

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No. 785015

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10000/110/171

ADMINIST
OCT. 44

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10000/110/171

ADMINISTRATION - ELBA
OCT. 44 - DEC. 44

122/EST

0923

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122

Ch. Fiske

Tel. 478808

13 December 1944

Ref. 520/86/COS

SUBJECT: Handover of EIBM.

TO : Distribution below.

1. The French Garrison were evacuated from Elba 11 Dec 44. The French Military Governorship terminated on that date and administration by AMG became effective.

2. Executive Memorandum No 78 transferring administration to Toscana Region becomes effective 20 Dec 44.

W. Shipp
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Dist. Toscana Region
Establishment Section ✓
Economic Section
Civil Affairs Section
Land Forces S/C
DCCAO HQ AAI.
Political Section.

7

0924

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

¹²²
SECRET

File

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel. 478808

Ref. 520/70/008.

4th November, 1944.

SUBJECT: Administration of Military Government, EMB.

TO : S.G.A.O., EMB,
Regional Commissioner, Toscana Region.

1. Orders have been issued by A.F.H.Q. for removal of all French personnel from EMB; this to be effected by first available sea transportation after 12th November.

2. Handover of administration to Toscana Region is covered in 520/45/008 of 14th October, 1944.

[Signature]
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

[Signature]
2

6

Copy to: Civil Affairs Section, HQ A.A.I.
Establishment Section. ✓

785015

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT,

E L B A .

TO :- Headquarters, Allied Control Commission.

SUBJECT :- Official visits to Elba.

DATE :- August 17th. 1944.

- (1) Reliable information has been received to the effect that an Officer, affecting to be a representative of the Director of Prisons at Hqrs. A.C.C., visited Elba and Pianosa on Tuesday, August 15th., 1944.
- (2) The Officer in question is reported to have visited the Penal Settlement and Prison on Pianosa; and to have visited Porto Longone where he made certain enquiries of the French Captain responsible for part of the prison. Apparently he did not actually visit the prison referred to.
- (3) As far as can be discovered no attempt was made to get in touch with the S.C.A.O. here, and neither did the officer report to any member of the A.M.G. team.
- (4) The above information is passed on to you without comment.

C. P. Murchie
(C.P. MURCHIE, Major. S.C.A.O.)

ARMED MILITARY GOVERNMENT.

E L B A .

17/8/44.

Dear Colonel Fiske,

Many thanks for your letter of the 7th. instant. It reached me via Piombino on the 11th.

Glad to hear you enjoyed your short visit. What can I say in reply except that you should come again as soon as possible- before the weather breaks!

I await with great interest your further advices with regard to the appointment of a Vice Prefect. I personally cannot see the slightest objection to the scheme ; and we have the man for the job.

The quality of the Iron Ore is, I believe you will find, much higher than you have been given to understand. The matter will be finally settled however when the American Officer at present engaged on an inspection of the mines returns to make his report. I understood Bagnoli was functioning on a small scale - handling about 800 tons of ore per day ex Sardinia. If so, and if the ore from Elba is of higher quality, it seems reasonable to at any rate examine the proposition. Having said this I withdraw, as it is so very patently a matter for experts.

I anxiously await the arrival of the typist. All my work has to be done by hand- one finger fashion- and it not the best of methods. Firstly it wastes far too much of my time; and secondly only a percentage of the letters which ought to be written are actually done. The preparation of my monthly report makes me shudder with apprehension for days beforehand. I have already returned, by arrangement with G.I. American, my 3 American E/M. If considered necessary I can also send you 3 out of my 4 British O/R's- retaining one only named Pte. Donaghy. Six for one seems to me a very fair rate of exchange.

The Piombino phone now functions from my office, and is not left unattended day or night. The Royal Navy have pulled out, and I am O.C. ports etc.

In order to avoid the hazards entailed by following the usual channels, I am enclosing herewith two letters to which I attach some degree of importance. The letter about Capt. Bentley merits very serious consideration. If by any chance it is felt at Hqrs. that we have done a good job here in Elba, I assure you it almost entirely due to the non-stop 100% efforts of the officer named. A man of no mean calibre I assure you. You might even do worse

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Sincerely yours,

Chum

0928

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SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF
Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref 520/45/003.

14th October, 1944

SUBJECT: Handover of the Island of ELBA.

TO : Regional Commissioner,
Toscana Region.

1. This Headquarters is advised today by telephone that shipping has been arranged for removal of the French garrison and equipment from Elba. The evacuation will take place as soon as weather conditions permit.

2. Following the removal of the French garrison, Executive Memorandum No. 78 which provides that the administration of the Island is taken over by Toscana Region, becomes effective. Toscana Region will therefore be in readiness to assume control of the territory upon receipt of advice that the French garrison has been cleared.

3. Establishment Section are advised by means of a copy of this letter that present transfer or movement of present A.C.C. personnel on Elba is to be coordinated with Regional Commissioner, Toscana Region. It is proposed that Major Burchie, SCAD will be at the disposal of Toscana Region for a period of one week following the handover to give such assistance and advice as may be required.

4. Extracts of a report of the 7th of October by Lt. Col. Laboon, Provincial Commissioner, Livorno relating to important local problems are forwarded as an attachment to Sections concerned.

5. The SCAD Elba has recommended that the French garrison be replaced by an Allied one and further that present CC.EM be exchanged for CC.EM in the pool. This recommendation has been passed to Civil Affairs Section, with the comment that no Allied or Italian military garrison will be provided.

M. S. L.
Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to:

Civil Affairs Section
Establishment Section
Economic Section
Col. Monfort, D.C.C.A.O., HQ. A.A.I.
S.C.A.O., ELBA

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
PROVINCE OF LIVORNO
TOSCANA REGION

File: AMG/L/5(E)/247.

7 October, 1944

EXTRACTS

11. The French C.O. is arresting people, is cancelling passes issued by Major GOODACRE, is sending people to Corsica to jail, is searching every carabinieri coming to or leaving the Island and pretty much doing as he pleases. 13 Italians were arrested last week by the French accused of being Republican Fascists and were sent to Corsica where they are supposed to be given a good going over. 100 such cases have already been sent to Corsica recently.

12. A French doctor took all the surgical instruments, amounting to an inventory of 400,000 lire from the Italian Hospital at Rio Marino, Cape Livorno.

15. I much prefer Capt. SMITH to Major BENTLEY and regret that the change was made. Either a supply officer like Capt. SMITH or a Police Officer like Major GOODACRE are the types most needed for ELBA if only one officer is to be left behind and under the circumstances I hope Major BENTLEY can be relieved in favor of either a Supply Officer or a Public Safety Officer.

16. Conditions on ELBA are not good. Unemployment is the most serious menace aside from lack of food. The people are willing to work. At least 2500 men are unemployed.

17. In addition to the unemployed there are 2000 Italian Marines and soldiers who have become separated from their units and are living on the Island. A Marine Officer (Italian) is now at work on ELBA to gather together the 500 odd marines. All of these 2000 should be removed from ELBA.

18. The food situation will be much improved if fishing could be permitted. I went into this matter thoroughly during my visit.

19. The Prison situation must be thoroughly investigated and clarified on all three islands where prisons are located.

0930

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

Hold for Col Fiske

122

File

~~ESTAB SEC~~

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

RCK/ltg.

RVIII/2/1/A/403

13 Oct. 44.

SUBJECT: Assignment of Officers for duty on the Island of Elba.

TO : Chief of Staff, Hq. Allied Control Commission.

1. Confirming oral arrangement made yesterday and with reference to RVIII/16/65 dated 10 Oct. 44 I request that if this Region is to continue to administer the Island of Elba, the officers now on duty on that Island, including Major MURCHIE, be transferred and assigned to Toscana Region for assignment to Livorno Province for duty on the Island of Elba so long as the French Military Commander remains there.

2. It is further recommended that steps be taken to relieve the French Military Commander of his duty as Deputy Military Governor on the Island of Elba. If it is necessary for him to stay there he should stay in the capacity of French Garrison Commander only with no responsibility for civil affairs.

ROBT. G. KIRKWOOD,
Colonel, FA, US Army
Regional Commissioner.

Copy to File 16.

1



IN
E.L.S.

Orig To Col S
520/105

3
James

10931