

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

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10000/109/729

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785017

10000/109/729

INCIDENT BETWEEN AMERICAN MP & CORR
AT FOGGIA
JUNE, JULY 1946

MINUTE No. 11.

16th July, 1946

To: Executive Commissioner.

MS. 1817

With reference to your Minute No. 7, the Italian authorities have been ~~informed~~ *informed*.

I have not asked the Liaison Officer to thank the P.M. as the Liaison Office is closing down. In any case I feel the point is not important as the P.M. would hardly expect thanks for what he should have done in the normal course of his duties.

McCart Dyer

M. CARTER, Brigadier.
VP. CA. Section.

6.

CSO. Ex Comm.

Please see folios 4 + 5 for info.

ADK-87
11/8/77

2.

CSO.

A very handsome apology.

P.S. Sub Comm is let the Motion authorities know of

it & ask that Comm. to know the P.M. for two

prompt & courteous action.

10/7/77

8.

V.P. CAS (for 7.5. 5/c.)Will you please take action in accordance with in 7 above. P.D. Hnd. Smith
10/7

9.

480

P.S. 5/c

On another file (P.S.) dealing with this matter be suggested it might be sent to M.T.O.V.A. This will be done.

VP. CAS (for 7.5. 5/c.)

Will you please take action in accordance with m 7 above. P.D. Hnd. Smith
10/7

480

P.S. S/c

On another file (P.S.) dealing with this matter he suggested it might be sent to M. T. O. S. A. This will be done as necessary. Will you take action on this?

Man Bay
V.P. CAS

10/7

VP. CAS. 10.

I saw Dr. Jernani and informed him of the contents of the RPT's letter. He had already been notified by the CCPR and expressed satisfaction. A letter to the CCPR regarding the resignation is attached. See. 12.7.46. C. J. H. C. C.

785017

3646 41
HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

5

MCP

REF : LB/49

3 July 1946

SUBJECT : Reports

JUL 3 1946

TO : HQ Allied Commission
Executive Commissioner

3

Reference my letter LB/49 dated 27 June 1946

-4
I send herewith for your information a copy of
a translation of a letter from Capt. Robert W. Clark, the
Provost Marshal, American MP FOGGIA, addressed to the CC
Carabinieri HQ FOGGIA, which was sent to this Office by the
CC, 9 B.L.U.

LEV/CH

L.E. Vining
L.E. VINING, Lt. Col.
Chief Liaison Officer
AC BARI

COPY TO : HQ Allied Commission
Public Safety Sub-Commission

See M-6, 47 to 11

479

2
(1947 N)

Spec RA 12/11/46
[Signature]

Copy

Copy

529th AIR SERVICE GR P
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL
APO 780
U.S. ARMY

Foggia 27 June 1946

Subject : Incident occurred between Carabinieri and M.P.s in Foggia
To : OC Carabinieri HQ FOGGIA
for information
to : HQ Legione Territoriale Carabinieri PARI
Questura FOGGIA

1. I wish to apologise for the incident that occurred on 25 June 46 between Italian policemen and members of the American Military Police.
The fault is entirely of the American Police and this Office accepts full blame.
2. I am very sorry that, as OC Military Police, I was not informed immediately that we could have avoided the embarrassing situation. Suitable measures have been taken to ensure that similar incidents are not repeated in future. In any case where the Italian Police are involved, I shall be informed at once by my men and shall contact the Foggia Questura who will deal with the case. However in no case will a policeman be disarmed or imprisoned.
3. The American Police, on duty at the time, had not much experience and did not understand the seriousness of their action. Actually they have been suitably instructed and measures have been taken against them.
4. I take this opportunity of complimenting your men for the wise manner in which they acted, in order to avoid incidents between the police forces.
It was a great insult to them, but they met the situation with the greatest delicacy. I hope we may have the honour of working closely in collaboration with these men in the future.
5. Again I apologise and hope that this incident will in no

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It was a great insult to them, but they met the situation with the greatest delicacy. I hope we may have the honour of working ⁱⁿ close collaboration with these men in the future.
5. Again I apologise and hope that this incident will in no way damage the cooperation between the two police forces.

Sgd. ROBERT W. CLARK
Capt, Provost Marshal

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

Special Report

REF : LB/49

SUBJECT : Incident between American M.P. and CC.RR at FOGGIA.

TO : HQ Allied Commission
Executive Commissioner

27 June 1946

JUN 29 1946

Reference telephonic conversation between
Lt.Col. Eye and CLO Bari Liaison Group.

Enclosed is a report submitted by ⁹ British
Liaison Unit, BARI.

The incident was reported to this Office by
the OC, CCRR Bari and I immediately phoned Major
FERRO, OC 9 B.L.U. Bari who stated that the
American M.P. representative and the OC, CCRR
were at the time of my phoning in his Office and
that the explanation put forward by the American
M.P. for arresting and disarming the CC.RR was
that they thought the CCRR were bandits dressed
up as CCRR.

This explanation for disarming and arresting
and putting the CCRR into detention does not, in
my opinion, justify the action taken nor the
subsequent events in so much as, the American M.P.'s
could easily have verified their suspicions as
to whether the CCRR were bona fide or otherwise,
but failed to do so even when visited by the Sgt
Major of the CCRR and later by an Officer of the
CCRR.

To disarm, arrest and detain CCRR in the execution
of their duty is an act which not only lowers the
morale of the CCRR, but lowers their respect in the

477

Reference telephonic conversation between
Lt.Col. Bye and CLO Bari Liaison Group.

Enclosed is a report submitted by ⁹ British
Liaison Unit, BARI.

The incident was reported to this Office by
the OC, CCRR Bari and I immediately phoned Major
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Major of the CCRR and later by an Officer of the
CCRR.

477

To disarm, arrest and detain CCRR in the execution
of their duty is an act which not only lowers the
morale of the CCRR, but lowers their respect in the
eyes of the general population - who have hotly
resented the action taken by the American M.P.'s
and it is considered that a very high handed and
unnecessarily degrading action was committed against
the CCRR by the American M.P.'s.

L.E. Vining

See 5.

L.E. VINING, Lt.Col.
Chief Liaison Officer
AC BARI

COPY TO : HQ Allied Commission
Public Safety Sub Commission

8/29

[Signature]
(CERT)

Subject : Reports.

9 British Liaison Unit,
BARI.

Ref 20/46

27 June 46.

To : HQ.Allied Commission,
Bari.

Reference telephone conversation Lt.Col. Vining -
Major Ferre, herewith report on the incident at Foggia between
American M.P. and CC.RR. :-

1. On the night 24/25 June, a CC.RR. road-block was patrolling the Foggia-Lucera road, with the object of catching bandits in motor-cars who had been active there. The patrol consisted of 9 CC.RR. under a Sergeant-Major, mounted in a three-ten lorry. The American M.P.s had not been informed of the patrol.
2. At 0200 (approx.) on 25 June, the CC.RR. truck stopped and signalled an approaching car to stop. The signal was made by flashing a torch. The car slowed down as it drew near, then accelerated and went by at speed. The CC.RR. fired a burst in the air from a Beretta automatic rifle, in an attempt to make the car stop.
3. The car contained some American soldiers who reported to the Military Police Foggia that an attempt had been made by bandits to stop them on the road.
4. At 0230 approx. two jeeps containing three American M.P.s. arrived from Foggia and took the CC.RR. in their truck back to the M.P. station. The two parties could not make themselves understood to each other owing to language difficulty and the 10 CC.RR. were marched into the detention room.
5. Civilian...

Reference telephone conversation between Major Perre, herewith report on the incident at Peggia between American M.P. and CC.RR. :-

1. On the night 24/25 June, a CC.RR. read-blék was patrolling the Peggia-Lucera road, with the object of catching bandits in meter-cars who had been active there. The patrol consisted of 9 CC.RR. under a Sergeant-Major, mounted in a three-ten lorry. The American M.Ps had not been informed of the patrol.
2. At 0200 (approx.) on 25 June, the CC.RR. truck stopped and signalled an approaching car to stop. The signal was made by flashing a torch. The car slowed down as it drew near, then accelerated and went by at speed. The CC.RR. fired a burst in the air from a Beretta automatic rifle, in an attempt to make the car stop.
3. The car contained some American soldiers who reported to the Military Police Peggia that an attempt had been made by bandits to stop them on the road.
4. At 0230 approx. two jeeps containing three American M.Ps. arrived from Peggia and took the CC.RR. in their truck back to the M.P. station. The two parties could not make themselves understood to each other owing to language difficulty and the 10 CC.RR. were marched into the detention room.
5. Civilians who had witnessed the incident reported to CC.RR. station Peggia. At 0330 approx. the CC.RR. sgt-major on duty attempted to enter the American station to explain. He was stopped at the door by the policeman on duty, and told the affair would have to be dealt with by the officer in charge, in the morning. At 0400 hrs. the CC.RR. Officer i/c Peggia detachment went to the American station, and was dealt with similarly to the sgt-major. At 0830 hrs. the same CC.RR. officer reported the incident to the Adjutant, Peggia Air Base, who said he would inform the Provost Marshal. At 1030 hrs., 25 June, the 10 CC.RR. were released from the detention room, with apologies.

cont/

-2-

6. The CC.RR. in the Area are considerably upset by the incident, which they feel has been most humiliating. The Commander of the Bari Legion informs me that the people of Foggia are angry about the treatment meted out to the CC.RR. patrol, when it was in the act of taking action against bandits who have been a menace in the area.

afino.

(H.Ferre) Major GS.
Cmd. 9 B.L.U.

HP/ef

Copy to : CC.RR. Liaison Officer.
10 British Liaison Unit, Naples.

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