

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

10000/109/1812

ACC

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

10000/104/1812

REPORTS, REGION III  
JAN. - AUG. 1944

HO ACC. AFD 394  
See Sec 4 Gen.  
For Lib. July 1975  
by *[Signature]*

Sir,

See 20.

96 copies have  
arrived from Reg. 3.

*[Signature]* No. cal.  
30/7

A/Chief Commissioner

Personally I should like  
to know them & so be able  
to report that there is  
none available. May??

*[Signature]* 29/7  
PA. BURN. NL

72

HEADQUARTERS,  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,  
APO 956

Regional Control and Military Government Section.

Ref: 543/CA

1st August 1944

The Acting Commissioner has passed to me your request for copies of a monograph on the eruption of Vesuvius prepared by one of our officers.

I very much regret that only a limited number of these copies was published and there are, unfortunately, none now available.

(Sg) M. S. Lush

Major-General Harry H. Johnson, U.S.A.,  
Commanding General,  
Rome Area Command.

HEADQUARTERS,  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,  
APO 394

21

Regional Control and Military Government Section  
\*\*\*\*\*

Ref: SAS/21/01

2nd July 1946

SUBJECT: Weavins Report.

TO : R.C., Region III.

1. I have been asked for a hundred copies of the monograph written by Colonel Kincaid on the recent eruption.
2. If some copies be available, I would be glad to receive them to satisfy the request.

*Gen. M. S. Lusk*

Brigadier,  
Executive Commission.

11A

22 Jul 44

To: Brigadier Lush  
AC & MG Section

Will you please take  
care of this and forward the  
reports to General Johnson.

R.W.S.

*Ass  
Regis  
A25/7*

20  
EHE/AJP

22 July 1944

34578  
23 JUL 1944

Dear General Johnson:

I have just received your letter of 11 July which I am afraid was probably sent to Naples.

Actually, the Allied Control Commission did not publish a report covering the Vesuvius eruption, but one of our officers, Lt. Col. Kincaid, at his own expense, prepared a monograph on the subject which he presented to the officers serving with him. I do not think there are many copies remaining but I shall be glad to send you any that we can lay our hands on.

Yours very truly,

HENRY W. STONE  
Captain, USNR  
Acting Chief Commissioner

Major General Harry H. Johnson, U.S.A.  
Boss Allied Area Command  
APO 794, U. S. Army

19

ERRI

A 1710  
23 Jul 1944

HARRY H. JOHNSON  
Major General, U.S.A.

SOUTH ALLIED AREA COMMAND  
APO #7M, U. S. Army,  
11 July 1944

Captain Elery W. Stone, U.S.N.R.,  
Headquarters, A.C.G.,  
A.P.O. #394, U. S. Army

Dear Captain Stone:

It is my understanding that A.C.G., Naples Province, published a report covering the Vesuvius eruption.

A number of the officers and men in my command are anxious to have copies of this report. If they are available, I should greatly appreciate your having forwarded to me approximately one hundred copies.

Yours truly,

447  
/s/ Harry H. Johnson,  
Major General, U.S. Army 448



HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
R.O. & H.O. Section  
APO 394

18

RAF/SAS/18/CA.

15 July 1944.

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : H.O. Region III.

18  
1944

1. I have received a Report for the month of June from the P.O. CAPRI.
2. Whilst this is interesting it should be sent through the proper channels.
3. Will you kindly inform the P.O. to render reports to you in future.

WILLIAM E. FISKE,  
Colonel,  
Deputy Executive  
Commissioner.

11A  
1944

785017

RC+MG 573 RECORDED

1316

U5123

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
CAPRI

CEV/SS  
7th July, 1944

SUBJECT: Monthly Report.

TO : HQ ACC, attention RC and MG Section, APO 394.

see also  
John H. 15

I. In accordance with letter your headquarters dated 25 April, 1944, the following report is submitted:

- a. Non-monarchy generally calm attitude.
- b. The local government could be improved with a more business-like administration. The Mayor is an Attorney with practice in Naples, which requires much of his time there. He is not practical, continually complains of insufficient funds to operate the Comune. More money is being spent on the island now by tourists (military personnel) than ever before in the history of the island. If the Mayor does not collect taxes from shops, taxis service etc., it is time he be replaced.
- c. Good at present time and improving. Vegetables and fruit prices decreasing. More fats needed.
- d. Very little agriculture on the island, except grapes, some citrus fruit, no forestry. Fishing industry is at its lowest ebb, mainly because night fishing is not permitted. It is hoped that this ruling will be abolished promptly.
- e. No labor troubles on the island. Most civilians of working class are well employed, fed and paid by US Air Forces Rest Camp program. Civilian population seems to be in a happy and contented frame of mind at the present time.
- f. Public works as far as cleanliness is concerned is poor due to inefficiency of local government. Sweeping of streets and collection of civilian garbage are especially a problem. Public utilities are being improved by US Engineers, such as Electric Plant, Water Pumps and Punicolare Railway. The Power Plant Engineer is being replaced because of inefficiency. Public utilities are on the upgrade.
- g. Public safety well cared for. Allied and Italian Courts functioning well. Civilian Police and CC RR cooperating fully with US Military Police and US Navy shore patrols.
- h. Public health generally very good. No cases of contagious diseases reported at the present time. Registered prostitutes are examined daily. Those found infected are sent

445

-2-

ACC MONTHLY REPORT, Cont'd:

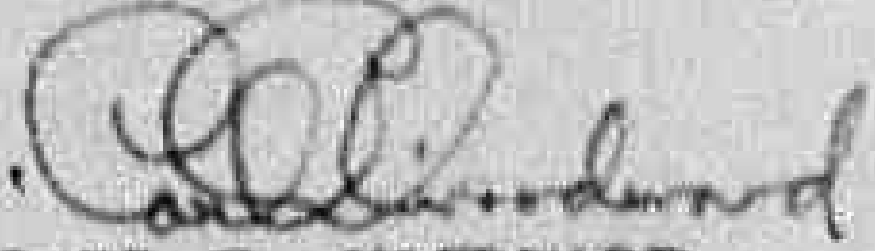
to hospital in Ischia.

i. Education mainly handled by Commune and religious orders with elementary and higher studies well cared for. All fascist school books have been eliminated. Attendance is good.

j. Since the fall of Rome to Allied Nations and the advance of our troops northward, there has been a tendency for refugees to infiltrate. This matter is being handled by ACC HQ, Region 3, Naples, as per letter this HQ to HQ Region 3, dated 20 June, 1944, see copy attached and reply to same. It has come to the attention of this HQ of an abuse, on the part of the Sindaco (Mayor) against temporary permits to civilians to visit Capri, namely, the Sindaco is taking up these permits and issuing a certificate of residence to these individuals, which permits them to stay on the island. This practice will be stopped immediately.

k. Road communication generally good. Some repair work needed. Mayor claims need for materials. No rail communications except Punicolare Railway, which functions fairly well with occasional breakdowns occurring. Help is being given to SIPPIC (owning and operating company) by US Engineers. AAPSC/WTO's Telecommunications generally good on the island. Help is also being given by US Forces. Posts are re-established by Italian Government and function fairly well.

l. Property Control is being handled by Property Control Officer, ACC, and all under control.

  
CARL E. WOODWARD  
Lt. Col., Air Corps  
Provincial Officer  
in charge of Capri.

445

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION OFFICE  
ISLE OF CAPRI  
ITALY

20 June 1944.

SUBJECT: Influx of Civilians.

TO : Provincial Commissioner, Allied Control Commission,  
Region 3, Province of Naples.

1. With the fall of Rome, to the Allied Nations, and northward progress of our Armies, I foresee and have already had certain cases presented, to me as Provincial Officer of Capri, of civilians desiring, to come to Capri, to live and I wish to present my views on the subject, for your approval and agreement.

2. It is felt that no civilians should be permitted, to come to Capri, to live unless:

a. They own property, which is not requisitioned, by US Government agencies; or used by them.

b. They have families here and are assured of employment, or are otherwise self supporting, and will not be a burden on the Commune. Should the above rules be enforced, I feel they will minimize the influx.

3. To cite specific cases, the following are mentioned:

a. There is a Mr. Albertini, now in Rome, who has petitioned the Mayor, to return to Capri, on account of his health. He owns property, which is requisitioned by USAFAC Det (Adv), which property is not available to this owner at present.

b. There is a Mrs. Rava, an old lady, who owns five villas, all requisitioned by USAFAC Det (Adv) but two are not being used and it is felt that one of these could be made available to this owner, whom I understand is completely self supporting. The two villas referred to, are two small units of Villa La Rocca.

c. There is a Mrs. Lombardo, a friend of the Mayor Brindisi, who Casire, I understand to come to Capri, to live. She does not own property here and I see no real reason, for her to come as she does have a rented villa, in Positano nos. -442

4. I would prefer to refer all applicants, of this nature, to your Executive Officer, Capt Lassus and have the cases decided on, before they are permitted to leave the mainland to come here.

Copy: CO USAFAC DET.  
File.

CARL E. WOODWARD  
Lt Colonel, AC,  
Provincial Officer  
In Charge of Capri.

HEADQUARTERS  
PROVINCE OF NAPLES  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, PREFETTURA  
NAPLES

File NCA/320

26 June 1944

SUBJECT: Influx of Civilians.  
TO : Provincial Officer, Capri  
Lt.Col. CARL E. WOODWARD

Since receiving yours of 20 June 1944, we have talked to Col Fleming and a close check will be made on the passengers going to Capri by civilian boat. The owner of the boat will also be cautioned, that only permits issued by this office should be authorized except in the case of citizens of Capri, in which instance all permits will be issued thru your Office or the Sindaco, according to your arrangements. We will check the travellers by said boat at various intervals and if permits are being granted by other Officers in AGC-AMG, they will be taken off and said officers will be advised, that they have no authority whatsoever to issue passes. I will give you a report of our findings at a later date.

By order of Lt.Col. KINCAID:

s/ John L. LUMBUS  
Capt. AUS  
Administrative Officer

cc: Col. Fleming  
NAASF Rest Camps  
12 AF SC

JNL/jh/jg

A TRUE COPY:

CARL E. WOODWARD  
Lt.Col., AG

443

543  
14 APR 1944

13

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
H.C. & M.G. SECTION  
Liaison Division  
APO 394

10 April 1944.

SUBJECT: Misbehavior of Military Police, Etc.  
TO : Deputy Executive Commissioner.

1. Except for the two opening paragraphs which are irrelevant to the main issues involved, the final three sheets in the attached file are verbatim copies of the "Report of P.E. Brooks", (our file 543/CA) on which I reported to you on 29 March (copy of report attached).
2. Other matters discussed in this file are not of sufficient importance, or supported by sufficient evidence, to justify special treatment. Administrative action by Colonel Hardy (par 3, my letter of 29 March) will in any event probably prevent any repetition.
3. Since the matter reached this headquarters irregularly (from Region 4 officers direct, rather than through Region 3), recommend that request for return of copy letters be disregarded and that file be closed or consolidated with file 543/CA

1  
yes.  
+

*Alfred C. Bowman*  
ALFRED C. BOWMAN  
Lt. Col.  
Chief, Liaison Division.

442

*Pla*

COPY

HEADQUARTERS REGION 4  
Allied Military Government  
APO 394

Col. Fiske 12

Confidential

TO : Executive Officers.  
FROM : R.I.O. Region 4.  
DATE : 27 March 44.

Herewith copies of the two letters mentioned by the R.I.O. to you.

No copy of the notes of evidence referred to the letter of 11 March 44 have been kept because they referred to a security trial held in camera.

The general effect of the missing notes was to indicate :-

- (a) Drunkenness of an American M. P. on duty in an espionage cell block
- (b) Unauthorized discharge of a fire arm thereby.
- (c) Offer to release an important prisoner thereby.
- (d) Possible perjury by an American officer of the M.P.s.

May the copy letters please be returned when you have finally finished with them.

(Sgd)

W.G.R. Oates Capt.  
for Colonel  
R.I.O. Reg. 4.

4/9

Col Bowman -

Is this matter now in hand. 7441  
No further action by us?

2

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : Provost Marshal, 5th Army  
FROM : Colonel H.G. Willmer, A.M.G., Region 4  
SUBJECT : Alleged Incident at Santa Maria Gaol.  
REFERENCE : R4/LE/Reg/J/6  
DATE : 11 March 1944

1. Reference my call upon you yesterday, I send you herewith copies of the relevant extract from my notes of evidence taken upon the trial of Ricci, Renato before a General Military Court at Santa Maria G.V.
2. I believe the notes of evidence to be self-explanatory so far as concerns the facts of this particular incident. It will be seen that the evidence of the officers and other ranks called as witnesses from the prison fell far short of furnishing a satisfactory explanation of what took place. It is for this reason that I conceived it to be my duty to bring to your attention the allegations that were made.
3. I desire to take the present opportunity of placing on record the following further facts which do not appear from the notes of evidence attached:-
  - a) On 6 March 1944, the first day of trial of Ricci, Renato, the accused was not brought to Court at the time appointed for the trial, in spite of written request from Major Waugh that he should be.
  - b) On 6 March 1944, the accused was not provided with any food during the luncheon adjournment. It was necessary for me to suspend the afternoon's sitting of the Court for about a quarter of an hour, in order to enable the accused to be fed in Court ~~with~~ tins of "C" rations specially fetched.
  - c) On 8 March 1944, the accused was denied any drink during the luncheon adjournment, and water had to be sent for du



during the afternoon sitting of the Prosecuting Officer.

d) The accused alleged that during his confinement in Santa Maria Gaol he was not given proper facilities for exercise.

4. You will note from the notes of evidence that there was a conflict of testimony between the accused and the other witnesses with regard to the question whether the key of the block was kept on the same ring as the key of the cell, or whether it was hung separately on the wall outside the cell. Major Waugh, who himself visited the prison on the afternoon of 7 March 1944 (after hearing the testimony of the accused), informs me that on this point the evidence of the accused was correct and that of the other witnesses was incorrect, so far as his observation on that day showed.

5. It will also be observed that there was a direct conflict of evidence between Capt. Whelan and Lt. Combes as to the nature of the report rendered by the latter officer after visiting the cell of the accused on 7 March 1944. On this point I personally felt satisfied that Lt. Combes' evidence was correct, and that of Capt. Whelan was untruthful.

6. If I can be of any further assistance, or if you desire any further information, please be good enough to let me know.

7. Since the attached notes of evidence are extracted from the record of a trial that was held in camera, for reasons of security, I would ask you to treat them as confidential. I am authorized by the Legal Division, A.M.G., 5th Army, to furnish them to you on this understanding.

Sgd/

E. G. WILLMER  
Colonel,  
President, General Military Court

Copy to:  
Inspector General, 5th Army

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS REGION IV  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
APO 394

TO : Provost Marshal, 5th Army  
FROM : Colonel H.G. Miller, A.M.G., Region 4  
SUBJECT: Santa Maria Gsol.  
REF : R4/La/Reg/J/6  
DATE : 12 March 1944.

1. Further to my letter of 11 March 1944, reference as above, I have the following further information to bring to your attention, which has come to my notice since writing previously.
2. Yesterday, while I was presiding over the same court trying another case at Santa Maria, information reached me indicating that the accused in the previous case, Ricci Renato, had been assaulted and maltreated since the completion of his trial.
3. I ascertained that Ricci Renato, who had been acquitted on the charge of Espionage, had been ordered to be detained as a civilian internee at the P.O.W. Camp at Aversa. I therefore considered it my duty, having received this information, to inquire into its authenticity, and accordingly I proceeded myself to the P.O.W. Camp, Aversa, in company with Captain H. Glenn, Prosecuting Officer, and Major Robert M. Woodward, Defending Officer. I informed the Camp Commandant, Lt. Col. Warren, of the purpose of my visit, and at this suggestion Ricci Renato was brought in and interrogated in the presence of all four of us.
4. It was obvious, on first sight, that Ricci Renato <sup>438</sup> had received injuries since he had left my court the previous day. His face was very swollen, he had a black eye, and he walked with a pronounced limp, as though he had received a leg injury.

CONFIDENTIAL ~~18~~

5. In answer to questions Ricci stated substantially as follows. After acquittal in my court he was taken by his guards to the premises of the Carabinieri at Santa Maria - - not the same place where he had previously been confined. There he was set upon by the Corporal who was in charge of him, struck in the face and on the body and finally knocked out. He states that he does not know the name of the Corporal, but that he knows him well by sight as one of the Military Police at Santa Maria Gaol, and would be able to recognize him again he further states that during at least part of the assault two American sergeants were present. He claims that as a result of the assault his eyesight is affected.

6. The reason for the assault is matter of conjecture, but I venture to suggest that, having regard to the evidence given at his trial as to the previous incident at Santa Maria Gaol, it is not far to seek.

7. At my suggestion Lt. Col. Warren is arranging for a full medical examination of Ricci, and will hold the report at his office at the P.O.W. Camp, Aversa, until called for.

8. I conceive that I have no alternative but to place the above information before you. I am sure you will agree that, in view of the allegations made, the matter is one calling for the closest investigation and if necessary disciplinary action against the persons concerned. If I can be any further assistance, please inform me.

(Sgd) H.G. Willmer

Colonel  
President General Military  
Court.

We were present at the interrogation of Ricci Benato on 11 March 1944 and confirm the information set out above.

437

(Sgd) Robert M. Woodward  
Defending Officer Maj. A.O.S.

(Sgd) Henry L. Glenn  
Prosecuting Officer Capt. AGO

Copy to Inspector General, 5th Army

7

SECRET

7

On approximately January 10th, I reported to Santa Maria to Major Simpson O.O.A. in accordance with verbal orders of Lt. Col. De Gersten, upon reporting at about 12 noon I was told by Major Simpson to wait until later and he would talk to me. I seated myself in his office after lunch and waited, at about 3:00 P.M. one Major Jebens came in and talked with Major Simpson, their conversation lasted about 20 minutes, during which time Major Simpson carried on a lengthy discussion of the related merits of A.M.G. This discussion was primarily a condemnation of policy and individuals, all of which was rather general but portions very specific.

Specifically, Major Simpson made the statement that it was a general mess and that several American Officers in Naples seemed to have nothing else to do except to solicit honorary degrees and worry about pleasing people back home so that they may one day run for Congress or to run around kissing Bishops' rings. My presence was very obvious in the room I being seated about 15 feet away at another desk. I deemed these statements to be a direct affront to myself and the matter concerned me greatly and aroused my indignation, before retiring that evening, I approached Major Simpson in his office and made following statement: "Major Simpson; there is one matter that I would like to straighten out before we go any further. I do not like to listen to critical remarks about American Officers Govt or policy in my presence." Major Simpson replied in a rather evasive manner and the matter was closed. Two days later, I went to Averna with the verbal understanding that I was to act as Prosecutor to clear up a bad situation in the jails.

In the company of Captain La Mar who was serving as Summary Court Officer, I moved to Averna. There I found approximately sixty people in jail put in by Military Police Agencies awaiting trial. I also found that on December 23rd, Lt. Col. Cornwall had released (122) people from jail pending trial when possible. Most of these people had been in jail for from six weeks to two months, charges on the greater share were very poorly prepared and there did not exist sufficient evidence to substantiate prosecution. This same situation existed in regard sixty people in jail on Jan. 15. After two days of attempting to try these cases without available charges or unavailability of witnesses, an investigation was held with Military Police and GCHQ present to determine if charges warranting prosecution were available. At this time about 25 cases were produced with a minimum of evidence and discussed by trial.

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In the company of Captain La Bar who was serving as Summary Court Officer, I moved to Averna. There I found approximately sixty people in jail put in by Military Police Agencies awaiting trial. I also found that on December 21st, Lt. Col. Cernwell had released (122) people from jail pending trial when possible. Most of these people had been in jail for from six weeks to <sup>4 1/2</sup> two months, charges on the greater share were very poorly prepared and there did not exist sufficient evidence to substantiate prosecution. This same situation existed in regard sixty people in jail on Jan. 15. After two days of attempting to try these cases without available charges or unavailability of witnesses, an investigation was held with Military Police and GUM present to determine if charges warranting prosecution were available. At this time about 25 cases were produced with a minimum of evidence and disposed of by trial. For the next two weeks an effort was made to endeavour to outline some order to a very confused situation. It had been the practice for some months to put people in the prison without charges or with one copy of what actually amounted to nothing more than a commitment slip, and these confined with people who were being held for investigation, who were subsequently forgotten and thereby creating an insolvable situation under the circumstances.

436

No standard procedure had been prescribed for handling arrests.

6  
A very simple system was then established to prevent commitment without charges. Numerous efforts were made to point out to the military police officers concerned for the need of more carefully prepared charges and handling of imprisonments, but the attitude of the military police was that their responsibility ceased if an individual was arrested and placed in prison, continued efforts to educate parties concerned met only with opposition.

The following incidents have been observed by me which seriously reflect upon the military police efficiency in the area of Averna, the 2651 W.J. CO.

1. I have witnessed no less than six (6) people including women, threatened with a rifle in the Police Station, which appeared to be kept there for that purpose, many times this threatening done by an officer in the presence of several men of the company. In one particular incident, Lt. Brol threatened one young woman with a gun until she defecated on the floor such to the amusement of the men present. I have likewise witnessed an officer of this company instruct N.S.s to get clippers and cut the hair of three young women accused of illegal possession. During the period of Jan. 15 to Jan. 30 fully 50% of the male accused appearing before Summary Court in Averna appeared with a swath cut down the middle of their hair or with black eyes, this after cautioning by Captain La Mar, Court Judge, to cease such practices. It was standard procedure for the police when booking an accused that if he didn't talk fast enough or to the satisfaction of the police to take him into the rear room where he was thoroughly trounced and then booked for trial on a minor charge already obvious by possession of Allied Goods. Upon complaining to Major Lippucci C.A.C. as to lack of cooperation from Military Police and as to their tactics of brutality, I was told that I would not secure their co-operation at which time I submitted a report in writing to this effect. I was also informed by Major Lippucci of an incident he had witness of Military Police forcing two Italians to drink each one quart of bad cognac which they were selling to Allied Soldiers. This took place at the Police Station where the men were then forced to run around the room until they passed out. In the meantime creating such disturbance that it created a large crowd at the window to watch the affair, which Major Lippucci described as sickening. The evidence of this policy was later confirmed in my presence when Sgt. Beckwith ordered other men present to take two civilians into the back room and have them drink their illicit wares, at which time I warned the Sgt. not to issue orders in my presence. It has likewise been the policy of the Military Police in this area when conducting wholesale search of civilian homes for Allied

I have witnessed no less than six (6) people including women, threatened with a rifle in the Police Station, which appeared to be kept there for that purpose, many times this threatening done by an officer in the presence of several men of the company. In one particular incident, Lt. Broil threatened one young woman with a gun until she defecated on the floor much to the amusement of the men present. I have likewise witnessed an officer of this company instruct M.P.s to get clippers and cut the hair of three young women accused of illegal possession. During the period of Jan. 15 to Jan. 30 fully 50 % of the male accused appearing before Summary Court in Aversa appeared with a sweat out down the middle of their hair or with black eyes, this after cautioning by Captain La Mar, Court Judge, to cease such practices. It was standard procedure for the police when booking an accused that if he didn't talk fast enough or to the satisfaction of the police to take him into the rear room where he was thoroughly trounced and then booked for trial on a minor charge already obvious by possession of Allied Goods. Upon complaining to Major Lippucci C.A.C. as to lack of cooperation from Military Police and as to their tactics of brutality, I was told that I would not secure their co-operation at which time I submitted a report in writing to this effect. I was also informed by Major Lippucci of an incident he had witness of Military Police forcing two Italians to drink each one quart of bad cognac which they were selling to Allied Soldiers. This took place at the Police Station where the men were then forced to run around the room until they passed out. In the meantime dreading such disturbance that I had created a large crowd at the window to watch the affair, which Major Lippucci described as sickening. The evidence of this policy was later confirmed in my presence when Sgt. Beckwith ordered other men present to take two civilians into the back room and have them drink their illicit wares, at which time I warned the Sgt. not to issued orders in my presence. It has likewise been the policy of the Military Police in this area when conducting wholesale search of civilian houses for Allied Goods to confiscate large sums of money which practices I advised to stop.

A private in this Company made an unsolicited complaint to me involving an unnamed officer in this company which, if true, is of a very serious nature. I reported this incident to Major Simpson and advised reporting the man's name to the I.C.

On February 27, a letter was written by myself to C.C.2651

M.I. Co. ordering 9 men of that organization to appear as witnesses on Feb. 28 in Summary Court, specifying time and place, as well as case, and left with the Sgt. in charge of Police Station on Feb. 27, by noon on Feb. 28, none of the four men required for the morning session of court were present, at noon Lt. Broe was informed of the fact by myself but in spite of this only one of them <sup>had</sup> appeared for the afternoon session.

A situation entered into by Military Police and C.A.C. Major Lippardi for trial of prostitutes by Pretura, in my opinion, an unhealthy one in view of the complaint issued to me by one Pvt. Starkey Whitehorse of this Company and in view of the fact that I was informed by the Sergeant of the Carcere that Lt. Cry of this Company had ordered the release of three prostitutes from his custody after two of whom had been duly sentenced by the Pretura.

533



H

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

29 March 1944.

SUBJECT: Military Police Conditions at Aversa.  
TO : Deputy Executive Commissioner.

192  
3

1. File 543/CA, containing unsigned report by Captain F.E. Brookes dated March 14, 1944, forwarded to Brigadier Lush by letter of transmittal dated 20 March 1944, from the Regional Commissioner, Region 3, is returned.
2. You have dealt with all aspects of this matter relating to channels of communication as confirmed by our conversation yesterday.
3. Confirming my oral report to you I have discussed the substantive phases of the matter with Colonel Hardie, Provost Marshal of PBS. He reports that while Capt. Brooks was unwilling to sign his report he (Colonel Hardie) nevertheless has seen fit to act on it to a degree on the theory that so much smoke might indicate some fire, and an occasional administrative shakeup is healthy anyhow. One of the more "overzealous" officers at Aversa has been removed, and other changes have been made. Meanwhile, Colonel Hardy says, Captain Brooks has also been relieved, and new personnel on both sides are "getting along like ham and eggs".

29/3

Please show

to Col Marshall

done up + let P. Little

PA jwc.

*Alfred C. Bowman*  
 ALFRED C. BOWMAN  
 Lieutenant Colonel  
 Chief, Liaison Division

433

then file

H

<sup>543</sup>  
SECRET 22 MAR Recd

HEADQUARTERS  
REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
APO 394, US ARMY

3

20 March 1944

SUBJECT: Report by Capt. F. E. BROOKS (A)

TO : Brig. General M. S. DASH  
Regional Control & Allied Military Government Section - ADC HQ

1. I am attaching a copy of a report made by Capt. F. E. Brooks (A) on 14 March 1944.
2. Capt. Brooks is a Region 4 officer who is attached to Region 3 for duty and was sent to the northern part of Naples Province by Lt. Colonel Kincaid. In Region 4 he is a Public Safety officer.
3. Upon his return to Region 4, he reported to his Section Chief, Lt. Colonel Millhouse, to whom he made a verbal report on the matters dealt with in this report. On instructions of Lt. Colonel Millhouse, he wrote the document attached and was told to send a copy to each of the following:

I.G.	Colonel Chapman
F.B.S.	Colonel Francis

*Charles Politti*  
CHARLES POLITTI  
Lt. Colonel  
Regional Commissioner

Incl. Report, 14 March 1944  
Capt. Brooks (A)

*2 more copies held 432*

SECRETREPORT OF F. E. BROOKS (A)

14 March 1944

In the company of Captain La Mar who was serving as Summary Court Officer, I moved to Aversa. There I found approximately sixty people in jail put in by Military Police Agencies awaiting trial. I also found that on December 23rd, Lt. Colonel Cornwall had released (122) people from jail pending trial when possible. Most of these people had been in jail for from six weeks to two months, charges on the greater share were very poorly prepared and there did not exist sufficient evidence to substantiate prosecution. This same situation existed in regard sixty people in jail on Jan. 15. After two days of attempting to try these cases without available charges or unavailability of witnesses, an investigation was held with Military Police and OJ.RR present to determine if charges warranting prosecution were available. At this time about 25 cases were produced with a minimum of evidence and disposed of by trial. For the next two weeks an effort was made to endeavour to outline some order to a very confused situation. It had been the practice for some months to put people in the prison without charges or with one copy of what actually amounted to nothing more than a commitment slip, and these confined with people who were being held for investigation, who were subsequently forgotten and thereby creating an insolvable situation under the circumstances.

No standard procedure had been prescribed for handling arrests. A very simple system was then established to prevent commitment without charges. Numerous efforts were made to point out to the military police officers concerned for the need of more carefully prepared charges and handling of imprisonments, but the attitude of the military police was that their responsibility ceased if an individual was arrested and placed in prison, continued efforts to educate parties concerned met only with opposition.

The following incidents have been observed by me which seriously reflect upon the military police efficiency in the area of Aversa, the 2651 M.P. Co:

1. I have witnessed no less than six (6) people including women, threatened with a rifle in the Police Station, which appeared to be kept there for that purpose, many times this threatening done by an officer in the presence of several men of the company. In one particular incident, Lt. Brol threatened one young woman with a gun until she defecated on the floor much to the amusement of the men present. I have likewise witnessed an officer of this company instruct M.P.s to get clippers and cut the hair of three young women accused of illegal possession. During the period of Jan. 15 to Jan. 30 fully 50% of the male accused appearing before Summary Court in Aversa appeared with a swath cut down the middle of their hair or with black eyes, this after cautioning by Captain La Mar, Court Judge, to cease such practices. It was standard procedure for the police when booking an accused that if he didn't talk fast enough or to the satisfaction of the police to take him into the rear room where he was thoroughly trounced and then booked for trial on a minor charge already obvious by possession of Allied Goods. Upon complaining to Major Lippucci C.A.O. as to lack of cooperation from Military Police and as to their tactics of brutality, I was told that I would not secure their co-operation at which time I submitted a report in writing to this effect. I was also informed by Major Lippucci of an incident he had witnessed of Military Police forcing two Italians to drink each one quart of bad cognac which they were

selling to Allied Soldiers. This took place at the Police Station where the men then forced to run around the room until they passed out. In the meantime creating such disturbance that it created a large crowd at the window to watch the affair, which Major Lippucci described as sickening. The evidence of this policy was later confirmed in my presence when Sgt. Beckwith ordered other men present to take two civilians into the back room and have them drink their illicit wares, at which time I warned the Sgt. not to issue such orders in my presence. It has likewise been the policy of the Military Police in this area when conducting wholesale search of civilian homes for Allied goods to confiscate large sums of money which practise I advised to stop.

A private in this Company made an unsolicited complaint to me involving an unnamed officer in this company which, if true, is of a very serious nature. I reported this incident to Major Simpson and advised reporting the man's name to the I.G.

On February 27, a letter was written by myself to C.O. 2651 M.P. Co. ordering 9 men of that organization to appear as witnesses on Feb. 28 in Summary Court, specifying time and place, as well as case, and left with the Sgt. in charge of Police Station on Feb. 27, by noon on Feb. 28, none of the four men required for the morning session of court were present, at noon Lt. Broe was informed of the fact by myself but in spite of this only one of the nine appeared for the afternoon session.

A situation entered into by Military Police and CAO Major Lippucci for trial of prostitutes by Pretura, is in my opinion, an unhealthy one in view of the complaint issued to me by one Pvt. Starkey Whitehorse of this Company and in view of the fact that I was informed by the Segretario of the Carcere that Lt. Ori of this Company had ordered the release of three prostitutes from his custody after two of whom had been duly sentenced by the Pretura.

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