

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

/ACC

10000/110/63

ADMIN
GOVT
MAY

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/HND No. 785015

10000/110/63

ADMINISTRATION ITALIAN
GOVERNMENT TERRITORY
MAY 45 - DEC 45

54/EST

0810

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

County Section ✓

This is your file
copy.

By G.O.
Leids

3536

REF/54/EST
HEADQUARTERS
LIVORNO ZONE
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

File: Liv. 1A/7156
Subject: PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT FOR LIVORNO LIAISON HEADQUARTERS.
To: HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED COMMISSION,
APO 394, U.S. Army.
(ATTN: ESTABLISHMENT SECTION.)

3 DECEMBER 1945

COPIES TO: S-1 (S).
G-1 (A).

Action taken by
Ex Off (S) 11 Dec 45
File 302/10

1. It is respectfully submitted that the proposed establishment for A-2, Liaison Hqs. at Livorno, of 2 officers and 3 enlisted men is too small.
2. The Livorno Hqs. will liaison all of Toscana as well as P.S.S. Then too, it must be considered that the Port of Leghorn, the large military installations, and the troop concentration in the area add to the problems with which the Hqs. will be confronted. Also, most of the military installations of Naples will be moved to Leghorn.
3. I am frank to say that it is beyond my comprehension (and I am thoroughly familiar with the duties and work involved) why there should be any difference in the size of Bologna's and Livorno's Liaison Groups. Nor can I comprehend why Naples needs 10 E/M - O's while Livorno is expected to get along on 3 E/M - O's.
4. I recommend that, exclusive of the Warehouse and Port Liaison Staff, that the complement for Livorno be set at four officers, and five enlisted personnel, to be assigned as follows:

1 Sg. Liaison Officer	-	1st Lt. H.M. Reilly. (A).
1 Public Safety L.O.	-	Capt. Stanley Deatty. (A)
1 Administration Officer.	-	1st Lieut. Charles J. Bayles. (A)
1 Legal L.O.	-	1
4 Total.	-	1

A Legal Officer to guide the courts on the many cases affecting Allied interests is imperative. At the present time Lieut. Eric Feldman, Yugoslav Royal Army, 353, expatriate serving as a civilian employee, in the capacity of Executive Legal Assistant, is handling the Livorno S.M.G. Legal Office most efficiently. Lt. Feldman, who is a lawyer, has served the Legal Sub-Commission for two years past. If he could remain in Leghorn, no American or British Legal Officer would be needed.

1st Lieut. Bayles acts as the Sub-Secretary for this Hq. and is also the Acting V.T.O., and assists on P.D.I. and D.P. problems.

As to E/Ms and O's the minimum needs are as follows.

1 Sgt. - to serve as Chief Clerk. Cpl. C.F.W. Bull (R) served in that capacity here. He should remain, and receive a greatly deserved promotion.

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-2-

1 CPL. - TO SERVE IN CHARGE OF MESS AND FILLETS. HIS WILL ALWAYS BE A TRANSIENT MESS, AND NEEDS ATTENTION. ^{1/3} JOSEPH TUSSE (A) IS ONLY HANDLING THIS JOB, AND SHOULD REMAIN.

2 DRIVERS - ONE FOR LONG TRIPS THROUGHOUT TUSCANA REGION. ONE FOR THE WATER TANK TRUCK. WE HAVE TO GOAT WATER IN LIVORNO. OVR. F. J. DONAGHY (D) AND OVR. E. SYLID (D) ARE NOW SERVING IN THE A/M CAPACITY.

1 GENERAL DUTY - PFC. M. GIBBONS (D) NOW SERVES AS GENERAL DUTY MAN, AND CLERK.

5 TOTAL.

THE WAREHOUSE AND PORT LIAISON GROUP SERVING IN LIVORNO IS NOW COMPOSED OF ONE OFFICER, TWO O/Rs AND ONE E/M. THIS SEEMS TO BE A PROPER COMPLEMENT.

James V. Reilly
JAMES V. REILLY,
LT. COL., U.S. ARMY
COMMISSIONER,
LIVORNO ZONE 3, M.S.



3534

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REF/54/EST ESTAB.
[Signature]

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ROUTINE

ACTION: (1) 217 AREA (2) 218 SPECIAL AREA INFO: (3) 219 AREA (4) 66 217 AREA (5) 6 217 AREA (6) 6 217 AREA (7) 11/20 N (8) 2 217 AREA (9) 1825 (10) 2 217 AREA (11) 3 217 AREA (12) 4 217 AREA (13) 6 217 AREA (14) 6 217 AREA (15) 11/20 N (16) 11/20 N (17) 11/20 N (18) 11/20 N (19) 11/20 N (20) 11/20 N (21) 11/20 N (22) 11/20 N (23) 11/20 N

UNCLASSIFIED.

1. HQ 218 Special Area will be disbanded and sep rft and holding centre formed REF 10 Dec.
2. HQ 217 Area will assume all commitments previously the responsibility of HQ 218 Special Area REF 10 Dec.
3. Sep Rft and holding centre will be under comd HQ 217 Area REF same time and will be responsible for the following commitments in the Rikini envelope.
 (A) com of Brit 50 TSS (B) Guarding and com of all sep.
4. Letter follows on restricted distribution showing detailed division of responsibility and what showing units changing command.

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION: HQ COMMISSIONER (2)
 LARD FORMS 4/5
 INFO: CHIEF OF POLICE
 1-1(2)
 1-1(2)
 INFO RY
 FILE (2)
 HCAF

10 DEC 1945
 10 DEC 1945

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 364
ESTABLISHMENT SECTION

Ref/ 54/18/Eat.

23 November 1945

SUBJECT: AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No. 25

TO : Office of A. C. Liaison Officer o/c N.O.B. Navy 157,
Palermo, Sicily.

1. With reference to your letter of 14 November, it is thought that your request is for AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No. 25. It is suggested that you write direct to AFHQ as this Headquarters has no extra copies.

Geo. W. Barnes III,
Capt. Cavalry,
Staff Officer.

3332

File

17

54

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/MND No. 785015

OO
OFFICE OF A.C. LIAISON OFFICER
o/o R.O.B. NAVY 157
PALERMO - SICILY

17a

AC/S/K *of*

14 November 1945

SUBJECT: Establishment Memorandum N° 25.

TO : H.Q., Allied Commission, APO 394
(Attention: Establishment Section)

1. With reference to para 3 of establishment
Memo N° 15 dated 28 August 1945, please send to this
office as soon as possible a copy of Establ. Memo
N° 25.

W. J. MacCallum
W.J. MacCallum, ED, Lt. Col.
A.C. Liaison Officer, Sicily.

/SK.

3531

0817

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

File 10

Ref: 54/13/25

8 November 1945

SUBJECT: Available Information on Captain Ingrassia

TO : SAC Liaison Officer
Palermo, Sicily

1. Reference is made to para 1d of your Report No. 57/5/451 of 22 October.
2. The information available at this Headquarters as to Captain Ingrassia is as follows:

"Captain Ingrassia joined USG in August 1943 and was sent to Sicily. In the fall of 1943 (exact date unknown) he was sent to the Island of Lampedusa as CAG. This island has always been under the jurisdiction of USG in Sicily. As a result, all administrative matters concerning Captain Ingrassia were taken up with the Regional Commissioner there. Reports of his work sent to this office were always graded excellent or better. In the summer of 1944 he was recommended for promotion from the grade of Lt. to Capt. This promotion was effected in September 1944. Shortly thereafter the need for qualified CAG's for the Northern Region caused the Allied Commission to transfer Captain Ingrassia from Lampedusa and assign him to Lombardy Region. Then in December Captain Ingrassia was sent back to Lampedusa for a month on USG on Allied Commission matter. Finally in January upon his return, he was assigned to the 2600th Special Detachment. This is the unit that later went to Austria for Civil Affairs Duty. There is no record in this office of any adverse reports on Captain Ingrassia for the period that he was stationed on the Island of Lampedusa."

353

3. Will you please inform us by confidential letter as to the nature of the accusations that have been made against Captain Ingrassia in as full detail as you are able to supply.

ROSLAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

10817

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

15

8 November 1945

54/13/et

SUBJECT: Available Information on Captain Ingrasola

TO : ASIS Liaison Officer
Palermo, Sicily

1. Reference is made to para 14 of your Report No. 54/5/ASIS of 22 October.
2. The information available at this Headquarters as to Captain Ingrasola is as follows:

"Captain Ingrasola joined ASIS in August 1943 and was sent to Sicily. In the fall of 1943 (exact date unknown) he was sent to the Island of Lampedusa as ASIS. This island has always been under the jurisdiction of ASIS in Sicily. As a result, all administrative matters concerning Captain Ingrasola were taken up with the Regional Coordinator there. Reports of his work sent to this office were always graded excellent or better. In the summer of 1944 he was recommended for promotion from the grade of Lt. to Capt. This promotion was effected in September 1944. Shortly thereafter the need for qualified ASIS's for the Southern Region caused the Allied Commission to transfer Captain Ingrasola from Lampedusa and assign him to Lampedusa Region. Then in December Captain Ingrasola was sent back to Lampedusa for a month on ASIS on Allied Commission matter. Finally in January upon his return, he was assigned to the 2600th Special Detachment. This is the unit that later went to Austria for Civil Affairs Duty. There is no record in this office of any adverse reports on Captain Ingrasola for the period that he was stationed on the Island of Lampedusa."

352

3. Will you please inform me by confidential letter as to the nature of the accusations that have been made against Captain Ingrasola in as full detail as you are able to supply.

WILLIAM H. PIERCE
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

0818

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

Ct. Fisher

Capt Ingrassia joined AMB in August 1943 and was sent to Sicily. In the fall of 1943 (exact date unknown) he was sent to the Island of Lampedusa as CAO. This island has always been under the jurisdiction of AMB in Sicily. As a result, all administrative matters concerning Capt Ingrassia were taken up with the Regional Commissioner there. Reports of his work sent to this office were always graded excellent or better. In the summer of 1944 he was recommended for promotion from the grade of Lt to Capt. This promotion was effected in Sept 1944. Shortly thereafter the need for qualified CAO's for the Northern Regions caused the Allied Commission to transfer Capt Ingrassia from Lampedusa and assign him to Lombardia Region. Then in December Capt Ingrassia was sent back to Lampedusa for a month on TDY on Allied Commission matters. Finally in January upon his return, he was assigned to the 2600th Special Detachment. This is the unit that later went to Austria for Civil Affairs Duty. There is no record in this office of any adverse reports on Capt Ingrassia for the period that he was stationed on the island of Lampedusa.

H. H. V.

3523

OFFICE OF A.S. LIAISON OFFICER

c/o RCB - RAVI 157

PALMIRI-SICILY

Ref: AG, 3/401

22 October 1943

Subject: Report on activities of A.S. Sicily and A.M.2.
Pantelleria and Lampedusa.

To: H.Q. Allied Commission, LPO 154.

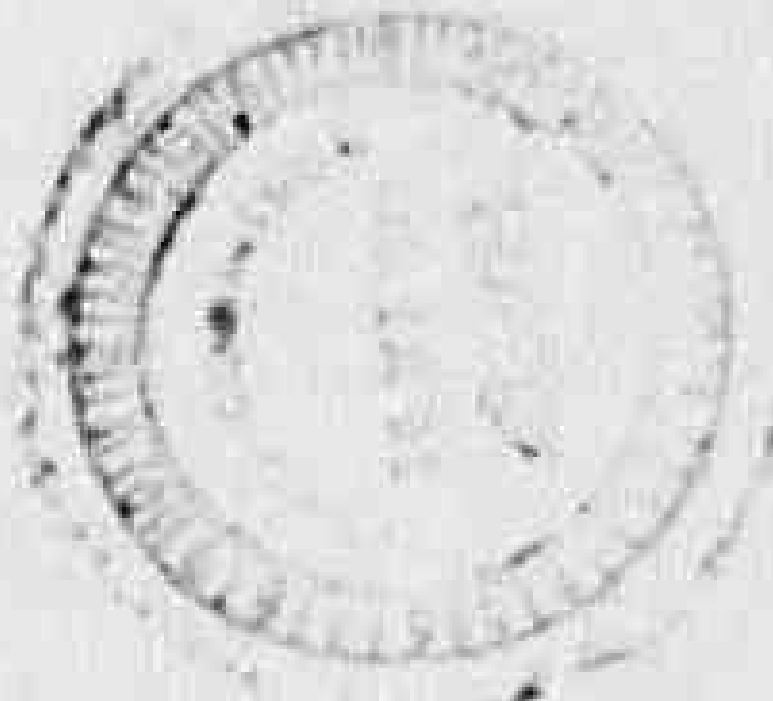
(For Attention)

1. INTRODUCTION.

(a) On 12th September 43, I took over from Lt-Col Barton as Liaison Officer for the whole Island of Sicily. Major Bentley left Catania on 14th September 43, and the Catania office was closed on 15th September 43. Capt. Moore left Lampedusa on 17th September 43 and took sick in a private house, he reported on 13th September and was sent to Hospital suffering from Malaria. A request was made to G-1 for another Officer to take his place as Capt. Moore was not allowed to undertake a sea voyage before the expiration of 30 days from 18th September 43. Capt. Parker was relieved at Pantelleria by Lt. Wilkie on 12 September; the latter carried with him an order for Capt. Parker to go to Lampedusa, pursuant to request to G-1 B. However, as Capt. Parker gave several reasons for not carrying out this order, I sent word for him to come to Palermo and then report to me.

(b) I visited the two islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa in a motor launch loaned by the British Navy. The trip took 6 days because of bad weather but a great deal was learned from it. For instance, I have found that an Anson aeroplane can land on Lampedusa and a Halibut can easily land on Pantelleria. The R.A.F. will assist us by flying an Anson once every 3 weeks. This will enable the CBO to get a day or two on the island occasionally - a much needed holiday as I have never seen a more desolate spot than Lampedusa and Pantelleria is not very different. There is much to be done on each island and Lt. Wilkie is doing exceedingly well to-date on Pantelleria. I suggest that only CBOs who can speak Italian be sent to the islands as there are no interpreters.

(c) I feel that there should be a British soldier on each island with the Officers, or at least one who can move between the islands to



Sec

48673

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

(a) On 12th September 45, I took over from Lt-Col Norton as Liaison Officer for the whole Island of Sicily. Major Bentley left Catania on 14th September 45, and the Catania office was closed on 15th September 45. Capt. Moore left Lampedusa on 7th September 45 and took sick in a private house, he reported on 13th September and was sent to Hospital suffering from Jaundice. A request was made to 2-1 B for another officer to take his place as Capt. Moore was not allowed to undertake a sea voyage before the expiration of 30 days from 18th September 45. Capt. Parker was relieved at Pantelleria by Lt. Wilkie on 22 September; the latter carried with him an order for Capt. Parker to go to Lampedusa, pursuant to request to 2-1 B. However, as Capt. Parker gave several reasons for not carrying out this order, I sent word for him to come to Palermo and then report to Rome.

(b) I visited the two islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa in a motor launch loaned by the British Navy. The trip took 5 days because of bad weather but a great deal was learned from it. For instance, I have found that an Anson aeroplane can land on Lampedusa and a Halibut can easily land on Pantelleria. The R.A.F. will assist us by flying an Anson once every 3 weeks. This will enable the HQ to get a day or two on the mainland occasionally - a much needed holiday as I have never seen a nurse decollete just then Lampedusa and Pantelleria is not very far apart. There is much to be done on each island and Lt. Wilkie is doing exceedingly well to-date on Pantelleria. I suggest that only 2-1 B who can speak Italian be sent to the islands as there are no interpreters.

(c) I feel that there should be a British soldier on each island with the Officer, or at least one who can move between the islands to act as liaison between the islands and Sicily. Quite often an Allied military messenger needs to go to Sicily from the islands and as the return trip is not always secured at once, the soldier's absence would not inconvenience the administration to the same extent as that of an Officer's.

(d) I consider that an enquiry should be instituted into the activities of 1st Lieut (now Capt) Anthony Ingrascia, whilst C.I.O. at Lampedusa. The people on the island are making accusations and his case should be cleared if he is innocent.

E. ~~WILKIE~~.

(e) All vehicles have been concentrated at Palermo, except the jeep No 200634 which is at Pantelleria. All the island transport was found

in bad shape as follows:-

- 2 Landia Astura
 - 3 " Aprilia
 - 1 " Augusta
 - 1 Fiat 1500
- 1 completely worn out.
 - 1 completely worn out, 1 in very bad shape.
 - no record of it but found in A.G. Garage at Catania.
 - Partly cannibalized at Messina.

It is intended to de-requisition immediately 1 Landia Astura, 2 Landia Aprilia and the Fiat 1500. This information is received about the Landia Augusta, that will also be de-requisitioned. Two vehicles are being repaired, 1 Aprilia and 1 Astura, both of which came from Catania.

3. MILITARY AND RESERVES.

- (a) The A.G. Officers' Mess is now functioning and is capable of handling 4 extra Officers at a time passing through for quarters and messing.
 - (b) The C.M.'s Mess can handle 4 extra but blankets and messing equipment should be brought by visitors. There is not, however, any accommodation for soldiers' wives, etc.
 - (c) The British Transit Messes have closed down and the prices of meals are exorbitant in the civilian restaurants. The American Naval Messes welcome transients, of course, but accommodation for quarters is not always easy.
- Any personnel passing through here would assist if they notified us two days ahead.

W.M.
E.J. MacCallum, R.D. Lt-Col.
A.G. S.O., SICILY.

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785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Establishment Section

54/11/65
Res/11/12/65

12 July 1945

SUBJECT: Channels of Communication

TO : Alcom Liason Officer, Palermo

1. Attention is invited to attached copy of letter from AFHQ.
2. Would you again inform the CAO, Pantelleria that the authorized channels of communication with AFHQ/MTGUBA are through this Headquarters.

[Signature]
C. M. PARKIN,
Colonel, Inf.,
A/Vice President.

1 incl: copy letter, fr. G-5, AFHQ
P-11, 8 July 1945.

3525

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS -
G-5 Section
APO 313

11 AUG 1945

Ref. P-11

8 July 1945

SUBJECT: AMO Pantelleria

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394
(Attn: Economic Section) ✓

Further to our P-11 of 30 June on the above subject, the following cable has now been received from Capt. Parker, AMO Pantelleria:

"Reference signal to you from Sergeant ESPOSITO.

"Rations are sent by plane. Would you be good enough to also send 4 jeep covers and tubes exchange for badly worn ones here on my jeep?"

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

10 JUL 1945
Reception
S. O. CARTER
Major, G.S.C.
Economics & Supply Division



3524

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

785015

INTERNAL ROUTINGHEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

File:

Date 7 July 1948

SUBJECT: Proper channels of communication.

Fill in each column, initial action, and draw a line across the sheet just below initials. Number each item consecutively in first column. Use entire width of sheet for long names.

No.	From	To	Date
5.	Actg VP Estab Sec	Liaison Officer Palermo.	1. Your attention is invited to basic communication. 2. It is directed that you please instruct AMB Pastelleria not to communicate direct with AFHQ/NTCUSA on matters of routine detail. C.M. PARKIN, Colonel, Infantry, Actg Vice President.
5 Incls: 1 - copy of signal signed "Parker" 2 - copy of signal signed "S/Sgt Esposito" 3 - ltr dtd 14 Jun 48 from Capt Parker to NTCUSA 4 - ltr dtd 30 Jun 48 from AFHQ to HQ AC 5 - Comments.			

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION
NAVY SUB-COMMISSION APO 394

MSC/21008
6 July 1943.

FROM: Navy Sub-Commission, HQ. Allied Commission.
TO : Water Transport Supply and Transport S.(C),
Allied Force Headquarters.

SUBJECT: Boat for AMS in Pantelleria.

1. Reference is made to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean letter MSC.43/53/4/12 of 21 June 1943, which requested, on behalf of the Allied Commission Liaison Officer, Palermo, that consideration be given to allocating an R.A.S.C. schooner for regular trips between the AMS islands and Sicily and Malta.

2. Information is requested as to whether an R.A.S.C. schooner can be allocated for these duties and if so, what schedule it is contemplated can be instituted. In this connection, it is desired to note that according to information recently received from the Transportation Sub-Commission, AC, the Mediterranean Shipping Board plans to allocate SS Lampedusa as soon as possible to her pre-war run between Trapani and the islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa.

RODOLPH WARREN

REAR ADMIRAL
CHIEF, NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, AC.

Copy to:
Establishment Section, AC. ✓
Transportation S/C, AC.
A.C. Liaison Officer, Palermo.
MEDSO.

In re: Inter Commission

Post and

1. Attention is invited to

2. Establishment Section
(which is not contained in the matter) would
be included to agree with the views set forth
by the A.C.L.O. Palermo. However, since this
matter involves direct communication with
an outside unit, may the approval of the
Inter-Commission be given, please,
for such dealings.

Int. sec.
is hereby

with explanation
for Co. 2, 1944

News etc

Material for your views on

the proposed in para 3

7 pages, opposite

EX CORR

26/5/44 7 25/4/44

by the ACD, Palermo. However, since this matter involves direct communication with an outside unit, may the approval of the Interim Commission be given, please, for such dealings.

at sec.
W. Hayes

at the
for Capt. J.D.

3/4

W. Hayes

perhaps to your views on

the proposal to para 3
of para 1 opposite.

Ex comm.

Establishment Section

in 26/5 352
CWC MED (in 402/2524 attached)

was asked to consider the possibility of making a small vessel available for the run between Malta, Pantellina etc. The Establishment Section will be informed immediately a reply is received from CWC MED.

W. Hayes
Lieut. 25/5/42
W. Hayes

5 June

0828

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Navy Sub-Commission LPO 324

ENC/2524
11 May 1945.

From: Navy Sub-Commission, Hq. Allied Commission.
To: Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.
Subject: Sea Communications Between AND Islands and MALTA.
Enclosures: (A) Copy of Allied Commission Liaison Officer PALERMO,
LPO 324, letter PAST/20 of 18 May 1945.

1. Enclosure (A) is forwarded herewith, with the request that Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean consider the possibility of making a small naval vessel available as suggested in paragraph 3 thereof.

BY AIR AERIAL
CHIEF, NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, AC.
for CHIEF COMMISSIONER

Copy to:
VAN
CHIEFNAVY
FUTALI
ESTABLISHMENT NAVY, AC
AC LIAISON OFFICER, PALERMO.

0829

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

OFFICE OF A.C. LIAISON OFFICER
PALERMO SICILY
APO 394

COPY

FILE: PART/10

15 May 1945.

SUBJECT: Communications with the A.C. Islands and Malta.
TO: HQ, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. This office has long been receiving complaints from the A.C. Officers stationed at Pantelleria and Lampedusa concerning difficulties of transportation and communication between these Islands and Sicily. Mail is sometimes delayed as long as a month in going between these Islands and Palermo. At present both mail and personnel are dependent on slow and irregular voyages of privately-owned motor schooners.

2. Officers on the Island have no means under their own control to leave the Islands nor to communicate with Sicily or Malta. An officer having occasion to visit either Island for even the briefest duty could rarely go and return in less than two weeks. Indeed such a trip might require the greater part of a month. Absolutely no means of regular communication is available. A regular and reliable means of communication between the above-mentioned centres for the transport of Allied personnel, the supply of rations, and the carrying of mail and other messages is therefore urgently needed.

3. It is suggested that the possibility be explored of securing a small naval craft for this purpose. The vessel should preferably be manned by Allied personnel. In view of the fact that Malta is in British hands it would seem desirable that the boat be under Royal Navy control. If the Craft were based on Malta it could easily touch all necessary ports at least once each week. The recommended trip (Malta-Lampedusa-Pantelleria-Porto-Lampadusa-Malta) could be made in four days and the remaining two or three days could be spent in Malta. The departure could be made from Malta on a regular weekly schedule unless an emergency called for a special trip to one or the other of the two Islands. The Liaison Officer at Palermo should be given authority to call on the Naval Command at Malta for such exceptional trips when necessary.

4. If Allied Commission Headquarters approve of the plan, the Liaison Officer at Palermo would be willing to assume responsibility for working out its details. In order that the Naval Commander at Malta may know of the nature of this proposal (in case Allied Commission desires to consult Malta concerning its feasibility from Royal Navy's point of view) a copy of this letter is being mailed directly to Malta for information only.

/s/ Edward Norton

Lt. Col. GE
A.C. Liaison Officer Palermo.

Copy to ROIC Malta for info.

3320

OFF: A.C. LIAISON OFFICER
c/o S.O.E.
PALERMO

SECRET

FILE: Pant/13

26 May 1945

SUBJECT: Supervising of AMG islands of Pantelleria and Lampedusa.

TO : HQ Allied Commission
APO 394

total file 77/EST

2

1. On 18 May, under the subject "Communication with the AMG islands and Malta", I recommended to ALCOH that a request be made to the Royal Navy at Malta for a naval craft to serve as courier between Malta, Lampedusa, Pantelleria, and Porto Empedocle. My letter pointed out the present unsatisfactory state of communications for mail and personnel. Indeed conditions are even worse than I reported: there have been cases where letters have been two months en route between Lampedusa and Palermo.

2. What I now desire to suggest is that if a suitable small naval vessel were provided for use between these islands, one of the two present officers could probably be released for other duty. It is my opinion that one energetic officer would suffice for both Lampedusa and Pantelleria, provided that a satisfactory means of transportation were provided for him to visit each of the islands at frequent intervals. With the present unsatisfactory communications, of course any such combination seems utterly out of the question; but with a good boat, under his own control, one officer could supervise both islands.

3. My idea would be that the officer maintain quarters on both Pantelleria and Lampedusa. He could then remain where his presence seemed most needed at the time, but would have the means to proceed to the other island for a similar stay when conditions called for it.

4. I submit this suggestion in connection with my earlier request for suitable communications. Even with two officers a new means of communication is needed; but with a new means of transporting mail and for travel between the islands I am rather sure that one able officer could look after both islands.

3510

WHA-276

[Signature]
EDWARD C. CROW
Lt. Col. CE
Liaison Officer

OFFICE OF A.C. LIAISON OFFICER
PALERMO SICILY
APO 394

FILE Pant/10

10 May 1945

SUBJECT: Communications with the AMG Islands and Malta.

TO : HQ Allied Commission
APO 394

HEADQUARTERS
25 MAY 1945

1. This office has long been receiving complaints from the ABCOM Officers stationed at Pantelleria and Lampedusa concerning difficulties of transportation and communication between these Islands and Sicily. Mail is sometimes delayed as long as a month in going between these Islands and Palermo. At present both mail and personnel are dependent on slow and irregular voyages of privately-owned motor schooners.

2. Officers on the Island have no means under their own control to leave the Islands nor to communicate with Sicily or Malta. An officer having occasion to visit either Island for even the briefest duty could rarely go and return in less than two weeks. Indeed such a trip might require the greater part of a month. Absolutely no means of secret communication is available. A regular and reliable means of communication between the above-mentioned centres for the transport of Allied personnel, the supply of rations, and the carrying of mail and other messages is therefore urgently needed.

3. It is suggested that the possibility be explored of securing a small naval craft for this purpose. The vessel should preferably be manned by Allied personnel. In view of the fact that Malta is in British hands it would seem desirable that the boat be under Royal Navy control. If the Craft were based on Malta it could easily touch all necessary ports at least once each week. The recommended trip (Malta-Lampedusa-Pantelleria-Porto Kapedocle-Malta) could be made in four days and the remaining two or three days could be spent in Malta. The departure could be made from Malta on 351

2.

regular weekly schedule unless an emergency called for a special trip to one or the other of the two islands. The Liaison Officer at Palermo should be given authority to call on the Naval Command at Malta for such exceptional trips when necessary. (a)

4. If Allied Commission Headquarters approve of the plan, the Liaison Officer at Palermo would be willing to assume responsibility for working out its details. In order that the Naval Commander at Malta may know of the nature of this proposal (in case Allied Commission desires to consult Malta concerning its feasibility from Royal Navy's point of view) a copy of this letter is being mailed directly to Malta for information only.

Edward Morton

EDWARD MORTON

Lt Col. CE

A.C. Liaison Officer Palermo

Copy to NOIC Malta for info.

0 8 3 3