

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

Acc

10000/110/143 TRANS
NOV. 40

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

10000 / 110 / 143 TRANSPORT, STOLEN
NOV. 44 - NOV. 45

96/EST

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

REF/96/EST

274

Estab Sec

T-2

LOSS OF Motor-cycle.

9 file

1 O-5 (AR) 7 Nov 45 May the instructions requested in para 2 of attached letter, reference O4/TB/103/2/21 dated 5 November 1945, be forwarded to this Section, please, for onward transmission to Allied Commission.

Our IRS, file T-2, dated 22 August and 30 August, also refer.

For the Asst Chief of Staff, O-5:

F G Jeffery

F. G. JEFFERY,
Captain RE,

Copy to: Headquarters, ✓ Economics & Supply Division.
Allied Commission,
APO 394 (Attn: Establishment Section)

6677

4384

1523
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

ESTABLISHMENT SECTION

File

Date

4 Sept

FROM

TO

Col Paulin

Deputy Ex. Commissioner

✓ Staff Officer

Executive Officer (A)

Executive Officer (B)

G-1 (A)

G-1 (B)

G-4 (A)

G-4 (B)

Headquarters Commandant

Adjutant

file

FOR:

Comment

Draft of reply

Investigation and report

Answer

Signature

Approval Disapproval

Your Information

Your File

Return, please

6676

DIG/eh

DEER OFFICE WFO
OFFICES OF C.R. (B).

QJ/136/7

SUBJECT:- Investigation of Irregularities.
Joint Directors,
TO :- Finance Sub-Commission.

1. The attached statement refers to a claim by an Italian Civilian (also attached), whose car was used by Capt. G. Z. Lee while a Public Safety Officer in Tasmania Region.
2. The facts as stated by Capt. Lee show that this officer has made himself liable to disciplinary action on several grounds, e.g.
 1. Using a civilian type car not requisitioned.
 2. Using R.D. petrol in an unauthorised car (not soon but inevitable).
 3. Putting W.D. tyres on an unauthorised car.
3. He has further made himself liable to pay the claim of the owner for the loss of his car as theoretically this car was nothing to do with the Commission.
4. This branch has however for some time been interested in this type of case and particularly for officers like Capt. Lee the indefinite frankness of whose statement gives the impression of ignorance rather than wilful disobedience to orders.
5. The facts are, that it has consistently been the policy of Regional Commissioners to ignore Administrative Instructions which they do not like. This has almost always reached its highest point in the irregular selling and use of passenger vehicles so that it has been the invincible policy of Regions to hold more cars than were authorised. They achieved this by holding and using cars obtained, marked and operated contrary to the orders of Establishment **6675**. In the exercise of this policy Regional Commissioners have not been without encouragement.
6. The necessary result of this policy is that individual officers, often without their knowledge have been rendered liable to Court Martial and financial liability. I cannot help feeling that it would be most unfair for an Officer in the position of Capt. Lee to be called to pay for the car, when his use of the car and its complete illegality was or should have been known to the Provincial Commissioner, the Chief of Public Safety Division and to the Transportation Officer who supplied the tyres and petrol and whose Regional Commissioner and his A.Mir. Staff must or should have known that irregularly obtained cars were being used by Officers.
7. However the claim of the civilian is a good one and it reasonably has to be met by this Commission somehow.

8. May I be informed how far AC/AMG tanks can be used to meet this claim which while it can be attributed immediately to Capt. G. Z. Lee is in reality a claim against the Commission as a whole, the fault having been committed in negligence of

14. Using V.D. patrol in an unauthorised car (not worn but inevitable).

14. Putting V.D. tyres on an unauthorised car.

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6. The necessary result of this policy is that individual officers, often without their knowledge have been rendered liable to Court Martial and financial liability. I cannot help feeling that it would be most unfair for an Officer in the position of Capt. Lee to be called to pay for the car, when his use of the car and its complete illegality was or should have been known to the Provincial Commissioner, the Officer of Public Safety Division and to the Transportation Officer who supplied the tyres and petrol; and whose Regional Commissioner and his Admin. Staff must or should have known that irregularly obtained cars were being used by Officers.

7. However the claim of the civilian is a good one and it reasonably has to be met by this Commission somehow.

8. May I be informed how the AG/AMG funds can be used to meet this claim which while it can be attributed immediately to Capt. C. K. Lee is in reality a claim against the Commission as a whole, the fault having been committed in pursuance of an existing and known policy.

9. The enclosed copy letter, lately addressed to A/VP Establishment Section and Executive Officer (B) on this subject amplifies what I have said above. Executive Officer (B) however wishes me to take up this as an individual case rather than in general terms.

Donald H. Haslam M.A.

D.H. HASLAM,
Lieut. Col.
C.A.(B).

Copies to - A/VP Establishment Section
Executive Officer (B).

1526

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

C O P Y

VENEZIA PROVINCE
VENEZIA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
A P G 394.

8b

To : PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER, VENICE

Subject : ATTACHED.

1. In November 1944, whilst performing duty at the office R.A.C.I. Florence, I was approached by a certain Martini Bruno of Via dei Benci 19, Firenze, who asked if I would like the use of a Lancia Aprilia motor car.

2. Being without transport I interested myself in the offer and learned that the car in question was the property of Benedetti Aldo and was without tyres.

3. Through the A.M.G. garage in Florence I eventually obtained a set of W.D. tyres for the car and on or about the 10th January 1945, took the car into service.

4. There was no suggestion of it being requisitioned or taken on a hire agreement. It was placed voluntary at my disposition and for receipt I gave a note to Benedetti stating that the car 22963 VM, had been so placed at my disposition without obligation. I also gave him verbally a guarantee that if and when I was transferred from Florence the car would be returned to him.

6674

5. At about 7pm on 8th February 1945, the car was dismissed by me and the driver returned with it to the Prefettura, Florence, where it was garaged with other A.M.G. vehicles.

6. The driver, Silvano Bolognesi, left it as usual and went for his evening meal. On returning to the Prefettura at about 8.45 pm he noticed that the car was missing.

7. He informed me as soon as possible and I immediately reported the loss to the Military Police, C.C.R.R. and Publica Sicurezza. I also instructed the Lt. of C.C.R.R. in charge of road blocks to circulate the description of the car to all personnel engaged on road checks.

8. However nothing further was discovered about the car and it can only be assumed that it was dismantled and disposed of in parts.

9. Martini and Benedetti were informed of the circumstances of the loss
Venice, August, 22nd 1945.

/s/ George E. Lee Capt.
P.S.O.

1527

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

C O P Y

Subject :- Loss of Lancia Aprilia Car
No. 22963 FI, Eng. No. 97-3596
Chassis No. 39-1852.

8c
63/60/1485/A.

H.Q., Allied Commission
R O M E -----

1. A complaint has been received from BENETTI Aldo, Of Via Fiesolana 19, Florence, in respect of the loss of the a/m car.
2. Copy of letter handed to Claimant by a British Flying Officer is attached.
3. The position is that claimant went to the R.A.C.I. Office in Florence soon after the occupation, when the A.M.G. Officer in charge - a Capt. George E. Lee - issued a circulation permit for one of his cars, - NOT the car which was lost.
Sometime later the civilian manager of R.A.C.I. asked him if he would lend a car to Capt. Lee. He willingly lent Lancia No. 22963 FI, but about a month later, on 8 Mar. 45, this car was stolen and has not been heard of since.
Claimant states that Capt. Lee has disclaimed any liability for this.
4. It appears that Claimant is certainly entitled to compensation, and it will be appreciated if enquiries may be made and your comments subsequently forwarded to this Office.

667

60 CLAIMS & HIRINGS CMO
1 AUG. 45.
1/FP.

Major, H.A.C.
DAD., CLAIMS & HIRINGS.

152

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Establishment Section

Ref/96/8/HST

10 October 1945

Dur

1

SUBJECT: Stolen Requisitioned Vehicle
TO : S-2 Section, HQ. 2675 Regiment

Reference to the subject vehicle stolen on 12th August 1944, Lt. OTTINO CARACCIOLO di FORINO - Italian Army, was at that time attached to this HQ. in the capacity of Liaison Officer.

I do not recall if on the particular date of the theft I gave Lt. Caracciolo specific authorization to use the subject vehicle.

However as an Italian Army Officer attached to this HQ. Lt. Ottino Caracciolo di Forino was entitled to use the requisitioned vehicle of this office, in connection with **6672** duties.

Uns & Dur

NORMAN E. FISKE,
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner

1529

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EXT: 301

MEMO:

Ref/96/EST

TO : Colonel Parkin

1. Col. Fiske wishes this matter brought up at the Executive Commissioners meeting. (See letter attached)

2. The case is substantially as follows:

a. DiNucci, an Italian civilian, stole two American jeeps (one Army, one Navy). The jeeps were discovered in a French motor pool. DiNucci was tried by the French for having stolen the jeeps, and was given a two-year suspended sentence, plus a very small fine. DiNucci is now reported to be working for the French in Rome.

b. The Deputy Commissioner of Naples Commune, Colonel Warren, sent a full report of the case to A.C., and received the reply indicated in the letter attached.

3. Does the Executive Commissioner wish the case dropped on the grounds of not stirring up the French, or shall we press the matter? Evidently the French have put over a "fast one"?

Establishment Section
16 July, 1945

Montant
L. T. MONTANT, Jr.,
Captain, AGD
Staff Officer

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

fin

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
ESTABLISHMENT SECTION
APO 394

LTM/JP
7 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Military Police Report.

TO : Rome Area Allied Command, APO 794, US Army.

The attached copies of Military Police Report
are returned, inasmuch as the vehicle in question is
not the property of this organization.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

C.M. PARKIN,
Colonel, Infantry,
Actg Vice President.

2 Incs:

- 1 - ltr file AG 250 std 6 Jul 45.
- 2 - MP report on USA Veh #2033976.

667

1531
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96

f/c
~~ESTAB~~

Q 10
JAN 19 1935A

3/6616
JAN 20 0900A
ROUTINE

DISTONE

HQ ATGOM INFO: 71 SUB AREA

4
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

IN CLEAN.

Ref your 3604/69/COS of 15. Seizure of Fiat car registration
No 82780/ROMA being investigated as matter of urgency. You will be
notified of result of investigation soonest. 71 Sub AREA. By
10/23/06/5/9 of 19 refers.

4
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

Dist
Action - O-S (2)
Info - A/Press
Chief Commissioner
Nat Sec
O-4 (a) *6664*
File (2)
Float



1532

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

DB(6)ee
(2) tel. Parkers

to 100

54

1533

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.I.D. 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

AC/4129/15/L.

/P.M.

25 NOV. 1944.

SUBJECT : Thefts of Requisitioned Cars-Trial in A.M. Courts.

TO : Establishment Section, H.Q., A.C.

1. Reference your letter dated 24 Nov. 44 and confirming telephone conversation of yesterday.

2. This Sub-Commission is prepared to recommend any such cases for trial in allied military Courts which are brought to its notice and which contain sufficient evidence.

3. Pending notification of any such cases no action is being taken on your letter.

2

W.E. BEHRENS,
Colonel,
Deputy Chief Legal Advisor.

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31

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
ESTABLISHMENT SECTION

File
92/EST
(D)
24 November 1944
N.F./JP

SUBJECT: Theft of Requisitioned Cars.

TO : Deputy Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Section,
Allied Commission.

1. For some time past, I have been concerned over the increasing number (18) of requisitioned cars which have been stolen.

2. This is particularly serious, when it is realized how vital this transport is to our work and how difficult, if not impossible, it is to replace it.

3. The provision of transport is one of the most difficult problems with which this Commission is faced, and I venture to express the opinion that the embarrassment to our work by the theft of requisitioned vehicles is in itself a direct sabotage to the war effort.

4. Recently a requisitioned car was stolen during daylight from outside this building. Inquiries were made by the Military Police and by officers of the Questura, with the result that a gang of 10 Italians who have been operating in this and similar crimes have been arrested. It was discovered that the car had been sold for 350,000 lire.

5. It can be appreciated, therefore, that the Italians who engage in this type of crime find it a very profitable business. Nor can it be argued that the chances of their discovery is particularly high.

6. These particular offenders will be dealt with by the Italian courts, and I understand that they are shortly to be released on bail. There is no indication that the Italian Authorities will pay any proper regard to the seriousness of these offenses, which ought to be viewed not only as thefts of Allied property, but also as sabotage to our war effort.

7. I therefore, have little confidence in the Itali-

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7. I therefore, have little confidence in the Italian courts to deal with these cases in any way which will properly support either the work of this Commission or the prestige of the Allies. I feel that unless some form of salutary action is taken, there is a great danger of an increasing number of similar crimes in the future.

8. For this reason, I submit that consideration be given to the institution of Allied courts to try these and similar instances of theft of Allied property in the future.

7

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Chief of Staff.

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

91

09

File

2d Ind.

Hq, A.C., Office of Deputy Chief of Staff, Establishment
Section. APO 394. 28 Oct. 44.

TO: Chief of Staff, Allied Commission

Request that this be investigated by a senior officer
of your section to determine who shall pay for the loss of
this valuable equipment.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Chief of Staff

Basic: leaden from supergarage
or theft fee 367.

1st Ind: Tn S/C to Col. Pyle ⁶⁵⁰
"for necessary action";

1537