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

ACC 10000/109/778

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

10000/109/778

FRENCH MATERIALS IN ITALY
APR. 1945 – JAN. 1947

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

Chief Commissioner.

JAN 1 1 1947

Attached is submitted for your ~~approval~~ information

E.C.
13/I/47 ✓ Misc cc (24)

11/1/47

M Ben Buy
E C

3.08

Cdo Ex Comm 27

Ref folios 21 and 24 yellow see folio 26

See info. AWK 23/1 H.S. 23/1 MR 23/1

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

Ex. Comm.

Please see letter at 1 from Gen. de Sevin and interim reply at 4 about French rolling stock.

I had originally intended to refer the matter to AFHQ, but, in view of Minute 7 from Col. Thomas, I suggest that draft at 9 opposite to the French Representative will deal with the matter.

1 May 1945.

C.S.O.

11.

CSO I agree with the principle but and with the tone of the letter which addressed to an Anglo Saxon might be acceptable but by a French Officer would be considered more than abrupt. Recaste please

MS/2/6/45.

12.

PA/ This is better. Now please translate into D.O. with Mrs of my dear Generals → mailing + enclosure sentiments.

Final letter at folio (13)

MS/2/6.

See 13

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

with the tone of the letter which addressed to
an Anglo Saxon might be acceptable but by
a French Officer would be considered more
than abrupt. Records please

MS/21/5/43.

12.

PA/ This is better. Now please translate into - Final
D.O. with Mrs of my dear Generals → letter at
enciphering - excuse contraction Folio (13)

MS/21/5.

See 13

3685

22.

Land Forces S/C

may the C.C. please have your comment
a folio 21. Alan Brooke

Copy

7/1/43

23.

Executive Commissioner (CS) Ref. minute 22 please see folio 24 inserted in this file; this action has been approved by Capt. VALLETORTE (French Del.) 7/1.

11.1.43

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

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

29/4/45
Noted Effie M.

TO:

Executive Commissioner.

This Section concurs in the comments and opinions set forth in Minute 7.

R. G. ANTOLINI
Acting Vice President
Economic Section

29 April 45
Economic Section

ACP 4c

HEAQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Transportation Sub -Commission

Tel. 843238
Ref. AC/333/Tn 4

7.

24 April 1945

SUBJECT : French Rolling Stock.

TO : Economic Section HQ AC

1. Recently the Military Railway Service instructed ISR to take an inventory of existing rolling stock, and this has been concluded. It did not, however, include any details of ownership, and MRS does not favour another inventory at the present time.

2. It is felt that this is a matter that can be usefully deferred at this stage of operations. There are at least 34.000 freight cars, all in constant use and moving regularly, and apart from difficulties which would arise in taking a complete census, there is not available the staff required to undertake the work.

3. The suggestion that AC should take immediate steps in Northern Italy to identify French cars is one not capable of immediate realisation. AC, with its limited staff, will be fully engaged in supervising repair and operation of rail tracks, and will have little time to arrange a wagon census for the purpose of locating French rail cars. Quite logically, the census should be international, for there are freight cars of many nations, (including England and the Balkan countries) even in Southern Italy.

4. It is felt, therefore, that rather than attempt such a difficult task in territory in course of liberation, the whole matter be dealt with when each country is fully freed, and the urgent need of ending the war in Europe has ceased. Probably the organisation set up in London last autumn, European Inland Transport Organisation, which Colonel Adams and Mr Villa attended, has some policy based on Europe as a whole which will take care

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

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3. The suggestion that AC should take immediate steps in Northern Italy to identify French cars is one not capable of immediate realisation. AC, with its limited staff, will be fully engaged in supervising repair and operation of rail tracks, and will have little time to arrange a wagon census for the purpose of locating French rail cars. Quite logically, the census should be international, for there are freight cars of many nations, (including England and the Balkan countries) even in Southern Italy.

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M.B.Thomas

M.B.THOMAS, Colonel
Deputy Director.

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

CSC: to see folio 1: a request from French Rep. on AC.

1) A survey of French wagons, at this time, might serve a good purpose, if it were feasible and personnel were available.

2) A simultaneous survey of Italian wagons in France may also be suggested.

3) Suggest this matter be passed to Econ Sec for comment, - also perhaps to Legal S/C for an opinion.

13 April 45.

JCB
Major

3.

H/Sabini
Maj Reidy

1. Send interim reply.
2. Find out exactly what Tpt. S/C are doing about French Rolling Stock & Liberated Italy.
3. Prepare draft letter for S.S. for H/Sabini's signature saying that French representation in Caserta, to obtain an inventory of any French Rolling Stock found in N. Italy, & could hostilities stop be taken

G 14/4.

TO: Economic Section, for Director, Transportation S/C.

3684

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

Maj Reich.

1. Send interim reply.
2. Find out exactly what Fr Tpt S/C are doing about French Rolling Stock in Liberated Italy.
3. Prepare draft letter for S.S. for H/Exchange Signature saying that French Representation in Caserta to obtain an inventory of any French Rolling Stock found in N. Italy & call necessary steps be taken

G 14/4.

TO:
ECONOMIC SECTION, for
Director, Transportation S/C.

5.

3684

May we have your comments regarding request in folio 1 from French Representative preliminary to our referring the matter to AFHQ.

16 April 45.
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

JCR
Major

6.

To: Director, Transportation S/C

Please comply with minute 5 and return through this office.

CECIL E. HIGHLAND, Jr.
Captain, Inf.
Staff Officer, Ec. Sec.

17 April 45
Economic Section

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

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

4036. EC

26

JAN 22 1947

Telephone:
Rome AB9081 Ext 415

LAND FORCES SUB COMM, AC (CMIA) CMF

155 Q

20 Jan 1947

A.C. (for Executive Comm).

Subject: CEK of French Origin in Sardinia.

Ref your 4036/EC.

Further to this HQ 155 Q dated 10 Jan 47.

A copy of War Ministry reply to the French Military Command in Italy is enclosed for your information.

R A Chapman
Major-General
COC.

RAC/ra

Note: Ref 4036/EC quoted above refers to this whole file and not any particular letter.

3683

Copy K.

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

25

COPY OF TRANSLATION

Ref: 200752/II

FROM : Ministry of War

Date: 14/1/47

TO : French Military Command in Italy
USIA (for information)

Subject: Recovery of French material in Sardinia.

19

Reply to letter 1087 dated 30/12/46.

a) - This Ministry reported the majority of the material with the list attached to letter 210971/II dated 25/6/46 (under paragraph "Zone Military Territorial Command" (which includes Sardinia in its Territory) are listed 191 of the 205 cannons recovered by Capt Pommelaere of your HQ). Proper explanations have been requested from the units under its command regarding the remaining small quantity not reported.

b) - With letter of even date, the units under its command have been approached in order to dispatch the material included in the list attached in your letter.

As previously agreed and carried out, the Italian Military Authorities will arrange for the transportation of the material to the port of embarkation.

Sgt. Supino
Gen.

3682

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

Telephone:
Rome 489081 Ext 415

4036 57 24 33

LAND FORCES SUB COMM, AC (MMIA) CMF

155 Q

10 Jan 47

War Ministry (by LO)

Subject: CSM of French origin

Further to this HQ letter Q.155 of 3 May 46.

1. It will be recalled that on or about the 24 June 1946 an assurance was sought from you that the French Authorities had been notified of all French military material held in Italian Army Depots.

The then Chief of your Gabinetto stated that this would be done after all Territorial Commands had officially reported no further stores of this nature were held but no copy of this assurance has been received by this Mission.

2. It appears that the discovery of a considerable quantity of French material as listed in the letter No 1087/CMF/RSC of 30 Dec 46 (addressed to the Minister for War by the French Military Commandant in Italy) was due only to the visit of a French recovery commission.

3. It is not understood why this should not have been reported by 8 Territorial Command and subsequently to the French Authorities as in the case (for example) of the stores at Turin. Your 3304.1/6890 of 17 May 46 refers.

4. You are requested to explain and to state whether you are now in possession of official reports on this subject from all Territorial Commands.

5. It is further requested a copy of your reply to the letter quoted in para 2 be sent to this HQ for the information of the Chief Commissioner.

W Fiddes
Major

sought from you that the French Authorities had been notified of all French military material held in Italian Army Depots.

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19

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3. It is not understood why this should not have been reported by 8 Territorial Command and subsequently to the French Authorities as in the case (for example) of the stores at Turin. Your 33041/6890 of 17 May 46 refers.

43

4. You are requested to explain and to state whether you are now in possession of official reports on this subject from all Territorial Commands.

5. It is further requested a copy of your reply to the letter quoted in para 2 be sent to this HQ for the information of the Chief Commissioner.

1

Major General
GOC MMIA.

RAC/jw

Copy to: Allied Commission for Executive Comm (your 4036/RO refers)

24

Capt K.

APO 394

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

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

4036

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO [redacted] 794

JAN 7 1947

21

3140/27

6 January, 1947

Captaine de Villefosse
French Representative
to the Allied Commission

to

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

Subject: French war material in Italian Army depot.

Attached references: Copy of letter No. 1088/CMF/REC of December 30, 1946
Copy of letter No. 1087/CMF/REC of December 30, 1946
Addressed to the Italian Minister of War.

I have the honor of informing you that I gave today to General Coulburn, a letter from the French recuperation mission advising him of the discovery in Sardinia of an important quantity of French material. I am sending you a copy of this letter and I permit myself to bring to your attention, the serious nature of this affair, for the Italian Minister of War, had given assurance to MMIA, that there was no more material of French origin in these depots.

/S/ MERON de VILLEFOSSE

3680

Copie K

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

FRENCH MILITARY COMMAND IN ITALY — Translation

20

Research Section — Rome, 30 December 1946

No. 1088/CMF/REC.

General LE COUTEULX DE CANTELEU
French Military Commander in Italy

to

Land Forces Sub Commission AC - MMIA

through Captain, French Representative
with the Allied Commission.

I have the honour to hand you herewith copy of my letter No. 1087/CMF/REC of 30/12/46 addressed to the Italian War Ministry.

According to your letter Q 155 of 3 May 1946 I am making you kindly to give all the support you will consider advisable to the requests expressed in the last paragraph of this letter.

The Chief of Battalion TOUZERY
Adj. Senior Officer

Signed Thouzy

Encl: List of the material
recognised in Sardinia
by Captain ROUGELAYNE.

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

Translation

19

FRENCH MILITARY COMMAND
IN ITALY.

Research Section

No. 1087/CMF/R.30

Rome, 30 December 1946

Gen. DE COURTEULX DE CAUMONT
French Military Commander in Italy

to

The War Minister (Cabinet)

ROME.

I have the honour of enclosing herewith a list of the material which has been discovered in Sardinia during a recent mission by an officer of my command. I should be very obliged to you if you would kindly arrange for its delivery to the Establishment of the General Reserve of War Material at Nice.

I take the opportunity to say that I cannot help mentioning my surprise in finding that war materials of such importance ,-as there are no less than 203 guns of different calibres in excellent condition, and 17 armoured cars Somua-, should not have appeared on any of the statements issued by your Services in execution of prescriptions given by AMMA, which your are referring to in your letter No. 210802/11 dated 19 April 1946.

I am convinced that you will agree with me that those statements need seriously to be checked and completed.

by order The Chief of Battalion
THOUNY
Adj. Senior Officer

Signed : THOUNY

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

FRENCH MILITARY COMMAND
IN ITALY

RESEARCH SECTION

No. 1081/CMF/RSC.

SITUATION OF THE WAR MATERIAL RECOGNISED IN SARDINIA BY CAPTAIN ROMMELAERE
(Period from 1 to 23 December 1946).

m/m Type of material	Quantity	Storage locality
- 47 Guns Model 1937 anti-tank in good condition with range finder, breech-cover and ordnance piece with spare pieces, oiled and well fitted	76	6 Prato Sardo 6 Telti 14 Macomer 21 Cagliari 24 Siliqua 5 Compromela
- 75 m/m mountain guns, Model 1917 with pointing apparatus in good condition, oiled and well fitted.	20	3 Prato Sardo 4 Telti 6 Siliqua 4 Cagliari 3 Compromela
- 75 m/m R 38 anti-tank guns with pointing lenses in good condition, oiled and well fitted	34	25 Prato Sardo 8 Siliqua 1 Cagliari
155 m/m guns Model 1917 with limber in good condition, complete and oiled	12	8 Prato Sardo 4 Telti
- 105-27 m/m guns with limber, complete and oiled	4	4 Prato Sardo
- Mortars of calibre 60 with tripods (oxidised tubes which could be used for training purposes after re-conditioning).	57	57 Prato Sardo
- Armoured cars Somua with guns 47-SA which could be re-conditioned.	17	17 Repair depot of motor car material of ABBASANTA
- Schneider caterpillar tractors	8	8 -do-
- Trailer undercarriage wheels without tyres	5	5 -do-
- Listening-in apparatus Model 1934 with trailer in good condition on new tyres of the 15x50 type S Sautter Harle Paris.	6	6 Telti
- Listening-in corrector with trailer in good condition on new tyres type S Sautter Harles Paris	1	1 Telti

24.12.1946 Capt. ROMMELAERE of the Recovery Section.

Signed : Rommelaere

3677

COMMISSION ALLIÉE
EN ITALIE

LE REPRÉSENTANT FRANÇAIS

17

Rome, le 6 Janvier 1947

JAN 6 1947

No 3140/2Z

Le Capitaine de Vaisseau
HERON de VILLEFOSSE
Représentant Français auprès
de la Commission Alliée

à

Monsieur le Contre-Amiral
MILLARD W. STONE
Chief Commissioner de la
Commission Alliée

O b j e t ; Matériel de guerre Français dans les dépots de l'Armée Italienne-

Pieces jointes : Copie de la lettre No 1086/CMF/REC du 30 Décembre 1946
Copie de la lettre No 1087/CMF/REC du 30 Décembre 1946
adressée au Ministre de la Guerre Italien -

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que j'ai aujourd'hui remis à Monsieur le Général GOUZEUN - MMIA - une lettre de la Mission de Récuperation Française signalant la découverte en Sardaigne d'une importante quantité de matériel Français. Je vous adresse copie de cette lettre et me permets d'attirer votre attention sur le caractere sérieux de cette affaire, car le Ministère de la Guerre Italien avait donné l'assurance à la MMIA qu'il n'existait plus dans ses dépots du materiel d'origine Francaise.-

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

de la Commission Alliée

à

Monsieur le Contre-Amiral
KELLEY W, STORK
Chief Commissioner de la
Commission Alliée

O b j e t ; Matériel de guerre Français dans les dépots de l'Armée Italienne-

Pieces jointes : Copie de la lettre No 1088/CMF/REC du 30 Décembre 1946
Copie de la lettre No 1087/CMF/REC du 30 Décembre 1946 adressée au Ministre de la Guerre Italien -

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer que j'ai aujourd'hui remis à Monsieur le Général GOULBURN - MMIA - une lettre de la Mission de Récuperation Française signalant la découverte en Sardaigne d'une importante quantité de matériel Français. Je vous adresse copie de cette lettre et me permets d'attirer votre attention sur le caractère sérieux de cette affaire, car le Ministère de la Guerre Italien avait donné l'assurance à la MMIA qu'il n'existait plus dans ses dépots du matériel d'origine Française.-

Lt Wilson

3676

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

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

16

COMMANDEMENT MILITAIRE FRANCAIS
EN ITALIE

SECTION DE RECUPERATION

Rome, le 30 Décembre 1946

N° 1088/CMF/REC

COPIE

Le Général LE COUTEULX DE CAUMONT
Commandant Militaire Français en Italie

à

Land Forces Sub Commission AC - MMIA

Sous-Couvert de Monsieur le Capitaine de Vaisseau Représentant Français auprès de la Commission Alliée.

J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser ci-joint copie de ma lettre N°1087/CMF/REC du 30/12/46 au Ministère de la Guerre Italien.

Conformément à votre lettre Q 155 du 3 Mai 1946, je vous demande de vouloir bien donner tout l'appui que vous jugerez utile aux désirs exprimés par le dernier alinéa de cette lettre.

P.O. Le Chef de Bataillon THOUMY
Officier Supérieur Adjoint

Signé: Thoumy

P.J. Etat du Matériel reconnu en Sardaigne par le Capitaine ROMMELAERE

e e p i e 3675

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

15

COMMANDEMENT MILITAIRE FRANCAIS
EN ITALIE

Rome, le 30 Décembre 1946

SECTION DE RECUPERATION

N° 1087/CMF/REC

COPIE

Le Général LE COUTEULX DE CAUMONT
Commandant Militaire Français en Italie

à

Monsieur le MINISTRE de la GUERRE
(Cabinet)

ROME

J'ai l'honneur de vous adresser ci-joint une situation des matériels qui ont été détectés en Sardaigne au cours d'une récente mission d'un Officier de mon Commandement. Je vous serais très obligé de vouloir bien en prescrire l'expédition à destination de l'Etablissement de Réserve Générale du Matériel de NICE.

A cette occasion, je ne puis passer sous silence combien je suis surpris de constater que des matériels d'une telle importance, puisqu'on n'y compte pas moins de 203 bouches à feu des différents calibres en excellent état, et 17 chars Semua, n'aient figuré sur aucun des états fournis par vos Services en exécution des prescriptions de la MMIA dont vous faites état dans votre lettre N° 210802/11 en date du 19.4.1946.

Je suis persuadé que vous estimerez comme moi, que ces états ont besoin d'être sérieusement revus et complétés.

P.O. Le Chef de Bataillon THOUMY
Officier Supérieur Adjoint

Signé: THOUMY

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

COMMANDEMENT MILITAIRE FRANCAIS
EN ITALIE

SECTION DE RECUPERATION

COPIE

N° 1081/CMF/REC

ETAT DU MATERIEL RECONNU EN SARDAIGNE PAR LE CAPITAINE ROMMELAERE (Période du 1 au 23.12.46)

Désignation du matériel	Quantité	Lieux de stockage
- Canons de 47 Mle 1937 anti chars en bon état avec lunette de pointage, couvre culasse et bouche avec pièces de rechange, graissés et bien stockés.	76	6 Prato Sardo 6 Telti 14 Mamomer 21 Cagliari 24 Siliqua 5 Compromela
- Canons de 75 de montagne, Mle 1917 avec appareil de pointage en bon état, graissés et bien stockés.	20	3 Prato Sardo 4 Telti 6 Siliqua 4 Cagliari 3 Compromela
- Canons anti chars de 75 R 38 avec lunette de pointage en bon état graissés et bien stockés.	34	25 Prato Sardo 8 Siliqua 1 Cagliari
- Canons de 155 Mle 1917 avec avant train en bon état, complets et graissés.	12	8 Prato Sardo 4 Telti
- Canons de 105-27 avec avant train complets et graissés.	4	4 Prato Sardo
- Mortiers de 60 avec trepieds (tubes exigés pouvant servir pour l'instruction après remise en état).	57	57 Prato Sardo
- Chars Semua avec canons de 47-SA pouvant être remis en état.	17	17 Dépôt de réparation de matériel auto de ABBASANTA
- Tracteurs Schneider à chenille.	8	8 - do -
- Remorques porte char roues sans caoutchouc.	5	5 - do -
- Appareil d'écoute Mle 1934 avec remorque en bon état sur pneus neufs de 15x30 type S Sautter Harle Paris.	6	6 Telti
- Correcteur d'écoute avec remorque en bon état sur pneus neufs type S Sautter Harles Paris	1	1 Telti

367

24.12.1946

Le Capitaine ROMMELAERE de la Section de Récupération

Signé: Rommelaere

e e p i e

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

(13)

4036/13/80.

2nd May 1945.

(1) (2)

My dear General,

In continuation of this office Memorandum 4035/4/80 of April 16th, in reply to your letter No. 2.071 of April 12th, I am writing to give you further information on this matter.

The Chief Commissioner directs me to inform you that your request that in Northern Italy this Commission should take steps to identify all French rolling stock has been given careful consideration. It is really a matter of available personnel. This Commission's limited staff will be fully engaged in supervising the repair and operation of rail trucks, and it would be almost impossible for them to find time to make a census of French rail trucks, especially when it is remembered that the rail trucks found in the North will belong to many nations, including France, England and the Balkan countries.

You will agree, I think, that logically the census, when it is made, should be international, and the organisation set up in London last autumn, called the "European Central Inland Transport Organisation", will doubtless have some policy, based on Europe as a whole, which will take care of each nation's rolling stock interests.

I very much regret that we cannot be more helpful at the present.

Yours very sincerely,

(Sgd) Maurice Lush.

Le General de Division Aerienne
X. de Sevin,
French Representative,
Headquarters,
Allied Commission.

3672

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

(9)

DRAFT

Ref: 4036 /2/SC. 1 May 1945.

Subject: French Railroad Rolling Stock.

To: Office of the French Representative,
HQ Allied Commission.

1. Reference your letter No.2.071 of 12 April and interim reply 4036/4/SC of 16 April, I am now in a position to write you further on this subject.

2. Recently the Military Railway Service instructed the Italian State Railways to take an inventory of existing rolling stock, and this has been concluded. It did not, however, include any details of ownership, and the Military Railway Service does not favour another inventory at the present time. There are at least 34,000 freight cars, all in constant use and moving regularly, [redacted] which are the property of many nations including France, England and the Balkan countries, and I do not think that it is practicable to take an inventory of French cars at present. The inventory, when it is made, should be international.

3. The organisation set up in London last autumn, called the "European Central Inland Transport Organisation", will doubtless have some policy, based on Europe as a whole, which will take care of each nation's rolling stock interests.

3671

HQ Allied Commission.

1. Reference your letter No.2.071 of 12 April and our interim reply 4036/4/EC of 16 April, I am now in a position to write you further on this subject.

2. Recently the Military Railway Service instructed the Italian State Railways to take an inventory of existing rolling stock, and this has been concluded. It did not, however, include any details of ownership, and the Military Railway Service does not favour another inventory at the present time. There are at least 34,000 freight cars, all in constant use and moving regularly, [redacted] which are the property of many nations including France, England and the Balkan countries, and I do not think that it is practicable to take an inventory of French cars at present. The inventory, when it is made, should be international.

3. The organisation set up in London last autumn, called the "European Central Inland Transport Organisation", will doubtless have some policy based on Europe as a whole, which will take care of each nation's rolling stock interests.

3671

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

See minutes 10 & 11.

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

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

4

Tel. 478608

Ref. 4036/4/SC. 16 April 1945

SUBJECT: French Railroad Rolling Stock.

TO : Office of the French Representative,
HQ Allied Commission.

1. Reference is made to your letter of 13 April 1945 addressed to the Chief Commissioner regarding the possibility of securing an inventory of French railroad rolling stock which was referred to this office for reply.

2. This matter is being referred to the appropriate authorities, and upon receipt of definite information we shall immediately communicate with you.

4 Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

see min 568

3671

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

APR 12 RECD

(1) cc. 1735

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the French Representative
APO 394

Rome, 12 Avril 1945
JR/BS n° 2.071

APR 13 RECD

To : Chief Commissioner

Subject: French Rolling Stock

1./ A certain quantity of French rolling stock (railroad cars, engines and trucks) is being used at the present time in liberated Italy. This material was either brought from France to Italy at the time when Italian Forces occupied part of France, or was sent here, later on, through German military chanels. It is believed that a still greater number of this material will be found in Northern Italy upon liberation.

2./ In view of setting up accounts the French Government is very anxious to obtain an exact inventory of this material espe= cially railroad cars which are actually in operation in liberated Italy and will undoubtadly request the same infor= mation as soon as Northern Italy will be liberated.

3./ Unofficial contacts have been established by this Office with the Transportation Sub-Commission and the Allied Offi= cers at the Italian Ministry of Communications in view of securing proper information. It has been found however that due to the fact that lists of railroad cars in operation do not mention their origin the task of procuring an estimate of French cars will be a long and difficult one. It is there= for hoped that in Northern Italy necessary steps can be taken by the A.C. to identify at once all French railroad rolling stock.

4./ Finaly it has been reported to the French Representative that the Italian Army were using some French made trucks and busses in Southern Italy. It would be appreciated if more information could be obtained on this matter./.

B/u 21/4 Noted JR

Lee Mins 2.3.5
Folio 4.13.

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