

1888

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

ACC

10000/109/1634

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

10000/109/1634

BOMBING RANGES, TOLVE & OTHERS
APR. - JUNE 1944

1890

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

90: R4. & M. 1. Section - Information

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED-CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

W.S. CABV
V-2854

2229
26

2 1944

Ref : H / 70 / 10.

24 June 1944.

Subject: Bombing Range - Vicinity MONTELBANO, Matera Province.

To : Comig General, 15th U.S.A.A.F., Attention A-3 Section.

1. From personal reconnaissance and from reliable reports it is established that within the past two weeks, there have been several instances of indiscriminate firing from planes in vicinity of above mentioned bombing range.

2. As a result several small patches of wheat have been burned, houses have been strafed and in one instance, a thrashing machine was strafed.

3. From information I was able to procure, it seems that the pilots and gunners involved chiefly fly "aluminum" planes.

4. The control tower is operating and planes who contact and follow it's instructions have no trouble in carrying out their bombing missions in the target area. A few wild pilots and gunners apparently are not obeying instructions and in some instances apparently it is deliberate.

5. Such procedure of conduct is unnecessary and causes widespread uneasiness and damage to many large wheat farms in the area.

6. Within a few kilometres and bordering this bombing range, we have to procure and move approximately thirty five thousand tons of this great crop of wheat to other non-producing areas within the first two weeks of July.

7. I am sure that if these young pilots and gunners were "briefed" into the situation they would see the far-reaching importance of such necessary action on the war effort in this immediate vicinity and elsewhere.

120

8. There is no reason why the bombing and strafing in this range cannot proceed and the grain gathered at the same time. It is all a question of discipline on the part of a few pilots and gunners.

Note-Colonel ZELLARS is taking this matter up personally with the C.G., 15th USAAF.

JOHN T. ZELLARS
Colonel, Infantry
Regional Commissioner,

1891

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2

CAB-2212
329/22/OK
26 JUN 44
25
20 June 1944

Ref: A/70/9

SUBJECT: - bombing Range TOLVE

TO : - H.Q. & M.G. Section
HQ. A.C.C. AFQ. 394.



Thank you for your 329/22/OK of 20 June 1944. No further concessions are required.

The 12 U.S.A.A.F., the officer i/c of the range and all concerned have been most helpful.

Ann-Clary W. Colonel

for JOHN F. ZELLARS
Col. Inf.
Regional Commissioner

*Call this to see for info P/A.
Send copy to O. for info
27/6*

1892

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

SECRET

25

JUN 1944

CAB
35.4691

24

HEADQUARTERS
MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCES
APO 650

ACT-REW-op

16 June 1944.

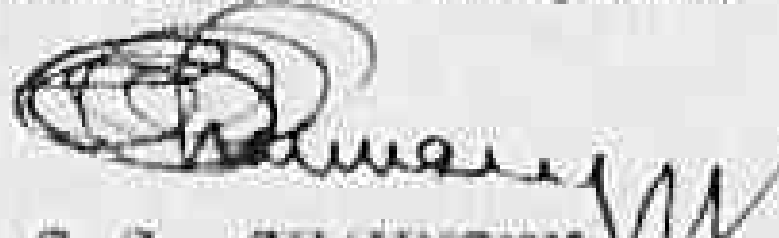
SUBJECT: Bombing Range Tolve.

TO : Executive Commissioner, Allied Control Commission,
R.C. and M.G. Section, APO 394, U.S. Army.

1. Reference is made to your letter 329/16/CA dated
6 June 1944.

2. Attached is a copy of the signal sent to your
Headquarters on 13 June 1944.

By Command of the Air Commander-in-Chief :


C.C. CHAUNCEY,
Major General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

FILE: MAAF/104/AIR

- 1 Incl :
Incl 1 - Hq,MAAF, msg dtd
13.6.44 to Hq, A.C.C.,
No. M-21060.



Handwritten notes:
1. 13.6.44 to Hq, A.C.C., No. M-21060.
2. 13.6.44 to Hq, A.C.C., No. M-21060.

1 spare.

Handwritten initials: MA

- 1 -
SECRET

118

1893

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

(COPY)

ROUTINE

SECRET

M.A.A.F.

(AMACT-REW-ed)

OPERATIONS

R.E. WIELAND

1ST LIEUT., A.C.

13 JUNE 1944

H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, R.C. & M.G.
SECTION, CG 15TH AIR FORCE

FROM: MAKER CITE M-21060

TOLVE BOMBING RANGE AT FOUR ZERO DEGREES FOUR FIVE MINUTES
NORTH CMA ONE SIX DEGREES ZERO FOUR MINUTES EAST CMA
REFERENCE YOUR LETTER THREE TWO NINE SLANT ONE SIX SLANT
CHARLIE ABLE CMA WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL BOMBING EVERY THURSDAY
AND BOMBING WILL BE SUSPENDED DAILY AT ONE SIX ZERO ZERO HOURS
BY THREE ZERO FOUR BOMB WING TO EXPEDITE HARVESTING PD THIS
CONFIRMS ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN MAAF HEADQUARTERS AND ONE FIVE
AIR FORCE

Dist: Air Staff(Originator) 104/AIR
A.C. (4)

Copy: Master File
Aircraft Safety

1894

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

HEADQUARTERS
AND CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

22

Ref/329/22/GA.

20 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Bombing Range TWELVE.

TO : R.C. Region II.

1. I refer to letter written by Provincial Commissioner FORREZA on the 26th May on this subject to this HQ asking that some modification in the bombing programme should be made over the harvest period. I attach copy of a signal from MAAF of the 13 June which due to mis-direction was only received in this HQ yesterday.
2. Major Nicholls says in his letter that the officer in charge of the range has been most cooperative and in other matters as well MAAF have generally been most helpful. Under these circumstances it is considered that we should not press MAAF to grant any further concessions.
3. Will you please say whether you consider the arrangements now agreed to in the MAAF telegram will be suitable.

GRTS/RAC.

Copy to: L.C., A.C.C., HQ. AAI.

L E
NORMAN E. PIERCE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

116

1895

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

Subject:- Bombing Range - Tolve.

329.

19 June 44.

21

To:- R.C. & M.G. Section,
HQ. A.C.C.

19 JUN 1944

From:- A.C.C. Liaison,
HQ. A.A.I.

Ref. ACCL/238.

19-20

Attached hereto confirmation of arrangements
for partial release of Tolve Bombing Range for
harvesting purposes.

The original signal addressed to HQ. A.C.C.
13 June was apparently not received by you.

CL
on file & Bow

IL
19/5

Curran
Major,
A.C.C. Liaison Officer.

Capit

see W

1898

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCES
APO 650

ACT-RKW-ep

81.20

16 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Bombing Range Tolve.

TO : Executive Commissioner, Allied Control Commission,
R.C. and M.G. Section, APO 394, U.S. Army.

1. Reference is made to your letter 329/16/CA dated
6 June 1944.

2. Attached is a copy of the signal sent to your
Headquarters on 13 June 1944.

By Command of the Air Commander-in-Chief :

C.C. CHAUNCEY,
Major General, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff.

FILE: MAAF/104/AIR

1 Incl :
Incl 1 - Hq, MAAF, msg dtd
13.6.44 to Hq, A.C.C.,
No. M-21060.

113

114

S E C R E T

1897

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

(COPY)
ROUTINE
SECRET

M.A.A.F.

(AMACT-REW-ep)
OPERATIONS
R.E. WIELAND
1ST LIEUT., A.G.
13 JUNE 1944

19

H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, R.C. & M.G.
SECTION, CG 15TH AIR FORCE

FROM: BAKER SITE M-21060

TOLVE BOMBING RANGE AT FOUR ZERO DEGREES FOUR FIVE MINUTES
NORTH CMA ONE SIX DEGREES ZERO FOUR MINUTES EAST CMA
REFERENCE YOUR LETTER THREE TWO NINE SLANT ONE SIX SLANT
CHARLIE ABLE CMA WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL BOMBING EVERY THURSDAY
AND BOMBING WILL BE SUSPENDED DAILY AT ONE SIX ZERO ZERO HOURS
BY THREE ZERO FOUR BOMB WING TO EXPEDITE HARVESTING PD THIS
CONFIRMS ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN MAAF HEADQUARTERS AND ONE FIVE
AIR FORCE

Dist: Air Staff(Originator) 104/AIR
A.G. (4)

Copy: Master File
Aircraft Safety

1893

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

18, 329 16 JUN 1944
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

1603

18

TO: ACC NAPLES

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: NY7/15

FROM: HQ MAAT

CLASSIFICATION:

REFERENCE No: REC 52

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUN 15 1612B OFFICE OF ORIGIN:

REF YOUR NR 6193 14 JUNE. NO TRACE YOUR 329/16/CA, 6 JUNE. REQUEST RE-EXAMINATION.

ACC DIST

all Dist

Action-CA Bc 2

Info - DCC

File

File

Noted



DATE and Time of RECEIPT JUNE 15 1055B

Distribution:

1899

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

RESTRICTED

AGC MAIN 6193

AGC MAIN (Civil Affairs Branch)

24 June 1944

RESTRICTED

Vapor 165-PL-20

ROUTING

HQ MAAP

GRATEFUL YOU REMEX OUR THREE TWO NINE ONE FOUR ONE SIX ONE FOUR ON DATED SIX JUNE
FOUR FOUR UNRECOGN TO FAITH TO HQ MAAP FROM AGC MAIN DATED 10

111

L.T. MONTGOMERY, JR
1st Lt. AGC
Adjutant

RESTRICTED

1900

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

16

Ref/329/16/Ch.

6 June 1944

SUBJECT: Bombing Range - TULVA.

TO : Chief of Staff, HQ. M.A.A.P.

1. I have to refer to my letter 329/6/CA of 28 April 1944 addressed to A.C.C. Liaison HQ. A.A.I. ~~Washington~~, regarding the possible change of location of the range.
2. You will realize the importance of harvesting every possible crop of local grown foodstuffs (thereby proportionately reducing the amount to be imported in Allied ships) cannot be over-emphasized.
3. If it is not possible to change the location any the following suggestions be implemented, if possible :
 - (i) The greater part of the crop of 50,000 quintals can be saved if the farmers are allowed access to the land during the morning hours from now until harvest time.
 - (ii) The harvest (beans and grain) is expected to commence on or about 5 June and will take one month to cut and gather off the land. Work should continue all day during this period.
4. In view of the importance and urgency of the matter I would again ask that the times for bombing practice be limited or entirely suspended for one month.
5. The officer in charge of the range has been most co-operative in giving notice of the times when the range is out of bounds, and so far crops have not been damaged by bombs. However, in view of the extreme urgency of completing the harvesting in this area I would urge that sympathetic consideration be given to suspension of bombing activities in this area for a period of one month, commencing forthwith.

AJS/RAG.

Noted
W/b
M.S. [Signature]
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.
For Chief Commissioner.

Copy to: ACC Liaison, HQ. A.A.I.

1901

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

16A

CIVIL AFFAIRS BRANCH

5 June 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Executive Commissioner.

1. Proposed letter request for a one-month "moratorium" on practice bombing at Tolve, attached.
2. This matter has been discussed preliminarily through liaison, with M.A.A.F., which has requested this letter.
3. Our liaison officer with A.A.I. informs me that your personal signature will increase the probability of favorable action.

DeB
A.C.B.

su 16
109

A.S. -

PLS. RETURN TO
ME FOR TRANSMISSION, AS
I WISH TO EXPEDITE PERSONALLY *DeB*

1902

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

Subject:- Bombin. Range - Tolve.

June 4/4.

To:- Lt.Col.Campbell,
Liaison Officer, M.A.A.F.

From:- A.C.C. Liaison,
HQ. A.A.I.

Ref. ACCL/208.

1. The attached copy of a letter from A.C.C., Potenza, again brings attention to the Tolve Bombing Range.
2. It would be appreciated if you could review this matter along the lines mentioned in the letter, with the proper authority.
3. The importance of harvesting of local crops cannot be over emphasized.
4. We would be much obliged if this matter could receive urgent consideration.

see 16
encl
Major,
A.C.C. Liaison Officer.

*It Col Campbell requests that this
be brought to attention of S 108*

Hq Maa 7

*Cite
check new correspondence
encl*

1903

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

GRS/sen

15

2 June 44

Colonel Sollars, my Regional Commissioner in the territory which includes Matera Province, has told me of the considerable help you have given him by vacating two bombing ranges on the rich agricultural land near the Agri River.

Many thousands of tons of grain and other farm products are thus made available for feeding the Italian people and will contribute to the war effort by reducing the shipping space required for imports of food to this country.

Colonel Sollars makes special reference to the courtesy and consideration shown by Colonel Kimbell, Lt. Colonel Sollars, and Major Mickey, and I wish to thank you and them for showing so great an appreciation of our problems.

HON. HARRY MACPARKLAW
Lieutenant General
Chief Commissioner

Major General Twining
Commanding General
15 U.S.A.A.F.

107

P.A.

W. H. H.
L. H. H.

14
8/10/44

1904

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

HQ A.C.C. ECONOMIC SECTION

20 Jan
(DATE)

From

To

ECONOMIC SECTION	
STRUCTURE	
FINANCE	
FOOD	
TRANSPORTATION	
INDUSTRY & COMMERCE	
LABOR	
MINING DIVISION	
WATER, POWER & UTILITIES	
RESEARCH	
PROPERTY & Planning	
Public Affairs	
FOR: Signature	
Analysis/Recommendation	
Information	
Approval/Disapproval	
Appropriate Action	
Investigation Report	
Noting & Return	
Disposition	

REMARKS:

You will see
the encloachment
in your file. Every
day Letter, view
of what should be
done

Three copies of
suggested letter for
each team member's
signature are attached

Yours truly,
Economic Section

1903

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
P.C. & S.C. SECTION
Civil Affairs Branch
APO 394

Ref/329/14/CA.

3 June 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Major Friend Jones.

1. Copy letter dated 26 May from the Provincial Commissioner, Potenza, requesting suspension of activities in the range near Tolve one month from 5 June, attached.
2. Please proceed with this matter as discussed in our telephone conversation this morning and report results by informal memorandum.

ALFRED C. BOWMAN
Lt. Col.
Assistant Director
Civil Affairs Branch.

sub
166
sw

1906

329 ~~2~~ JUN Recd C A Br. 13

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POTENZA PROVINCE

Pr/ 22

1697

Potenza, 26 May 1944.

To : Deputy Executive Commissioner, HQ, A O C.
Copy to Region 2, HQ.

From : Major H.H. NICHOLS - Provincial Commissioner - POTENZA -
SUBJECT = Bombing Range near TOLVE.

- 1.- Ref your 329/6/CA dated 26 April 1944 addressed to ACC., Liaison HQ., AAI., copy to this HQ.
- 2.- In view of the approaching harvest, the matter is now urgent.
- 3.- If it is not possible to change the location of the range, some modification of the present regulations is urged.
 - i) The Sindaco of TOLVE states that the greater part of the crop of 20,000 Qli. can be saved if the farmers are allowed access to the land during the morning hours from now until harvest time.
 - ii) The harvest (beans and grain) is expected to commence on or about 5th June and will take one month to cut and gather off the land. Work will continue all day long during this period.

In view of the importance and urgency of the matter may this application please be renewed, asking for times of bombing practice to be limited, as suggested above, to the afternoon until 5th June; and to be suspended entirely for one month thereafter.

It is understood that the officer in charge of the Range has been most co-operative in giving notice of times when the range is out of bounds and the Airmen have succeeded in avoiding the crops with their bombs, at the same time, to ensure any measure of success with the crop, it is necessary from now on to afford more liberal facilities to the farmers.

H. H. Nichols

MAJOR

PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

1907

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

- 1.- Ref your 323/6/CA dated 26 April 1944 addressed to ACC., Liaison HQ., AAI., copy to this HQ.
- 2.- In view of the approaching harvest, the matter is now urgent.
- 3.- If it is not possible to change the location of the range, some modification of the present regulations is urged.

- i) The Sindam of TOLIVE states that the greater part of the crop of 20,000 Qli. can be saved if the farmers are allowed access to the land during the morning hours from now until harvest time.
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ve/ HMM

K. 12.10.44

MAJOR
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
POTENZA

14

all

1908

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

12

Gen. Sec. —

These are II.

As Agric. S.C. and Food S.C. are
have most vitally interested you will
be glad to see the action taken
and would perhaps like to draft
the letter suggested in para 3.

to Diffill White
Major
CABr.
24/5

C.A. Brumck

1. Agric. Sub. Comm. has
been advised of what has
happened in Malaga Province
and are most anxious that
similar action, or permission
for farmers to operate on the
land for the harvest period,
be obtained in respect of the
Salvo Range, Patanya (see Serials
1-10)

2. However, Col Zellar,
R.C. Region 2 asks that the
request for another concession

104

1909

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

- be kept separate and distinct from the suggested letter of thanks, attached herewith, and that a copy of this letter be forwarded to him. The seeds of "good" will to all men including ACC" having been sown in the hearts of HQ 15 Air Force he will return to the charge and endeavour to obtain permission for farmers to have access to range during the harvest period terminating about 25 June.

Edw. L. L. Lt Col
I.O.F. (C.A.) Economic Section

1910

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

3298 C.A. BR 21 MAY Recd

U-8225

18 May 1944

Ref: A /55/26

SUBJECT: Bombing Ranges, Matera Province.

TO : Chief Commissioner, thru the Executive Commissioner, ACC,
Rome, Main.

1. Report is made that two 15th U. S. Army Air Force bombing ranges located in Matera Province, near the Agri River, are now being relocated by the 15th U. S. A. A. F.

This relocation will place all wheat lands, and most of the pasture lands outside the danger zone. This makes it possible to harvest several thousand tons of grain and other vital farm products.

2. The successful accomplishment of this most important operation is the result of prompt, effective and courteous cooperation on the part of the following members of the staff of Major General TWILAR, the Commanding General 15th U.S.A.A.F.; Colonel KIMBLE, Chief of Staff, Lt Colonel BOLLEAS, G-3 (Operations), and Major HIGLEY, officer in charge of removal.

3. It is thought that a brief note from the Chief Commissioner to the Commanding General, 15th U.S.A.A.F., concerning this instance of fine, effective cooperation, will greatly aid in helping to solve our future mutual problems.

John T. Twilars
JOHN T. TWILARS
Colonel, Infantry
Regional Commissioner

C
O
P
Y

684. 1st Ind. E-VLZ-ed
HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE, APO 520, U.S. Army, 7 May 1944.

TO: C-in-C, MAAF, APO 650, U.S. Army.

1. A change in the location of the bombing range mentioned in basic communication is not favorably considered.

2. This Air Force is expending rapidly and more bombing ranges are needed. At the present time every effort is being made to locate new bombing and gunnery ranges and the loss of time that would be necessitated by changing the location of this range can ill be afforded.

3. Guards are having difficulty keeping farmers off this range and if they are allowed to go in when the range is not in use it will be more difficult to keep them off during practice missions. Also an arrangement of this nature would necessitate an undue amount of coordination.

For the Commanding General:

2 Incls: n/c

2nd Ind

/s/ Gerald N. Frank,
GERALD N. FRANK,
Major, Air Corps,
Asst Adjutant General.

329/6/CA
Hqs, AAF/MTO, APO 650, U.S. Army, 12 May 1944.

TO: Chief Commissioner, A.C.C. APO 394
ATT: Col. Fiske, Dep. Exec. Commissioner.

/s/ R.A.L.

3rd Ind.

21 May 1944.

R.C. & M.G. Section, HQ, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

102

TO: R.C. Region II.

Forwarded for you to see 1st Indorsement. This decision must be accepted in view of para.2.

(Signed) W. Drifffield-White, Major
for NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

1912

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

Ref/329/S/CA

28 April 1944

SUBJECT: Bombing Range near Tolve

TO : A.C.C., Liaison, HQ., AAI

1. The attention of this Headquarters has been drawn to the desirability of changing the location of the USAAF bombing range near Tolve. A trace of this range is enclosed.

2. The land concerned is highly fertile and can be said to be first class agricultural land - mostly grain. In view of the great effort being made to encourage Italian agriculture and so reduce the amount of Allied grain imported into this country, it is hoped that you can prevail on HQ., AAI to agree to move the range to another less cultivated area.

3. If this is found to be impossible, it is requested that the farmers be given permission to cultivate the land when the range is not in use. At present they are forbidden to enter the area. A complete change of location of the range would, however, be very much more satisfactory.

4. It is estimated that this area normally produces about 40,000 quintals of cereal a year.

Norman E. Fiske
NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

101

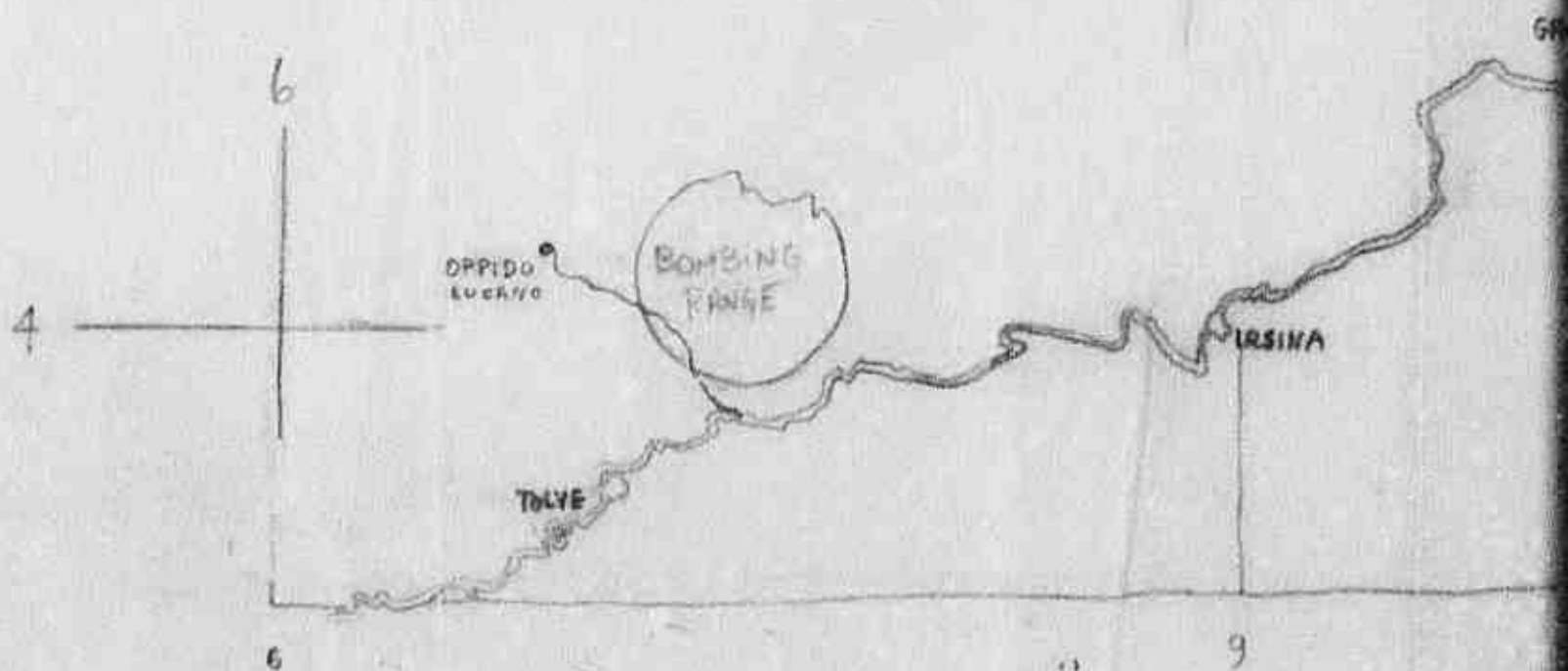
Dwell

9
29/4
// not
encl.
encl.

1913

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

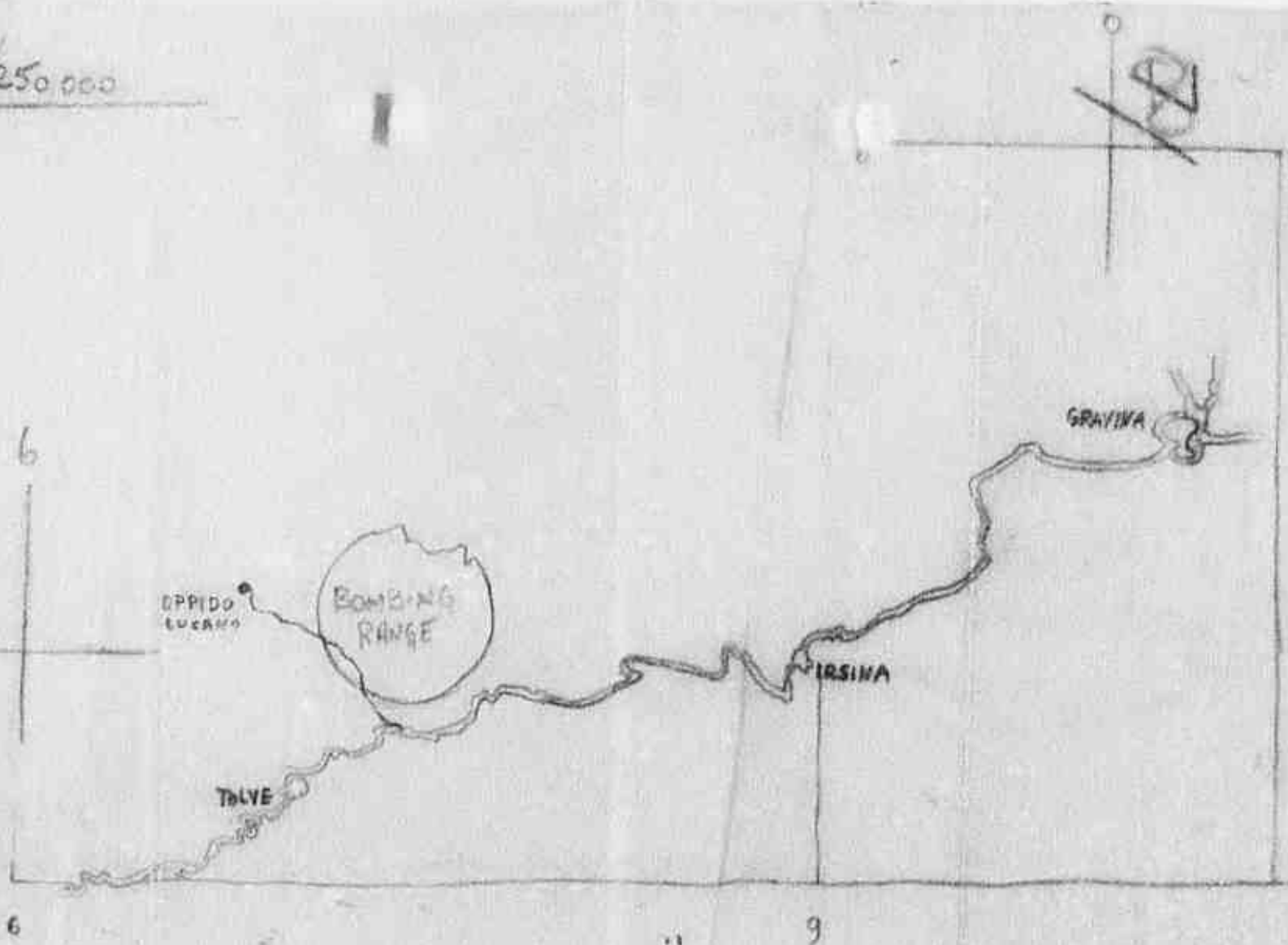
OS SHEET 37 - 1/250,000



1914

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

1/250,000



July 2

1915

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

Major E. Brown
Prison Div

Any reply yet
please?

WLB
2/15/5

1916

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

BU 15 May

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

Subject:- Bombing Range Tolve.

329
[4 MAY 44]

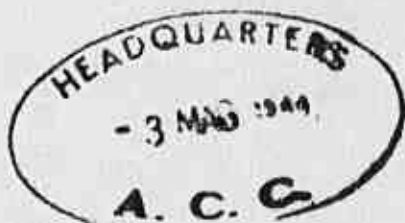
C.A. Br. 7
6204
3 May 44.

To:- R.C. & M.G. Section,
(For Col. Fiske).

From:- A.C.C. Liaison,
HQ. A.A.I.

Ref. ACCL/157.

1. Reference your 329/6/CA of 28 April 44.
2. The above inquiry has been forwarded this date to Col. Virgil Zoller, A - 3 Sec, 15th Air Force, by M.A.A.F. Liaison, HQ. A.A.I.
3. When a reply has been received, it will be transmitted to you.



[Signature]
Major,
A.C.C. Liaison Officer.

cc ask Maj. Brown if any reply yet.

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
P.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

Ref/329/7/CA.

1 May 1944.

SUBJECT: Bombing Range near Tolve.

TO : A.C.C. Liaison, HQ. A.A.I.

1. Reference this office letter 329/6/CA of 28 April 1944, it is regretted that the trace referred to was not enclosed.

2. It is, therefore, enclosed herewith.

RB
for NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

Blu
4/5
noted
RE

1944

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO 394

6

Ref/329/6/CA

28 April 1944

SUBJECT: Bombing Range near Tolve
TO : A.C.C., Liaison, Hq., AAI

1. The attention of this Headquarters has been drawn to the desirability of changing the location of the USAAF bombing range near Tolve. A trace of this range is enclosed.
2. The land concerned is highly fertile and can be said to be first class agricultural land - mostly grain. In view of the great effort being made to encourage Italian agriculture and so reduce the amount of Allied grain imported into this country, it is hoped that you can prevail on Hq., AAI to agree to move the range to another less cultivated area.
3. If this is found to be impossible, it is requested that the farmers be given permission to cultivate the land when the range is not in use. At present they are forbidden to enter the area. A complete change of location of the range would, however, be very much more satisfactory.
4. It is estimated that this area normally produces about 40,000 quintals of cereal a year.

see 16
97

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

Copy to Report II

B/4
2/5/4
Noted

1920

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

305 ^{AP} APR Rew C.A. Br 4120
J-5159 5
GHA/pjh

1st Ind. 2

HQ, ACC, Region II, APC 334, 20 April 44.

To: Executive Commissioner, R.C. and M.C. Section,
ACC Headquarters, Naples.

See 1-3

1. Concurring in the Provincial Commissioner's recommendation that, if possible, the bombing range be transferred to a less cultivated area, and if that is not practicable, that both the owners and tenants be given permission to till the land when the range is not actually in use.

G.W. McCaffrey
G.H. McCaffrey
Lt. Col., Inf.
R.C.

Let Sherr:

Pf. See 10-14. There seems to be a good
chance for having the range transferred
like Suiduco of OFFIDO LUCAVO's letter at
10.

24/4

Shall I take up with ACC to see if a should
Ex Com See just?

96

OK. to try it, but USAAF may be
independent 24/4

see b

HEADQUARTERS
23 APR 1944
A. C. C.

346
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POTENZA PROVINCE

Pr/ II

Potenza, 18 April 1944.

To : HQ, Region 2.

From : Major H.H. NICHOLS - Provincial Commissioner - POTENZA -

SUBJECT - Bombing Range.

I enclose translation of a letter from the Sindaco of OFILINO LUCANO together with a report of Lt. Anderson, PFC, and a trace of the bombing range near TOLVE.

The matter was first brought to the attention of this HQ, by No 48 Town Major and instructions were given to the CC. RR. to clear the range area.

Major Sturgis dealt with the matter for me in the early stages and I fear I did not appreciate at that time that so much cultivated land was affected, otherwise I should have drawn attention to it before now.

I should have thought the USAAF could have found other suitable terrain which did not interfere with our precious crops. I should be obliged if the matter could be taken upon a high level with a view to having the location of the range moved to a less fertile area.

May the USAAF be informed that in future they should consult A C C before establishing a range area.

Map Ref. Sheet 20 Squares 74 and 73.

ENC.

MAJOR
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
POTENZA

95

I enclose translation of a letter from the Sindaco of OPIDDO LUCANO together with a report of Lt. Anderson, PIC, and a trace of the bombing range near TOLVE.

The matter was first brought to the attention of this HQ, by Mc 48 Town Major and instructions were given to the CC. MR. to clear the range area.

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May the USAAF be informed that in future they should consult A C C before establishing a range area.

Map Ref. Sheet 20 Squares 74 and 73.

ENC.

ve/

W. M. L.

95

MAJOR
PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER
POTENZA

Copy

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PROVINCE OF POTENZA

18 April 1944

Ref: PS/A/24

SUBJECT : Oppido Lucano

To : P.C. Province of Potenza - Major H.M. NICHOLS

On the 17 April in response to a complaint from Oppido Lucano that Italian soldiers who were acting as range guards for the air corps were stealing from the bombing range in that area, I proceeded to Oppido to talk to the Air Corps Lt. in charge of these Italian range guards. He said it was true that stealing had been done by these soldiers but that he had made several searches among the men and recovered some of the material. Also that the soldiers who had done the robbing were properly dealt with.

While in the area I made inquiries for the supply officer as to the type of land affected by the bombing etc. because of a complaint sent in by the comune of Oppido, a copy of which is attached.

Almost the entire range is under cultivation, mostly in grain. The land is not cultivated by the owners themselves, but by tenants. There are between 15 and 20 houses in the area from which the people have been evacuated. There are no set times when the range is in use. The Air Corps has set up the following regulations with regard to the range. No one enters the range without permission from the Lt. in charge, and then only the owners of the land and not the tenants.

The owners will be paid rent for the use of their land and buildings but the crops will be without cultivation until such time as the Air Corps ceases to use this range.

(Sgd) Lt. C. Anderson
Provincial Police Officer
Province of Potenza

1924

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

COPI

Oppido Lucano 7 April 1944.

To H. E. the PREFECT

POTENZA

For more than a month the Allied Military Aviation has selected our territory as bombing camp for. This camp has occupied about 2 thirds of our land, that produce nearly 40 thousand q/ts of cereals a year. It was the best and fertile land of our territory but also of all province.

At that time they ordered us to evacuate from all the farm houses also to take away the animals. From that time on, all work has stopped because we can't enter the ground. We are begging your excellency to speak to the Allied Military Aviation Command to transfer, if possible, their camps to other land which is not cultivated in order to let us continue our works (grain, beans and other cereals) also be able to plant potatoes, corn and other legumes because, although it a little bit late. There will be little time to make urgent and necessary work for grain and other cereals, which otherwise have economical dangers for our agricultures and our countries. To this we have to add the damage to the animals particularly for producing of sheep-pigs and goats of which there are sufficient in our area, but who to abandon the farms and are now dying because they have no land to pasture.

With best regards
Il Sindaco

11925