

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

0/119/134

243 - PRISONERS OF WAR
March - September 1945

(5839)
(5881)

22

WEN/bof

REF: 243/EC(L)

11 September 1945

Dear Sir D'Arcy,

I refer to your 10 July letter transmitting Vatican Note 959558/A regarding nine German Officers and men at Toblach, Italy.

Permit me to inform you that the competent authorities to whom this matter has been referred now state that inasmuch as this group is in British custody and subject to British prevailing rules, requests for special consideration cannot be entertained.

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Sincerely yours,

W.B. NEUBURG
Captain

Sir Francis D'Arcy Godolphin Osborne
British Legation to the Holy See
14, Via del Parlamento
Rome

5801

21
BRITISH LEGATION
TO THE HOLY SEE.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

ROME(SX)

14 Via del Parlamento,
Rome.

2/34/45

July 10th, 1945.

Dear Captain Neuburg,

=====

I enclose a copy of a Note from the Vatican, with two enclosures in original, transmitting a request for a group of nine elderly and sick non-combattant German officers and men, attached to a scientific institute, to be allowed for reasons of health, to remain in Italy pending repatriation to Germany. The request seems a reasonable one.

Yours sincerely,

P. Leach

Captain Neuburg,
Liaison Division,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

5860

u July 19 ✓

219
June 60th, 1945

N. 95955/SA

At the request of the Most Reverend Bishop of Bressanone, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness transmits the enclosed petition for the attention and consideration of the competent Allied Authorities. The petition would request that a group of nine German officers and men, attached to the Istituto Geografico at Toblach, Italy, be permitted, for reasons of health, to remain there until such a time as the Allied Authorities may allow them to return to Germany.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

the Secretariat of State of His Holiness transmits the enclosed petition for the attention and consideration of the competent Allied Authorities. The petition would request that a group of nine German officers and men, attached to the Istituto Geografico at Toblach, Italy, be permitted, for reasons of health, to remain there until such a time as the Allied Authorities may allow them to return to Germany.

5859

His Excellency
Sir FRANCIS D'ARCY GODOLPHIN OSBORNE
His Britannic Majesty's Minister
to the Holy See
Via del Parlamento 14
Rome

(Enclosures 2)

21B
Dobbiaco, li 19. 5. 45.

Alla Reverenda Parrocchia di

D o b b i a c o

Nel momento in cui le truppe tedesche vengono concentrate ed allontanate dalla Valle di Pusteria, ne viene allontanato anche il Comando Tedesco di Collegamento presso l'Istituto Geografico Militare Italiano (e pari tempo anche Comando di Piazza).

Gli appartenenti a codeste Comando non hanno fatto parte a truppe di combattimento, bensì hanno continuato il loro impiego nel campo scientifico, eseguendo la preparazione di carte geografiche e lavori geodetici. Questi impiegati per la loro anzianità e debolezza fisica non resisterebbero a tutte le difficoltà di viaggi e campi di concentramento, ed è da prevedere che potrebbe loro danneggiare la salute fisica per sempre.

I nominativi risultano nella lista allegata.

Onde evitare i nominati impiegati dai gravi pericoli si prega di provvederne l'esclusione dalla sorte comune dato che in tutta la loro vita non hanno colpito al minimo la legge di protezione dell' Umanità.

Alla Santa Sede Apostolica, essendo la potenza di protezione secondo la legge internazionale si rivolge la reverente preghiera affinché si possa avere l'autorizzazione di rimanere a Dobbiaco fino al ritorno per via diplomatica alle famiglie della patria.

5859

Fuler
Ten. Col. e Comandante

Gli appartenenti a codesto Comando non hanno fatto parte e non hanno fatto parte di combattimento, bensì hanno continuato il loro impiego nel campo scientifico, eseguendo la preparazione di carte geografiche e lavori geodetici. Questi impiegati per la loro anzianità e debolezza fisica non resisterebbero a tutte le difficoltà di viaggi e campi di concentramento, ed è da prevedere che potrebbe loro mancare la salute fisica per sempre.

I nominativi risultano nella lista allegata.

Onde evitare i nominati impiegati dai gravi pericoli si prega di provvederne l'esclusione dalla sorte comune dato che in tutta la loro vita non hanno colto al minimo la legge di protezione dell' Umanità.

Alla Santa Sede Apostolica, essendo la potenza di protezione secondo la legge internazionale si rivolge la reverente preghiera affinché si possa avere l'autorizzazione di rimanere a Dobbinco fino al ritorno per via diplomatica alle famiglie dalla patria.

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Führer

Ten. Col. e Comandante

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Cognome	Nome	Professione	Grado	Classe	
Führ	Hermann	Inge.Geod.	Ten. Col. di räs.	1889	con dal que sin
Raisch	Oskar	Reg.Verm.Rat	Maggiore di räs.	1891	dif laz le aut chi cal per neu
Lederle	Fritz	Reg.Verm. Rat	Maggiore di räs.	1895	
Dr. Merkel	Heinrich	Professore di Università	Capitano di ris.	1889	Bro
Schäfer	Theodor	Reg.Verm.Rat	Capitano di ris.	1895	So e in
Schott	Otto	Pittore	sottoufficiale	1885	As
Strutzenberger	Ernst	Ispet.Geod.	Caporale	1902	Ul
Thomann	Lothar	Studiante	Cap.mazz.	1921	Tu (
Womann	August	Carto-lito,rafo	Caporale	1893	Sc ne

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785011

Professione	Grado	Classe	Debolezza fisica
Ing. Geod.	Ten. Col. di r.s.	1889	conseguenze riportate dalle ferite della guerra 1914/18, braccio sinistro;amba sin.
Verm. Rat	Maggiore di r.s.	1891	difficoltà nella circo- lazione del sangue, debo- le pressione con ricor- renza di pleurite e bron- chite, specialm. in clima caldo, due volte ammalato pericolo tubercolare
Verm. Rat	Maggiore di r.s.	1895	neurosis cordis
Professore di Università	Capitano di r.s.	1889	Bronchite
leg. Verm. Rat	Capitano di r.s.	1895	Sofferenze di cuore e pressione del sangue in clima caldo
Pittore	sottoufficiale	1885	Asma e dolori reumatici
Ispet. Geod.	Caporale	1902	Ulcera cronici (Stomaco)
Studente	Cap. magg.	1921	Tubercolosi polmonare (Polmone destro)
Carto-lito,rafo	Caporale	1893	Sofferenze stomaco e nervi

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

20

WBN/mcf

Ref: 243/NO(L)

11 September 1945

Dear Mr. Tittmann:

I refer to your 26 August letter enclosing Vatican Note
99756/SA.

I am instructed to inform you that no Yugoslav is repatriated
to Yugoslavia unless he opts to do so.

Sincerely yours,

to
F
W

W.B. NEUBURG
Captain

5853

Harold H. Tittmann, Esquire
Assistant to the Hon. Myron C. Taylor
2, Via Boncompagni
Rome

Ref: 243/20(L)

19
8 September 1945

SUBJECT: Money of Italian Prisoners of War in North Africa

TO : French Representative on AG

1. Reference is made to your letter AB/JG No. 2,231 of 14 August regarding above subject. This matter was referred to the appropriate subcommission who have now stated that a check of their files did not disclose any information regarding the amount of French currency belonging to Italian prisoners of war formerly held in French prisoner-of-war camps in Africa and that the only information on this subject available was that which was passed on to you in our letter ref. 243/EC(EL) of 11 August.

2. It is suggested that you communicate with the Italian Government, who deals with all matters pertaining to French-held Italian prisoners of war.

Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

243
5855

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SUBJECT :- Jugoslav Nationals.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

Headquarters,
Allied Commission. ✓

G1(Br)/3371/1/A2

6 Sep 45

1. Reference your letter 243/EC(L) dated 27 Aug 45.
2. It is requested that the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness be informed that no Yugoslav is repatriated to JUGOSLAVIA unless he opts to do so.

MPGF/et

8 SEP 1945

for

M. P. G. FERGUSON,
Major, D.A.A.G.,
Major General,
DAG., G.1(Br).

585

10/5 ✓

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUB COMMISSION

17
JAC/RT/dm

IPW I/5 A/267

1 Sept. 45

SUBJECT : Money of Italian Prisoners of War in North Africa.

TO : Liaison Division. A.C.HQ

1. Reference your 243/EC(L) dated 14 Aug 45.
2. After a check on the files of this Sub Commission, it is regretted to inform you that it is not possible to give the required information as to the amount of french currency belonging to Italian Prisoners of War formerly held in French PW Camps in North Africa.
3. The only available information on this subject is that given with my I/5A/248. It is thought that the amount of french currency belonging to IPW formerly held in North Africa is very small, as very few PW have been released by the French.
4. It is pointed out that the Allied Commission is not interested in the french held IPW matters and that the Italian Government deals with these matters directly with the French Authorities.

5/7 ✓
for
J.A. CAMPBELL
Lieut. Colonel
Director
WMD & IPCW Sub Comm
58521

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

2, via Boncompagni, Rome.

August 26, 1945.

Dear Captain Neuburg:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of Note No. 99756/SA dated August 20, 1945 which I have received from the Holy See recommending a request on behalf of a Captain of a Croatian ship and some six hundred Croatian officers and men, prisoners of war, stated to be interned at Camp No. 949 - P.O.W. Camp R. Naples, that their classification as prisoners of war be reconsidered and that in any event they and any other Croatian nationals who may be in similar circumstances be not turned over to the Government of Marshal Tito.

Your courtesy in taking this matter up with the appropriate Allied authorities and letting me know the nature of the reply which may be made to the Holy See will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Harold H. Tittmann

Harold H. Tittmann
Assistant to the Honorable Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:
Copy of Note

Captain W. B. Neuburg,
Liaison Division,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Rome.

27 Aug /
29

5852

169
August 20th, 1945

N. 99756/SA

In the pursuance of the charitable and humanitarian mission of the Holy See, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness takes the liberty to recommend to the kind attention and consideration of the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness a request which it has received on behalf of a Captain of a Croatian ship and some 600 Croatians officers and men, prisoners of war, now at Camp 949 - P.O.W. Camp R. Naples, that their classification as prisoners of war be reconsidered and changed and that, in any event, they and their companions who may be in similar circumstances, be not turned over to the Government of Marshal Tito. Although no more precise information is furnished in this matter, the Secretariat of State would appreciate its being referred to the competent Allied Authorities.

of the Assistant to the Personal Representative of the President of the United States to His Holiness a request which it has received on behalf of a Captain of a Croatian ship and some 600 Croatians officers and men, prisoners of war, now at Camp 945 - P.O.W. Camp R. Naples, that their classification as prisoners of war be reconsidered and changed and that, in any event, they and their companions who may be in similar circumstances, be not turned over to the government of Marshal Tito. Although no more precise information is furnished in this matter, the Secretariat of State would appreciate its being referred to the competent Allied Authorities.

585

The Hon. HAROLD H. TITTMANN
Assistant to the Personal Representative of the
President of the United States to His Holiness

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1097
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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WEM/sem

Ref: 243/EC(L)

25 August 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Prisoners of War

TO : War Materials Disposal and Italian Prisoners of War Sub-Commission

Transmitted herewith, in copy, is 24 August letter EM/J/C/No.
2243 from French Representative to A.C.

Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

1 Encl: Copy of ltr as above

243

5850

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the French Representative

APO 394

Rome, 24th August 1945
R/J/G/ N° 2243

To : LIAISON DIVISION = A.C.

Subject : Repatriation of the Italian P.W.

On the 23d of August, Colonel CAMPBELL, Chief of the P.W. sub-Commission, asked to the A.C. French Representative some information concerning the repatriation of the Italian P.W. interned in France.

After having made the necessary enquiries at the French Embassy of Rome, the French Representative is now able to give you the following details :

1°. Decision was taken to start the repatriation of the Italian P.W. interned in France and in North Africa and the French Government contacted the Italian Ambassador in Paris in order to fix and to settle, by common agreement, the programme of such repatriation.

2°. The French Ambassador in Rome, to-day, wired Paris to ask for some additional details concerning that matter, the plans made for its execution and eventually the transportation's problem. As soon as these informations will be forwarded to us, we will be glad to let them know to the P.W. Sub-Commission in due time.

Le Capitaine de Vaisseau R. MOULLEC
French Representative to A.C.

Moullec

(1)

(good one)

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14

WER/son

Ref: 243/ED(L)

14 August 1945

SUBJECT: Money of Italian Prisoners of War in North Africa

TO : War Materials Disposal and Italian Prisoners of War Sub-Commission

1. Reference in your 8 August letter IPW 1/5A/248.
2. May it now be inquired as to what is the amount of French currency belonging to Italian Prisoners of War formerly held in French PW Camps in North Africa?

Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

243

5848

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the French Representative
APO 394

13

Rome , le 14 Août 1 945
AB/JG N° 2,231

To : Liaison Division

Subject : Money of Italian Prisoners of War in North Africa .

1. Reference is made to your letter 243/EC(EL), dated 11th August 1945 . We are very grateful to you for your reply concerning money of I.P.W. in North Africa .

2. We would very much appreciate if you could let us know also what is the amount of french currency belonging to these I.P.W. formerly held in French prisoners 's camps in North Africa ; that amount would probably be less than 120.000 frs which is the average total belonging to the I.P.W. in French hands as well as in American or British hands .

J. Avenas

Lt de GUILLIEN D' AVENAS ,
P.I. French Representative .

14 Aug ✓
18

5847

WEN/mof

Ref: 243/EC(L)

11 August 1945

SUBJECT: Money of Italian Prisoners of War in North Africa

TO : French Representative to A.C.

1. Reference is made to your 20 June letter XS/SM no. 2.161 in which inquiry was made concerning money of I.P.W. in North Africa.

2. A reply has now been received from the proper authorities to the effect that the total amount of French Currency belonging to ex-I.P.W., formerly held in North Africa, that has been handed over to the Italian Red Cross is about Francs 120,000.

3. Should the French Embassy likewise be interested in the figure of non-French currency belonging to the same P.O.W. and also handed over to the Italian Red Cross, kindly advise this office.

Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

119
WEN/mof

Ref: 243/DO(L)

16 August 1945

Dear Mr. Tittmann:

Reference is made to your 10 July letter, and specific reference to its enclosures: Vatican Note 95955/SA of 30 June, and annex.

The competent military authorities before whom this request was placed now reply that the plight is realized of residents of Italian Tyrol who were drafted into the Italian Army and thereafter elected to become German citizens. However, the authorities in reference cannot undertake to disestablish an election of citizenship made by these persons with the consent of the German and Italian Governments at a time when neither the United States nor Great Britain were at war with Italy. Under the circumstances, the Italian Government would necessarily be a party to any suggestion which in the national allegiance of such individuals, now prisoners of war in Allied custody, who are Italian nationals, will in due course be repatriated to Italy.

Sincerely yours,

W.B. NEUBURG
Captain

Harold H. Tittmann, Esquire
Assistant to the Honorable Mr. Taylor
2, Via Boncompagni
Rome

243/
58

WIM/sem

Ref: 243/EO(L)

31 July 1945

SUBJECT: Treatment of Claims

TO : AMC Commissioner
Ancona Commune

1. Reference is your 19 July letter A/156, seeking information on policy on claims.

2. Please note that higher authority advises claims of the type referred to in your inquiry should be submitted to the Allied Claims Commission, Rome, who will assess their value.

By Command of Rear Admiral STONE:

Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

243

1104
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

WHN/sen

Ref: 243/ED(L)

26 July 1945

Dear Mr. Tittmann:

I refer to your 4 July letter in which request is made to amplify information furnished on your prior June 12 inquiry for a list of Italian soldiers taken prisoner by Allied Forces.

On further inquiry to the proper authorities, we are informed by them that a nominal roster of all Italian and German PWs processed through U.S. enclosures including those of Aversa and Pisa have been furnished to the Director, Vatican Information Bureau, Perce Hanes, Maison Carree. These rosters are complete as to next-of-kin and residence of PW. Moreover, the PW Information Bureau in London furnishes the Italian Red Cross with nominal rosters of all Italian PWs in British hands.

Sincerely yours,

W. B. NEUBURG
Captain

Harold H. Tittmann, Esquire
Assistant to the Honorable Mr. Taylor
2 Via Boncompagni
Rome

5842

BRITISH LEGATION
TO THE HOLY SEE.
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
ROMEX

14 Via del Parlamento,
Rome.

85/17/45

July 10th, 1945.

Dear Captain Neuburg,

I enclose copies of a Note from the Vatican, transmitting a memorandum of the Bishop of Bressanone (Brixen) urging the release by the Allied Military Authorities of members of the German Army who, though natives of the Italian Tyrol, opted for German citizenship in 1939 and/or were incorporated during the war in the German Armed Forces, although described as volunteers. These appear to embrace the whole of the fit male population of the Italian Tyrol between the age of sixteen and sixty. Some are stated to have returned to their homes after the armistice, and to have been subsequently sent to prison camps by the U.S.A. authorities; others may have been captured in Italy and other parts of the Mediterranean Theatre of operations, and these two categories would be the concern of A.F.H.Q. Those captured in other European theatres of war, would be the concern of S.H.A.E.F.

2. I am sending a copy of the Vatican Note and its enclosure to London. I am at the same time informing the Vatican that the question seems to be one to be taken up by the Italian Government with His Majesty's and the United States Government.

Yours sincerely,

12 JULY

*This matter already received from D. G. O'Brien,
Office of Personal Rep. of U.S. Pres to Holy See,
forwarded to AFHQ 12 JULY.*

Captain Neuburg,
Liaison Division,
Allied Commission,
Rome.

12/8 ✓

5842

617
June 30th, 1945

- 9 LUG. 1945

N. 95955/SA

At the request of His Excellency the Most Reverend Giovanni Geisler, Bishop of Bressanone, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness transmits for the kind attention and consideration of His Britannic Majesty's Minister to the Holy See the enclosed memorandum requesting the release, of those members of the Germany Army whose homes are in the Italian Tyrol area.

A similar communication is being sent to His Britannic Majesty's Minister to the Holy See.

5841

State of His Holiness transmits for the kind attention and consideration of His Britannic Majesty's Minister to the Holy See the enclosed memorandum requesting the release, of those members of the Germany Army whose homes are in the Italian Tyrol area.

A similar communication is being sent to His Britannic Majesty's Minister to the Holy See.

His Excellency
SIR FRANCIS D'ARCY GODOFREY OSBORNE
His Britannic Majesty's Minister
to the Holy See
Via del Parlamento 14
ROMA

(con inserto)

813
Representation is made by the Bishop of Bressanone on behalf of those members of the German Army whose homes are in the Italian Tyrol and the following observations are offered for the attention and consideration of the competent Allied Authorities.

In the summer of 1939 a great number of men of the classes, 1908 to 1918 inclusive, were drafted into the Italian Army. In August of that same year, before any publication had been made of the agreement reached by the Italian and German governments at Berlin, these men were invited to opt for either Italian or German citizenship--they were told at the same time that even if they chose Italian citizenship they could not remain in their native province. Almost all the men chose German citizenship.

In October 1939, the articles of the Berlin agreement between Italy and Germany were published whereby it was made known that members of the Italian Army who had chosen German citizenship thus became members of the German Army. In this manner some ten to twelve thousand men of the Italian Tyrol were incorporated into the German Army and indeed as "volunteers," although they had been conscripted for military service and had had no choice whatsoever. Of the entire group only 1 or 2%, at most, would have really been volunteers.

Later the classes of 1919 to 1925 inclusive, were drafted and they too were classified as "volunteers," although they had no choice in the matter.

to opt for either Italian or German citizenship--they were told at the same time that even if they chose Italian citizenship they could not remain in their native province. Almost all the men chose German citizenship.

In October 1939, the articles of the Berlin agreement between Italy and Germany were published whereby it was made known that members of the Italian Army who had chosen German citizenship thus became members of the German Army. In this manner some ten to twelve thousand men of the Italian Tyrol were incorporated into the German Army and indeed as "volunteers," although they had been conscripted for military service and had had no choice whatsoever. Of the entire group only 1 or 2%, at most, would have really been volunteers.

Later the classes of 1919 to 1925 inclusive, were drafted and they too were classified as "volunteers," although they had no choice in the matter.

38

Following the German occupation of the Italian Tyrol, the additional classes of 1901 to 1907 inclusive, and 1926 and 1927 were likewise called to military service. The greater part of these groups were used as police and as combat forces against the Partisans of the Trieste, Lombardy and Venice areas while one regiment was sent against the Russians. These groups were also classified as "volunteers," although they were impressed

-2-

into military service by the threat of death or of reprisals to be taken against their families.

Finally the classes of 1884 to 1899 inclusive were drafted for service in the "Standeschützen." Thus practically all the men of the Italian Tyrol between the ages of 16 and 60 were drafted into the German Army.

A part of these men returned to their homes after the surrender of Germany, others had previously been taken prisoners. The former, however, are now being taken into custody and sent to prisoner camps by the American authorities.

The result is that the Italian Tyrol, an agricultural area which by reason of its mountainous terrain requires experienced farm labor, is bereft of almost all its men.

In view of the needs of the area as well as in consideration of the special circumstances attending the enrollment of its men in the German Army, it hoped that favorable consideration may be given to the request that the men of the Italian Tyrol be liberated at the earliest possible moment.

5839

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE
2, via Boncompagni, Rome.

July 10, 1945.

Dear Captain Neuburg:

I enclose herewith a copy of Note No. 95955/SA dated June 30, 1945 which I have received from the Holy See transmitting a memorandum from His Excellency the Most Reverend Giovanni Geisler, Bishop of Bressanone, requesting the release of those members of the German Army whose homes are in the Italian Tyrol area.

Your courtesy in taking this matter up with the appropriate Allied authorities and letting me know the nature of the reply which may be made to the Holy See will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Harold H. Tittmann

Harold H. Tittmann

Assistant to the Honorable Myron C. Taylor

Enclosures:

Copy of Note

Enclosure to Note

Captain W. B. Neuburg,
Liaison Division,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Rome.

11 July ✓
12

583

Enclosures forwarded
to G-5 along with our ltr
of 12 Jul & copy of this
letter. Encls hereto are
identical to those of Sir D'Arcy's
ltr.

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE

2, via Boncompagni, Rome.

146

July 4, 1945.

Dear Captain Neuburg:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated July 3, 1945 in reply to an enquiry on the part of the Vatican as to the practicability of obtaining a list of Italian soldiers taken prisoner by the Allies. It is noted that the Vatican Information Bureau is furnished lists of the Italian prisoners of war in North Africa through the Pères Blancs, Maison Carée, Algiers on behalf of the Holy See. It is also noted that particulars of all Italian prisoners of war in British custody are forwarded by FWIB, London to the Italian Red Cross.

Your letter, however, makes no mention of the Italian prisoners of war who are alleged to be in concentration camps near Aversa and Pisa in Italy, regarding which the Holy See made particular enquiry. According to the letter from the Holy See these soldiers were taken prisoner by the Allied forces during the hostilities preceding the end of the war in Italy and presumably were members of the Fascist Republican Army.

It would be appreciated if you could enquire of the appropriate authorities as to whether it would be possible to obtain information regarding the foregoing category of prisoners of war.

Sincerely yours,

Harold H. Tittmann

Harold H. Tittmann
Assistant to the Honorable Myron C. Taylor

Captain W. B. Neuburg,
Liaison Division,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Rome.

5837

5 July ✓
12

WET/mof

Ref: 243/30(L)

3 July 1945

Dear Mr. Tittmann:

I make reference to your letter of 12 June and copy of Vatican note attached thereto, concerning the procurement of a list of Italian soldiers taken prisoner by the Allies.

The appropriate authorities have advised that nominal rosters indicating next of kin and residence of Italian prisoners of war processed through United States Enclosures are furnished the Director, Vatican Information Bureau, Pères Blancs, Maison Carée, Algiers on behalf of the Holy See.

Particulars of all Italian PW in British custody are forwarded by PWIB, London to Italian Red Cross.

It is believed that these agencies are equipped to furnish the information desired by the Holy See.

Sincerely yours,

W.B. NEUBURG
Captain

583

Copy to: British Legation to the Holy See

Harold H. Tittmann, Esquire
Assistant to the Hon. Myron C. Taylor
2, Via Boncompagni
Rome

24

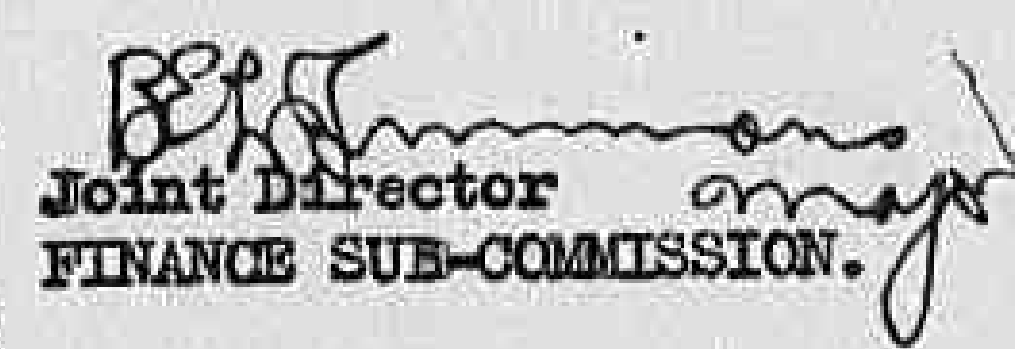
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION.

13090/F.

1 July 1945.

TO : Liaison Division, ✓
Office of the Executive Commissioner.

1. Reference your 243/EC(L) of 28 June, 1945.
2. Finance Sub-Commission has no information on this matter. It is suggested you communicate with I.P.W. Sub-Commission.

 
Joint Director
FINANCE SUB-COMMISSION.

243

583

2 July ✓
25

#43

WIN/scm

Ref: 243/EC(L)

28 June 1945

SUBJECT: Money of Italian Prisoners of War in North Africa

TO : Economic Section
attn: Finance Sub-Commission

1. Enclosed is copy of 20 June letter from the Office of the French Representative to Allied Commission requesting information regarding money of Italian prisoners of war in North Africa.

2. Kindly advise as soon as possible any information which you might have, which could be used as basis of reply to French Representative.

Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

243

THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO HIS HOLINESS THE POPE
2, via Boncompagni, Rome.

2

June 12, 1945.

Dear Captain Arnoldy:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of Note No. 00625478 dated June 7, 1945 which has been received from the Holy See, stating that the Secretariat of State of His Holiness is desirous of obtaining a list of Italian soldiers taken prisoner by the Allied Forces during the hostilities preceding the end of the war in Italy, accompanied, if possible, by the addresses of their respective families.

Your courtesy in taking this matter up with the appropriate Allied authorities and letting me know the nature of the reply which may be made to the Holy See will be much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Harold H. Tittmann

Harold H. Tittmann
Assistant to the Hon. Myron C. Taylor

Enclosure:
Copy of Note.

Captain A. B. Arnoldy,
Liaison Division,
Headquarters Allied Commission,
Rome.

13 June
12

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COPY

SECRETARIAT OF STATE

of His Holiness.

No. 00625478

Dal Vaticano, June 7, 1945.

In recent days numerous requests for news of Italian soldiers taken prisoners by the Allied Forces during the hostilities preceding the end of the war in Italy have reached the Holy See.

The Secretariat of State of His Holiness would be most grateful to His Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Holy See if the latter would use its good offices with the competent Allied Authorities in order to obtain and forward to this Secretariat of State the list of such prisoners, accompanied if possible, with the addresses of their respective families, who are most anxious to be informed of the fate of their dear ones.

According to certain indirect sources of information it is believed that many of these prisoners are in the concentration camps near Aversa and Pisa. X

In conveying the expression of its gratitude for anything

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In conveying the expression of its gratitude for anything that it will be possible to do in this matter, the Secretariat of State of His Holiness avails itself ⁵⁸²¹ ~~3821~~ this occasion to renew to His Britannic Majesty's Legation to the Holy See its sentiments of esteem and distinguished consideration.

His Britannic Majesty's Legation
to the Holy See

R O M E

15 June
11

DI LIGATE

785016
b/365/344

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

The Italian General Staff have acquainted the Ministry for Foreign Affairs with the Allied Military Authorities' intention of returning to North Africa a considerable number of officers - about 300/1000 - who are in excess of the number required under the new reorganisation scheme of the Italian labour-battalions operating with the 7th Army in France.

The High-Commissioner for the Prisoners of War has already pointed out to the Allied Commission the very unfavourable impression which would be inevitably produced by their transfer to Africa. It must not be forgotten, in fact, that the aforesaid officers have been collaborating for some time with the Allied Armies and the work done by them could appear to entitle them to some form of practical recognition. These officers' return to North Africa, doing them again to the deadly life of a concentration camp, implies for them a bitter humiliation the moral effects of which cannot be sufficiently overemphasized.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs trusts that the Allied authorities will duly weigh these considerations and examine the possibility of repatriating the officers to Italy.

Such a solution, as the High Commissioner for the Prisoners of War has already pointed out, could easily be envisaged together with the general question of the release of prisoners of war, inasmuch as the greater part of the officers embodied in the labour-battalions are, on grounds of age or health, included in the general categories fixed for the repatriation of Italian P.O.W.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be very grateful for the steps that the Allied Commission will see fit to make in the matter. 0

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The Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be very grateful for the steps that the Allied Commission will see fit to take in the matter.

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Rome, March 27th, 1945



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