ports for the loading and unloading in the sea of munitions, the Ministry of Marine is being questioned by us, has stated that for some time past the Allied authorities have been using the port of Ancona for such operations.

As however the operations require a long time to the quay before being loaded onto the ships, the Harbour Port of Ancona has expressed to the Allied Hq its concern for the danger to which the people and buildings are exposed; and requests that the munitions should only be delivered at the quay just before the loading takes place.

The Allied Hq in its reply have expressed difficulties of an opposing nature which have however been objected to by the Harbour Port solely in the interests of the public safety.

This taken for granted, the Ministry of Marine has already given its consent for the use of the port of Ancona on the understanding that the precautionary measures requested by the Harbour Port be applied.

Further information will be sent you as soon as possible regarding the use of the port of Melfetta.

RC DIST. 607

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

ACTION - ECON SEC

INFO - CC

CC

1903