

2206
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

ACC

10000/109/1145
(VOL. I)

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

09/1145
I)

LAND FORCES, INFORMATION
OCT. 1944 - MAY 1945

92

Land Forces S/c (MNLIA):

Draft at folio 90 has been approved by the Executive Commissioner; will you kindly put up in final form for CC's signature? Please avoid the use of abbreviations.

Office of Exec Commr
9 April 45

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Major, AGD

95

Ex. Com

The atch'd letter is ready for CC's signature;
you approved original draft.

13/4
See folio 96
13rd Apr.

102

Ex. Com

To see folio 101 for info. *11 May.*
Will follow up. *See folio 104*

106

Ex. Com

To see folio 105 - Action taken by Land Forces S/c
to meet desertion situation.

24th May.

138

(13)

Ex. Com

To see folio 101 for info. 11 May. See folio 104
Will follow up.

106

Ex. Com

To see folio 105 - Action taken by Land Forces & Co
to meet desertion situation.

24th May.

(5)

438

Chief Commissioner.

105

107

Attached is submitted for your information/signature 439

17/25/10

✓

A/Ex. C.:

Folios 76, 81 and above minutes refer:-

- 1) Col. Kerr (Land Forces S/C) phoned AFHQ and was informed that a telegram has gone out approving this "Industrial Parties" set-up under the wing of G-2, 15th Army Group.
- 2) We have no authority to withhold these Italian Reservists in the face of AFHQ and 15th Army Group approval unless for urgent reasons.
- 3) I will so inform Econ Sec.

3 April 45

Informed Econ. Sect. of this *4/4*

J. P. Rively
Major

2/4 agreed. F.

84

TO: Major Dively;

"INDUSTRIAL PARTIES"

Please see folio 76, which is translation of a letter concerning the formation by the Italian Government (Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labor) of certain specialist "industrial parties."

As you will note in folio 81, Land Forces Subcommittee was questioned concerning this activity and they state that they have no knowledge of any such authorization having been given by either G-3 or the Intelligence Section, AFHQ.

Prior to replying to the Italian Government, will you please check this matter with Economic Section to find out exactly what their position is in this matter, particularly in view of AFHQ's non-authorization.

30 March

85.

A/VP, Econ. Sect.

Please state your views, by minute hereon, regarding the Italian Army's proposed action as shown in folio 76 and then return this file promptly, please.

O. of Ex. C.

86.

O. of Ex. C.

Economic Section approves the release of two personnel of Industry Sub Commission mentioned in folio 76. The release of Lt. Ricci (Total Sub Commission) is not approved.

Please confirm that these personnel (plus Lt. Ricci) are not to be released until orders are received from G-1 and J. Br. Thompson.

Economic Section.

88

LT. COL. A. 3, MAR 41

Italian Army & proposed action mentioned in para 76
return this file promptly, please.

JCH:rochly
major 30/3

O of Ex.C.

86.

O of Ex.C.

Economic Section approves the release of the personnel of Industry Sub Commission mentioned in para 76. The release of Lt RICCI (Food Sub Commission) is not approved. Please confirm that these personnel (less Lt RICCI) are not to be released until orders are received from G-1 ^{15th Army} ~~15th Army~~

J. Brian Thompson
LTCRA 31 MAR 45

Economic Section.

88

A/Ex.C. Folios 76, 81 and above minutes refer: -

- 1) Col. Kerr (head Forces S/C) phoned AFHQ and was informed that a telegram has gone out approving this "Industrial Parties" set-up under the wing of G-2, 15th Army Group.
- 2) We have no authority to withhold these Italian Reservists in the face of AFHQ and 15 Army Group approval unless for urgent reasons.
- 3) I will so inform Econ. Section.

To Land Forces S/c

67

Your draft letter at folio 53 is approved as amended. Please prepare for signature.

In the future, draft letters for the CC's signature should be prepared in the approved form (see Annex "B", Office Memo 18, dated 24 Oct. 4 subject "Correspondence and Filing").

[Signature]
11 Feb

69

Cy's. Letter prepared and attached — See F 68

QSK
8 Feb

Letter Signed 12/2/5

Law E. S. 6 Com.

Could you have nlyped gmittine Catty from the Address! *[Signature]*

70

CSO

Please see folio 68A. — This appears to be a most inadequate reply. However unless one can find out what actual cases the CC was referring to when he made the statement quoted at 67, I don't believe we can ask for further information and action from Land Forces! ??

[Signature]
13 Feb

" (Value due to have like being in hands of

CSO

Please see folio 68A. - This appears to be a most inadequate reply. However unless one can find out what actual cases the CC was referring to when he made the statement quoted at 67, I don't believe we can ask for further information and action from Land Forces. P.P.

13 Feb.

(Delay due to base file being in hands of CC and P.F. working on 68 P.P.)

Paper - deposit

16/2

W. J. G.

435

7
COS To please note #6 Feb 2 Nov. M/S/11.

^B
P11 was written in instruction from S.M.I.

At HQ. Then sent for copy of letter and will act on receipt. We must be more elastic with members

of the Advisory Council in Europe.

M/S/24/11

This was discussed at 1st meeting 23/11. n.t.a. per EL 24/11

46

C90 To note 44. Feb 15 Jan. S

55

C90 To see Folio 52 - Ans. to your enquiry regarding Italian Army desertions. Feb 29 Jan.

S/24/11

65

COS Pa. See Paul Jones draft (63) refers to Bonomi's

2216

CSO
To note 44. Feb 15 Jan. *[Signature]*
SS

CSO
To see Folio 52 - Ans. to your inquiry regarding
Italian Army desertions. Feb 29 Jan.
[Signature]

CSO
Please see Paul Jones draft (63) reply to Bonomi's
letter regarding hospitalization policy Italian
soldiers. - Your approval? Feb 6 Feb.
[Signature]

[Signature] It can be 434
Approved as amended.
prepared for signature.
[Signature]

SUBJECT: Deserters - Italian Army.

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E

A 265

16 May 45

TO : Executive Commissioner, A.C.

(Your 8252/104/EC of 12 May attached)

1. The certainty of large numbers of deserters from the Italian Army, as seen as North ITALY was liberated, was foreseen by this mission many weeks ago.

2. The following steps were taken :-

- (a) Leave. On 30 March we recommended increasing leave quotas from 5 to 15% and extending the area as far as and as soon as possible (approved 7 May).
- (b) Demobilisation. Plans for demobilising older men with homes in the North were worked out so as to be ready and to allay uneasiness (approved 14 May).
- (c) Punishment. SMRE was warned to overhaul their preventive and punitive measures and notify all Italian unit commanders accordingly.
- (d) Postal. Plans were made for improving postal services so that news would be forthcoming.
- (e) Publicity. Every effort was made through the Army newspaper "La Patria" and through communications to units and depots to publicise the measures taken to deter deserters and explain what was being done to help the obedient and patient soldier. The Minister himself, at our request, issued an order to all Italian commanders that the steps being taken were to be personally explained to all men en parade.
- (f) Strengths. Replacement Depots were filled with men in anticipation of their being needed and shortly before the surrender all units were made up to 5% above strength.

3. Throughout this time the matter has been under consideration with AFHQ and with the War Ministry, and everything possible is being done to prevent and/or compensate desertion. The crisis is yet to come.

MAY 17 RECD

104

(approved 14 May).

- (c) Punishment. SMRE was warned to overhaul their preventive and punitive measures and notify all Italian unit commanders accordingly.
- (d) Postal. Plans were made for improving postal services so that home news would be forthcoming.
- (e) Publicity. Every effort was made through the Army newspaper "La Patria" and through communications to units and depots to publicize the measures taken to deter deserters and explain what was being done to help the obedient and patient soldier. The Minister himself, at our request, issued an order to all Italian commanders that the steps being taken were to be personally explained to all men on parade.
- (f) Strengths. Replacement Depots were filled with men in anticipation of their being needed and shortly before the surrender all units were made up to 5% above strength.
3. Throughout this time the matter has been under consideration with AFHQ and with the War Ministry, and everything possible is being done to prevent and/or compensate desertion. The crisis is yet to come; as far as possible, the matter is under control. A copy of my appreciation (No. A 016 of 24 April) was sent to A.C. for information.
4. It should be appreciated that approx 85% of the Italian Army are under direct Allied Command.

ok

(MAY STERN)

Major General
M. M. I. A.

433

L. Browning

see M 1062107

PA 213

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

104

Ref: 8252/104/ED.

12 May 1945.

SUBJECT: Deserters - Italian Army.

TO : GOC, Land Forces Sub-Com (MILIA).

101

The Chief Commissioner would be glad to know what action you are taking on General Robertson's telegram 94 of 9 May, on the above subject.

M S. LUSH

MSL/JC.

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

pt

432 15/5
11/19/5

8252 Ex. Comm.

(103)

Subject: Leave Italian Army

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M. M. I. A.) R O M E
AO20

7 May 45.

MINISTRY OF WAR

MAY 11 RECD

1. Under signal ref A(P5)51 dated 6 May '45, C.G. 15th Army Group has given Authority for leave to be granted to personnel of Italian Units NOT under Command of Armies to Area South of river Po and East of Line PARMA - LA SPEZIA, both of which towns are inclusive to leave area.

2. This authority amends the towns of para 6(a) of this HQ letter A/17 of 30 Dec, under the general towns of which leave will still continue to be granted.

Copies to: CA SEC
ECON. SEC
ESTAB. SEC
A.S. SAFETY 4/12
HQ COMAT
MT GROUP
ARMS 5 ARMY
AMG 7 ARMY
ADS

*Can collect
for 12/1*

W. Pulsberg
Colonel
for

SPA/wk

Copies to: AFHQ (5)
HQ 15 Army Group
CG MTOUSA
CG COMZONE MTOUSA
AAFSC/MTO
Rear 8 Army
Rear 5 Army
HQ 1 District (5)
HQ 2 District (5)
HQ 3 District (5)
PBS
PBS (SOUTHERN)

Major General,
M. M. I. A.

All MMIA LOs
ABDG
HQ A.C. (10)
'F' BLU RTC ICF
Air Force Sub Comm
Navy Sub Comm
G111 (I) MMIA
OC Br Cadre 804 IBRD
" " " 802 "
" " " 803 "

PA
431
[Signature]

[Handwritten signature]

2 2 2 1

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8252

~~SECRET~~

Ex Commr (S)

91
MAY 09 1745B

E/265
MAY 10 2150B
PRIORITY

From: GEN ROBERTSON
To: AFHQ AND ALCOR

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

MAY 11 REC'D

~~SECRET~~

I find that Italian service troops are deserting wholesale to return to their homes in north ITALY. I request that DIA take this up as strongly as possible and insist that energetic measures be taken to stop it.

Digt

Action - Land Forces SC 2
Info - A/President
Chief Commissioner
Exec Comm
File

See Min 102
Edo 104

430

HEADQUARTERS
11 MAY 1945
A. C.

~~SECRET~~

8
(HAS Sinc)

2224

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

785017

8252

EX-100

C 6690
MAY 6/1614B

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

D/9642
MAY 4/1830B
ROUTINE

From AFHQ
To: ALCOM

MAY 5 RECD

IS CLEAR.

Please pass following to Marshal NEDES from Field Marshal ALEXANDER.

Begins. I have received your excellency's letter with much appreciation, and thank you in the name of all the troops I command for your friendly sentiments. In the liberation of your country it has been of particular gratification to me that Italian regular troops and partisans have played such a useful and distinguished part in our recent great victory. With my greetings and best wishes. Ends

HEADQUARTERS
5 MAY 1945

DIST

ACTION : LAND FORCE 30 (2)
INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EZ COMMISSIONER
FILE (2)
FOAT

429

Handwritten signature

Handwritten signature
(Mrs SINS)

SUBJECT: Enlistment of Volunteer Specialists
Into Italian Army (BR-ITI's).

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E
TEL: 489081 Ext. 533
A 110

April 45

TO : Ministry of War.

MAY 1 1945

1. Authority is given for the direct enlistment into the Italian Army by Military Districts or Screening Detachments Types A & B of volunteers, of whatever class, who are qualified in the specialist trades shown in Appendix 'A'.

2. Volunteers enlisted will be despatched under arrangements of the nearest MHA LO as follows :-

From 5 and 8 Army Areas	To 802 BRD
From South of Army Boundaries	To nearest of 802, 803 and 804 BRD's

3. Volunteers of these trades enlisted in the Army Areas, if required immediately in units in 228 and 231 Administrative Divisions, or in Combat Groups, may be posted direct, under the direction of the competent Territorial HQ, provided they are to fill a vacancy on W.E. Administrative Divisions will pass back details of such posting to 802 BRD, Combat Groups to RTC ICF.

4. You are requested to send to MHA a weekly return (marked Volunteer specialists) of men enrolled into the Italian Army in this way, showing trades and where the men have been sent.

5. Orders for enrolment of volunteers into RTC ICF stand (vide our A 114 of 24 April).

~~SECRET~~

2. Volunteers enlisted will be despatched under arrangements of the nearest MIA LO as follows :-

From 5 and 8 Army Areas To 802 BRD

From South of Army Boundaries To nearest of 802, 803 and 804 BRD's

3. Volunteers of these trades enlisted in the Army Areas, if required immediately in units in 228 and 231 Administrative Divisions, or in Combat Groups, may be posted direct, under the direction of the competent Territorial HQ, provided they are to fill a vacancy on W.E. Administrative Divisions will pass back details of such posting to 802 BRD, Combat Groups to RTC ICF.

4. You are requested to send to MIA a weekly return (marked Volunteer specialists) of men enrolled into the Italian Army in this way, showing trades and where the men have been sent.

5. Orders for enrolment of volunteers into RTC ICF stand (vide our A 114 of 24 April).

6. The instructions contained in your 205059/11 Gabinetto of 28 February will continue to apply for volunteers other than the specialists listed in Appendix 'A'.

7. Owing to the urgent need of specialists, particularly of the mechanical trades, you are requested to take all steps to encourage the recruiting of such volunteers.

8. This instruction does not apply to US-ITI units as the personnel ceiling has already been exceeded.

DISTRIBUTION: See reverse.

ek

(MAG STERNS)

W. P. ...
for Major General *[Signature]*
M.M.I.A.

Appx 98 to MMIA letter
A 110 of 30 April 1945.

LIST OF SPECIALISTS.

Apparecchiatori telegrafonici	Electricians (Signals)
Armafoli	Armourers and armourer
Artificieri	mechanics
Alutanti di sanita	Ammunition examiners
Autieri meccanici	Medical orderlies
Aiuti radiologi	Driver mechanics
Autieri radiotelegrafisti	Radiographer
Autieri	Driver operators
Autieri conduttori di mezzi cingolati	Drivers
Carpentieri	Carrier Drivers
Carrozzeri	Carpenters
Centralinisti (genio)	Coach builders
	Switchboard operators
Cifratori	(signals)
Disegnatori	Cipher operators
Elettrici	Draughtsmen
Fabbri	Electricians
Falegnami (da banco)	Blacksmiths
Infermieri	Joiners
Interpreti	Nursing orderlies
Lamieristi	Interpreters
Latttonieri	Sheet metal workers
Macchinisti	Plumbers
Maniscalchi	Machinists
Meccanici di precisione	Farriers
Meccanici elettricisti	Instrument mechanics
Meccanici ferroviari	Electrical mechanics
Meccanici mot.per autoveicoli	Railway mechanics
Meccanici per materiali dei Collegamenti	Vehicle mechanics
Meccanici per motopompe	Instrument mechanics
Minatori	Engine fitters I.C. & pumps
Montatori (Capi tecnici)	Miners
Montatori per macchine a vapore	Armament artificers
Motocilisti	Engine fitters (S.R.)
Muratori	Motorcyclists
Operai di artiglieria	Masons
Panettieri	Gun fitters
Pontieri	Bakers

Elettricisti	Blacksmiths
Fabbri	Joiners
Falegnami (da banco)	Nursing orderlies
Infermieri	Interpreters
Interpreti	Sheet metal workers
Lamieristi	Plumbers
Latttonieri	Mechanists
Macchinisti	Farriers
Maniscalchi	Instrument mechanics
Meccanici di precisione	Electrical mechanics
Meccanici elettricisti	Railway mechanics
Meccanici ferroviari	Vehicle mechanics
Meccanici mot.per autociccoli	Instrument mechanics
Meccanici per materiali dei Collegamenti	Engine fitters I.C. & pumps
Meccanici per motopompe	Miners
Minatori	Armament artificers
Montatori (Capi tecnici)	Engine fitters (S.R.)
Montatori per macchine a vapore	Motorcyclists
Motociclisti	Masons
Muratori	Gun fitters
Operai di artiglieria	Bakers
Panettieri	Bridging engineers
Pontieri	Instrument mechanics ²⁷ signals)
Radiomontatori	Wireless operators (other arms)
Radiotelegrafisti (altre armi)	Wireless operators (Signals)
Radiotelegrafisti (genio)	Riveters
Rivettatori	Welders (acetylene)
Baldatori autogeno	Welders (electric)
Saldatori elettrici	Technical Assistant (Artillery)
Specializzati per il tiro	Line operators (other arms)
Telegrafisti(altre armi)	Line operators (Signals)
Telegrafisti(genio)	Operators (keyboard)
Telescriventisti	Survey officers
Topografi (ufficiali)	Turners
Tornitori	Pipe fitters
Tubisti (idraulici)	Painters
Verniciatori	Vulcanisers
Vulcanizzatori	

8252.6
COPY IN COMING SIGNAL

FROM : MMIA LO SARDINIA SIGNED ALB RT

TO : MMIA

INFO : PERSCUTH
PERSCUTH FOR MMIA LO
DISTANCE
MOV NAPLES
APHQ

Passed by MMIA
Sigs

REF : Y 306

151150 B

APR 17 REC'D
SECRET

IMMEDIATE

INTEND LOAD FOLLOWING ITALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL ON CRUISER
MONTECUCCOLI 970 RECRUITS 10/9 CORR REPORT (*)
IN ADDITION WILL DEPART 18 ITALIAN SERVICEMEN BELONGING 226
AC COY ROBE (*) ETA DUE TO 17 APR

SD DISTRIBUTION:

Action copy : SD/67

A

MOV (2)

Info : AC

tva. 16 Apr 45

425

PA
[Signature]
16/4

2 2 2 8

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

8252

96

SD/94/3.

13 April 1945.

APR 14 REC'D

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The desire expressed in your letter, 27/4 of 2 April to transfer the 210, 228 and 231 Divisions and Units under their administrative command from Category 3 to Category 2 status is fully appreciated.

The basic difference between Category 2 and Category 3 does not, however, lie in a differentiation between the tasks, which the Italian troops operating in this theatre are called up to do, but solely in the provision of equipment. Category 2 troops are equipped entirely with clothing, personal weapons, guns, specialist equipment and vehicles similar to those in use by British fighting troops. Category 3 units do not have British clothing similar to that in use by the British Army and are only equipped with British equipment when Italian Army equipment is not available. The number of troops which can be included in Category 2 is determined, therefore, by the quantity of all types of equipment, which can be spared over and above current British Army requirements.

When Field Marshal ALEXANDER discussed, in LONDON, the question of raising an Italian Combat Force, the War Office agreed to make available the equivalent of 3 British Infantry Divisions' worth of equipment for 6 Italian Combat Groups. Since then the scale of equipment for the Combat Groups has been increased and might well be increased again, so that it is unlikely that there will be any surplus equipment available after the requirements of the five Combat Groups and the Italian Reinforcement Training Centre (i.e. present ceiling of 57,000) are met. Any increase in the number of Units for which equipment must be found from this original allocation will thus react unfavourably on the scale which can be provided for the Combat Groups.

I regret, therefore, that the transfer of 210, 228 and 231 Divisions from Category 3 to Category 2 cannot be agreed to and I am sure that from the above you will realise why this is not possible.

Yours very truly, 424 PA

17/4

ELERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
R O M E.

See M 95

8252
HEADQUARTERS 15TH ARMY GROUP
G-5 SECTION
APO 777

EX-Commissioner
1892
PFJ/mjm

Ref: G-5/16/3A

7 April 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Army "Industrial Parties".

APR - 4 1945

TO : Office of the Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters Allied Commission.

1. Reference your 8252/87/EC, dated 2 April 45, received at this office on 6 April.

2. An inquiry at this Headquarters has been made from which it is learned that official sanction to these Italian Army "Industrial Parties" has been given by AFHQ and they have been ordered to form. A signal from AFHQ to MMIA was dispatched on or about 1 April confirming this instruction.

W. T. James

Lt Colonel
for DCCAO

423

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

SUBJECT: Transfer of 210, 226 and 231 Divs
from Category 3 to Category 2

8252

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.
 (M.M.I.A.)
 File No: SD/94/3
 April 45.

APR - 7 1945

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C. ←

Ref DO letter, 274 of 2 April, from the President of the
 Council of Ministers to Admiral STONE, herewith suggested reply to
 be sent to Signor BONCHI explaining to the latter why his request
 cannot be agreed to.

tvs.

L. Browning

Major General
 M.M.I.A.

see 96

422

(MAS STEARNS)

PA
[Signature]

DRAFT

SUBJECT: Transfer of 210, 228 and 231 Divs
from Category 3 to Category 2

My Dear

The desire expressed in your letter, 274 of 2 April to transfer the 210, 228 and 231 Divs and Units under their adm comd from Category 3 to Category 2 status is fully appreciated.

The basic difference between Category 2 and Category 3 does not, however, lie in a differentiation between the tasks, which the Italian troops operating in this theatre are called up to do, but solely in the provision of equipment. Category 2 troops are equipped entirely with clothing, personal weapons, guns, specialist equipment and vehicles similar to those in use by British fighting troops. Category 3 Units do not have British clothing similar to that in use by the British Army and are only equipped with British equipment when Italian Army equipment is not available. The number of troops which can be included in Category 2 is determined, therefore, by the quantity of all types of equipment, which can be spared over and above current British Army requirements.

When Field Marshal ALEXANDER discussed, in LONDON, the question of raising an Italian Combat Force, the War Office agreed to make available the equivalent of 3 British Infantry Divisions worth of equipment.

3 does not, however, lie in a differentiation between the tasks, which the Italian ^{tps} operating in this theatre are called up to do, but solely in the provision of equipment. Category 2 troops are equipped entirely with clothing, personal weapons, guns, specialist equipment and vehicles similar to those in use by British fighting troops. Category 3 Units do not have British clothing similar to that in use by the British Army and are only equipped with British equipment when Italian Army equipment is not available. The number of troops which can be included in Category 2 is determined, therefore, by the quantity of all types of equipment, which can be spared over and above current British Army requirements.

When Field Marshal ALEXANDER discussed, in LONDON²¹, the question of raising an Italian Combat Force, the War Office agreed to make available the equivalent of 3 British Infantry Divisions' worth of equipment for 6 Italian Combat Groups. Since then the scale of equipment for the Combat Groups has been increased and might well be increased again, so that it is unlikely that there will be any surplus equipment available after the requirements of the five Combat Groups and the Italian Reinforcement Trg Centre (i.e. present ceiling of 57,000) are met. Any increase in the number of Units for which equipment must be found from this original allocation will thus react unfavourably on the scale which can be provided for the Combat Groups.

I regret, therefore, that the transfer of 210, 228 and 231 Divs from Category 3 to Category 2 cannot be agreed to and I am sure that from the above you will realise why this is not possible.

E.E. SIMON I. BONMI.

*Draft by Land Forces
S/L
see 96*

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017TranslationThe President of the Council of Ministers
274

8252

89

Rome, 2 April 1945

APR 3 1945

Dear Admiral,

among the auxiliary forces which, besides the operating ones, the Italian Army put at the disposal of the Allies, are the 210, 228, and 231 divisions which are operating in contact with and in the zone of the big allied operating units.

Of those, the 210 division operates under the 5th American army; the 228 under the 8th British army; and the 231 under the 5th American army for the services of the XIII British army corps.

Because of the tasks assigned to the said divisions, they include among others, various pack train, pioneers, and engineers units, for supply in advanced zones, mine-clearing, road-repairs, etc.

While fulfilling their duty, these units, to which 1500 men have to be sent monthly to make up for the losses they suffer, have now had numerous fighting episodes, and many allied acknowledgements; among which the one which appeared in the communique of March 20th of the Command of the 5th Army.

However, the troops of the said three divisions are included in the 3rd category, together with the units which are employed in the country for the maintenance of harbours, depots and such like.

Therefore, for reasons of justice, and leaving aside all other motives, the 210, 228, and 231 divisions ought to be transferred from the third to the second category, in addition to the 57,000 men of the combat formations to which they actually belong.

Such a regulation would of course have a great effect on the moral and therefore on the efficiency of the troops concerned.

I therefore beg you to see whether it would be possible to change the category of the said divisions.

Truly yours,

S. I. Bonomi

420

Admiral Hilary N. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the
Allied Commission
Rome

S.C.

E.C. Dist - APR 3 1945

Action - LAND FORCES 3/c

Info - C. Com

Ex. Com

PA. 85

2234

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

785017

CC.

Watch for telegram or letter
from AFHQ or 15 Army Group
mentioned in minute 88.

JCP

4/4

2 2 3 3

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785617

Col. Young
Tel Ext 341

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

LWS/el
87

Ref. 8252/87/30

2 April 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Army "Industrial Parties"

TO : G-5, Hq 15th Army Group

1. Attention is invited to the enclosed copy of letter from the Stato Maggiore Generale, Italian Government, concerning the formation of "industrial parties" to be used in connection with 15th Army Group operations.

2. While the release of the personnel concerned (excepting RICCI) has the approval of the subcommissions concerned, the Land Forces Subcommittee informs us that it has no knowledge of the official formation of any such organization. Accordingly, the matter was referred to G-3 Org AFHQ who in turn stated that they are not authorized. G (Int) AFHQ also reported that they had no record of any such formation.

3. It will be appreciated if you can inform this Headquarters as to whether or not these parties have the approval and sanction of Hq 15th Army Group.

For the Chief Commissioner:

1 Incl.
as above

81
81
81
Colonel
Acting Executive Commissioner

419
BU Noted
6/4

2235
785117
8252
RESTRICTED

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

RHF/1ja

83

AG 000.76/141 GAP-O

27 March 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Army Newspaper

MAR 28 1945

TO: Commanding Generals:
15th Army Group, APO 777
Fifth Army, APO 464 (For Br Inc for "A")
Rome Area Allied Command, APO 794
Headquarters, Eighth Army (Rear)
General Officers Commanding:
Number 1 District
Number 2 District
Number 3 District

1. Approval has been given for the publication of an official ITALIAN Army newspaper named "LA PATRIA". This is published on six days of the week and there is also a Sunday edition named "ITALIA".
2. These papers are distributed through ITALIAN Army channels to all soldiers of the ITALIAN Army on a scale of approximately one to seven.
3. Publication is supervised by MMIA.
4. Inquiries from Allied sources should be addressed to MMIA, and those from ITALIAN sources to the ITALIAN Ministry of War.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

C. W. Christensen
C. W. CHRISTENSEN
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

5 - Each Addressee	1 - G-1 (A)
5 - AAF/AFPO	1 - G-1 (B)
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5 - Hq Command, AF	
5 - Alcom	
5 - MMIA	
5 - Fifth Army	

RESTRICTED

See file 47A
418
PA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017Subject: Recall of Italian Officers for Industrial Parties56 BLU
8 G

(82)

A.C. Office of the Executive Commissioner

MMIA.

26 Mar 45.

(81)

MAR 28 1945

Ref MMIA letter SD/18 dated 22 March 45.

1. The above letter, herewith attached is forwarded ~~for your~~
~~attention.~~ This letter was addressed to this HQ in error.

In the Field.
DP/owfLt-Col.
GS.

417

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

(81)

SUBJECT: Recall of Italian Officers for "Industrial Parties"

474.

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

File No: SD/18

TO : A.C. Office of the Executive
Commissioner

22 Mar. 45

MAR 28 1945

(17)

Ref your letter 8252/EC dated 13 March 45.

1. This HQ has no knowledge of the industrial parties referred to and G 3 Org AFHQ state that they are not authorized.
2. G (Int) AFHQ similarly have no record of the formation of such industrial parties.
3. Conversation your LO - Gill(1) this HQ. 22 March refers.

Internal: GS 1
A

H.R. Selby, Capt
Major General.
M.M.I.A.

ma.

416
See M. 84 + 85, 86, 88.

CONFIDENTIAL

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.I.A.)

A. 020

23 March 45

MAR 26 1945

TO : Ministry of War (2).

Copy to: See Distribution.

ITALIAN ARMY - OFFICERS.

In accordance with the orders of the Supreme Allied Commander, as published in M.I.A. Administrative Instruction No 18 of 1 Dec 1944 (paras 4c, 9b and d, and 12), the following procedure will be adopted for the supervision of officers' appointments.

1. Appointments, promotions, transfers, dismissals or disciplinary measures in respect of Italian Army Officers will be effected by the Ministry of War in accordance with Italian Army Regulations and subject to the following supervision by M.I.A.

2. Italian Officers for these purposes will be classified as follows:-

Grade I General Officers

Grade II Colonels, Lt Cols and Majors

Grade III Captains and Subalterns

3. Appropriate action will be taken in one of the following ways:-

(a) Disciplinary Action for breach of military discipline under Italian Military Law.

(b) Adverse Report for inefficiency as an officer.

(c) Misconduct Report for unsuitability in present employment.

(d) Favourable Report for officers recommended for advancement on account of good work.

In each case the recognised Italian methods and procedures will be used where time permits. Otherwise more rapid means will be taken at the discretion of the originating officer (Allied or Italian).

Grade II Colonels, Lt Cols and Majors

Grade III Captains and Subalterns

3. Appropriate action will be taken in one of the following ways :-

- (a) Disciplinary Action for breach of military discipline under Italian Military Law.
- (b) Adverse Report for inefficiency as an officer.
- (c) Misplacement Report for unsuitability in present employment.
- (d) Favourable Report for officers recommended for advancement on account of good work.

In each case the recognised Italian methods and procedures will be used where time permits. Otherwise more rapid means will be taken at the discretion of the originating officer (Allied or Italian).

4. Action may be originated by :-

- (a) The Allied Commander (or his Liaison Staff Officer) in the case of troops maintained by the Allies (BR-ITI and US-ITI), or of other troops directly under Allied Command.
- (b) The Director MMIA, in the case of troops maintained internationally (ITI-ITI), but not directly under Allied Command.
- (c) The Commanding Officer (Italian) of the officer concerned, in the case of a unit of any category.

5. Action originated by an Allied authority (including Director MMIA) will proceed as follows :-

Grade I (and Colonels) will be referred fully by the Allied Commander concerned to MMIA for action with the Ministry of War. The Commanding officer (Italian) of the officer concerned will be informed of action being taken, to enable him to pass his opinion to the Ministry of War through Italian channels.

EC ITI 26 FIVE

ESTAB SEC (2)

EX Command (1)

5. (Cont'd)

- 2 -

Grade II

Colonels as for Grade I above.

Lt. Cols and Majors will be referred to the Commanding Officer (Italian) concerned (with copy to MMIA) for necessary action through Italian channels to the Ministry of War who will report action taken to MMIA. If satisfactory results are not obtained within reasonable time, a report will be made through normal Allied channels to the appropriate Army, District or Base Section Commander for reference to the Senior Italian authority under his command. If this fails to achieve its object a full report (with recommendation) will be made by the Allied Commander direct to MMIA for action with the Ministry of War.

Grade III

Will be dealt with through Italian channels except in a serious case or when the officer concerned has previously been reported on by an Allied Commander when it will be dealt with as for Grade II.

6. Action originated by the Commanding Officer (Italian) will proceed as follows :-

Grade I

(and Colonels) will be referred through Italian Channels to Ministry of War who will only take action after consultation with MMIA. If the officer is in a unit under Allied Command, the Allied Commander concerned will be informed (through the appropriate Liaison Officer) so that he may forward his opinion (either with the report or separately) to MMIA.

Grade II

Colonels, as for Grade I above.

Lt. Cols and Majors will be dealt with through Italian channels to the Ministry of War, who will report action to MMIA. The appropriate Allied Commander or his Liaison Officer will be informed of the recommendation and of its result.

Grade III

Will be dealt with through Italian channels except in a serious case or when the officer has previously been reported on by an Allied Commander, when it will be dealt with as for Grade II.

Grade I

(and Colonels) will be referred through Italian Channels to Ministry of War who will only take action after consultation with MMIA. If the officer is in a unit under Allied Command, the Allied Commander concerned will be informed (through the appropriate Liaison Officer) so that he may forward his opinion (either with the report or separately) to MMIA.

Grade II.

Colonels, as for Grade I above.

Lt. Cols and Majors will be dealt with through Italian channels to the Ministry of War, who will report action to MMIA. The appropriate Allied Commander or his Liaison Officer will be informed of the recommendation and of its result.

Grade III

Will be dealt with through Italian channels except in a serious case or when the officer has previously been reported on by an Allied Commander, when it will be dealt with as for Grade II.

7. The filling of appointments which have become vacant for any cause, is the responsibility of the War Ministry. When caused by action under paras 5 or 6 above, or where the officer proposed to fill the appointment has been involved in such action, the proposal will first be referred to MMIA.

8. An officer removed from an appointment on the recommendation of an Allied Commander will not be re-employed except with the approval of MMIA.

9. In any case where an Allied Commander considers that an Italian Officer should be dismissed from the army, a full report is sent by that Allied Commander to MMIA, whose responsibility it is to ensure that such action is taken as is warranted by the facts of the case (vide Adm. Instr. No. 18 para 12).

10. The above procedure does not affect :..

- (a) The authority of any Allied Commander to suspend from duty temporarily any Italian Officer placed under his Command who fails in his duties (referred to in MMIA Adm Instruction No. 18 para 9(b).)

79

- 3 -

10 (Cont'd)

(b) The recognised procedure for placing under arrest or on charge any officer accused of any breach of Italian military law.

11. If there is any doubt as to the correct procedure in any case not covered by the above instructions, the matter is to be referred to MMIA for decision.

W. P. Piddsey
Major General
M.M.I.A.

DISTRIBUTION:

AFHQ for G-1 (BR) (10)
HQ 15 Army Group (10)
5 Army (10)
8 Army (10)
HQ 1 Dist (5)
HQ 2 Dist (5)
HQ 3 Dist (5)
Executive Commissioner AC (3)
Navy Sub Commission
Air Sub Commission
Senior MMIA LO Sardinia
Senior MMIA LO Sicily
Senior MMIA LO Naples
MMIA LO Rear EIGHTH Army
MMIA LO Rear FIFTH Army (Br Iner)
MMIA LO Fifth Army
MMIA LO 1 District
MMIA LO 3 District

MMIA LO 54 Area
MMIA LO 52 Area
MMIA LO Trani Camp
MMIA LO 52 ELU
MMIA LO 53 ELU
MMIA LO 56 ELU
50 ELU
51 ELU
52 ELU
53 ELU
56 ELU
"P" ELU
CC British Cadre - ORVIETO
CC British Cadre - AFRAGOLA
HQ RMAC (2)

414

8252
MAR 24 1945

78

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

JG/afg

23 March 1945

CC 507

Subject: Lieutenant Grottanelli
N/REC

To: Land Forces Subcommittee (MMIA)
Attention: Colonel Kerr

1. Attached is a copy of Italian General Staff letter 31352/AV from General Mancinelli to the Chief Commissioner (MMIA was on previous distribution, but letter appears to have been mislaid).
2. It is understood from conversation with Major Stearns that the arrangement confirmed in this letter by General Mancinelli does not conform to MMIA's T/C provisions for the Italian General Staff. At the same time the status which has now been apparently achieved is very satisfactory to the Chief Commissioner.
3. It would accordingly be very much appreciated if the matter could be allowed to stand in accordance with General Mancinelli's letter.

J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to CC

cc: Executive Commissioner

413

Has Stearns

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "JG/afg" and "24/3".

Ref: 6252/SC.

Subject: Recall of Italian Officers
for "Industrial Parties".

To: Land Forces Sub Commission (MFA)
(Attn: Lt.Col. IMMERMAN).

Reference our conversation, I enclose letter and translation
from the Stato Maggiore Generale "I" Service.

I should be grateful if you would give us your views on this
and also confirm that the approval of AFHQ for the formation of these
industrial parties has been given.

Major E. Talbot

Major,
Chief Staff Officer,
to Executive Commissioner.

412

411

BU 18/2

2247

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

Chief Staff Officer,
to Executive Commission.

412

411

Jul 11

130 18/12
Hobbs

1/5/53

100

STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

"I" Service

P.M. 3800, 13 March 1945

File No. 75258/3*/4

SUBJECT: Possible temporary call for active service of Italian Reserve Officers now serving as civilians with the Allied Commission.

TO: ALLIED COMMISSION HQ - Rome ✓

With the approval of AFHQ, this service is organizing three "Industrial Parties" to be put at the disposal of 15th Army Group, 5th and 8th Army. These parties should be employed in the zone at present occupied by the Germans in the course of its liberation.

The personnel forming these parties, besides the necessary trustworthiness and morality are to have special technical knowledge and be acquainted with the industrial organization of the region in which their activity will be carried out.

For this reason the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Labour and the General Confederation of Industry have been requested to submit a list of technicians up to the abovesaid conditions; these men will be called back into active service with their Reserve rank.

In said list the following Italian personnel serving with the AC are included:

Lt. Cmdr.	Pietro APOSTOLO	- Liaison Officer to Chief Commissioner
Capt.	Mario COSULICH	- Industry S/C -
Lt.	Ennio RICCI	- Food S/C
Lt.	Mario SIGNORA	- Industry S/C -
Lt.	Renzo SACERDOTE	- Industry S/C/.

Therefore the approval of AC HQ for a possible temporary call back into active service of the above listed officers (with the exclusion of Lt. Cmdr. Apostolo, who is already serving with the Italian Navy) is requested.

Said active service shall be limited within the period that, according to the HQs of the Allied Armies, will be necessary to

see M8K 35.1.1

=/n

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

785017

m/m

carry out the tasks assigned to the Industrial Parties.

The employment relations of the abovesaid personnel with AC will be resumed when the mission above indicated will be accomplished.

Sgd. THE CHIEF OF THE BRANCH
(Col. Pompee Agrifoglio)

Pd

2250

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

785017

8252

75

S I G N A L

FROM: MMIA

TO : AFHQ

Date Time
02 16 20 A MAR 3 - 1945

SD 2379

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Restricted

REF MY S D 2231 OF 3 FEB (.) REQUEST YOU STATE
PRESENT POSITION

PRECEDENCE

AUTHENTICATED

L. M. J. [Signature]
SK-CC

EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER

Internal: ~~SECRET~~
PW SUB COM (Ref LPW/1/10/5 of 25 Jan)
REPATRIATION SUB COM.

Office Int.: AQ
Mov (2)
File: SD/152/2

WS

409

PAB

File

Extract of Minutes of Executive Commissioner's Meeting held on 20 February 1945.

Women's Auxiliary Corps. VP Est Sec said that a deputation had been made by the Women's Auxiliary Corps, stating that they wished to become part of the Italian Army, and asking for an interview with the CC. Land Forces Sub-Commission asked that this enquiry should be channelled through the Italian Ministry of War to Land Forces Sub Comm.

Women's Auxiliary Corps. VP Est Sec said that a deputation had been made by the Women's Auxiliary Corps, stating that they wished to become part of the Italian Army, and asking for an interview with the CC. Land Forces Sub-Commission asked that this enquiry should be channeled through the Italian Ministry of War to Land Forces Sub Comm.

Tel. Ext. 412

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
G-1 (B)

REFERENCE : G-1B/617/I

15 February 1945

SUBJECT : Postal Arrangements - Italian
Military Personnel.
TO : Distribution Below.

FEB 16 1945

1. Individual members of the Italian Forces serving with this Formation will use the following postal address:-

Rank, Full Name,
Italian P.M. 900,
NAPLES, ITALY

This address will be written at the head of each letter and also on the back of the envelope.

2. Personnel using the P.M. 900 address must notify the

Censura Militare.
7 Base Censor Group,
C.M.F.

of their full name, rank and name of the unit with which they are serving. The Censura Militare will keep a record of these personnel and redirect any mail to the unit with which the man is serving.

3. Units with which Italian personnel are serving will arrange for letters written by them to be enclosed in bags or sealed packages addressed to Censura Militare, 7 Base Censor Group, C.M.F., and handed to the Army Post Office by which they are served.

BY COLLAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE

407

Admiral Stone
Sir J.E.T. RITCHIE Bt.
Lt. Colonel

2. Personnel using the P.M. 900 address must notify the

Censura Militare.
7 Base Censor Group,
C.M.F.

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The Censura Militare will keep a record of these personnel and redirect any mail to the unit with which the man is serving.

3. Units with which Italian personnel are serving will arrange for letters written by them to be enclosed in bags or sealed packages addressed to Censura Militare, 7 Base Censor Group, C.M.F., and handed to the Army Post Office by which they are served.

BY COMMAND OF REAR ADMIRAL STONE

407

Ca. V. ...
Sir J.E.F. RITCHIE Bt.

Lt. Colonel,
G-1 (B)

/ap

DISTRIBUTION:

Regional Commissioner,	Sicilia Region,	Reg. Comm. Lombardia Region
"	Southern Region	" " Venezia Region
"	Lazio-Umbria Reg.	Director, Displ. Pers. & Rep. S/C
"	Abruzzi-Marche Reg.	" " Transportation S/C
"	Sardegna Region	" " Communications S/C
"	Toscana Region	C.S.O. Chief of Staff Office
"	Emilia Region	C.S.O. Civil Affairs Section
"	Liguria Region	H.Q. Commandant
"	Piemonte Region	

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

C O P Y

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT : Repatriates from BALKANS who have
deserted from ST ANDREWS Camp

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. SD/41/3
5 Feb 45

TO : AFHQ

FEB 15 1945

Your ref. AG 014.33/071 GCT-0 dated 31 Jan 45.

1. The number of desertions, 644, from ST ANDREWS Camp is the number that have taken place since ST ANDREWS started operating 11 Nov 44 and is the accumulated total:
2. There were only 152 people in ST ANDREWS 2 Feb 45. However, the camp commandant has been instructed that guard measures be stringently tightened to prevent further desertions.

/s/ Rex E. Finkley
Major General
M.M.I.A.

Copy to : MMIA LO 52 Area.

406

ACTION COPY FILE 8266/COS

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

Ref: 8252/68/CCS.

12 February 1945.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

Reference your 25070/16380/19.10 of 31 January 1945.

Prior to 1 December 1944, soldiers were permitted to remain in Army hospitals up to thirty days. Since that date, the time has been extended to sixty days. Provisions are made, and well known in the Italian Army, that it is possible for soldiers to remain in hospital over sixty days in cases where transfer to a civilian hospital would not be medically advisable.

The Italian Army has a fixed ceiling, and the personnel within that ceiling must be effective. Therefore, it is not possible to carry in the strength of the Army men who are absent for any reason for indefinite periods, as this would result in a large part of the authorized ceiling not being available for duty.

The case of men who are discharged from Army hospitals and who require further hospitalization must be a civil responsibility, and I suggest that active interest be taken by your Government to meet this responsibility, to which the attention of the War Ministry was called last August.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

H.E. Ivanoe Bonomi,
President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
ROME.

Copy To: NANO FORCES SC
(ref. Aq/2 dated 5 Feb 45)

(68)

(64)

405

8252 *19*

63A

Subject: Desertions in Italian Army

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M. M. I. A.) R O M E
AQ/11/3

7 Feb 45.

CHIEF OF STAFF, ALLIED COMMISSION

52
FEB 8 1945

1. As was pointed out in our AQ/11/3 of 25 Jan, "leave is authorised for 7 days, exclusive of travelling time, once in 6 months".
2. It is disobedience of AFHQ's orders to give leave otherwise. The enforcement of those orders is the duty of the Italian commanders concerned, under supervision of the Allied operational command (eg. 1 District, 5 Army, etc.) with whom those Italian units are serving and who know the orders.

LB/wk

see Cable Feb 56
S. P. ARCHER, Capt.
for Major General,
M. M. I. A.

404

see Minute 70

2258

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

8253 553

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: Regional Data

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. SD/71
Feb 45

TO : ALL OFFICERS
HQ MMIA

FEB 6 1945

1. Attached at Appendix "A" is list showing A.C. Regions, location of HQs, and Regional Commissioners.
2. Copies of correspondence on subjects affecting Regions (i.e. Call-up notices etc) will in future be sent to the Regional Commissioner concerned.

L.M. Ingledew

Lt. Col.
G. S.

WS

Chief of Staff's Sec. AC.

403.

Please see this for inf.

We are trying to ~~plan~~ plan, so help us if we go wrong!

MMIA.
5 Feb.

PA *Blk*

PA

Mr. Col

REGIONAL DATA

<u>REGION</u>	<u>FORMERLY</u>	<u>2675 REGT COY</u>	<u>R.C. or S.C.A.O.</u>	<u>LOCAL</u>
SICILIA	I	A	Brig. M. CARR, CBE., MC	PAIERMO,
SARDEGNA	VI	F	Col. J.A.C. PENNYCUICK, DSO	CAGLIARI
SOUTHERN	II, III & VII	C	Brig. J. K. DUNLOP, OBE., MC., TD	NAPLES,
LAZIO	IV	D	Col. C. POLETTI	ROME, ITA
ABRUZZI-MARCHE	V	E	Col. C.H.A. FRENCH, MC	AQUILA, I
TOSCANA	VIII	H	Col. R.G. KIRKWOOD	MONTECATI
EMILIA	IX	I	Col. Alfred C. BOWMAN	RICCIONE,
LIGURIA)	X	N	Col. G.C. FEASEY (A/RC)	CHIANCIA
PIEMONTE }		S	Col. Robert P. MARSHALL	"
LOMBARDIA	XI	R	Lt. Col. A.S. GILES (A/RC)	"
VENEZIA	XII	M	Lt. Col. N. PAIGE	MONDAINO,
AMG 5TH ARMY	—	G	Brig. Gen E.E. HUME	-----
AMG 8TH ARMY	—	G	Group Capt. C.E. BENSON, DSO	-----

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

~~SECRET~~

Appendix "A" to MMIA letter
SD/71 of February 1945

L D A T A

L.C. or S.C.A.O.

LOCATION

M. CARR, CHE., MC
J.A.C. PENNYQUICK, DSO
J. K. DUNLOP, OBE., MC., TD
C. POLETTI
C.H.A. FRENCH, MC
R.G. KIRKWOOD
Alfred C. BOWMAN
G.C. FEASEY (A/RC)
Robert P. MARSHALL
Col. A.S. GILES (A/RC)
Col. N. PAIGE
g. Gen E.E. HUME
p Capt. C.E. BENSON, DSO

PAERMO, SICILY
CAGLIARI, SARDINIA
NAPLES, ITALY
ROME, ITALY
AQUILA, ITALY
MONTECATINI, ITALY
RICCIONE, ITALY
CHIANCIANO, ITALY
" "
" "
MONDAINO, ITALY

2281

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

785017

8252

File

68D

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 6 February 1945.

Civilian Drivers. Land Forces Sub-Commission reported that AFHQ could not train the forty Italian soldiers provided, as their commitments were full. Econ Sec suggested that the soldiers be trained at a school in Rome, and COS agreed.

401

~~SECRET~~

Ref: 8252/COS.

6 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Italian GP Companies for AG.

TO : DDCS Economic Section.

1. Letter from AFHQ dated 3 February 1945, AG 091.711/057 GCP-O, with attachments is forwarded to you for immediate attention of the Transportation Sub-Commission and appropriate action.

2. Please prepare letter for signature of the Chief Commissioner embodying comments as requested in paragraph 4 of AFHQ letter.

4 Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

Encls:

1. AFHQ letter AG 091.711/057 GCP-O dated 3 February 1945.
2. HQ Motor Company W.E. III/116/1.
3. Four Transport Pls. W.E. III/117/2.
4. Two Relief Driver Increments W.E. III/121/2.
5. Workshops Serial III W.E. III/122/3.

400

Copies (less enclosures) to:

A/President, AG.
Land Forces Sub-Commission.
File 5804/COS.
File 5820/COS.

8252

JC/awm

RESTRICTED

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

So.
S/V
3 February 1945

AG 091.711/057 GCT-O

SUBJECT: Italian General Transport Companies for the Allied Commission.

TO : President, Allied Commission, APO 394.
Major General, Land Forces Sub Commission (MMIA) ✓

1. Following the establishment of a school for driver-training, it will be necessary to arrange for the organization of GT Companies as drivers become available.

2. The following War Establishments are strongly recommended:

Headquarters Motor Company
Four Transport Platoons
Two Relief Driver Increments
Workshops Serial 3

III/116/2 -
III/117/2
III/121/2 ✓
III/122/3 ✓

3. It is considered that in view of the extreme shortage of Italian Army Workshop personnel, the Workshops Serial 3 should be implemented with civilians.

4. Addressees are requested to comment jointly on the above proposals as soon as possible.

By command of Field Marshal ALEXANDER:

R. H. Frese
R. H. FRESE,
Captain, AGD,
Asst Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - Ea Addressee
- 1 - G-4
- 1 - G-5
- 1 - Q(Maint)
- 1 - Q(AE)
- 1 - S & T
- 2 - G-3 (Org) Foreign
- 2 - AG Records

399

RESTRICTED

689

CONFIDENTIAL

III/117/2

A TRANSPORT PLATOON
in a
Mechanical Transport Company.

(i) Personnel.

<u>Pl. HQ.</u>	<u>Offrs.</u>	<u>NCOs.</u>	<u>ORs.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pl. Comd. (Subaltern)	1	-	-	1
Sgt.	-	1	-	1
L/Sgt. (Opl) Admin.	-	1	-	1
Fitter	-	-	1	1
Cook, AOC (at...)	-	-	2	2
Dvrs. I.C. Vehs.	-	-	5	5
Batman-Driver.	-	-	1	1
Clerk.	-	-	1	1
IME Crew. (incl. L/Opl and Driver I.C.)	-	1	2	3
M/C Riders.	-	-	2	2
Water Duties.	-	-	1	1
Spare drivers. (incl. L/Opl.)	-	1	7	8
Total Pl. HQ.	1	4	22	27
5 Secs each of:-				
Opl.	-	1	-	1
Dvr. Mech.	-	-	1	1
Dvrs I.C. (incl. L/Opl.)	-	1	4	5
Total 1 Sec.	-	2	5	7
Total A FTY PL.	1	14	47	62

(ii) Tot.

<u>Pl. HQ.</u>	<u>5 tonners.</u>	<u>15 cwt.</u>	<u>Water Trucks.</u>	<u>M/Co.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
	4	2	1	3	10
					398
5 Secs.	30	-	-	5	35
Total A FTY PL.	34	2	1	8	45

2-2-6-51

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

785017

Land Forces
Sub Commission, AC (MMIA)
Rome
AQ/2

February 1945

To : ✓ Chief of Staff, Allied Commission

Reference your 8252/58/COS of 2 February 1945

Attached is draft reply.

CPK/lak

1 Incl: Draft

CLAYTON P. KERR
Colonel, Infantry

397

see Minutes 65 to 67
and folio 68

DRAFT

My dear Prime Minister

~~Your Excellency:~~

Reference your 25070/16380/19.10 of 31 January 1945

Prior to 1 December 1944, soldiers were permitted to remain in Army hospitals up to thirty days. Since that date, the time has been extended to sixty days. Provisions are made, and well known in the Italian Army, that it is possible for soldiers to remain in hospital over sixty days in cases where transfer to a civilian hospital would not be medically advisable.

The Italian Army has a fixed ceiling, and the personnel within that ceiling must be effective. Therefore it is not possible to carry in the strength of the Army, men who are absent for any reason for indefinite periods, as this would result in a large part of the authorized ceiling not being available for duty.

The case of men who are discharged from Army hospitals and who require further hospitalization must be a civil responsibility, ^{and} ~~as it is in the United States~~. I can ^{only} suggest that active interest be taken by the ^{your} Civil Government to meet this responsibility, ^{to} which was called to the attention of the War Ministry ~~and the Civil Government~~ last August. 396

H.C. I. Brown
President of the
Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome.

Yours sincerely

Ellery W. Stone
Rear Admiral USNR
Chief Commissioner

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AP 794

AG. 014.33/071 GCT-O

31 January 1945

FEB 6 1945

SUBJECT : Repatriation from BALKANS and FRANCE.

TO : President, Allied Commission, APO 394
For: Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA)

1. Reference is made to your S/G/31/2 of 26 January 1945.

2. Under paragraph 1 (b) of the above letter it is noted that a figure of 644 is shown as having deserted from ST ANDREWS CAMP. No indication has been given in previous returns of desertions from the Camp. It is requested that you state whether this figure is to be regarded as an accumulated total over the period 11 November 1944 to 24 January 1945, or if these desertions have arisen since the last return was made.

3. In view of the possibility of enemy agents attempting to use this repatriation scheme as a means of entering the country and to overcome the obvious loss to military manpower, it is requested that guard measures in the ST ANDREWS CAMP be stringently tightened to prevent further desertions.

By command of Field Marshal ALEXANDER :

R.H. FRESE,
Captain, AGD
Asst Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION

- 2 - Addressee
- 1 - Displaced Persons & Repatriation
Sub Commission, ALCOM
- 1 - Chief of Staff ALCOM
- 1 - PENSOUTH
- 1 - MMIA LO PENSOUTH
- 1 - MMIA LO 52 Area
- 1 - MMIA LO 54 Area
- 1 - G-2 AFHQ
- 1 - G-3 AFHQ
- 1 - G-5 AFHQ
- 2 - AG Records
- 1 - AG M & D

ACTION COPY ON FILE 8266/COS

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

8252
R
MESSAGE TOFF.

(6)
Date Time of Origin.

03 1445 A
FEB 4 1945

FROM : MMIA
TO : AFHQ
REF NO : SD 2231

Security
Classification CONFIDENTIAL

FOR G3(ORG) G5 Mov (*) UNDERSTAND THERE ARE ON I S L A N D
OF P A N T A L L E R I A APPROX 1000 ITALIAN SOLDIERS WHO ARE
N O T P W (*) IF CORRECT REQUEST SHIPMENT TO T I A R T O
SOONEST AND PERSONNEL PROCESSED AT ST ANDREWS CAMP

Precedence

Authenticated L.M. Long L.M. Long
H. Col.

INT:

CHIEF OF STAFF SEC.
PW SUB COM (Ref 1PW/1/10/5 of 25 Jan)
REPATRIATION SUB COM.

OFFICE Int:

AQ
MOV (2)
FLOAT.
B/B
S/G/31/4

394
PA
[Signature]

MESSAGE FORM

FROM MMIA
TO 56 AREA FOR DMT
AEHQ FOR G3(ORG) AND G3(PR) AND G TRG
INFO MMIA LO 54. AREA
SIGS OFFICE BARLETTA FOR O'DONNELL,
AC FOR E.I.(OR) HQ COMDT COS.
SD 2229

8252
X
C2 1700 A
FEB 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

HQ AC REQUEST 40 PERSONNEL OF 266/1 MT COY BR-TTI BE TRAINED NOW
AS DRIVERS AT NEW TRANI DRIVING SCHOOL IN ADDITION TO PROGRAMME
BEING ARRANGED FOR 2500 DRIVERS () FOR AC () PLEASE ARRANGE
MOVE TO TRANI DIRECT WITH ATRQ

PREFERENCE

IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

INTERNAL

AQ
ST(T)
FILE : SD/6/1
SD/144
MOV(2)
B/B(2)
FLOAT

393

PAK

Subject:- Leave - Italian Military
Personnel.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.K.I.A.)
R O M E
AQ/17

MINISTRY OF WAR.

3 Feb 45.

FEB 4 1945

Ref AQ/17 dated 30 Dec.

The following amendment is made:-

Para 5a: delete "..... rank of Lt. Col or above"
insert "..... hospital".

W. J. H. H. H.
W. J. H. H. H., Col. A.O.D.
For Major General,
M.K.I.A.

EEB/ab

Copies to:- AFHQ (5)

HQ 15 Army Group.
CG MTOUSA
CG COMZONE MTOUSA
AAFPSC/MTO
Rear 8 Army
Rear 5 Army

PES
PES (SOUTHERN)

LEDC
HQ A.C. (10) **392**
BLU's 50, 51, 52, 53 & 56
Air Force Sub Comm.
Navy Sub Comm.

*Copy and
Major*

*P. J. WOAKES, Col. A.O.D.
for Major General,
M.H.I.A.*

EFB/ab

Copies to:- AFHQ (5)

- HQ 15 Army Group.
- CG MTOUSA
- CG COMZONET MTOUSA
- AAFSO/MTO
- Rear 8 Army
- Rear 5 Army
- HQ 1 District (5)
- HQ 2 District (5)
- HQ 3 District (5)

- PES
- PBS (SOUTHERN)
- ABDC
- HQ A.C. (10) ~~392~~
- BLU's 50, 51, 52, 53 & 56
- Air Force Sub Comm.
- Navy Sub Comm.
- GIII (I) NMIA
- All NMIA LOS.
- War Diary (2)

[Handwritten signature]

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

58

Tel: 289

Ref: 8252/58/003

2 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Hospitalisation of Soldiers.

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission (MELA) 57

Attached letter 25070/16380/19.10 dated 31 Jan 45 from Prime Minister Bonomi to the Chief Commissioner is passed to you for ACTION and preparation of reply for signature of the Chief Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

*BU 3/10
Noted J.*

JA
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

39 *JA*

Copy To: C A Sec.

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
25070/16380/19.10

Rome, 31st January 1945

Dear Admiral,

I have been informed that according to a recent regulation, after sixty days in hospitals on military rations, the Italian soldiers who have been wounded or mutilated in the war must from now on be transferred to civilian hospitals, where the supplies of food and medical equipment are of course very scarce and quite often insufficient.

This regulation might be a motive of moral depression for the soldiers who might feel that the cause of their illness is not being acknowledged, and also endanger the possibility of their quick recovery.

For all these reasons, I shall be most grateful, my dear Admiral, if you will have this question re-examined and kindly take an interest in the matter. I feel that to give the best possible assistance to the combatants is very important for the war effort, which the Government wants to support by every means.

I thank you for all you will deem fit to do, and remain,

Yours very truly,

B. I. Bonomi

Admiral Allery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission
R O M E

390

S.O.

COS DIST

ACTION: Land Forces S/C
INFO: Chief Commr.
COS
C.A. Sec

See 58-68

2274

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

8252

File

57A

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 2nd February 1945.

Civilian Drivers. Land Forces Sub-Commission said they had provided 40 Italian soldiers who could be trained as drivers but Land Forces Sub-Commission had no training facilities available. COS suggested that the drivers be attached to the training school AFHQ were setting up and instructed Est Sec to contact Land Forces Sub-Commission on this.

389

Ext. 300

56

Inter Office Memo

Ref: 8252/56/008.

1 February 1945.

Subject: Desertions in Italian Army.

To: ~~Gen. G.~~,
Land Forces Sub Commission (MFA).

(52)

Reference para. 2(b) of your AG/11/3 of 25 January stating that "leave is authorized for 7 days", the Chief Commissioner has made the following comments: "But leave is being given for longer than 7 days".

I should be grateful if you would give me your views on this.

ET

Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

see folio 68A

BU 5388

-Noted 9/2/45
PA
N/N

8252

File

56A

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 30 January 1945

Civilian Drivers.

Est Sec stated that two civilian drivers had refused to go on a trip last week because of inadequate allowance and rations and inability to obtain accommodation. The last point had been taken up with Regions, who had been asked to provide a list of billets. Little could be done about the food. The question of the maintenance allowance had been taken up but no reply had been received.

Est Sec asked for 40 Italian Army drivers and, if obtained, they would solve the problem. COS asked Land Forces Sub-Commission to look into this point.

Inter Office Memo.

27 January 1945.

Ref: 5208/89/COS.
(Copy to: 3252/COS
2209/COS)

To: Chief Commissioner.

Reference your memorandum HMB/3ed of 19 January.

L.P.W.B. Rowe.

I referred this matter to the Labour Sub Commission, and Mr. BRAINE in a minute says as follows:

"I see no objection to the publication in any area, forward or rear, of developments in labour and industrial questions. Fifth Army seem to me to be unduly sensitive, and unduly fearful of their ability to deal with questions that may be raised in their area. If they have doubts on this point, the way to meet them is not to suppress information but to devise an effective machinery for handling problems that may occur. If we try the policy of suppressing information presented in a moderate form, we leave the field open for the dissemination of news in a garbled form by subversive elements." *I do not entirely agree with this for it is really pp to the Labour Sub Com to devise the machinery, for AMG Barry to write.*

2. Land Forces Sub Commission.

General BROWNING in a memorandum states as follows:

"(1) I can assure you that through our L.O's full information has been available to MHA for many months as regards desertion in the Italian Army. It is in fact MHA's business to know this, as it affects manpower etc.

(2) a. I would point out that Italian troops in the forward area work through their own Administrative Divisional commander under the direct orders of Amies. The orders of AFHQ re leave are contained in para.11 of AFHQ letter AG 091.711/169 COT-0 of 16 Nov. and cannot be altered.

b. Leave is authorised for 7 days, exclusive of travelling time, once in 6 months.

c. For your information, on 9 Jan:-

Absent without leave	-	13 Corps		24
"	"	entire army		2
Absent with leave	-	13 Corps		24
"	"	entire army		5

386

*Original of this letter on 5208/COS
& passed to CSO.
29/1.*

I definitely do not agree EWS

But leave is being given for longer than 7 days EWS

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

53

2208

3. Rations for Italian Red Cross.

Brigadier PARKINSON has written a letter to AFCE. of London quoting AAI Order No. 252 which authorizes the issuing of rations to those who will pay for them -- about 30 lire per day. If the Italian Red Cross personnel are prepared to pay this sum, they will be able to draw rations as do our own Red Cross personnel. Brigadier PARKINSON has not yet received a reply from the AAI.

I think the above satisfactorily answers your points.

M. S. LUSH

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copies to: 8252/COS
2209/COS.

385

384

8252

[Signature]

(52)

SUBJECT: Desertions in Italian Army.

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
A.C. (M. M. I. A.) R O M E
AQ/11/3
25 January 1945

TO : Chief of Staff A.C.

JAN 27 1945

1. I can assure you that through our L.O's full information has been available to MMIA for many months as regards desertion in the Italian Army. It is in fact MMIA's business to know this, as it affects manpower etc.

2. (a) I would point out that Italian troops in the forward area work through their own Administrative Divisional commander under the direct orders of Armies. The orders of AFHQ re leave are contained in para 11 of AFHQ letter AG 091.711/169 GCT-O of 16 Nov. and cannot be altered.

(b) Leave is authorised for 7 days, exclusive of travelling time, once in 6 months.

(c) For your information, on 9 Jan:-

absent without leave	- 13 Corps	- 2 1/2 %
" " "	entire army	- 2 %
absent with leave	- 13 Corps	- 2 3/4 %
" " "	entire army	- 5 3/4 %

L. Browning

Major General
M. M. I. A.

384

LB/r1

Folio 50 refers

see M. 55

2 2 8 0

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

8252

File

524

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 26 January 1945.

Reinforcements for Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub-Commission reported that the Italian Army were worried about the training of reinforcements for their combat groups in the line. There were 1 200 refugees housed in an Italian barracks at Cesano and they would like to get them out. VP CA Sec said that he understood from Col. Pindley that the barracks would be cleared of refugees by 1 February but he had not discussed the matter for about three weeks. He said he would look into the matter.

51

Ref: 8252/51/COS

Tel: 478201

23 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Application to join Brazilian Expeditionary Force.

TO : Civil Affairs Section, 15 Army Group.

1. Reference telephone conversation today (Lt. Col. Friend James - Capt. Morden) attached is an application from an individual to join the Brazilian Expeditionary Force.
2. As you will see it reached this HQ from AMG Eighth Army and it is understood you will pass it to 15 Army Group for action.

[Signature]
Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

Incl:
as above

382 *[Signature]*
25/1

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

(50)

Ref: 8252/50/008.

Inter Office Memo.

20 January 1945.

Subject: Desertions in Italian Army.To: Land Forces Sub Commission (LFSA).

The following is an extract from a memorandum of the Chief Commissioner, arising out of an AFM Fifth Army conference which he attended on 23 January.

" Land Forces Sub Commission. Attention was drawn to the high rate of desertions in the Italian Army in the forward areas - particularly in the 13th Corps. Representations will be made through normal channels, but it is thought that General Pershing should be apprised. It was felt that desertions in the Italian Army amongst troops in the frontline areas should not exceed seven days. Apparently, such a rule extended leave has been given. "

I should be grateful for your views so that I can pass them on to the Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: ED to CG.

Major E. Talbot
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

see folio 525305H

see folio 49

381

Initial BU 23/1

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

5208, 8252, 2209

COPY

EWS/jed

(49)

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief of Staff.

JAN 20 1945

Will you kindly take necessary action on the following points which were brought to my attention at the AMG 5th Army conference on January 13th:

P.W.B. Rome. There was considerable objection voiced to the practice of PWB printing in their forward papers, and their "Basic News", in the Army area, wage scales that have been adopted in Italian government areas and which do not apply in the Army area. This only led civilians to demand more pay than they were receiving and such requests would not have occurred if it were not for the publication of these wage scales.

Land Forces Sub-Commission. Attention was drawn to the high rate of desertions in the Italian Army in the forward areas-- particularly in the 13th Corps. Representations will be made through normal channels but it is thought that General Browning should be apprised. It was felt that furloughs in the Italian Army amongst troops in the frontline areas should not exceed seven days. Apparently, much more extended leave has been given.

Rations for Italian Red Cross. Information is requested as to the possibility of issuing rations to the driver and attendant nurse for each of a number of Italian Red Cross ambulances which are being employed in 5th and 8th Army AMG's. The Italian Red Cross is anxious to cooperate with our public health officers and are able to supply the necessary personnel, but authority should be granted to feed such persons while they are on duty with and serving AMG.

/s/ ELLERY W. STONE

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Rec 54

ON
5208

ON
2209

8252
CONFIDENTIAL

I 302
JAN 18/0920A

From: MAIN 8TH ARMY
TO: ALLIED COMMISSION

C/8441
JAN 18/1542
ROUTINE

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

JAN 20 1945

CONFIDENTIAL.

Understand departure 6 Italian officers recruited by SIM for this Hq has been held up by MMIA. These officers urgently required for operations. Request they be allowed to report forthwith. They will be held on W E recommended by army group and now under consideration at AFHQ. Names with Major ROMEO of SIM.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DIST

Action: L Forces S/C (2)
Info: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
File

CONFIDENTIAL

378
379
HEADQUARTERS
12 JAN 1945
A C

8252
CONFIDENTIAL

I 802
JAN 18/0920A

C/8441
JAN 18/1542
ROUTINE

From: MAIN 8TH ARMY
To: ALLIED COMMISSION

JAN 20 1945

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL.

Understand departure 6 Italian officers recruited by SIM for this Hq has been held up by MMIA. These officers urgently required for operations. Request they be allowed to report forthwith. They will be held on W E recommended by army group and now under consideration at AFHQ. Names with Major ROMBO of SIM.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DIST

Action: L Forces S/C (2)
Info: A/President
Chief Commissioner
C o S
CA Sec
File

CONFIDENTIAL

379
HEADQUARTERS

19 JAN 1945

A. C

2-28-61

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

785017

8252

File

47A

Extract of Minutes of Chief of Staff's Meeting held on 16 January 45.

* * * * *

Italian Army Newspaper. Land Forces Sub-Commission raised the question of an Italian Army newspaper being issued on similar lines to the "Union Jack" and "Stars and Stripes." This scheme was being considered.

37877

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

785017

To begin example (5)

Someone appears
not to like our
little prince Infante

13/1/45

Jock C. —

MA
13

8252
FROM "VOCE REPUBBLICANA" of Jan, 12th 1945

JAN 15 1945

The Aide-de-camp of the Lieut;
of the Realm.

At the end of 1939 through the protection of a "Big Noise" of the Fascist party, Infante was sent to Washington. It was the moment when every Italian, who had a bit of civil courage and love for his country and who had occasion to speak to Mussolini, had the duty to try to restrain his crazy war-plans. The easiest way to do this was to make him understand how the war would be difficult as the whole world headed by the U.S.A. would be against Germany.

General Infante went to America, where he studied the situation carefully and discovered the key of the future political-military conduct of America: in the U.S.A. every citizen eats at least two meals made with tinned food: the day that America would be obliged to stop distributing tinned food, her entire population would be starved. Well, Gen. Infante discovered that the U.S.A. imported all the tin from countries belong-

ing to the Axis, for that reason the U.S.A. could not enter in war against the Axis. When Infante had discovered this, he wrote to Italy stating that America would never enter the war. Mussolini, whom this childish device pleased very much, swore from that day that the U.S.A. would remain neutral.

Returned to Italy, when America had been so careless as to forget about the tins, General Infante was given the command of the Ariete Division in Africa. At El-Alamein Rommel ordered that Division to go forward; Infante instead made it retreat. Rommel wanted to shoot him, but Infante said to be ill and suffering from serious tummy-aches (at the same occasion other Italian Generals suffered of the same type of tummy-aches: Oxilia, the ineffable Undersecretary of War until a month ago; and Geriana and Manneri; the trio suffering from dysentery repatriated in great hurry while the Italian divisions were massacred

377

see Minute 146

02 -

For a few months Infante was kept in quarantine, but afterwards through the same "Big Noise" of the Fascist party succeeded to be appointed as the Commander of a Division in Greece, where once more he was very heroic and in the end escaped once more.

With such an experience in "escaping" it was natural that the Lieutenant of the Realm chose him as his Aide-de-camp and Military Counsellor. Infante interests himself also in politics and collaborates with Marquis Lucifero.

After the article written by Gen. Azzi, Infante rushed to Casati and obtained the dismissal of a General who in Albania did not escape nor had had violent tummy-aches.

2290

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

8252

G-1 (B)

42

URGENT

Subject: Allied Employment of deserters and
illegal absentees from the Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) ROME.
AQ/11/3

30 Dec 44

JAN - 5 1945

36/40

25/30

A.F.A.Q.

1. I forward correspondence sent by Marshal MESSI to Chief Commissioner, A.C. and passed by the latter to me, for action.
2. I attach, for easy reference, copies of correspondence in this connection between H.Q., A.A.I. and myself, together with a copy of the letter I have sent to Marshal MESSI.
3. I think it would be advisable if you would issue a further directive now embracing the whole matter.
4. Apart from its effect on the prestige and authority of the Italian Army, such a directive would be another means of assisting us to get the reinforcements we so badly need and which are not forthcoming owing to circumstances beyond MMIA control.

A. Browning

Major General.
M.M.I.A.

hm.

Copy to: H.Q., A.C.

611/I
E2

HEADQUARTERS
31 DEC 1944
A.C.

374

25/1/45
Major General.

ad/4

S. P. A.

Subject: Allied Employ ment of deserters and
illegal absentees from the Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub Comm.A.C.
(M.I.A.) ROME.
AQ/11/3

H.E. Marshal MESSE, S.M.G.

30 Dec 44

1. Your a.106978/AV prot of 17 Dec has been passed to me for reply.
2. This matter is well known to both the Minister of War and MMIA. In fact we have been taking action for months past in removing soldiers so employed.
3. Instructions were issued by AAI last summer that the Allies are not to employ deserters from the Italian Army. Considering that soldiers have a civil identification card, it is obviously very difficult, if not impossible, for the Allies to know whether a man is a deserter or not, if in civilian clothes.
4. The matter of a soldier on leave working for the Allies was dealt with in my AQ/8 of Nov 20.
5. All Italian soldiers in uniform employed by the Allies should form part of an established Italian Division and be reported in the strength returns as such. Failure to do this is the fault of the Italian Commanders.
6. I will however represent the matter again to AFHQ.

L. Browning
Major General.
M.I.A.

hh.

Copy to: H.E. The Minister of War (together with a copy of the letter referred to in para 1 above).

H.Q., A.C.

373 374

COPY

~~SECRET~~

Subject: Discipline and Control of the Italian Army.

Army Sub Commission, AGC.
Main HQ (MIA)
Lequille (LACE)

31 15
8/6/1 9 May 44

H.Q.A.A.I.

1. Your AAI/3074/L(U) dated 3 and 4 May meets my wishes entirely.
2. I appreciate that vital skilled personnel must be exempted; and note that you have already instructed employing services to apply for, while limiting to essentials, such exemptions.
3. (a) The Ministry of War published a Proclamation such as you refer to in your para 6, a month ago. They have been "picking up" deserters ever since.
(b) The H of W are in process of producing a further Proclamation, whereby deserters and absentees will be decreed to be offending "in the face of the enemy".
4. I am glad to note the contents of your para 7. I should be grateful if lists of "exemptees" could be forwarded to this HQ, for onward transmission to H of W and S.M.A.E., to enable these latter to make up their records. I take it that, in view of what I say above, you will issue your further directive at once. I would urge that in this directive you stress that the Carabinieri are to be given every assistance in their enquiries and examinations, for I feel that it is the real way we will track down the non-skilled illegal absentees.
5. I would like to ask if the Allied Air Force authorities in the POCIA area are controlled by you. I am not clear on this point. Your office should obviously apply in that area also; otherwise there will be a

the POCIA

273

Your office

that you have already instructed employing services to apply for, while waiting to essentials, such exemptions.

3. (a) The Ministry of War published a Proclamation such as you refer to in your para 6, a month ago. They have been "picking up" deserters ever since.
- (b) The M of W are in process of producing a further Proclamation, whereby deserters and absentees will be decreed to be offending "in the face of the enemy".
4. I am glad to note the contents of your para 7. I should be grateful if lists of "exemptees" could be forwarded to this HQ, for onward transmission to M of W and C.M.S.F., to enable these latter to make up their records. I take it that, in view of what I say above, you will issue your further directive at once. I would urge that in this directive you stress that the Carabinieri are to be given every assistance in their enquiries and examinations, for I feel that in the real way we will track down the unskilled illegal absentees.
5. I would like to ask if the Allied Air Force authorities in the ROMANIA area re controlled by you. I am not clear on this point. Your office should obviously apply in that area also; otherwise there will be a sanctuary in which all deserters and absentees can take refuge.

(sgd) L. BROWNING.
Maj Gen.
Army Sub Comm ACC.

COPY

Subject: Italian Army - Calling up of Classes.

HQ ALLIED ARMY IN ITALY
AAI/3074/A(O)
4 May 44

1. Ref this HQ 3110/A(O) dated 17 Mar and 3074/A(O) dated 20 Mar.

2. In order that the requirements of the Allied Forces of Italian Military personnel can be met it is essential that every available Italian liable for calling up under the classes referred to in the above quoted letters should be released.

3. It is also essential to the prestige, authority and morale of the Italian Army that the release of such personnel is not unnecessarily impeded by the units etc employing them. Authority for exemption granted under para 1 of the above quoted letter dated 20 Mar will, therefore, be limited to skilled personnel only whose continued employment is considered vitally or operationally necessary, and provided such employment is within War Establishment or has been specially authorized.

T. Welch Lt. Col.
for Major General.
Chief Administrative Officer.

Distribution:

Main Light Army
5 (US) Army
5 (US) Army (Br Inco)
5 Corps
1 Dist
2 Dist
3 Dist
PBS
C in C Med.
HQ MAAF
HQ 2 NZEF
Adm HQ UNF CMF
Rear Pol Base
AMC POSCIA Province

T. Welch Lt. Col.
for Major General.
Chief Administrative Officer.

Distribution:

Main Eight Army
5 (US) Army
5 (US) Army (Br Inor)
5 Corps
1 Dist
2 Dist
3 Dist
PBS
C to C Head.
HQ MAAF
HQ 2 NZEF
Adm HQ UDF GMS
Rear Pol Base
ANG FOCGIA Province
FILIPOT List 'D' less Serials 12, 17, 22, 28, 40, 43, 44, 48, 49 and 50.

372

Plus	CAU	Melfare
	Camp	AKS
	Def Coy	AFI
	15 HQ Siga	V & R
	AS	Catering
	AT	Coal Sec
	Salvage	Local Res (2)
	Prints	DSFO
	ACC LO	Army Sub Comm. IO
	JHG	Cdn Sec. GRQ 1st Echelon

Copies to: AFHQ GCI(Br)
Force 133
ACC (5)
IBS
War Diary

COPY

SECRET

Subject: Discipline and Control of Italian Army.

HQ ALLIED ARMY IN ITALY
AAI/3074/A(O)

3 May 44

Army Sub Commission, ACC

Ref your G/6/1 dated 22 Apr 44.

1. I agree it is a matter of importance that the discipline, prestige and authority of the Italian Army should be re-established as soon as possible.

2. I have already sent out directives to all concerned regarding the employment of civilians who are illegal absentees or deserters, and have referred particularly to those who are affected by the calling-up of the 1920/24 classes.

3. You will appreciate that a considerable number of these Italians are at present engaged in skilled employment, and their continuance in such employment is of more value to the war effort than their transfer to the armed forces, quite apart from the disruption to work which would ensue as a result of these transfers.

4. Employing services have been instructed to apply for exemption in the case of these skilled men.

5. The continued employment of non-skilled illegal absentees is much more difficult to detect, even with the willing co-operation of the employing unit.

6. I consider that the following action should now be taken :

(a) The Italian Military Authorities should publish a proclamation that all illegal absentees and deserters will immediately register with the nearest Italian Formation HQ or Regimental Depot by a given date, or incur certain penalties.

(b) Such absentees and deserters should immediately be taken over by the Italian Military Authorities, unless they hold an exemption certificate authorising them to continue their present employment.

3. You will appreciate that a considerable number of men are at present engaged in skilled employment, and their continuance in such employment is of more value to the war effort than their transfer to the armed forces, quite apart from the disruption to work which would ensue as a result of these transfers.

4. Employing services have been instructed to apply for exemption in the case of these skilled men.

5. The continued employment of non-skilled illegal absentees is much more difficult to detect, even with the willing co-operation of the employing unit.

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(b) Such absentees and deserters should immediately be taken over by the Italian Military Authorities, unless they hold an exemption certificate authorising them to continue their present employment.

371

7. I will send a further directive to all concerned on these lines. Authority will be delegated to Armies and Districts to authorise exemption only in the case of skilled personnel, who continued employment is considered vitally or operationally necessary, provided such employment is within WE or has been specially authorised.

8. Before taking action I should like your views on para 6 (a) above.

(sgd) J. M. A. BERTON
Major General
Chief Administrative Officer

SECRET

COPY

Subject: Discipline and control of ITALIAN ARMY.

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ (MIA)
LEQUITE (LECK)
G/6/1

22 Apr 44

E.A.I.

Copy to: Chief Commissioner, ACC.

1.

GENERAL.

The discipline of the Italian Army is a matter of grave importance to the Allies and to the Italian Government not only now but also for post-war. The prestige and authority of the Italian Army must, therefore, be re-established by every means possible and as soon as possible in order that it may function properly. Major factors in this are that :-

- (a) Desertion and absenteeism from the Italian Army be reduced to the minimum
- (b) Unauthorised retention of Italian individuals by Allied Formations and Establishments be stopped.

2.

TYPE OF CASE REPORTED.

Typical cases reported by the Italian General Staff allege that :-

- (a) Italian soldiers on leave are employed by Allied units or individuals and the employment is continued after the leave expires. In some cases the Italian soldier has stated that his Allied employer has refused to surrender the Italian soldier to the Italian officers who advised the Allied employer that the soldier was absent without leave.
- (b) Italian Medical Officers who returned to their homes on leave were retained there by A.M.C. officers to take care of the civilian population.
- (c) Italian deserters employed by Allied formations were recognised by Italian officers and placed in jail awaiting return to their units; these deserters were removed from jail by Allied intelligence personnel at once, have not been returned to their units, and have disappeared.

3.

ASPECTS.

370

(b) Unauthorized retention of Italian individuals by Allied Formations and Establishments be stopped.

2. TYPE OF CASE REPORTED.

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- (a) Italian soldiers on leave are employed by Allied units or individuals and the employment is continued after the leave expires. In some cases the Italian soldier has stated that his Allied employer has refused to surrender the Italian soldier to the Italian officers who advised the Allied employer that the soldier was absent without leave.
- (b) Italian Medical Officers who returned to their homes on leave were retained there by A.M.G. officers to take care of the civilian population.
- (c) Italian deserters employed by Allied formations were recognised by Italian officers and placed in jail awaiting return to their units; these deserters were removed from jail by Allied intelligence personnel at once, have not been returned to their units, and have disappeared.

3. ASPECTS.

(a) It is well understood that many Italian soldiers will go to great lengths to remain attached to Allied formations on account of the better living conditions, rations etc. No doubt the interest of the Allied officers in these individuals is to some extent inspired by these Italian soldiers themselves.

(b) Certain classes of Italian civilians are now being called or recalled to the Colours, either to fulfil Allied demands or to permit older men now in the Italian Army to be released from military duty.

(c) In a country where the Army is founded on universal conscription there is always the danger that only those men without influence, power or money, will be required to serve in the Army.

(d) The fact that many civilian now employed by the Allies will be exempted from the call-up on the certificate of the Allied employer increases the opportunity for certain Italians to evade the law, under the cloak of performing essential service for the Allies.

(e) The retention by Allied officers of such individuals, or attempts to retain such individuals, is really tantamount to conspiring with the Italian deserters in their evasion of military duty.

36

- 2 -

4. VERIFICATION OF REPORT.

The allegations cannot be verified largely owing to difficulties of Italian communications and lack of control, as mentioned above, but I am satisfied that there is some substance in these reports. I am informed, for instance, that there are some 5000 Italians being used as labour over the Combat Zone, of whom we have no details and who presumably should be organised and counted against the strength of 130,000 units employed or to be employed by the Allies. (your BRU/ET 1605/50/3/1 G (S.D.1) dated 3 Apr).

5. CONCLUSION

- (a) I fully realise that under the conditions existing to date the situation as outlined above was bound to have occurred. But I am strongly of opinion that the whole business should be "tidied up" forthwith.
- (b) I therefore request that you will issue orders at an early date that :
 - (i) All Allied officers at once examine all Italian personnel employed by them as "civilians" (i.e. not in authorised units) to ensure that all Italian officers and soldiers who are in fact absent without leave or in desertion are turned over at once to the Italian Army for return to their units.
 - (ii) Allied officers do not in future employ any Italian on any work until it is definitely established that such Italian is not a member of the Italian Army absent either with or without leave, or liable to recall.
 - (iii) Allied officers do not intervene with Italian authorities on behalf of Italian soldiers who have deserted or are absent from the Italian Army, in order to employ such soldiers or continue such absence.
 - (iv) A return be furnished forthwith (and thereafter monthly) to the Italian Government, through A.M.I.A., showing :
 - Numbers of Italians, not in authorised units, employed by the Allies

(b) I therefore request that you will issue orders at an early date that :-

(i) All Allied officers at once examine all Italian personnel employed by them as "civilians" (i.e. not in authorized units) to ensure that all Italian officers and soldiers who are in fact absent without leave or in desertion are turned over at once to the Italian Army for return to their units.

(ii) Allied officers do not in future employ any Italian on any work until it is definitely established that such Italian is not a member of the Italian Army absent either with or without leave, or liable to recall.

(iii) Allied officers do not intervene with Italian authorities on behalf of Italian soldiers who have deserted or are absent from the Italian Army, in order to employ such soldiers or continue such absence.

(iv) A return be furnished forthwith (and thereafter monthly) to the Italian Government, through M.F.I.A. showing :-

369

Numbers of Italians, not in authorized units, employed by the Allies.

Details in regard to each individual who has been given a certificate of exemption from military service by any Allied Formation.

I could then take action to organize all such personnel into units and ensure that the issue of rations etc does not exceed the ceiling proposed by you to A.F.S.Q. for approval of the C.C.S. This at present I cannot do.

(sgd) L. B. C. H. I. N. G.
Major General,
Army Sub Comm. A.C.C.

Subject: Leave - Italian Military Personnel

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(M. L. I. A.) ROME
AQ/17

30 Dec 44

MINISTRY OF WAR

14 JAN 1945

1. The current regulations which govern leave for Italian Military Personnel are set out below:-

2. PRIVILEGE LEAVE.

(a) Where Italian Military Personnel are under Allied Command, leave will not be granted without the prior consent of the Allied Commander who will decide whether the Military situation permits the granting of leave.

(b) Leave may be granted for a period of 7 days, excluding travelling time, not more than once in six months.

3. COMPASSIONATE LEAVE.

Compassionate leave may be granted in deserving cases subject to approval by an officer of the Italian Army of rank of Colonel or above, for 14 days excl travelling time. Recipients of compassionate leave will on return be placed at the bottom of the roster for ordinary leave.

4. LEAVE QUOTA.

Not more than 5% of a unit may be away on privilege and compassionate leave at any one time. Personnel who fail to return from leave on the due date will continue to count against the 5% quota until they either return or are struck off the strength of the Italian Army after 30-days absence.

5. CONVALESCENT LEAVE.

- (a) Convalescent leave will only be granted to Military Personnel who are already patients in a Territorial Military Hospital, and will be authorised by the Commanding Officer of the rank of Lt Col or above.
- (b) The maximum period of Convalescent leave will be 14 days. All cases requiring longer periods will be referred to the Director of Medical

368

8252 COS



35

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5. CONVALESCENT LEAVE.

368

- (a) Convalescent leave will only be granted to Military Personnel who are already patients in a Territorial Military Hospital, and will be authorised by the Commanding Officer of the rank of Lt Col or above.
- (b) The maximum period of Convalescent leave will be 14 days. All cases requiring longer periods will be referred to the Director of Medical Services of the Territorial Command concerned.
- (c) Convalescent leave plus time in Hospital may be authorised up to 60-days, after which the patient will be struck off the strength of the Italian Army.
- (d) Personnel given Convalescent leave are considered as patients and do not count against the 5% Leave Quota as at para 4 above.

6. PERMITTED AREAS.

Personnel will be permitted to travel on leave as follows:-

- (a) Troops stationed in rear of Army Security Control Line.

Anywhere in Rear of Army Security Control Line.

(b) Troops stationed fwd of Army Security Control Line.

- (1) Anywhere in rear of Army Security Control Line.
- (ii) Fwd of the Army Security Control Line only with approval of Army, District or Base Section concerned.

The discretion of Army, District or Base Section will not be exercised in favour of any person who cannot give good reasons for spending leave in the area in question by reason of location of his home, family or business.

(c) Troops of the Italian Combat Groups.

Anywhere south of the Italian Leave Forward Limit Line. This line will be adjusted from time to time; the following is the present line:
LUCCA - PISTOIA - RIMINI.
The towns defining the boundary are inclusive to the permitted leave area.

7. The Army Security Control Line referred to in para 6 above has been established for the specific purpose of restricting and controlling movement of personnel into fwd operational areas.

This line consists of a series of check posts, which are manned continuously to prevent access to fwd areas by persons not in possession of a pass.

This line will be adjusted from time to time; the following is the present line:-

FANO S2273 URBINO R3161 SAN SEPOLCRO R5044 AREZZO
SIENA COLLE DI BALD EL SAMO Q6630 CECINA

These towns defining the Boundary are inclusive to the unrestricted leave area.

8. SICILY.

(a) Leave may be granted for personnel on the Mainland to visit SICILY, and for personnel in SICILY to visit the Mainland.

(b) The following special transport facilities have been arranged for the use of personnel travelling on leave to SICILY:-

Rail accommodation for 100 persons per day in each direction between NAPLES and REGGIO.

9. SARDINIA.

No leave will be granted for personnel on the Mainland to visit SARDINIA, or for personnel in SARDINIA to visit the Mainland, until

line:-

FANO S2273 URBINO R9161 SAN SEPOLCRO R5044 AREZZO
SIENA COLLE DI BALD EL SAMO Q6630 CECINA

These towns defining the Boundary are inclusive to the unrestricted leave area.

8. SICILY.

(a) Leave may be granted for personnel on the Mainland to visit SICILY, and for personnel in SICILY to visit the Mainland.

(b) The following special transport facilities have been arranged for the use of personnel travelling on leave to SICILY:-

Rail accommodation for 100 persons per day in each direction between NAPLES and REGGIO.

9. SARDINIA.

No leave will be granted for personnel on the Mainland to visit SARDINIA, or for personnel in SARDINIA to visit the Mainland, until further instructions are issued, when tpt arrangements have been completed.

10. PERMITS.

(a) Where troops may travel to or within any specified area only at discretion of appropriate Army, District or Base Section (see para 6(b) if above), a permit authorising such travel will be issued by appropriate HQ. No person without such permit will be permitted to travel to or in that area.

(b) (i) Members of the Combat Groups proceeding on leave to the area north of the Rear Army Security Control Line, as provided in para 6 (c) above, will be in possession of the Standard AFG yellow movement pass.

(ii) The BLU attached to each group will :-

(A) be responsible for obtaining sufficient blank AFG yellow movement passes from HQ A/C.

- 3 -

(B) complete the permits in respect of all personnel within the Group proceeding on leave.

(C) forward the completed permits for signature and stamping as follows :-

(i) where Group is located North of Rear Army Security Control Line, to the nearest AMG Officer.

(ii) where Group is located South of Rear Army Security Control Line, to Army SCAO, or Provincial Commissioner of the Area in which the soldiers home is situated.

11. RESTRICTED ZONES.

Personnel granted leave to places within the area bounded on the NORTH by the Army Security Line (as defined in para 7 above), and on the SOUTH by the northern boundaries of the Provinces of TERA O - RISETHI and KOLA, or to places in the province of OGGA, must be in possession of A.C. passes, or in the case of troops of the Combat Groups, must receive authorisation from the BLU attached to the Group.

12. TRANSPORT.

Except as provided in paras 8 (b) and 9, above, no demand on Allied Military sea, rail or road facilities will be made for personnel going on leave. The movement of personnel going on leave will be carried out by the Italian Army. There is no objection to existing Allied Military transport facilities being used for the purpose, providing such use is not to the exclusion of any Allied military personnel or stores, as decided by the appropriate Movements Officer.

Transport belonging to Combat Groups may be authorised for transport of Combat Group leave personnel, providing that the Allied Commander's concurrence is first obtained, and that such use is not to the exclusion of operational or administrative commitments.

13. RATIONS.

The issue by the despatching unit of up to a maximum of 2 days Travel Rations is authorised for the outward journey only. No other rations will be issued from Italian Army stocks.

14. REST CAMPS & LEAVE CAMPS.

12. TRANSPORT.

Except as provided in paras 8 (b) and 9, above, no demand on Allied Military sea, rail or road facilities will be made for personnel going on leave. The movement of personnel going on leave will be carried out by the Italian Army. There is no objection to existing Allied Military transport facilities being used for the purpose, providing such use is not to the exclusion of any Allied military personnel or stores, as decided by the appropriate Movements Officer.

Transport belonging to Combat Groups may be authorized for transport of Combat Group leave personnel, providing that the Allied Commander's concurrence is first obtained, and that such use is not to the exclusion of operational or administrative commitments.

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14. REST CAMPS & LEAVE CAMPS.

Rest or Leave Camps, or any facilities serving similar purposes, will not be maintained by the Italian Army for Italian Personnel on leave, except as authorized by MIA in each particular case.

SPA/hh

Copies to: AFHQ (5)
HQ 15 Army Group.
CG MTOUSA
CG COMZONE MTOUSA
AAFSC/HQ
Rear 8 Army
Rear 5 Army
HQ 1 District (5)

HQ 2 District(5)
HQ 3 District(5)
PBS
PBS(SOUTHERN)
AEDG
HQ A.C. (1C)
BLU's 50,51,52,53 & 56 War Diary (2)
Air Force Sub Comm.
Navy Sub Comm.
GILL(T) A.I.A.

CLAYTON P. KERR, Col.
For Major General.
M.M.I.A.

All MIA IOs.

AC-DIST
CA SEC.
PUBLIC SAFETY
SECURITY DIV.
G-1 (B)
TN-5/c
HQ COMBAT
ADJ.

367

2303

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

33

Ext: 388.

Ref: 8252/33/COS

2 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Italian Military Personnel.
TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission.

30

I am directed by the Chief of Staff to refer to memoranda 8252/30/COS of 21 December and 8252/32/COS of 28 December on the above subject, and to request early notification of the action you have taken.

32

cc H9

ET

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff. 366

Copy to : SO to CC.

M 3/1 4/1

2304

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

785017

32

Ref: 8252/32/003.

Ext: 388.

28 December 1944.

SUBJECT: Italian Military Personnel.

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission.

30

I am directed by the Chief of Staff to refer to his memorandum 8252/30/003 of 21 December on the above subject, and to say that this office has not had any notification of the action you have taken in the matter.

SW

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

Copy to: SO to CC.

BU
31/12
no 6/87

25

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

31

Ext: 388.

Ref: 8252/10/3-8

21 December 1944.

SUBJECT: Italian Military Personnel.

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission.

25-30

1. The attached translations and originals of correspondence received in the Chief Commissioner's Office are forwarded for your action.
2. Will you please take the matter up with AFHQ and, in the meantime, send interim reply to General Nease on behalf of the Chief Commissioner, with a copy to this Office.

E.T.

Encls.

✓
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to: 30 t. CG.

BU 28/365
388
Noted 8/1
2/2

Translation

The Chief of Staff
n. 106978/AV prot
5 enclosures

F.M.3800, 17 December 1944

Dear Admiral,

the General Staff has been informed that pretty often, Italian soldiers who have left arbitrarily their units have been taken for service by Allied military authorities without the previous authorization of the Italian commands from which these soldiers depend.

The Italian commands are therefore unable to take proceedings against the said soldiers for their desertion.

The Italian Ministries have informed the competent Allied sub-commissions which showed comprehension and interest about this problem.

I enclose a copy of letter n. 1086 and of letter 1087 of November 7th of the Ministry of Marine and a copy of letter A.M. 8, of November 20, of M.M.I.A.

In spite of these communications and of the action taken by the Allied authorities, there are still cases of Italian soldiers, in regular service, being detained by the allied commands, in contrast to the present regulations

Considering this and the need to regularise the matter uniformly, in the interest of the discipline and efficiency of the Italian Army Force, I shall be most grateful to you, my dear Admiral, if you could intervene by the Allied commands and see that they don't take Italian soldiers who have service duties to fulfill.

Truly yours,

s/ The Marshal of Italy
Chief of Staff
G. Messe

ADMIRAL ELBERT R. STONE
CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF THE ALLIED COMMISSION

TRANS. 8.C.

364

Translation

copy

Ministry of Marine
Cabinet

Rome, 7 December 1944

n. 1086/70

AL F.O.L.I.

ROME

SUBJECT: Deserters of the R. Navy working as civilians for the Allied Military Authorities.

1. - The cases mentioned in the letters n. 36, 2a of October 2nd (ZARLO-CAPRIATTI) and n. 394 of the 13th of the same month (SPRULLA) have been examined and orders have been given to avoid arresting preventively the military deserters employed by the organizations depending from the Allied Army Force.
2. - Nevertheless, we must again draw the attention of the F.O.L.I. on the very serious consequences of these admittances for our Army Force, for the soldiers are getting convinced that the Allies grant immunity to those who are guilty of this very serious offense.
3. - Assurances have been given by various Allied Authorities: the F.O.F.A. of Taranto sent the Admiral Commander in Chief of the Jonio Department and South Adriatic the enclosed letter (copy); but as a matter of fact, the incidents we complain of go on and become more frequent.
4. - In another note, that we enclose too, are mentioned the latest cases concerning the failure to fulfil the engagements taken about these urgent decisions, in relation to letter 36/1 of September 23rd, sent by this F.O.L.I. to the General Staff of the R. Navy.

THE MINISTER
s/ de Courten

c. o.

/s/ Renzo Rocca

363

Translation

C O P Y

Ministry of Marine
Cabinet

Rome, 7 December 1944

n. 1067/20

TO Y.O.L.I.

Rome

SUBJECT: Artilleryman LO RISO Pasquale, n. 95363, born in Manfredonia (Foggia) in 1919, living there, Corso Umberto I.

1. - Reference today's letter 1066/20 of this U.G.
2. - Gunner LO RISO Pasquale, n. 95363, born in Manfredonia (Foggia) in 1919, living there, Corso Umberto I, unlawfully left the Depot G.R.M. of Taranto on June 1st; has been denounced to the Military Tribunal of this town on September 30th.
3. - The Arm of the SA. MR. of Manfredonia that had been entrusted with the researches communicated that LO RISO is working for the Allied Military Command of this city that declared he was indispensable, exempting him from presenting himself to the Italian Military Authorities.
4. - We are waiting for the decisions of this Office, according to the last part of your letter n. 1/36/1 of September 23rd.

THE CHIEF OF CABINET
s/ G. di V.F. BASLINI

C.O. s/ Renzo Rocco

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017TranslationCopyMinistry of Marine
Cabinet

Rome, 7 December 1944

n. 1087/70

To F.O.L.I.

R o m eSUBJECT: Gunner G. TROIANO Pasquale, n. 1840, class 1920

- 1/ Reference your letter of today, 1086/70 from this U.G.
- 2/ The gunner G. TROIANO Pasquale, n. 1840, class 1920 was sent on leave by his command (R. Incr. Duch degli Abruzzi), for a fortnight to Manfredonia (Foggia), with the order to be back on board on June 15th.
- 3/ TROIANO being guilty of the offence of desertion, the G.O. R.R. of Manfredonia have been asked to see that he was brought on board.
- 4/ The Arm itself communicated that the gunner was working for the Allied Authorities, which didn't allow his being taken away.
- 5/ We are waiting for the decisions of this office, according to the last part of your letter L.36/1 of September 23rd.

THE CHIEF OF CABINET

s/ G. DI V. F. BASLINI

c. o.
Renzo Rocca

26

Translation

C O P Y

Ministry of Marine
Cabinet
n. 1087/70

Rome, 7 December 1944

To F.O.L.I. R o m e

SUBJECT: Sailor MARASCO Matteo di Giro, n. 33693, born in Manfredonia (Foggia) on March 1st 1920, living there in Corso Roma, 104.

- 1) Reference your letter today 1086/70 of this U.C.
- 2) The sailor MARASCO Matteo di Giro, n. 33693, born in Manfredonia (Foggia) on March 1st 1920, living there, Corso Roma, 104, was sent by his command (R. Navy Buffoloto detachment - Taranto), for 9 days to Manfredonia on November 22nd, 1943.
- 3) As he didn't come back, to his corps, he was said to have deserted.
- 4) The Arm of the CO.RR. which was entrusted with the researches, communicated that MARASCO was working for the "Allies" and that the local A.M.G. didn't allow him to leave his work.
- 5) Required to intervene by the local Allied Command, the Arm of the RR.CC. sent the following declaration to the Command of the Detachment of the R. Navy of Buffoloto:

HEADQUARTERS
AIR FORCE ORDNANCE DEPT/8

Date 18 October 1944

Subject: Deferment of Italian civilians.
To : When it may concern.

This is to certify that Matteo Marasco di Giro is now employed as an ammunition specialist by AFOL/8, and that his work is necessary to Allied War Effort; therefore, we do not consent to his release.

For the Commanding Officer:

S/ Willard F. Stewart,
1st Lt. Ord. Dept.,
Adjutant.

360

- 6) We are waiting for the decisions of this office according to the last part of your letter n.L 30/1 of September 23rd.

The Chief of Cabinet
s/c. div. F. BIANCHI

C. O.
Rome 100 A

(25)

Translation

C O P Y

L.F.S.C. * A.G. - (M.M.I.A.) ROME
na/s 20 November 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Military Personnel - Employed during leave.

To the Ministry of War

- 1) When an Italian soldier is granted a leave, there are no objections to his getting a job during his leave. If for any reason whatever, he didn't present himself to his unit on the appointed day, he would be considered as deserter or absent and prosecuted as such.
- 2) Nevertheless, in his defence, the soldier has the right to prove and explain why he remained working instead of going back to his unit. The authority which is dealing with the case will take these proofs in consideration before deciding the degree of culpability of the soldier.

for MAJOR GENERAL - M.M.I.A.

s/ Col Noakes

C. O.

Renzo Rocca

8252
Subject: Disciplinary Powers - Italian Army.



Land Forces Sub Comm. A. C.
(M. M. I. A.)
R O M E
AQ/6

30 Nov 44.

To : AFHQ

5 DEC 1944

Further to this HQ AQ/6 of 27 Oct/44.

1. The Royal Decree referred to in para 3(b) of the above quoted letter and reproduced as Appendix "C" thereto, has now been localized and is effective from 13 October 1944.
2. The Decree has been circularized to all Italian Military H.Q.'s by the Ministry of War, pending publication of the Military Journal.

F. J. Noakes
F. J. NOAKES, Col.
for Major General,
M. M. I. A.

SPA/wk

Copy to: HQ AAI for 'A' Branch
HQ 5th Army
HQ Rear 8th Army
HQ Br Increment 5 Army
HQ No. 1 Dist
HQ Rear No. 2 Dist
HQ No. 3 Dist
HQ P.B.S.
HQ P.B.S. Southern Region
HQ A.C. (3)
ALL MMIA LO's

AC-DIST
Legac s/c
Public Safety s/c

5/2

8252

4712

23

Subject:- Italian Audier

Civil Affairs Section,
HQ Allied Armies in Italy
TEL: FILPOT 132

To:-

Office of Chief of Staff,
HQ Allied Commission

DCCAO/1/9.1
2 Dec 44

It is reported for information that personnel from Italian military units and Italian camp followers attached to strength of formations may attend ENSA Entertainments, providing they in no way prohibit the admission of British troops, and that the Os i/c Districts are satisfied that the Italian personnel concerned are bona fide camp followers.

Christ James

Lt. Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer
for DCCAO

DISTRIBUTION BY CHIEF OF STAFF

8252/COS

4 Dec 44

C A Sec

ESTAB Sec

Headquarters SC.

*Seen by COS. 7
Harris PA*

358
12

8252

CONFIDENTIAL

A 912

NOV 30 1230A

C/2339

NOV 30 1445A

ROUTINE

From: LAL MAIN

To: (1) DISTONE INFO (2) CG 5TH ARMY (3) 5TH ARMY FOR BR INCH (4) MAIN 8TH ARMY
(5) REAR 8TH ARMY (6) PES (7) ALLIED COMMISSION (8) MEIA (9) 50 BLU

1 BEC Recd

FUN INFORMATION UNCL

CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference by A 859 of 23 November not to all.

1. PHULI group is authorized to despatch forthwith leave party of not more than 1/2% of group strength to destinations south of line LEHORE - FLORENCE. HIRINI all inclusive. Period of leave not more than 7 days excluding travelling time. Group transport may be used. All personnel will be in possession of ANG yellow movement permit issued by Provincial Commissioner ANG SIENA provinces to whom written application should be made by 50 BLU. Conversation CII BLU. AAO LAL refers.

2. Further 6 1/2% may be despatched on leave on return of above party.

DIST

INFO-ACTION: Land Forces S/C 2

INFO: Chief Commissioner

C.O.S. -

P.Safety

C.A.Sec

File

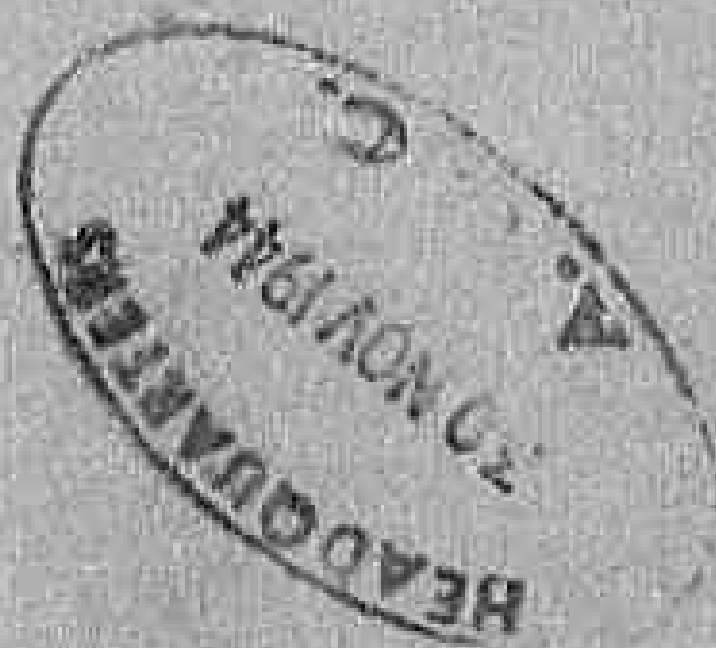
22

that 1/2% of group strength to destinations south of line LEMORE - YOUNG - KIMMI all inclusive. Period of leave not more than 7 days excluding travelling time. Group transport may be used. All personnel will be in possession of AMG yellow movement permit issued by Provincial Commissioner AMG SIENA province to whom written application should be made by 50 ELU. Conversation GIL BIL - AGO
 All refers.

2. Further 6 1/2% may be despatched on leave on return of above party.

LIST

INFO-ACTION: Land Forces S/C 2
 INFO: Chief Commissioner
 C.O.S. -
 P. Safety
 C.A. Sec
 File
 Float



357

CONFIDENTIAL

Ad (I.C.)

~~SECRET~~ 8252

COUS

ENS/afe

21

28 November 1944

30 NOV Recd

My dear General:

Referring to my telephone call concerning request of Undersecretary for War Palermo, I forward herewith the information received from him as to locations of units of the Garibaldi Division.

Very truly yours,

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNH
Chief Commissioner

Lieutenant General James A. H. Gammell, CB, DSO, MC
Chief of Staff, Allied Force Headquarters
APO 512

1 Incl. - Radiogram, 21 Nov 44

cc: General Browning

356

~~SECRET~~

PAGE 2

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND
APO No. 794 U.S. Army

OPERATIONS INSTRUCTION)

NUMBER

3)

28 November 1944.

30 NOV Recd

MOVIE: CREMONA DIVISION (ITALIAN)

Maps: Town Plan, Rome 1/12,000, Sheets NORTH/SOUTH

INTENTION

1. The routing through the city of Rome on 1 Dec 44 of a composite Det of the CREMONA Division (Italian) during its move to forward area.

INFORMATION

2. It is considered of political importance that formations of the Italian Army should be publicised on route to forward areas and that the Italian Capital should be given the opportunity of seeing Italian troops re-equipped by the Allied Nations, on the move forward.
3. A composite Det of the CREMONA Division will therefore march through Rome in daylight in accordance with the instructions as given herein.

COMMAND

4. The demonstration by the CREMONA Division will be under the control and organization of the Italian Authorities in conjunction with Army Sub Commission MMIA.

METHOD

5. Composite Det will consist of the following troops:

- a. 1,500 troops)
- b. 200 vabs)

the breakdown by Arms is as given in para 6.

6. HQ Inf Bn
Inf Bn

25 personnel
800 "5 vehicles
60 "

355

Capital should be given the opportunity to move forward.

3. A composite Det of the CROMA Division will therefore march through Rome in daylight in accordance with the instructions as given herein.

COMMAND

4. The demonstration by the CROMA Division will be under the control and organization of the Italian Authorities in conjunction with Army Sub Commission MMIA.

METHOD

5. Composite Det will consist of the following troops:

a. 1,500 troops)
the breakdown by Arms is as given in para 6.

b. 200 vehs)			
6. EC Inf Bn	25 personnel	5 vehicles	355
Inf Bn	200	60 "	
Arty	450	30 "	
Det Tpt Coy	75	25 "	
Det Fd Engrs	120	20 "	
Det EE Engrs	15	5 "	
Med	15	5 "	

7. Arrival - Rome Area

Composite Det will arrive Rome Report Centre, Km Post 8, Route 6, night of 30 Nov/1 Dec 44 under arrangements by Rome. Troops will be marshalled in Report Centre in Column of route, on 1 Dec 44.

8. SP and Order of March

Arch of Constantine, 747662. Leading Troops facing ARCH.

9. Concentration Area.

Via del Trionfo from Piazza D. Cir. Massimo 746657 to Arch of Constantine 747662.

- 1 -

P-H-S-T-A-I-C-T-B-D

HEADQUARTERS
2 COUNCIL
A. C.

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

10. Timings

- a. Arrival Concentration Area 1000 hrs 1 Dec 44.
- b. Cross SP 1100 hrs 1 Dec 44.

11. Route

Arch of Constantine - Via dell Impero - Piazza Venezia (to pass in front of Monument) - Corso Umberto - Piazza del Popolo - Via Flaminia - Embussing Area open ground R of Via Flaminia 733697.

PROC

- 12. DPM will be responsible for traffic control in Concentration Area, SP, along the route and at Embussing Area.
- 13. DPM will detail two Jeep escorts, one leading column and one at rear.
- 14. Italian Military and Police Authorities will be responsible for control of civilians, marshalling in Concentration Area, SP, and Embussing Area.

RE-ORGANISATION OF COMPOSITE DET

- 15. On completion of meal period and marshalling of Composite Det at Embussing Area, Mov Rome will arrange for convoy to resume its journey NORTH, at approx 1400 hrs.

By command of Brigadier General BROWN:

I. E. Czek
I. E. CZEK
Captain AGD
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

Action : C-3 (2)
DPM

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

number of civilians, marshalling in Concentration Area, SP, and Embussing Area.

RE-ORGANISATION OF COMPOSITE DET

15. On completion of meal period and marshalling of Composite Det at Embussing Area, Mov Rome will arrange for convey to resume its journey NORTH, at approx 1400 hrs.

By command of Brigadier General BROWN:

J. E. Clark
I. E. CLARK
Captain AGD
Adjutant General.

DISTRIBUTION:

Action : G-3 (2)

DPM

Mov Rome

Info :

AFHQ

HQ S District

HQ Allied Commission

Army Sub Commission AMIA

AMT Lazio-Umbria Region

Comd

Dep Comd

C of S

Dep C of S

War Diary (2)

File (G-3 Br) (2)

AG Records (2)

- 2 -

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

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

File
9252/008
27 November 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Major-General L. Browning, CB, CBE, MC,
GOC, Land Forces Sub-Commission.

I have told the Chief Commissioner of the time
and place of the progress of the Italian Division through
ROME next Friday and he very much hopes that he will be able
to get away from the Advisory Council Meeting in time to
attend at 1100 hours.

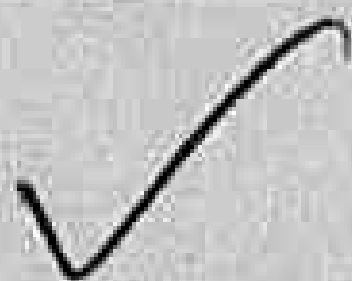
M. S. LUSH

Copy to: Major Quayle, SO to OG.

354

785017

~~Chief Commissioner.~~



16

Adv. Council

The next progress of the new Graphic of the Italian Army will pass the Piazza Venezia 1100 hrs next Friday Dec 1st Lt. of Realm will be there. Gen Browning asks whether you would like to attend. If possible I would recommend you doing so.

Yes, by all means ADMs (26/x)

C.O.S.

Dr. Lannin will make all arrangements. Though he thinks C.C. may not be able to go as she is on a meeting.

353

2328

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

8252
~~SECRET~~

(15)
C/1589

TO: AFHQ CITE PROCT INFO AC

85/22

FROM: MMIA

0.621

NOV 21 1930

IMPORTANT

23 NOV Recd

~~FOR INFORMATION ONLY~~
both on D.C. files
no copy on COS files.

~~SECRET.~~

Further to AC letter A/CC 091.711 of 7 November subject Italian forces in YUGOSLAVIA your F 81845 of 11 August refers.

1. Ministry of War request authority for despatch of Italian Mission to Marshal TITO's HQ composed as follows. Col MOSSO VITTORIO. T/Col FISICARO SALVATORE. S/T BUDIO MARCO. S/T GASCA-QUEIKAZZA FEDERICO. Caporale TIGANI AUGUSTO. Geniere BRAUDANO LUIGI.

2. Authority is requested for the despatch of this mission

HEADQUARTERS
25 NOV 1944
A. C.

DIST

352

INFO-ACTION
INFO

S.O. to C.C (2)
Cos
FILE

~~SECRET~~

NOV 22 1930

25/11

8252 37/14

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND

AFPO 794, US ARMY

21 November 1944
22 NOV Recd

OPERATIONS INSTRUCTION)

NUMBER

2-)

MOVE: FRIULI DIVISION (ITALIAN)

Maps: Town Plan, Rome 1/12,000, Sheets NORTH/SOUTH

INTENTION

1. The routing through the city of Rome on 24 Nov 44 of a composite Det of the Friuli Division (Italian) during its move to forward area.

INFORMATION

2. It is considered of political importance that formations of the Italian Army should be publicised on route to forward areas and that the Italian Capital should be given the opportunity of seeing Italian troops re-equipped by the Allied Nations, on the move forward.

3. A composite Det of the FRIULI Division will therefore march through Rome in daylight in accordance with the instructions as given herein.

COMMAND

4. The demonstration by the FRIULI Division will be under the control and organisation of the Italian Authorities in conjunction with Army Sub Commission MALA.

METHOD

5. Composite Det will consist of the following troops:

- a. 1,500 troops }
b. 200 vchs }
the breakdown by Arms is as given in para 6.

6. HQ Inf Bn	25 personnel	5 vehicles	351
Inf Bn	800 "	40 "	
Art	150 "		

should be given the opportunity of seeing Allied Nations, on the move forward.

3. A composite Det of the FRIULI Division will therefore march through Rome in daylight in accordance with the instructions as given herein.

COMMAND

4. The demonstration by the FRIULI Division will be under the control and organisation of the Italian Authorities in conjunction with Army Sub Commission MILA.

METHOD

5. Composite Det will consist of the following troops:

a.	1,500 troops	the breakdown by Arms is as given in para 6.	
b.	200 vehs		
		25 personnel	5 vehicles
6.	HQ Inf Bn	800	40
	Inf Bn	450	80
	Arty	75	45
	Det Tpt Coy	120	20
	Det Fd Engrs	15	5
	Det ME Engrs	15	5
	Med		

351

7. Arrival - Rome Area.

Composite Det will arrive Rome Report Centre, Km Post 8, Route 6, night of 23/24 Nov 44 under arrangements Mov Rome. Troops will be marshalled in Report Centre in Column of Route, on 24 Nov.

8. SP and Order of March.

Arch of Constantine, 747662. Leading Troops facing the ARCH.

9. Concentration Area.

Via del Trionfi from Piazza D. Cir. Massimo 746657 to Arch of Constantine 747662.

R-E-S-T-R-I-C-T-E-D

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

10. Timings.

- a. Arrival Concentration Area 1000 hrs 24 Nov.
- b. Cross SF 1130 hrs. 24 Nov.

11. Route.

Arch of Constantine - Via dell Impero - Piazza Venezia (correct traffic direction maintained) - Corso Umberto - Piazza del Popolo - Via Flaminia - Embussing Area open ground R of Via Flaminia 753697.

PRO

- 12. DPM will be responsible for traffic control in Concentration Area, SP, along the route and at Embussing Area.
- 13. DPM will detail two Jeep escorts, one leading column and one at rear.
- 14. Italian Military and Police Authorities will be responsible for control of civilians, marshalling in Concentration Area, SP, and Embussing Area.

RE-ORGANISATION OF COMPOSITE DET

- 15. On completion of meal period and marshalling of Composite Det at Embussing Area, Mov Rdr will arrange for convey to resume its journey NORTH, at approx 1400 hrs.

GENERAL

- 16. Further information will be given later on the subject of Salutes when present discussions are completed.

By command of Brigadier General BROWN:

J. E. Cheek
I. E. CHEEK

Captain AGED

Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

Action : G-3 (2)

2 3 3 2

15. On completion of meal period and marshalling of Composite Det at Embussing Area, Mov Rome will arrange for convoy to resume its journey NORTH, at approx 1400 hrs.

GENERAL

16. Further information will be given later on the subject of Salutes when present discussions are completed.

By command of Brigadier General BROWN:

J. E. Cheek
J. E. CHEEK
Captain AGED
Adjutant General

DISTRIBUTION:

Action : G-3 (2)
DEF
Mov Rome

Info : AFHQ
HQ 3 Dist
HQ Allied Commission
Army Sub Commission MILA
AMG Lazio-Umbria Region
Comd
Dep Comd
C of S
Dep C of S
War Diary (2)
File (G-3) (Br) (2)

ALLIED COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS

ROME, le 10 Novembre 1944
XS/SM n° 137

Office of the French Representative

12

MEMORANDUM

For Major General BROWNING.

1°) It is believed that, according to former plans, the new Italian Army was to include:

12 Infantry Divisions with a ceiling of 400,000 men; 3 of these Divisions were equipped with Italian equipment.

The ceiling for Italian combat Troops at the front was to be of 20,000 men.

In which way have the above decisions been altered?

What units are planned?

What ceiling for the entire Italian Army?

What ceiling for combat troops?

2°) The Italian Press has given the information by which 6 Divisions are ready to be sent up to the front line; is this correct? and if so:

a) what equipment has been given to these units? (Italian or Allied?)

b) what is the general organization? Members of Corps? Name of Corps Generals?

c) will these units, at the front, be grouped under Italian command?

d) how were these units trained with modern equipment? How good are they?

3°) Are other Italian Divisions being trained now? Are they going to receive weapons to go up to the front?

4°) What becomes of Italian deserters coming down from enemy occupied Italy? Do they remain in the Italian Army? Are they included in the general ceiling? (nearly a whole Division is reported to have deserted)

5°) What becomes of Italian soldiers repatriated from Greece or the Balkans?

6°) What has become of the 20,000 Italians soldiers who have left the front line? Are they included in the Infantry Divisions referred to by the Italian Press?

.../...

PAH 24/11

PENDING

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. TS/G/4
14 Nov 44

TO : OFFICE OF THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE
(att. Lt. de NONE)
H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION

Ref your memorandum dated 21 October requesting information about the new Italian Combat Groups.

1. Instructions have been received by this Sub-Commission that LONDON and WASHINGTON will control the passing of Military Information and that requests for information should be taken up by the French Mission accredited to the Allies at those centres.

2. This Sub-Commission is merely Executive and does not decide policy. It will thus be realized that it is not in a position to give information and it is requested that you will forward your questions through the channels mentioned in para 1 above.

3. Meanwhile, as you will have doubtless seen from the Press, the intention is to form a number (not yet fixed) of Italian Combat Groups armed with Allied Equipment to take part in operations for the liberation of ITALY.

S.M. Ingledew

Lt. Col.
GSOI
Land Forces Sub-Commission
(M.M.I.A.)

PA/ I will see Cd Ingledew

M/17/1. See minute 13.

349

~~SECRET~~

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

TS/G/L

Nov 44

TO : Office of French Representative
(att Lt. de NONE)
H.Q. Allied Commission.

Ref your memorandum to Gen. BROWNING of
21 Oct and further to phone conversation.

1. Gen. BROWNING has instructed me to prepare the information you require and this will be ready by the end of this week.
2. If you will phone me approximately Tuesday 14 Nov, I will arrange a suitable time for Generale de SEVIN to visit Gen. BROWNING.

J. M. Ingledew.

Lt. Col.
G.S.

Ingledew.

AEC

9

October 21st, 1944.

MEMORANDUM

for

Major General BROWNING.

In view of the recent developments and agreements reached in between Italy and the Allies, the French Representative in A.C.C. would deeply appreciate if some information could be given on the following points:

- a/ It is believed that an Italian Army of 60,000 men is being planned for or organized. If this is so, how many Divisions would it contain? What armament would be provided? Would this Army be intended for operations in Italy?

How would this affect the decision of keeping down to 20,000 the number of active Italian combat troops?

- b/ Could the names of the Italian Corps and Division Commanders be provided as well as location of big units?

348

6257 COS. 3608 (8)

RECEIVED
20 NOV 1944
A. C.

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: Disbandment of AA and CD Units

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.G.
(M.K.I.A.A.)
File No. G/3
12 Nov 44

20 NOV Recd

TO : WAR MINISTRY for SARE

1. Ref your 8551/Ord of 12 Nov and further our G/3/71 of 31 Oct subject as above.

2. The completion date may be extended from 14th Nov to 28th Nov if necessary but may NOT be extended after that date.

Major General
M. M. I. A.

Distribution: AFHQ

AAI

22 AA Bde

25 AA Bde

HQ A.C.

203 Fixed Defs

3 District

Col. SIMMONS & A.G. SARDINIA

Navy S.C. A.C.

Air Forces S.C. A.C.

Interval: A/3

SD/34

345

The completion date may be extended from 14th
Nov to 28th Nov if necessary but may NOT be extended after
that date.

Distribution:

AFHQ
AAI

22 AA Bde

25 AA Bde

HQ A.C.

203 Fixed Defs

3 District

Col. SIMMONS & A.C. SARDINIA

Navy S.C. A.C.

Air Forces S.C. A.C.

Internal:

A/2
SD/34

346

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

[Signature]
Major General
M. M. I. A.

SUBJECT: - Disbandment of Anti-Aircraft, Searchlight and Coast Defence Units

Military Mission Italian Army
R O M E
G/3/71

2 NOV Recd

31 Oct 44

Ministry of War

1. It has been decided by ARHQ that all Anti-Aircraft and Coast Defence units of the Italian Army, at present under Allied Command, are no longer operationally required and are to be disbanded.

2. A number of Searchlight personnel are to be retained under command of Mediterranean Allied Air Force for manning searchlights used as navigational aids. These are listed in Appendix "A"(1). Both Army and Navy personnel are shown as it is intended that eventually they shall be formed into one unit. Further instructions on this subject will follow. These personnel will be Category IV (ITI-ITI) in the Order of Battle for the Italian Army.

3. At Appx "A" para (11) are shown for information the Naval Coast Defence units which are to be retained under command of 203 Fixed Defences. These are at present carried on the strength of the Italian Navy. All Naval AA units are being disbanded.

4. From the State of the Italian Army dated 9 October it appears that the following personnel will be released on the Mainland:

(a) A.A. C.D. and S/L units, CAMPANIA

19 Raggruppamento C.A.
I, II, III & IV Groups
3 Searchlight Coy

(b) A.A. C.D. and S/L units, PUGLIA

20 Raggruppamento C.A.
76, 73, 14 Groups
109 Group
A.M.G. Company

All Ranks

1099

345

which are to be returned to the Italian Navy. All Naval Air Units are being carried on the strength of the Italian Navy.

4. From the State of the Italian Army dated 9 October it appears that the following personnel will be released on the Mainland:

(a) A.A. C.D. and S/L units, CAMPANIA

All Ranks

19 Raggruppamento C.A.
I, II, III & IV Groups
3 Searchlight Coy

1099

(b) A.A. C.D. and S/L units, PUGLIA

20 Raggruppamento C.A.
76, 78, 14 Group
139 Group
4 M.G. Companies
1424 Bty x 8mm
1053 Bty x 20mm
Searchlight units less 37 operators
required by IAAF

345

(c) Balloon Barrage and Smoke Units, PUGLIA

2 and 3 Smoke Coys
1 Balloon Barrage Group and 1 and 2 Balloon Barrage Coys less
440 all ranks transferred to Italian Air Force vide our SD/2
of 5 Oct 44.

545

5. The following procedure will be adopted for each of the above categories:

Cal (a) These personnel will be placed immediately at the disposal of PES (US-ITI) arrangements for the clearing of gun sites and the return of arms and ammunition to Italian depots will be made by MMIA IG, HQ 19th Raggruppamento and 22 A.A. Pde. MMIA will be informed of quantities and where they have been stored and number of personnel transferred to PES.



2.

Cat (b) and (c) These personnel will be assigned to Combat Groups and British Services (BR-ITI) as suitable, according to the procedure adopted at MINERVINE Camp. They will, however, be concentrated in barracks at BARI. Gun site situated close together are suggested if no other accommodation is available. Arrangements for closing down of gun sites and return of arms and ammunition to depots will be made locally as in para 4(a). This should be finished by 14 Nov. MIA 1/ BARI will co-ordinate this transfer of personnel.

6. NMIA LC's will ensure that these instructions are carried out and report.

ADC

Major General
M M T A

copy to:- AFHQ (2) refers to your AG.091.711/015 GCT-C
of 27 October 44.

HQ AAI (2)
22 AA Bde
25 AA Bde
203 Fixed Defences (2)
3 District
Navy Sub Commission AC.
Air Forces Sub Commission AC.
HQ AC.

Col SIMMONS, Allied Garrison, INDIA
NMIA LC PES
NMIA LC 54 Area (2) one copy for Capt O'DONNELL

Internal:- A/C

File

Spare (2)

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

copy to: - AFHQ (2) refers to your AG.091.711/015 GGT-G
of 27 October 44.

HQ AAI (2)
22 AA Bde
25 AA Bde
203 Fixed Defences (2)
3 District
Navy Sub Commission AC.
Air Forces Sub Commission AC.
HQ AC.

Col SIMMONS, Allied Garrison, MALINDIA
NNIA LO PES

NNIA LO 54 Area (2) one copy for Capt O'DONNELL

Internal: - A/Q

File

Spare (2)

2323

APPENDIX "A" to EMIA letter
G/3/71 of 31 October 1944

ITALIAN SEARCHLIGHTS TO BE OPERATIONAL
UNDER COMMAND MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCE

(a) ARMY SEARCHLIGHTS (ITI-ITI)			
LOCATION	No of Searchlights	Officers	Men
ELMAS	5	-	25
ALGHERO (being transferred to mainland)	5	-	25
FOGGIA	(Attached to Naval Searchlights)	-	12
BARI	5	-	25
TOTAL.....	15	-	87

b) NAVAL SEARCHLIGHTS (ITI-ITI) (Attached to Army from Navy)

To be carried on ORBAT of Italian Army as part of Army ceiling.

LOCATION	No of Searchlights	Officers	Men
FOGGIA	17	3	108
BRINDISI	5	1	25
PORTOFINO	3	-	15
ROMIGLIANO	1	-	5
TECHNICAL PERSONNEL	-	1	2
TOTAL.....	26	5	155

(11) C.D. under Command 203 Fixed Defence

This is Naval personnel (BR-ITI) of the following units :-

b) NAVAL SEARCHLIGHTS (ITI-ITI) (Attached to Army from Navy)

To be carried on ORBAT of Italian Army as part of Army ceiling.

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>No of Searchlights</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Men</u>
FUGLIA	17	3	108
BRINDISI	5	1	25
PORTOGRUE	3	-	15
ROMIGLIANO	1	-	5
TECHNICAL PERSONNEL	-	1	2
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>155</u>

(11) C.D. under Command 203 Fixed Defences

This is Naval personnel (BR-ITI) of the following units :-

593 Battery	-	BRINDISI
PEDAGNE Battery	-	"
ALESSANDRIA Battery	-	TARANTO
999 Battery	-	"

Total strength - 350 all ranks.

These personnel are at present carried under the Italian Navy ceiling.

344

Subject: Disciplinary Powers - Italian Army

Military Mission
Italian Army,
R O M E
AQ/6

27 October 1944

To : AFHQ

Ref your CR/4385/G1(Br) dated 17 Oct 44

1. The question of Discipline, and Disciplinary Powers of Unit Commanders in the Italian Army has been the subject of investigation by this HQ, in conjunction with the Italian Ministry of War.

2. The low state of discipline in many units, and the prevalence of desertion, is largely attributable to two main factors:-

a) The present very limited disciplinary powers of Unit Commanders. (Appx 'A' att). (3)

b) The lengthy delay between the commission of a serious offence, e.g., desertion, and the trial by Military Tribunal due to the overburdening of these tribunals with cases committed to them for trial. (2)

3. Two recent decrees, one promulgated (Appx 'B') and the other (Appx 'C'), awaiting only for Royal Assent, are intended to improve the present standard of discipline:-

a) Extraordinary Courts Martial have been set up to deal with absence without leave and desertion (Appx 'B' att). (1)

b) Unit Commanders will be given increased disciplinary powers, under the decree awaiting Royal Assent, and penalties for serious misconduct will be more severe (Appx 'C' att).

4. Both decrees, it is anticipated, will effect a reduction in the number of offences committed, both minor and more serious, by ensuring more immediate and exemplary punishment.

see file (24)

8252 Co.S. 1742

a) The present very limited disciplinary powers of Unit Commanders. (Appx 'A' att). (3)

b) The lengthy delay between the commission of a serious offence, e.g., desertion, and the trial by Military Tribunal due to the overburdening of these tribunals with cases committed to them for trial. (2)

3. Two recent decrees, one promulgated (Appx 'B') and the other (Appx 'C'), awaiting only for Royal Assent, are intended to improve the present standard of discipline:-

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b) Unit Commanders will be given increased disciplinary powers, under the decree awaiting Royal Assent, and penalties for serious misconduct will be more severe (Appx 'C' att).

4. Both decrees, it is anticipated, will effect a reduction in the number of offences committed, both minor and more serious, by ensuring more immediate and exemplary punishment.

JGB/wk

Copy to: HQ AAI for A Branch
HQ Fifth Army
HQ Rear Eighth Army
HQ British Incement, Fifth Army
HQ No. 1 District
HQ Rear No. 2 District
HQ No. 3 District
PBS
HQ ACC(3)
ALL MMIA LO'S

F. J. Noakes
F. J. NOAKES, Lt Col,
for Major General,
M. M. I. A.

Dis 343

*Co. S. ...
LEGAT
R. SAFETY*

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Appx 'A' to MMIA letter
AQ/6 dated 27 Oct. 1944

PRESENT DISCIPLINE POWERS OF UNIT COMDS

An independent Unit Comd has the same powers as those of a Corps Comd. They are the following:

- (a) Reprimanding.
- (b) Confinement to barracks for a period up to 15 days.
- (c) Ordinary imprisonment up to 15 days. (Work carried on as usual and no loss of pay).
- (d) Close arrest imprisonment up to 7 days (with loss of pay).
- (e) Para (d) coupled with para (c).

The above is the maximum that can be awarded by any Comd without trial.

Desertion does not come under any of the above clauses. Penal Code lays down that it must be referred to Military Tribunal.

In case of units under command, punishment is awarded by the senior officer of the most senior formation, or by an officer appointed by him.

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the senior officer of the most senior formation, or by an officer
appointed by him.

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Appx 'B' to MMIA letter
AQ/6 dated 27 Oct. 1944

Translation

From: M of W
To : Circular
Subject: Absence Without Leave.
Ref: 10287L/I
Date: 5.10.44

Further to Circulars 13900 dated Aug 18th last and 13950 dated 26th August last.

The serious offences of Absence Without Leave shows no signs of diminishing. On the contrary, recently the cases of large groups of military deserting from their units have increased considerably.

MMIA have noticed this and have expressed their concern at the slackening of cooperation in the war effort that these desertions point to.

It is necessary that this regrettable state of affairs should cease.

The a/m circulars establish special measures affecting disciplinary action and others are suggested with a view to avoiding these desertions.

All H.Q.'s concerned are reminded of the need to apply promptly and strictly all regulations now in force. Particularly Art. 4 of Royal Decree Law No. 668 of July 29th, 1943 which allows for the establishment of extraordinary Courts Martial to deal with military charged with any crime punishable with detention and consequently that of desertion.

Furthermore, Instruction No. 26 dated May 26th last, issued by the General Chief of Staff authorizes the establishment of extraordinary Courts Martial by order of the Commander of a military garrison having the rank of general, should there be no Div H.Q. or higher unit within the area of the garrison.

Consequently, military found guilty of desertion or not reporting on being called to arms will be tried direct by extraordinary Courts Martial and awarded severe sentences without binding over or delay in carrying out of sentence.

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A few examples will no doubt act as a deterrent to all.

I must issue a warning, furthermore, that a new decree is being drafted increasing disciplinary punishment.

The Minister.

(Sgd) A. CASATI. 340

Appx 'C' to MMIA letter
AQ/6 dated 27 Oct. 1944

COPY TRANSLATION

Outline of legislative decree of the Regent, about to be issued, modifying regulations of military discipline for the Italian Army.

DISCIPLINE

Art. 1.

Par. 599 and 600 of the 3rd part of the military discipline regulations for the R. Army, approved by R. Decree 24 June 1929, and successive modifications, are substituted by the following:-

"par 599 - The disciplinary punishment for the graduati di truppa (Caporale & Cap Maggiore) are:

- 1) Reprimand
- 2) Confinement to barracks for 1 to 30 days
- 3) Ordinary punishment room 1 to 30 days
- 4) Severe punishment room 2 to 30 days
- 5) Solemn reprimand
- 6) Reduction in rank
- 7) Transfer to correction companies after reduction in rank

"par 600 - Disciplinary punishment for the private is:-

- 1) Reprimand
- 2) Confinement to barracks for 1 to 30 days
- 3) Simple punishment room for 1 to 30 days
- 4) Severe punishment room for 2 to 30 days
- 5) Reduction in rank from Private 1st class
- 6) Transfer to correction companies

Art. 2.

Fortress arrest for officers, severe arrest for officers and marescialli, the severe punishment room for all ranks up to Sergente Maggiore, as well as confinement pending sentence for all NCO's and men cause the loss of war - indemnities (combat pay by special daily compensation as per R. Decree 5 April 1944, N. 122), whenever the personnel under punishment receive such indemnities.

Simple arrest for officers and marescialli, simple punishment room for all ranks up to Sergente Maggiore, as well as confinement pending sentence for all NCO's and men cause the loss of war - indemnities (combat pay by special daily compensation as per R. Decree 5 April 1944, N. 122), whenever the personnel under punishment receive such indemnities.

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Transfer to correction companies after reduction in rank

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Simple arrest for officers and marescialli, simple punishment room for all ranks up to Sergente Maggiore, as well as disciplinary transfer for all NCOs and men cause reduction to one-half of the above war indemnities wherever they apply.

Art. 3.

Sottufficiali (Sergeant to Maresciallo Maggiore) not of the Regular Army and all junior ranks which have been sentenced to severe punishment room are to be held in the Services at the time of discharge or unlimited furlough for a period of time corresponding to that spent under punishment after the date on which this decree becomes effective.

This period is doubled for the military personnel referred to in the previous paragraph who have been punished for being absent without leave from their units.