Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

10000/120/37

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

0000/120/37 AQ/6/1 - Discipline Incidents - 2nd Cover
Openned March 23, 1944 - Closed July 29, 1944

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

MMIA AQ
FILE REF 450 6/1
Date Recd 31 1 44

Ee/

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO
Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 3898/c P.M.107, li 29 luglio 1944.

OGGETTO: Documenti di morte del soldato CARMINATI Antonio di Vincenzo.

Documents of death/Soldier CARMINATI ANTONIO DI VINCENZO

All'ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C.(MMIA)
Palazzo delle Corporazioni - ROMA

e, per conoscenza:
All'UFFICIO ALBO D'ORO E ASSISTENZA
(Rif. f.6812/I.A. del 24.7.44)

Con lettera AQ/6/1 in data 2 luglio 1944, codesta Sottocommissione ha comunicato la morte del sold.

CARMINATI Antonio
2^ Cp. I Btg. 522 Regg. Fanteria

Si sarà grati a codesta Sottocommissione se vorrà interessare il Comando competente, a trasmettere, se possibile, l'atto di morte ed il processo verbale di constatazione di morte e identificazione della salma del militare in questione.- Sig Holte 234

IL COLONNELLO ADDETTO
(M. Ravagli)

4906

with Ltr. AQ/6/1-[illegible]/44-
MMIA. wanted [illegible] of the death of
sold. CARMINATI ANTONIO - 2nd Coy
1st Bn. 522nd Inf. Regt.
would be grateful if same would
transmit, where possible, certificate
certificate of death and identification
[illegible] of said soldier.

DF 11/1/46

23 X

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

CONFIDENTIAL

Subject :- Disc line - Italian Army Personnel.

M.I.A
FILE REF 6 1
Date Rec'd

H.Q., A.A.I.,
C.M.F.
AAI/5063/8/A(PS).

29 Jul. 44.

Army Sub Commission,
Allied Control Commission.

Ref your signal A/Q 1672 of 7 Jul.44.

1. A report on the incident which occurred at CHIETI on 2 Jul.44 has now been received from HQ No.2 District. It is considered that the action taken by the Italian Military Authorities is extremely unsatisfactory.

2. As the matter closely affects Italian discipline you are requested to inform the responsible Italian Military Authorities that the C-in-C is not satisfied, and that he requires further particulars of the action taken to discover the offenders. An assurance is also required that adequate steps have been taken to prevent the recurrence of any such incidents.

Send Comdt 1/Sr Marshal for info See 252

4305

Major-General,
Chief Administrative Officer.

CMP/emb

Copy to:- HQ No.2 District (ref 30/A of 24 Jul.44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

248.

COPY TRANSLATION

From: S.M.R.E.
To: M.M.I.A. Ref. 363/138/Ris 29 July 44

Subject: Discipline - Incidents. 245.

As soon as leter AQ/6/1 was received, I took the following measures.

1. I have telegraphed to all depending HQs to prohibit all soldiers to carry any type of arms when not on duty.

2. I have ordered CAMPANIA militaryHQs to ascertain who is responsible and to provide as fit and report action to me.

3. I have sent Gen. Mattioti on the spot with orders to find out the facts, to control, provide and to report to me as soon as possible as to what happened.

4. I gave strict orders which are now being followed so that what happened will not occur in the future.

I will communicate later the measures which have been taken.

Chief of Staff
(sgd) P.BERARDI

4304

RISERVATA

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

Ufficio SEGRETERIA E PERSONALE

M.M. A.	AQR
FILE REF	1
Date Recd	30/7/44

P.M.151, lì 29 luglio 1944

N. 363/138/Ris. prot.

Allegati

Risposta al foglio N.

del

OGGETTO: disciplina - incidenti.-
(Discipline.)

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C.

R O M A

Appena ricevuto il foglio n° AQ/6/1 in data 26 c.m. di codesta Sottocommissione, ho preso i seguenti provvedimenti: 4903

1°)- ho confermato telegraficamente a tutti i comandi dipendenti la proibizione di portare armi di qualsiasi tipo quando i militari sono fuori servizio;

2°)- ho ordinato telefonicamente al comandante militare della Campania di vedere quali sono i responsabili e di prendere i provvedimenti del caso, a carico loro e darmene assicurazione;

3°)- ho inviato sul posto il generale MATTIOLI di questo S.M. con l'ordine di appurare i fatti, controllare, provvedere e riferirmi al più presto su ciò che é stato fatto;

4°)- ho fatto compilare disposizioni tassative (in corso di diramazione) affinché i fatti lamentati non abbiano a verificarsi in avvenire.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C.

R O M A

Appena ricevuto il foglio n° AQ/6/1 in data 26 c.m. di codesta Sottocommissione, ho preso i seguenti provvedimenti: 4903

1°)- ho confermato telegraficamente a tutti i comandi dipendenti la proibizione di portare armi di qualsiasi tipo quando i militari sono fuori servizio;

2°)- ho ordinato telefonicamente al comandante militare della Campania di vedere quali sono i responsabili e di prendere i provvedimenti del caso, a carico loro e darmene assicurazione;

3°)- ho inviato sul posto il generale MATTIOLI di questo S.M. con l'ordine di appurare i fatti, controllare, provvedere e riferirmi al più presto su ciò che é stato fatto;

4°)- ho fatto compilare disposizioni tassative (in corso di diramazione) affinché i fatti lamentati non abbiano a verificarsi in avvenire.

Mi riservo di far conoscere i provvedimenti che é stato necessario di prendere.-

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
(P. Berardi)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

M.M.I.A. A@
FILE REF 6/1
Date Recd 29/7/44

247

HEADQUARTERS
REGION III, ALLIED CONTRL COMMISSION
APO 394, U.S. ARMY

24 July 1944.

PS/15.1

SUBJECT : Incident between American Negro and Italian soldiers.

TO : Adv. HQ., ACC, Public Safety Sub-Commission.

1. I enclose herewith translation of letter No.0299255 from the Questore of Naples dated 21st July, 1944, relative to an assault by a drunken negro soldier on an Italian soldier and subsequent rather alarming developments.

2. H.Q. P.B.S. has been informed.

3. For your information and that of Army Sub-Commission please. Perhaps you would be good enough to pass this letter and enclosure to the latter.

C.T. FRANCIS
Lt. Col. G.L.
Regional Public Safety Officer.

ACC/14030/3/PS

1st IND.

Tel : 489081
Ext : 502

4302

From : Public Safety Sub-Commission.

28 July 1944.

To : Army Sub-Commission.

Forwarded as suggested at para. 3.

29/7/44

for PAUL G. KIRK
Colonel Inf.
Chief Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

G.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

TRANSLATION

R. QUESTURA DI NAPOLI

Letter File No.0299255 Naples, 21 July 1944.

SUBJECT : Incident between a negro soldier and an Italian.

TO : Regional Public Safety Officer, Region 3, Naples.

On the 17 July 1944 at about 1945 in Via Giovanni Teppia, near the exhospital S.Mario Loreto, a drunken negro soldier, after having insulted an Italian soldier started to hit him. A fight started and ended when another Italian soldier intervened firing a shot in the air.

The negro went to his billet in Via Nicola Capasso leaving soon after, followed by several negro soldiers armed with rifles and tommy guns. As they reached the barracks of the 1 Battaglions Portuale they fired against the windows of the said barracks, in via Borgo Loreto 132, not far from where the incident took place.

Italian soldiers fired from the windows and this stopped when about 200 Allied Police arrived, they surrounded the barracks and fired against the aggressors.

The shooting ended at about 21.45 hours. Italian soldier CIRILLINO Girolamo was seriously injured. Also some negroes it seems were injured.

IL QUESTORE
M. Broccoli.

4301

G.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

2456

Subject: Discipline.

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ MMIA
R O M E.
AC/6/1

28 Jul 44

MINISTRY OF WAR

1. A report on the wrongful use of a Government veh 6 x 6 2½ ton No.329767 (19-01) PBS by pte. ANCILLOTTI GIOVANNI is forwarded herewith for necessary disciplinary action by the Italian authorities concerned.

2. The action taken will be shown by indorsement on the report, which will then be returned to this HQ.

F.J.HOARES Lt.Col.
for Major General.
Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
(MMIA).

JB/hh

4300

See Folio 382/1 H.Q. Forces

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

FILE (24)

SUBJECT: Discipline - Incidents.

SECRET

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ MMIA

ROME.

AG/6/1.
July 44.

H.E. Gen. BERARDI.

1. I send you, by command of the C.-in-C., Allied Armies in ITALY a statement of most regrettable and serious occurrences in which Italian soldiers were concerned.

2. The attitude and actions of your soldiers in these events are a definite hindrance to the Allied war effort and the exact opposite of cooperation.

3. It is quite clear that these occurrences could not have happened if: -

(a) your soldiers had been under proper control.

(b) their attitude had been a correct one.

4. Our orders that no Italian personnel shall carry arms of any description when off duty has not been obeyed. Armed patrols are a violation of the spirit of our orders under such circumstances and a direct incentive to violence.

5. (a) In any event, these and similar occurrences must cease forthwith.

(b) Commanders of units whose personnel behave in this disorderly fashion will be held personally responsible in future for the lack of discipline of their troops.

(c) You will take the strongest and severest steps forthwith to bring the offenders to book in this case and to prevent any repetition of this disgraceful behaviour.

Please let me know in due course what action has been taken.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

4039

(a) your soldiers had been under proper control.

(b) their attitude had been a correct one.

4. Our orders that no Italian personnel shall carry arms of any description when off duty has not been obeyed. Armed patrols are a violation of the spirit of our orders under such circumstances and a direct incentive to violence.

5. (a) In any event, these and similar occurrences must cease forthwith.

(b) Commanders of units whose personnel behave in this disorderly fashion will be held personally responsible in future for the lack of discipline of their troops.

(c) You will take the strongest and severest steps forthwith to bring the offenders to book in this case and to prevent any repetition of this disgraceful behaviour.
Please let me know in due course what action has been taken.

6. Similar representations are being made to the French authorities.

2264 LB

Major General.
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

tvs.LB.

copy to: H.Q. AAI (ref C. 820 of 23 July)

D

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

2417

U.S. SECRET
Equals British SECRET

AD 24/7 24H

1st Ind. LLL/tjg

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY Adv, APO 777, U.S. Army, 23 July 1944.

TO: Army Sub-Commission (MMIA), Headquarters ACC, Rome.

1. It is desired that the matters referred to in the attached correspondence be brought to the attention of Italian Military Authorities and that representation be made to them that they are to take immediate and effective action to prevent recurrence of the incidents referred to, not only in the vicinity of Cardito, but elsewhere in Italy.

2. Separate correspondence is being dispatched to Seventh Army to insure similar action being taken by French Military Authorities.

By command of General ALEXANDER:

Rec'd
JUL 24 1944
0830 hrs.

L. L. Lemnitzer

L. L. LEMNITZER,
Major General, U.S. Army,
Deputy Chief of Staff.

2 incls:
n/c

Gen Council
Hammond 24/7

4079

U.S. SECRET
Equals British SECRET

G-820

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

1613

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 782

16 July 1944

Subject: Acts of Violence by Troops.

To : The Commanding General, U.S. Contingent, AAI.

1. There are inclosed a copy of report made by the Provost Marshal, PBS., and one submitted by the Commanding General, French Base 901, dealing with acts of violence on the part of Italian troops which, according to records at this headquarters are assigned to units over which PBS has no jurisdiction. The 71st Bersaglieri Battalion appears to be part of the Polish Corps, 8th Army. More serious consequences were avoided only through the initiative and prompt action of an American M.P. unit, which not only quelled the disturbance, but removed the Bersaglieri Battalion to another bivouac.

2. The circumstances surrounding the difficulties indicate that the trouble was due, in part at least, to a lack of control over the units by the officers thereof. The increasing frequency with which "incidents" have been occurring leads this headquarters to believe that they are probably the result of a deep-seated feeling of animosity which is likely to become more serious unless immediate steps are taken to curb and control it.

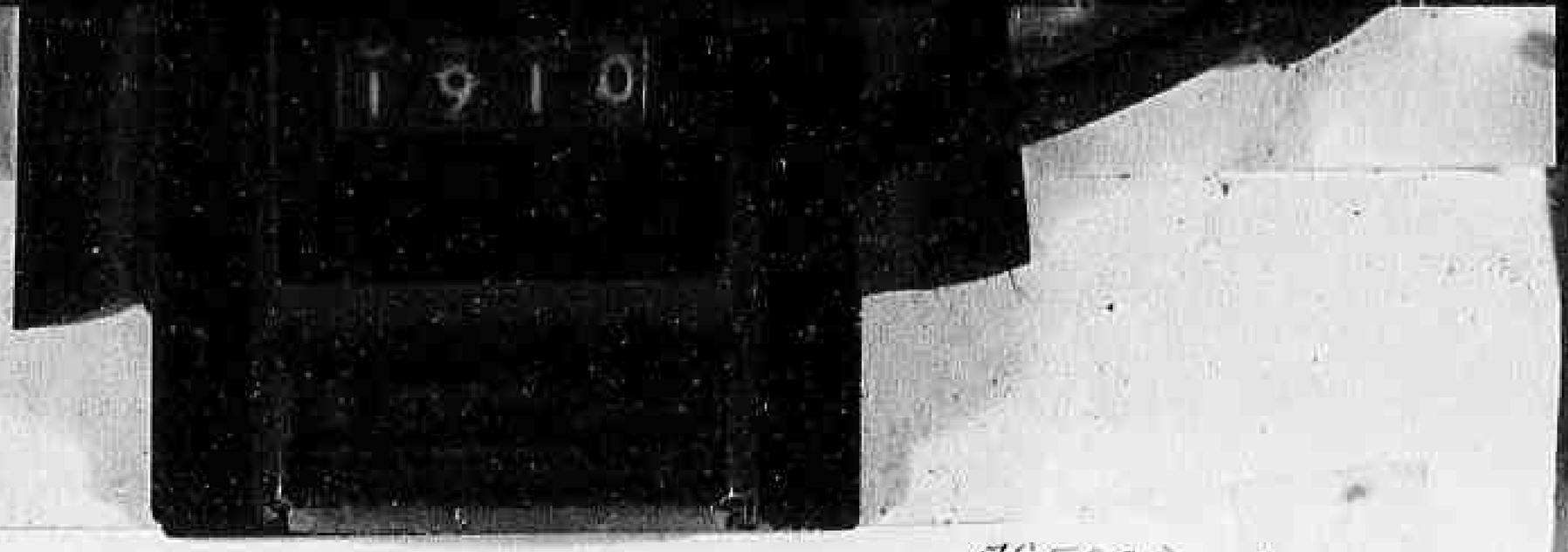
3. It is urgently requested that this matter be brought to the attention of the responsible parties, impressing upon them the necessity for exercising disciplinary control over the units so as to preclude the outbreak of possibly even more serious affairs. 4378

4. The actions of the 304th Artillery Group are being reported to the Commanding General, 2nd District.

Rec'd
JUL 19 1944
930 hrs

Francis H. Oxx
FRANCIS H. OXX
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Commanding

2 Incls:
1 Report, PM, PBS
2 Report, CG. Base 901



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

U. S. SECRET
Equals BRITISH SECRET

9 July 1944

Misconduct of French and Italian Troops.

1. 9 July P.M. C/S

1. On 6 July 1944 at about 1630 hours, 1st Lt. Rivirare, Liaison Officer, French Replacement Depot, notified the Commanding Officer, 135th Military Police Company, at Aversa that Italian soldiers from bivouac areas near Cardito, Italy, had entered the town of Cardito, carrying concealed knives and guns. He stated numerous fights had occurred in which three (3) French soldiers and two (2) Italian soldiers had been bayonated.

a. Joint action between the American Military Police, French and Italian Military Authorities resulted in the removal of the Italian 71st Bn. Bers. (motorcycle) commanded by Captain Leondi to a point five miles away, and the town of Cardito being temporarily placed "Off Limits" to Italian troops for a period of three (3) days.

2. On 8 July 1944 the Commanding Officer, 68th Military Police Company, Frattamaggiore, reported that between the hours of 1700 and 2100 numerous Italian and French Armed Patrols were walking the street of the towns in the Frattamaggiore area and on two occasions the patrols met and except for the intervention of American Military Police a fight would have resulted. The civilian population was excited and in one incident reserve Italian patrols had been called and when they arrived the crowd cheered.

4897

3. At the present time there are 3400 French CIAT (Algerian) and CIAM (Moroccan) soldiers at the French Replacement Depot, Cardito, bivouaced nearby are 1200 Italian soldiers assigned to the 204th Group Artillery, 2nd District, under a Major Bruni, 5 miles away are 790 Italian soldiers of the 71st Bn. Bers., Polish Corps, 8th Army, (motorcycle), commanded by Captain Leondi - this unit was involved in the incident of 6 July.

4. Italian units were authorized to bivouac in the area by Major Cromer, British 57th Area.

5. Recommend that necessary action be taken to cause commanding officers of above mentioned units to control their men and cause to cease such actions as have been reported.

6. The American Military Police should not become involved in brawls between the French and Italian troops.

/s/ M.L.J.
JOMEB/P.M.

U. S. SECRET
Equals BRITISH SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

FRENCH MILITARY BASE 901
No: 3021/MB

7 July 1944

General Gross
Commanding General French Military Base 901

To:

General Wilson
Commanding General Peninsular Base Section.

SUBJECT: Incidents between French and Italian Soldiers.

1. On Tuesday 4 July 1944 at about 1930 hours, some 250 men of the 71st Bersalgieri Battalion, bivouaced in the immediate vicinity of Cardito, went into the town in groups of 10 to 15, causing a disturbance among the civilian population. They were ordered back to their bivouacs by Italian officers. The Battalion Commander presented himself to the Adjutant to the Colonel in charge of the French zone and promised that none of his men would be permitted in the French area.

2. On Wednesday, 5 July 1944, at the request of the Commanding Officer of the Italian 304th Artillery Group, bivouaced near Cardito also, it was decided to give about 15 passes to soldiers of this group to make some purchases in the town, and a patrol would accompany them and intervene if necessary, to see that the soldiers returned at 1400 hours. No patrol appeared and only 2 passes were sent for signature.

3. The same day, at about 1945 hours, Cardito was invaded by soldiers of the 71st Bersaglieri Battalion and the 304th Artillery Group (some of whom were armed) and, encouraged by some of the civilian population, acted very disorderly. A French officer went immediately to the Italian area to ask for the intervention of Italian officers.

4896

4. In the meantime disorder spread to other points, provoked by Italian soldiers (attached copy of the statement made by TUCILLO, Italian - enclosure No. 1). Three French soldiers were stabbed, one in the abdomen with a bayonet, and is in a serious condition, and two with sharp instruments, probably daggers. One Italian soldier was injured in the mouth, undoubtedly by a fist.

5. None of the French soldiers present were armed; one sub machine gun with full magazine, and a rifle which were taken from Italian soldiers, and were turned over to their officers; one Italian soldier was seen to have a hand grenade.

6. The Italian soldiers were brought back to their bivouac by French patrols and Italian officers.

7. Following these incidents, the following measures were taken by the Local French Commander in agreement with the commanders of the Italian units:

a. All camps were restricted.

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b. The towns of Cardito, Carditello and Crispano were placed off limits to Italian troops.

c. The latter will establish 2 guard posts: One at the exit from Cardito towards Naples, the other at the exit from Cardito towards Frattamaggiore, with instructions to keep out Italian soldiers.

d. French troops are restricted to their encampments.

e. French patrols are doubled and made up as far as possible only of French.

f. One Section of each Company will be kept on alert.

2. To avoid further incidents of this nature I have the honor to ask:

a. Removal of all Italian units away from zones assigned to French troops.

b. That action be taken against Italian Commanding Officers responsible for infractions against the agreements between Allied authorities and them.

3. In addition, it might be opportune, to my mind, to dismiss the Mayor of Cardito who has on many occasions, shown inertia and possibly ill-will.

/s/ Orsini

4895

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AG 67.1 2nd
417

SUBJECT: Court of Inquiry - Loss of WD Vehicles.
1001 (Italian) MT Coy.

HQ No.2 District CMP
25/1/1.A
20 July 1944

Army Sub Commission ACC
Main Hq (MFLA).

210

1. Ref your AG/6/1 dated 30 May 44.

2. No report has been received as to the disciplinary action taken against Dvr SELLARO Vito di Pietro, please ~~ordain~~ eseguito.

for Major-General
Cond No.2 District

4894

Copy to: AAI (your AAI/5023/A(PS) of 17 July 44 refers)

See folio 305 3rd Packet

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

To Army Sub Commission
Main HQ. MMIA;
A.C.C.
Copy to 60 Sub Area.

MMIA.IO.
c/o 60 Sub Area
20.7.44.

Subject :- Incident at CHIETI.

1. Reference my previous report on incident of 2 July when an Indian captain with an Italian girl were attacked by a large group of Italian troops with knives and were rescued from a church.
2. In response to my request for an immediate investigation, I received the reply that one had been carried out with negative result.
3. On proceeding to Chieti with DAPM, 60 Sub Area, I found that the C/do 2 Brigata had instructed all units to interrogate all troops who had been out armed that evening. Nothing resulted.
4. I discovered that during the course of this enquiry, no contact had been made with the CMP, who were the chief witnesses of the incident. On visiting the church, I was informed by the priest RITELLI Camillo that no Italian officer had contacted him. There was no evidence that civilian spectators had been interrogated. The carabinieri, whose Comando Gruppo was only a hundred yards away and who could have turned out in large numbers, apparently made no effort to stop the attack. 4893
5. I am of the opinion that the shortcomings of the enquiry were due to the ignorance of investigation procedure on the part of the officers carrying out// the enquiry. The above points were explained by me to the Delegazione 'A', as the C.I.L. units involved in the affair had departed a few days after the outrage.
6. Measures taken to prevent a repetition included evening passes for 20 men only per Bn and no carrying of arms in the town except when on duty.

J.F.Bourne Capt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Folio 241

Subject:- Offence of violation of Curfew

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ MMLA
ROME.
AC/G/1
1 Jul 44.

HQ E.A.A.C.

Ref attached Report of Arrest.

1. This has been investigated by this HQ and appropriate punishment both of the officer responsible and the driver has been ordered.

2. It is requested that the driver RADUCCIO and car may be returned to the Ministry of War. This letter is brought by MR. MESSORI E. as representative of the Ministry of War.

F.J.Norael
Lt Col

Major General
Army Sub Comm. A.C.C.
Tel No. 478000

FJN/jrp.

2487

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:-Incident between American and Italian Military.

240/1

L.O.,Army Sub-Commission,(ACC).,
Military H.Q., (CALABRIA).,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO.

15-July 44.

Ref:-G.14/115

AG 6/1

To:-Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.).,
R O M E.

22/7

At 20.30 hrs., on 8 July 44 at CAMIGLIATELLO BIANCHI, near COSENZA, an American corporal of the 800 Engineer Forestry Coy. started an argument with a group of Italian soldiers from the IIOI Autieri Coy. When an Italian Second Lieutenant intervened to pacify them, he was struck on the nose and neck by the American corporal, supported by two American soldiers. The American corporal received a slight abrasion to the left brow from a stone thrown by an Italian soldier, whereupon he fired two pistol shots to which another Italian officer replied with another two pistol shots. (All of these shots went wide).

4851

General CORONATI has ordered a strict enquiry into the conduct of the Italian personnel concerned and I have asked for a report on the incident from the O.C. 800 Engineer Forestry Coy., and a copy of both reports will be forwarded to you.

Q 247

Capt.,
M.M.I.A. L.O.,XXXI Italian Corps.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI BARI
Compagnia di Trani

nº 2722 di prot. Trani, lì 15 maggio 1944.

OGGETTO: Ferimento di nº 4 bambini in Ruvo di Puglia.

AL COMANDO ARMA CARABINIERI REALI ITALIA LIBERATA
AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE DEI CC.RR.DI
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC.RR.DI
ALLA REGIA PREFETTURA DI
ALLA REGIA QUESTURA DI
AL COMANDO TRUPPE ALLEATE=POLITICAL LIAISON OFFICER

AQ/L/1 177

P.M.151 A
B A R I
B A R I
B A R I
B A R I
B A R I

Ore 10,40 del 12 corrente in Piazza Bovio abitato Ruvo Puglia (Bari) militare Americano senza motivo alcuno sparava colpo propria pistola sul selciato punto frantumi proiettile ferivano: Abbattista Lucrezia anni 10 - Scardigno Isabella anni 12 - Silenzi Luigi anni 16 - Cantatore Luigi anni 14, che colà trovavansi occasionalmente riportando ciascuno lesioni guaribili giorni 10.

Tenente Colonnello aviazione Polinea Tommaso presente interveniva richiedendo nome al militare sparatore che dopo affermato essere soldato americano Harold Withers-928 di stanza in agro Spinazzola si allontanava unitamente altri due soldati stesso esercito.

IL TENENTE COMANDANTE INT.
(Carlo Ricco)

4850

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

239

Subject: Discipline Incidents.

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ (MMIA)
LECCE (LECCE)
AG/6/1.

11 Jul 44.

To: MMIA LO 60 SUB AREA

236

Reference your letter dated 5 Jul 44. The decision as to what cases are to be referred for consideration with a view for trial by the Military Court is one for the Allied Comd of the Area or Sub Area etc. under the direction of the appropriate District etc. Comd.

Lt. Col.
A.A. & Q.M.G.

4889

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

238

SUBJECT:- Incidents involving Allied Soldiers and Carabinieri

HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY
AAI/5063/6/A(PS)
6 July 44

Army Sub Commission ACC
Main HQ (MMIA)

204

Reference AQ/6/1 of 26 May 44.

1. In continuation of this HQ letter, no as above, dated 1 Jun 44, the incidents in question have now been investigated.

2. (a) British CMP entry CCRR Barracks, NAPLES

This matter had already been taken up by HQ 2 District. Port Police incorrectly entered the Barracks but no threats were made. An apology was made and steps have been taken to ensure closer co-operation.

(b) Firing on Carabinieri at PORTICI

US Colonial Tps were concerned. Seven individuals are under arrest pending trial by Court Martial on charges of riot, murder and assault under the 89th, 92nd and 93rd Articles of War.

4888

(c) Action of British Officer at BARI

201

This matter was apparently taken up direct by your HQ with HQ 2 District, in your letter AQ/6/1 of 24 May 44, and a reply has been forwarded to you. Whilst the action of the British Officer was, to some degree, incorrect the Carabinieri were also at fault.

It will be appreciated if, in the event of any future cases, the fullest information can be forwarded to this HQ forthwith, to allow of immediate action.

C.H. Lofoe. Brig

Major-General,
Chief Administration Officer.

CMP/IM

ARMY FORM C 2 36 (Large) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No.

Ur	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

AQ6/1

Office Date Stamp

FROM (A) MMTA — Originator — Date-Time of Origin. 07 1300 B

For Action.

FILPOT

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions. GR

Originator's No. AQ 1672 (.) CONFIDENTIAL (.) for CAO (.) my liaison officer with 60 Sub Area reports as follows (.) quote (.) at CHIETI on 2 July INDIAN officer (captain) with ITALIAN girl was attacked by about fifty ITALIAN soldiers with knives and rescued with considerable difficulty by CMP (.) details being obtained by CMP (.) also ITALIAN paratps in VASTO about fortnight ago made threats that ITALIAN girls seen with ALLIED tps would be disfigured (.) CMP dispersed unruly disturbances after curfew (.) unquote(.) in view enquiries being made by CMP I am NOT taking action with ITALIAN Command until you instruct me

4887

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AQ Originator's No. 1672 (.) CONFIDENTIAL (.) for GAO (.) my liaison officer with 60 Sub Area reports as follows (.) quote (.) at CHIETI on 2 July INDIAN officer (captain) with ITALIAN girl was attacked by about fifty ITALIAN soldiers with knives and rescued with considerable difficulty by CMP (.) details being obtained by CMP (.) also ITALIAN puratps in VASTO about fortnight ago made threats that ITALIAN girls seen with ALLIED tps would be disfigured (.) CMP dispersed unruly disturbances after curfew (.) unquote(.) in view enquiries being made by CMP I am NOT taking action with ITALIAN Command until you instruct me

4887

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except ..... } W.RELESS. Signed.	If liable to be intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER. Signed. A Brigadier may be.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.	Time	System	Op.
			THI or TOR		
			Time Cleared		

P.S.S. «A» A.F.C. 2136 - 1-44.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AG/6/1
1/7

236

To Army Sub Commission
Main H.Q. M.M.I.A?

M.M.I.A. L.O.
60 Sub Area.
5.7.44.

Subject. Criminal offences by Italian Military when Allied troops concerned.

1. Attached S.I.B. report of grievous bodily harm to British Airman/ inflicted by Italian soldier at VASTO on 29 June, 1944.
2. In such cases, a copy of the report is forwarded to me by the Milita-ry Police.
3. Would you please provide me with a general directive as to what cases are to be left to the Italian Military authorities and what cases are to be handed over to the ACC Military Court.

4806

J.F. Bourne Capt.
Liaison Officer.

7/7

Lowsley
11/7

See folio 239

RESTRICTED.

Reference No.
SIB63/V/A/44/57.

Vasto Detachment, 63 Section,
Special Investigation Branch,
The Corps of Military Police,
Central Mediterranean Force.

3rd July, 1944.

Subject :-

Grievous Bodily Harm to British Airman.

Person in Custody.

Pte. IAMUNDO ANTONIO,
541st Infantry Regiment,
Italian Army.

To :-

The Officer i/c Detachment,
63 Section,
Special Investigation Branch,
The Corps of Military Police.

Read & Submitted.
R Still
R.STILL. Lt.
For DAPM Section.

Sir,

On the 29th June, 1944 about 2300 hours a telephone message was received at this office from Sgt. Glanville, DADOS Staff, 60 Sub Area, to the effect that a British airman had been stabbed by an Italian soldier at Vasto Marina.

In consequence of this information I immediately proceeded to Vasto Marina accompanied by Sgt. Priestley of this Section where, in Via Spalato, I saw No. D/39900 Pte. Gricks R.T. of U Coy., 30th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regt., who informed me that the injured person was No.963487 Cpl. BISHOP, 110 M.U. R.A.F. and that he had been conveyed to the 50th General Hospital.

4005

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789030

63 Section,
Special Investigation Branch,
The Corps of Military Police.

Read & Submitted.
R. Still
R.STILL. Lt.
For DAPM Section.

Distribution :-

DAPM 60 Sub Area
DAPM RAF S.Severo
DAPM 63 S.I.B.
M.M.I.A. Vasto.

Sir,

On the 29th June, 1944 about 2300 hours a telephone message was received at this office from Sgt. Glanville, DADOS Staff, 60 Sub Area, to the effect that a British airman had been stabbed by an Italian soldier at Vasto Marina.

In consequence of this information I immediately proceeded to Vasto Marina accompanied by Sgt. Priestley of this Section where, in Via Spalato, I saw No. D/39900 Pte. Gricks R.T. of U Coy., 30th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regt., who informed me that the injured person was No.963487 Cpl. BISHOP, 110 M.U. R.A.F. and that he had been conveyed to the 50th General Hospital.

Pte. Gricks further stated that Cpl. Bishop had been in his company that evening in a nearby private house, drinking wine together with four Italian soldiers. These Italians had left the house some thirty minutes before the Britishers and when the latter left the house at about 21.50 hours they again met the Italians who were singing and shouting in the road outside. A scuffle ensued and Bishop was heard to shout that he had been stabbed.

Detained at the scene was a Corporal Major AVENSON VINCENZO of the 54st Infantry Regiment, Italian Army and through the medium of an interpreter I questioned him as to what had taken place. He stated that he had been in the company of three other Italian soldiers when a fight had occurred. He did not know who the other Italians were or to what Unit they belonged.

I then accompanied him to his Unit lines where when confronted with the NCO on duty he gave the names of three members of his Unit, Sgt-Maj.SANTINI TERSILO, LAMUNDO ANTONIO and GERACE ANTONIO, as the three men in whose company he had been that evening.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799030

These three men were questioned by the NCO on duty and admitted that they had been in the house with the soldiers and that later they had been participants in a fight with a group of British soldiers. They denied having seen or used a knife during the incident.

I requested of the Duty NCO that the four soldiers be confined to Camp for further interrogation on the following morning.

On the 30th June, 1944, with the assistance of the Maresciallo of the Carabinieri at Vasto the four men were interrogated a second time and IAMUNDO finally confessed that he had been the person who had stabbed Cpl. Bishop with a knife on the previous evening. It will be seen from his statement that he lost the knife at the scene of the offence and a thorough search of the area has failed to recover this instrument.

IAMUNDO was arrested by the Maresciallo of the Carabinieri and is now awaiting trial. Cpl. Bishop is still detained in the 50th General Hospital suffering from a ruptured liver and this office is awaiting the Medical Officer's report.

Copies of statements taken by members of this Section and translations of those obtained by the Carabinieri are attached to this report.

4884

R. Jenkins.

Vasto.
RJ/WP.

R. JENKINS. Sgt. 63 Section.
Special Investigation Branch.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

Copies of statements taken by members of this Section and translations of those obtained by the Carabinieri are attached to this report.

4884

R. Jenkins.

Vasto.
RJ/WP.

R. JENKINS. Sgt. 63 Section.
Special Investigation Branch.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795030

U. Company H.Q.
30th Royal Norfolk Regt.
Vasto.

Statement of :-

No. D/39900 Pte CRICKS R.T.
U. Coy. 30th R. Norfolk Regt.

Who states :-

At about 21,00 hrs on the night of the 29th June 1944, in company with Pte Cooper and my son LAC Cricks we proceeded to an Italians house near D.A.D.O.S. Dump.

On entering this house I saw there was present Cpl. Bishop, A.C.I. Watt and 4 Italian soldiers. We all consumed some wine and joined in together in singing some songs.

About half an hour after my arrival the 4 Italian soldiers departed. At about 21,50 hrs the remainder of us left this house. I proceeded out to the roadway first with my son and Pte Cooper. At this time the same 4 Italian soldiers met us and they were singing and shouting about Mussolini. We told them to keep quiet and get along back to their camp.

We then walked away from them at a distance of about six yards when I heard a scuffle. I stopped, looked around when I heard Cpl. Bishop shout :- " They have got me, I am stabbed ".

I ran back and saw Cpl. Bishop lying on the ground. He get up and I thought he was joking. I undone his trousers and found blood flowing from his body. I informed his mate Watt who immediately went to lay Cpl. Bishop on the bank at the side of the road.

What led up to this trouble I cannot say as inside the house everyone was friendly with one another.

4883

The spot where I found Cpl. Bishop was the same spot where we met these 4 Italian soldiers who came up to us singing and shouting, and they were the same four who had been previously been drinking with us.

I have read over the above statement and it is correct and true.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789030

At this time the same 4 Italian soldiers [illegible] and shouting about Mussolini. We told them to keep quiet and get along back to their camp.

We then walked away from them at a distance of about six yards when I heard a scuffle. I stopped, looked around when I heard Cpl. Bishop shout :- " They have got me, I am stabbed ".

I ran back and saw Cpl. Bishop lying on the ground. He get up and I thought he was joking. I undone his trousers and found blood flowing from his body. I informed his mate Watt who immediately went to lay Cpl. Bishop on the bank at the side of the road.

What led up to this trouble I cannot say as inside the house everyone was friendly with one another.

4883

The spot where I found Cpl. Bishop was the same spot where we met these 4 Italian soldiers who came up to us singing and shouting, and they were the same four who had been previously been drinking with us.

I have read over the above statement and it is correct and true.

(Signed) R.J. GRICKS.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Sgt. R. Jenkins, 63 Section, S.I.B. on the 30th June, 1944.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799020

50 General Hospital Vasto.
1st July 1944.

Statement of :-

No. 963487 Cpl. E.T.G. Bishop, 110 M.U. 'B'
Detachment R.A.F.

Who states :-

At about 2200hrs on Thursday 29th June, 1944, I went to an Italian farm house adjacent to "Movements" just off the beach, were I met one or two of my friends. One of these I know as Griggs of the Norfolk Regiment. We have all been in a habit of going to this house for a drink, and the man and woman there knew us well. Upon our arrival at the house, I saw 4 Italian soldiers, sat drinking wine, but very little attention was paid to them and we ordered our drinks. Nothing untoward happened in the house until about 2145hrs when the woman refused to serve any more wine. Then the Italian soldiers accused her of saving it for us. She told them to go, which they did, and I noticed that one or two of them were staggering as they left. A quarter of an hour later we finished our drinks, and I went upstairs to collect my laundry which I had done there. Whilst upstairs I heard a commotion and scruffling from out on the road, so I came down to see what the trouble was. When I came on the road in front of the house I saw that two of the Italians who were in the house previous had commenced an argument with Griggs, whilst another argument was in progress with my other friends and the remaining Italian soldiers. I went to Griggs, and as I did so, one of the Italians gripped me by the throat, so I struck him in the face. Seeing this the other Italian soldier advanced on me, so I struck him as well. Immediately one of the other Italians ran over and as he was swinging his fist, I tried to strike him, but I felt a knife in my stomach. I dropped to the ground, and the English Guard also the Italian Police were called, who arrested one of the Italians. The remainder had run off.

4882

The Italian that stabbed me was dressed in a dark green uniform, and I should be able to recognise the four men again.

I have read over this statement and it is true.

(Signed) E.T.G. Bishop.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

I came down to see what the trouble was. When I came on the road in front of the house I saw that two of the Italians who were in the house previous had commenced an argument with Griggs, whilst another argument was in progress with my other friends and the remaining Italian soldiers. I went to Griggs, and as I did so, one of the Italians gripped me by the throat, so I struck him in the face. Seeing this the other Italian soldier advanced on me, so I struck him as well. Immediately one of the other Italians ran over and as he was swinging his fist, I tried to strike him, but I felt a knife in my stomach. I dropped to the ground, and the English Guard also the Italian Police were called, who arrested one of the Italians. The remainder had run off.

4882

The Italian that stabbed me was dressed in a dark green uniform, and I should be able to recognise the four men again.

I have read over this statement and it is true.

(Signed) E.T.G. Bishop.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Lieut. R. STILL., 63 Section S.I.B. on Saturday 1st July 1944.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759030

B. Det. Office,
110 M. Unit,
R.A.F.
30th June, 1944.

Statement of :-

No. 1146828 A.C.I. WATT.F.
110 Maintenance Unit
R.A.F.

Who states :-

Last night the 29th June, 1944, in company with Cpl. Bishop we left the billet at 20,30 hours. We together visited an Italian house near D.A.D.O.S. Dump. There we were given some wine to drink and later we were joined by L.A.C. Gricks and his father Pte Gricks from the Norfolk Regiment. Present also were 4 Italian soldiers and they were also drinking wine.

At about 21,30 hours these 4 Italian soldiers left the house. Later at about 10 mins. to 10 o'clock I left the house in company with Cpl. Bishop, and both the Gricks. Outside, Cpl. Bishop and myself said "cheerio" to both the Gricks and we then returned and went upstairs to another Italian house as Cpl. Bishop wished to inform the people that he was going away from the Area for a few days.

Whilst we were doing this we heard a disturbance outside, and on hearing the voice of Pte Gricks we decided to go and see what was the trouble.

When we got outside on the road way I saw both the Gricks walking away and the same 4 Italian soldiers, whom I had seen previously in the house, were following behind them. These Italians were shouting some thing about Mussolini. What it was all about I could not understand.

4881

Cpl. Bishop went up to these Italians and asked then what was the trouble. The shortest one turned round and grabbed him by the neck. Cpl. Bishop to defend himself struck out and knocked this Italian down. With this the other 3 Italians began to close in on him and Cpl. Bishop again struck out to defend himself and knocked two of these to the ground.

He was then struggling with the third Italian soldier,

wished to inform the people that he was going away from the Area for a few days.

Whilst we were doing this we heard a disturbance outside, and on hearing the voice of Pte Gricks we decided to go and see what was the trouble.

When we got outside on the road way I saw both the Gricks walking away and the same 4 Italian soldiers, whom I had seen previously in the house, were following behind them. These Italians were shouting some thing about Mussolini. What it was all about I could not understand.

4881

Cpl. Bishop went up to these Italians and asked then what was the trouble. The shortest one turned round and grabbed him by the neck. Cpl. Bishop to defend himself struck out and knocked this Italian down. With this the other 3 Italians began to close in on him and Cpl. Bishop again struck out to defend himself and knocked two of these to the ground.

He was then struggling with the third Italian soldier, when I decided to drag, one of them lying on the ground, out of it, to try and stop this disturbance. I moved away about 7 yards and just after the elder of the Gricks informed me that Cpl. Bishop had been stabbed.

I cannot say which of these Italians stopped Cpl. Bishop but I can say that these Italians in the struggle with him were the some four who were previously drinking with us in the house.

I have read over the above statement. It is correct and true.

(Signed) F. WATT.

Statement taken and signature witnessed by Sgt. Jenkins, 63 Section, S.I.B. on the 30th June, 1944.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759030

Translation.

Station of the Carabinieri
Vasto, 30th June, 1944.

Before us Maresciallo of the Carabinieri Piras Antonio, Avenoso Vincenzo is present, Corporal Major 1st Battalion, 3rd Company, 541st Infantary Regiment, who questioned, answers :-

At the moment of the struggle, which took place at Via Spalato, Vasto, about 2100 hours of yesterday, between a group of Allied soldiers, and another group of Italian soldiers. I found myself at about 30 meters from the point, where the struggle took place.

The group of the Italian soldiers, were composed of the Sergeant Major Santini, of the soldier Geraci Antonio and the soldier Iamundo Antonio.

The struggle started with punches, and I did not see any of the fighters armed with knifes; at all during the fighting, I did not notice, that an Allied soldier had been injured.

Only afterwards, when I had been arrested by the English Police, I heard of the injuries, of a Corporal of the Allied Air Force.

I saw the three Italian soldiers escaping, immediately after the struggle had started.

In the wineshop the knife was used by me to cut tomatoes and after it had been used, I closed it, and put it as usual on my belt.

After the fighting, during which, as I have already mentioned, I found myself at about 30 meters distance, and successively after I had been arrested, I noticed that the knife was gone.

I have noticed myself, several times, that the soldier Gerace Antonio has got a small pocket knife, which he usually keeps in his pocket. This knife has got a pointed blade and it was long, about 5 cm. I did not notice, that it had been used, whilst we were in the wineshop, neither did I see him using it during the fight. 4880

Also the soldier Iamundo Antonio has got a knife and the blade was superior at 10 cm., but I did not see it being used by him in the wineshop or during the fight yesterday.

Read, confirmed and signed.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795030

I heard of the injuries, of a Corporal of the Allied Air Force.

I saw the three Italian soldiers escaping, immediately after the struggle had started.

In the wineshop the knife was used by me to cut tomatoes and after it had been used, I closed it, and put it as usual on my belt.

After the fighting, during which, as I have already mentioned, I found myself at about 30 meters distance, and successively after I had been arrested, I noticed that the knife was gone.

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Also the soldier Iamundo Antonio has got a knife and the blade was superior at 10 cm., but I did not see it being used by him in the wineshop or during the fight yesterday.

Read, confirmed and signed.

Corporal Major AVENOSO VINCENZO.

I certify that the above translation from the original was made to the best of my ability.

(Signed) Samson Malter Interpreter,
Att. 63 S.I.B.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Translation.

Station of the Carabinieri.
Vasto 30th June, 1944.

Before us Maresciallo of the Carabinieri Piras Antonio; the soldier Gerace Antonio is present, belonging to the 3rd Company 1st Battalion of 541st Intantary Regiment, who questioned answers :-

I was present at the fighting, which took place yesterday at about 2100 hours in Via Spalato at Vasto, and provocated from a group of Allied soldiers, against another group of Italian soldiers.

I believe that this incident has been caused by a misunderstanding, it is a fact that we were knocked out, and I have got one on my nose falling on the ground. I got up immediately and took my beret and this of the Sergeant Major Santini, and I went away immediately.

Successively I heard, that the stabbing to the Corporal of the English Air Force had been done by the soldier Iamundo Antonio, who told me this in confidence after the fighting.

(Signed) Gerace Antonio.

I certify that the above translation is made by me from the original to the best of my ability.

(Signed) Samson Walter Interpreter,
Att. 65 Section,
Special Investigation Branch.

4879

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759020

Translation.

Station of the Carabinieri Vasto
30th June, 1944.

Before us Maresciallo Piras Antonio Sergeant Major Santini Tersilio belonging to the 1st Battalion 3rd Company 541st Infantary Regiment, is present, who questioned answers :-

About 2100 hours of the 29th June, after having been in a wine-shop at Via Spalato, Vasto, together with the Corporal Major Avenosi Vincenzo the soldier Gerace and the soldier Iamundo Antonio, I went out with the above mentioned soldiers with the intention of going back to the camp.

As soon as we left the wine-shop, we met a group of Allied soldiers, and with one of them I started a friendly conversation about Mussolini, and I used the following phrase against him :- "Mussolini non fucking good".

At this phrase one of the Allied soldiers approached me, I believe it was a corporal of the Air Force, who without saying any word, grabbed me by the chest and giving me a powerful punch and a push, that I fell on the ground, then he turned round to the soldier Gerace, and he was also hit on his nose, and he also fell to the ground.

Soon fighting started between my three friends and about ten Allied soldiers. I intervened to help my companions, and some of the Allied soldiers tried to stop the fighting and so did I. But it was useless, the fighting became more serious, I decided to go away on my own.

I did not see the injured soldier, neither did I see the stabbing.

4878

Avenoso took part in the fighting, but I did not see him being armed with a knife. I can say the same of my other two companions.

At about 2400 hours I heard, that one of the Allied soldiers, was injured, and only to day I heard from Gerace, that the wound, which the soldier has got, was caused by a stab by the soldier Iamundo.

Almost all the Allied soldiers were drunk and in particular I noticed the abnormal state of the Air Force Corporal, who in my

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799030

believe it was a corporal of the Air Force, who without saying any word, grabbed me by the chest and giving me a powerful punch and a push, that I fell on the ground, then he turned round to the soldier Gerace, and he was also hit on his nose, and he also fell to the ground.

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At about 2400 hours I heard, that one of the Allied soldiers, was injured, and only to day I heard from Gerace, that the wound, which the soldier has got, was caused by a stab by the soldier Iammrdo.

Almost all the Allied soldiers were drunk and in particular I noticed the abnormal state of the Air Force Corporal, who in my presence, when we were together in the wine-shop, drunk much wine.

Read, confirmed and signed.

Serg. Major Santini Tersilio.

I certify that the above translation from the original was made to the best of my ability.

(Signed) Samson Walter Interpreter,
Att. 63 S.I.S.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775030

Translation.

Station of the Carabinieri.
Vasto, 30th June, 1944.

Before us Maresciallo of the Carabinieri Piras Antonio, the soldier Iamundo Antonio is present, belonging to the Platoon Commander of the first Battalion 541st Infantary Regiment, who questioned, answers :-

I partecipated at the fighting, which took place yesterday at about 2100hrs between a group of ours and a group of Allied soldiers. I am not able to specify who stabbed the Corporal of the English Air Force.

I have got a knife, but when we were stationed at San Salvo I lost this knife in the month of March, and I have not got another one since.

I have heard that my companion Gerace has stated, that I stabbed a Corporal of the English Air Force, I confirm that I stabbed him with a knife belonging to a friend of mine, who loaned to me, whilst we were having our food, before, we left the camp. I had forgotten, that it was in my pocket.

I stabbed the soldier, because I was assaulted by a group of Allied soldiers, who hit me several times.

The fighting has been caused by an misunderstanding, whilst the Sergeant Major pronouncing the following English phrase, it was misunderstood, because they thought he was talking in favour of Mussolini, but he would just say the contrary :-

4877

" Non fucking good Mussolini ".

I have lost the knife together with the water bottle during the fight.

Read, confirmed and signed.

The knife has got a blade 10 cm. long, with a culminating point.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759030

I have heard that my companion Gerace has stated, that I stabbed a Corporal of the English Air Force, I confirm that I stabbed him with a knife belonging to a friend of mine, who loaned to me, whilst we were having our food, before, we left the camp. I had forgotten, that it was in my pocket.

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" Non fucking good Mussolini ".

I have lost the knife together with the water bottle during the fight.

Read, confirmed and signed.

The knife has got a blade 10 cm. long, with a culminating point.

Read, confirmed and signed.

Iamondo Antonio.

I certify that the above translation is made by me from the original to the best of my ability.

(Signed) Samson Walter Interpreter,
Att. 63 Section,
Special Investigation Branch.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

SURGICAL SPECIALIST'S REPORT.

963487 Cpl. BISHOP. R.A.F. 110 M.U. 'B' Det.

This N.C.O. was admitted to the 50 (Br) General Hospital at apprex. 23.45 hrs 29 Jun 44.

He was in good general condition, only slightly shocked, and had a ¾" incised wound of the R. upper abdominal quadrant, from which a piece of fat was protruding.

At operation, which I performed shortly after admission, he had a 1½" cut on the liver surface, lying directly under the skin wound.

The wound I believe to be caused by a sharp instrument.

(J.M. MEGAW)
Capt. RAMC.

Graded Surgeon.
50 (Br) General Hospital.

30 Jun 44.

4876

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

2342/2

To Army Sub Commission,
Main H.Q. M.M.I.A. ✓

Copy to H.Q. 60 Sub Area.
Delegazione 'A'.SMRE.

AQ
6/7

M.M.I.A. L.O.
c/o 60 Sub Area.
4.7.44.

I. I have been informed that at CHIETI on 2 July, an Indian officer (Captain) with an Italian girl to whom he was engaged were obliged to take refuge in a church to avoid a large crowd of Italian soldiers, who were trying to disfigure the Ita-lian girl. Later the church was stormed by about fifty soldiers with drawn knives. The officer and girl were hidden in the church until the arrival of C.M.P. reinforcements. With considerable difficulty, the officer and girl were then removed to safety.

2. Particulars of the Indian Officer, the girl and the Ita lian soldiers concerned are being obtained by the C.M.P.

3. A fortaight ago, when Italian parachutist troops were in Vasto, they made sta tements to the effect that Italian girls seen with Allied troops would be disfigured. On one occa-sion, when C.M.P. attempted to disperse a crowd of Italian soldiers creating unruly disturbances well after curfew, the C.M.P. in question were menaced with drawn knives, and obliged to retire for reinforcements.

4. It is respectfully submitted that strong action is necessary to prevent repetitions of these serious incidents.

4875

J.H. Bowe
Capt.
Liaison Officer.

6/7

DN/dr

Traslato Pluto 5/7/49

Ao

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 9756/I
17-2-349

Lecce, li 8 AUG 1944 194

OGGETTO: Cellino S.Marco (Brindisi) Incidente automobilistico.-
Automobile incident - Cellino S.MARCO Brindisi

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

=L E Q U I L E=

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

4874

Si informa che il 26 giugno alle ore 12 lungo la strada provinciale Mesagne - S.Donaci località "Esperti" agro Cellino S.Marco (Brindisi) l'autocarro militare inglese 4166993 guidato dall'autiere Barbieri Antonio appartenente al 1002 reparto autiere anglo-americano dislocato a Brindisi, per evitare l'investimento di un carretto sbucato improvvisamente da una strada laterale secondaria, sbandava e si rovesciava sul terreno costeggiante il lato destro della strada.

Nell'incidente perivano gli operai Caputo Antonio - Lacorte Salvatore - Gioia Pietro - Moretto Giuseppe - Nachira

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLIO

=L E Q U I L E=

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

4874

Si informa che il 26 giugno alle ore 12 lungo la strada provinciale Mesagne - S.Donaci località "Esperti" agro Cellino S.Marco (Brindisi) l'autocarro militare inglese 4166983 guidato dall'autiere Barbieri Antonio appartenente al 1002 reparto autiere anglo-americano dislocato a Brindisi, per evitare l'investimento di un carretto sbucato improvvisamente da una strada laterale secondaria, sbandava e si rovesciava sul terreno costeggiante il lato destro della strada.

Nell'incidente perivano gli operai Caputo Antonio - Lacorte Salvatore - Gioia Pietro - Moretto Giuseppe - Nachira Fabiola - Miccoli Angela - Cucci Teresa - Cucci Raffaele - Cucci Antonio e Cucci Cosima che erano a bordo dell'autocarro.

L'autiere è stato fermato.

Procedono indagini per accertare la responsabilità.

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
(Col. S.M. E. De Michelis)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

234

Subject: Italian Personnel.

Army Sub Commisaion, A.C.C.
MARINO (ROMA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
AG/G/1

12 July 44.

MINISTRY OF WAR

See folio 2341

CARMINATI ANTONIO DI VINCENZO deceased.
2nd Coy. 1st Bn. 522 Inf. Regt.

1. The above soldier was fatally injured while working for 61 Tunelling Coy. RASC.

2. A Court of Inquiry held to investigate the circumstances of his death, found that the accident was due to an explosion of a shove from causes unknown, and no blame was attached to any person.

Brid, Capt
for Major General.
Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.

JE/bh.

See Notes
251

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(232)

Subject:- Injuries - Court of Inquiry.

Headquarters,
66 Group, Pnr Corps.
Ref: 66G/9.

27 Jun 44.

HQ, MMIA, CMF.

CARMINATI ANTONIO DI VINCENZO deceased
of 2nd Coy. Ist Batt. 522 Infantry Regt.

1. The a/n soldier was fatally injured whilst working for 6I Tunnelling Coy, SAEC.

2. A Court of Inquiry into the circumstances was held by OC 6I Tunnelling Coy SAEC and the original and two copies of the proceedings together with their covering letter are passed to you for the necessary action, please.

WHC/JM.

W.S.J. Harvey Coney

Lt.-Col.,
(WSJ HARVEY CONEY)
Commanding 66 Group HQ, Pioneer Corps.

File

See folio 234

4872

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

REGISTERED

Ref 61/C12/438
61st Tunnelling Coy. SAEC.
UDF. CMF.
21 June 44.

O.C. 66 Pioneer Group. CMF.
For Transmission to O/C. 2nd Coy. 1st Btn. 522 Inf. Regiment.

ACCIDENT TO ITALIAN SOLDIER CARMINATI ANTONIO DI VINCENZO (DECEASED)

1. As requested I beg to forward herewith three copies of evidence of C of I in the case of the above-mentioned soldier.

2. In my opinion this accident was due to the thoughtlessness of the deceased soldier in not waiting for a sufficient period of time after the fire had gone out, to allow the system to cool down. The explosion would seem to have been due to an accumulation of vapourised fuel within the stove, which on being ignited caused the stove to blow up and cover the deceased with fuel, thereby causing the severe burns which he suffered. I do not consider that any blame can be attached to any other person.

RECEIVED 24/6
D.C.
Sup.
Q.M.
O.R. Sec.

-/CS.

..... Major.
O.C. 61st Tunnelling Coy. SAEC.

4871

M.M.P. & P. Coy., S.A.E.C.—2125/43—10,000

D.D. 56

UNIE-VERDEDIGINGSMAG
UNION DEFENCE FORCES

*Vul hier in „Raad van Offisiere," „Komitee" of „Hof van Ondersoek," ens., al na die geval.

Ieder offisier op die Raad, ens., moet aan die end van die proses-verbaal, en iedere getuie onder sy getuienis, sy naam teken.

*N.B.—The Form being applicable to any Board of Officers or Committee or Court of Inquiry, this blank to be filled in accordingly.

The signature of each Officer composing the Board, etc., should be attached at the end of the proceedings, and that of witnesses to the evidence given by them.

PROSES-VERBAAL van 'n* COURT OF ENQUIRY
PROCEEDINGS of a*

byeengekom te 61st Tunnelling Coy.SAEC Camp Ortona.
assembled at

op 26th May 1944
on the

op bevel van W.O. Norton. Major. O.C. 61st Tunnelling Coy. SAEC.
by order of

om Investigating the circumstances
for the purpose of

appertaining to an accident to an Italian Military
CARMINATI ANTONIO DI VINCENZO (Deceased)
Soldier/who was burnt on the 25th May 1944 while

lighting a stove in 61st Tunnelling Coy.SAEC. Camp.

PRESIDENT

No.194093V T/Lt. A.R. Graham. 4870

LEDE
MEMBERS

No.83566V T/Lt. D.M. McKinnon.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Officers or Committee or Court of Inquiry, this blank to be filled in accordingly.

The signature of each Officer composing the Board, etc., should be attached at the end of the proceedings, and that of witnesses to the evidence given by them.

for the purpose of

appertaining to an accident to an Italian Military
CARMINATI ANTONIO DI VINCENZO (Deceased)
Soldier/who was burnt on the 25th May 1944 while

lighting a stove in 61st Tunnelling Coy.SAEC. Camp.

PRESIDENT

4870

No.194093V T/Lt. A.R. Graham.

LEDE
MEMBERS

No.83566V T/Lt. D.M. McKinnon.

Nadat die COURT ingevolge die bevel byeengekom
The having assembled pursuant to

het, word nou daartoe oorgegaan om—
order, proceed to—

take evidence.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

25th May. 1944.

61st TUNNELLING COY. SAEC.

COURT OF ENQUIRY.

A Court of Enquiry, constituted as shown here-under, will assemble at a place to be decided by the President at 09.00 hours on 26th May 1944, to investigate the circumstances appertaining to an accident to an Italian Military Soldier who was burnt on the 25th May 1944 while lighting a petrol stove in 61st Tunnelling Coy. SAEC. Camp.

PRESIDENT. Lt. A.R. Graham.

MEMBER. Lt. D.M. McKinnon.

All witnesses to be warned by the President.
No opinion will be expressed.

Evidence will not be taken on Oath.

Proceedings in quadruplicate, will be returned to this office by 09.00 hours 27th May 1944.

.....Major.
O.C. 61st Tunnelling Coy.SAEC.

-/CS.

Distribution.
President (4)
Notice Boards (3)
File (1)

4869

No.125008V. Spr. Van Zyl A.J.H. duly warned states:

On the 25th May 1944 at 04.00 hrs I went on duty as cook to the mens mess at the 61st Tunnelling Coy'sCamp at Ortona. I personally lit the oil-burning fires at the kitchen, and at 06.00 hrs when the injured Italian Military Soldier Carminati Antonio di Vincenzo came on duty, I instructed him to light the fire which heats water for washing eating utensils. This soldier has been on regular duty at the kitchensfor at least a month, and it has been his regular duty to light this particular fire since this water heating system was installed, a period of approximately ten days. I personally showed this man how to light this type of fire and was satisfied that he was fully capable of operating such fires.

This soldier lit the fire and another fire which heats water for ablution purposes and returned to the kitchen. I then satisfied myself that both fires were burning. At about 06.20 hrs I noticed that the fire which heats water for washing utensils had gone out as no smoke was coming from the chimney which is visible from the kitchen door. I then instructed Antonio di Vincenzo to find out why the fire had gone out and to relight it. I then went into the kitchen and carried on with my duties. About ten minutes later I heard a heavy explosion and took cover. Then, seeing a large volume of smoke coming from the courtyard outside I ran out, and saw this soldier running from the vicinity of this fire with his clothing in flames.
I then saw Cpl Van Niekerk stop the man and attempt to extinguish the flames which he succeeded in doing by throwing sand over his clothes, with the assistance of Spr. Turner who came to his assistance.

Question: 1 : What type of fuel was used for this fire. ?. 4868

Answer: The fuel used was dieseline.

Question : 2 : Is any form of hot plate used in this fire.?.

Answer: Yes, a pan about 12" square which is put under the heating coil.

Question : 3 : Does the pan become sufficiently warm to vapourise the fuel ?.

Answer: Yes. It would vapourise dieseline for at least ten minutes after the fire has gone out. Vapour

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

saw this soldier running from the vicinity of this fire with his clothing in flames.
I then saw Cpl Van Niekerk stop the man and attempt to extinguish the flames which he succeeded in doing by throwing sand over his clothes, with the assistance of Spr. Turner who came to his assistance.

Question: 1 : What type of fuel was used for this fire.?. 4868

Answer: The fuel used was dieseline.

Question : 2 : Is any form of hot plate used in this fire.?.

Answer: Yes, a pan about 12" square which is put under the heating coil.

Question : 3 : Does the pan become sufficiently warm to vapourise the fuel ?.

Answer: Yes. It would vapourise dieseline for at least ten minutes after the fire has gone out. Vapour also comes from the heating coil for several minutes after it has gone out.

Question : 4 : When this burner was installed were you instructed by the person who installed it as to its operation. ?.

Answer: No. I was not actually instructed but I was present on several occasions during the installation and testing of the burner.

Statement read over to witness, who adheres thereto.

Witness:.....

PRESIDENT:.....

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No.76140V. L/Cpl Van Niekerk, J.A. duly warned states:-

At approximately 06.30 hrs on 25th May 1944 I was on duty in the Sgts kitchen when I heard an explosion outside. I remained in the kitchen about one minute then I went to the door and saw the Italian Soldier, in flames, running toward the M.I. Room. I threw him to the ground and covered him with sand and extinguished the flames. Spr. Turner ran up simultaneously and assisted me.

Question: Was the Italian soldier covered with liquid fuel ?.

Answer. I could'nt smell any. I could'nt say.

Question: Did you examine the stove ?.

Answer. Yes, the sides of the stove were blown out and the can of dieseline and burner were on the ground in front of the stove and still burning.

Statement read over to witness who adheres thereto.

Witness: Jan Niekerk.....

MEMBER: D. McKenzie.....

4867

No.125000V. Spr. Turner. C.N. duly warned states:

At approximately 06.30 hrs on the 25th May 1944 I went to the ablutions and while there I heard a loud explosion from the Courtyard of the premises occupied by the men of the 61st Tunnelling Coy. SAEC. I ran in towards the courtyard and heard the screams coming from the Courtyard.

I found Cpl. Van Niekerk attempting to extinguish the flames on the clothing of an Italian soldier. I examined the area where the fire was to see whether anyone else was there as I thought I had heard two people screaming, and saw the whole area covered in burning fuel but as there was no one else there I assisted Cpl Van Niekerk to put out the flames on the soldiers clothes.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759030

Statement read over to witness who adheres thereto.

Witness: Geen Niekerk

MEMBER: D. McGregor

4867

No.125000V. Spr. Turner. C.M. duly warned states:

At approximately 06.30 hrs on the 25th May 1944 I went to the ablutions and while there I heard a loud explosion from the Courtyard of the premises occupied by the men of the 61st Tunnelling Coy. SAEC. I ran in towards the courtyard and heard the screams coming from the Courtyard.

I found Cpl. Van Niekerk attempting to extinguish the flames on the clothing of an Italian soldier. I examined the area where the fire was to see whether anyone else was there as I thought I had heard two people screaming, and saw the whole area covered in burning fuel but as there was no one else there I assisted Cpl Van Niekerk to put out the flames on the soldiers clothes.

There was definitely fuel on the Man's clothes as when I extinguished flames in one part they burst out again in other areas. I cannot say for certain what type of fuel it was.

No Questions:

STATEMENT READ OVER TO WITNESS, WHO ADHERES THERETO.

Witness: A Turner

PRESIDENT: A. Galanti

PRESIDENT: A. Galanti

MEMBER: D. McGregor Lt

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

GE/MA

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 9589/L 18-1-251

Lecce, li 26 GIU 1944

OGGETTO: Investimento da parte di un autocarro inglese nei pressi di Latiano (Brindisi).

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

LEQUILE

Per informazione si comunica che alle ore 15 dell'11 giugno c.a. lungo la nazionale Mesagne - Latiano (Brindisi), a due chilometri circa da quest'ultima località, un autocarro inglese targato L 422190, proveniente da Mesagne e guidato da un militare polacco, si scontrava con un altro autocarro targato 5603070 proveniente da Latiano e pilotato da un civile. Nell'urto violento i due autocarri si sono rovesciati.

Nell'autocarro proveniente da Mesagne viaggiavano un ufficiale, un sottufficiale ed un soldato italiano oltre ad un militare di colore dell'esercito alleato.

Il primo e l'ultimo sono deceduti durante il trasporto all'ospedale a seguito delle gravi ferite riportate, mentre gli altri due sono stati ricoverati all'ospedale militare di Mesagne con prognosi riservata per contusione cranica e commozione cerebrale.

4865

Gli autisti dei due autocarri sono stati rilevati da autorità alleate per l'accertamento delle responsabilità. -

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795030

Per informazione si comunica che alle ore 15 dell'11 giugno c.a. lungo la nazionale Mesagne - Latiano (Brindisi), a due chilometri circa da quest'ultima località, un autocarro inglese targato L 422190, proveniente da Mesagne e guidato da un militare polacco, si scontrava con un altro autocarro targato 5603070 proveniente da Latiano e pilotato da un civile. Nell'urto violento i due autocarri si sono rovesciati.

Nell'autocarro proveniente da Mesagne viaggiavano un ufficiale, un sottufficiale ed un soldato italiano oltre ad un militare di colore dell'esercito alleato.

Il primo e l'ultimo sono deceduti durante il trasporto all'ospedale a seguito delle gravi ferite riportate, mentre gli altri due sono stati ricoverati all'ospedale militare di Mesagne con prognosi riservata per contusione cranica e commozione cerebrale.

4865

Gli autisti dei due autocarri sono stati rilevati da autorità alleate per l'accertamento delle responsabilità. -

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
- Col.R.Fiore Vernazza -

27/6

Fiorentino

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

1956

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Traduzione

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI BARI

Reparto Mobile

N.EO/14 di prot. Div.II^ Bari, li 24 giugno 1944 XXII°

Oggetto: Sequestro di viveri da proprietà degli alleati e rapina

Legione Territoriale Carabinieri Reali Bari

4^ Sezione AMM/SUS=COMMISSIONE ...(i.h.f...)

ALLA	REGIA	PROCURA	DI LECCE
ALLA	REGIA	QUESTURA	DI LECCE
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC.RR.			DI LECCE
AL COMANDO DELLA COMPAGNIA DEI CC. RR.			LECCE

Alle ore 18,30 del 23-6-1944 l'Arma di Nardò Lecce a mezzo nel domicilio di Maggio Giuseppe di Salvatore bracciante procedeva sequestro metri 30 filo telefonico,due chilogrammi di lumache,sei pezzi di sapone di grammi 400 ciascuno,10 stiviche,grammi 200 di carne nella,Kg.5 di lardo,una scatola di carne in conserva del peso di chi logrammi 5-sei scatole di salmone e due di carne con fagioli del valore complessivo di lire 2000 circa di proprietà anglo-americana Alleata.Il terrenuto polizia inglese dislocata Otranto procedeva arresto Laggio dopo averlo tradotto carceri Otranto et portando seco oggetti predetti punto.

IL TENENTE COMANDANTE
(Ten. Maggio Marcello)

4864

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT:- Incident Involving Carabinieri. 730

HQ No 2 District CMF.
34/2 A.

23 Jun 44.

MMIA
Army Sub Commission ACC MEDCE. 201

Reference your AQ/G/1, dated 24 May 44.

1. Herewith copy of letter 181/G dated 16 June 44, from HQ 6 Base Sub Area, relative to the above-mentioned incident.

2. Owing to the fact that Lieut Crawford states that the Carabinieri afterwards apologised, it is considered that they were in part to blame and although Lieut Crawford appears to have acted with undue haste, it is now thought by this HQ that no further action need be taken.

Seen by AQ.
25/6 NA
File

for Major General,
Cond. No 2 District.

4863

229

SUBJECT:- Incident involving Carabinieri

CONFIDENTIAL

6BSA/181/G

HQ No 2 District (Col i/c Adm)

Ref your 34/2A dated 8 Jun 44.

1. A report by the CC RR on the incident in question was passed to this HQ by the Italian Liaison Sec, 6 BSA, on 29 Apr. This HQ asked the CC RR to furnish further details of the incident, such as the name of the station. The report included the statement that the officer concerned was "perhaps a little inebriated" and this HQ made it clear that such an accusation was greatly resented.

2. It was later understood from the Italian Liaison Sec that the CC RR had made enquiries at BARI Central Station, and that the officer concerned had been posted to North Africa.

3. Further investigation has now shown that the officer concerned, who is still at BARI Central Station is Lt TE CRAWFORD, RE. A statement has been required from him, and reads as follows:-

> "On the 26th of April last, I had occasion to order two Carabinieri and two Italian Civilian prisoners off train 3540, which is the British Military train to NAPLES. They had no authority from me to board this train, and they refused to get off the train. I got hold of the belt of one of the Carabinieri and endeavoured to push him off the train, whereupon he struck me, so I struck him back, forcing him off the train.
>
> On being asked if I wanted to take further action I said 'No' as long as the men were not on my train, that was all that concerned me....."

4862

4. The original statement is held at this HQ. Lt CRAWFORD adds that shortly after the incident the Carabinieri with whom he had exchanged blows came to his office and apologised.

5. It seems possible that Lt CRAWFORD gave his orders to the Carabinieri rather more brusquely than was necessary, but this is understand-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

3. Further investigation has now shown that the officer concerned, who is still at BARI Central Station is Lt TE CRAWFORD, NZ. A statement has been required from him, and reads as follows:-

"On the 26th of April last, I had occasion to order two Carabinieri and two Italian Civilian prisoners off train 3540, which is the British Military train to NAPLES. They had no authority from me to board this train, and they refused to get off the train. I got hold of the belt of one of the Carabinieri and endeavoured to push him off the train, whereupon he struck me, so I struck him back, forcing him off the train.

On being asked if I wanted to take further action I said 'No' as long as the men were not on my train, that was all that concerned me....."

4. The original statement is held at this HQ. Lt CRAWFORD adds that shortly after the incident the Carabinieri with whom he had exchanged blows came to his office and apologised.

4862

5. It seems possible that Lt CRAWFORD gave his orders to the Carabinieri rather more brusquely than was necessary, but this is understandable in view of the very great trouble which has always been caused to RTOs by Italian Military and civilians boarding trains without authority.

Brigadier.
Commander,
6 Base Sub Area.

16 Jun 44.
CAM/JV.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(27)

Subject:- Court of Inquiry. - Shooting of two Italian Soldiers.

Army Sub Commission ACC.
Main HQ. (MMIA)
LECUILE. (LECCE)
AC/6/1
15 June 44

Ministry of War.

1. A Court of Inquiry assembled to investigate the circumstances whereby one Italian soldier PUNZI QUIRICO was killed and another NUZZO BARTOLOMEO was injured, on MOLO CAPITANEIRI BARI Docks at 0210 hrs on 10 May 44.
Both soldiers were attached to 401 Regt Fanteria.

2. The Court recorded its opinion that the two soldiers were on enclosed premises without authority, and the shots fired by the guard were in the course of his duty.

Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AIO 16/1 (226)

SUBJECT:- Court of Inquiry - Shooting of two Italian Soldiers

6 SA/251/A

AQ 14/6 (221)

MIA

Reference your AQ 1295 dated 7 Jun44.

Herewith copy of Court of Inquiry proceedings, as requested.

Will you please return the copy at present in your possession.

Richard Baxter, Capt R E

for Lt-Col.
AA & QMG.
6 Base Sub Area.

14/6 HB.

12 Jun 44.
WJV/JV.

Copy returned

File

Q.3. Were they part of an Italian Military labour gang employed by your company.

A.3. Yes

Q.4. Had they any reason to enter or be near to the RAF Air/Sea Rescue Squad Hut.

A.4. No

Q.5. Will you explain the exact place in which you found the injured Italian soldiers.

A.5. One lay in the open doorway of the RAF hut and the other one two yards from it.

Q.6. What was the visibility at that place at that time.

A.6. No artificial lighting. Visibility good for a moonlight night.

(Signed) J.W. Teale Sjt RE

Second Witness

No 1268133 LAC Camburn, Charles., Air/sea Rescue Unit, Royal Air Force, having been duly sworn states:

I was on duty in the Air/Sea Rescue Unit Mess Billet at Port of Bari on 10 May 44 as guard. At about 0145 hours I heard a squad of Italians outside my billets. A little later I heard someone kicking against the outer door. Soon after I heard the door being pushed open, and then one or more people entered the billet. After walking about inside they appeared to be startled and left the hut closing the door after them. About ten minutes later I heard the door opened and closed again. This time the steps continued in the billet and I heard my cupboard being pulled open. I knew by their speech that they were Italians. To the best of my ability I challenged them in Italian, saying "Aspe Her", ~~speaking~~ expecting them to stand. At that moment I heard a loud bang against the other door, against which I was sitting, something metallic fell on the floor. Thinking it was a shot, taking no chances I gave a short burst in the direction of my cupboard. I still got no reply. I then heard them running away through the outer room. I went out after them to the outer room and fired another short burst. This was followed by some yelling. The outer door was ~~opened~~ inwards. I could then see two figures on the ground. I went outside to them. One was lying close to the door, the other was staggering about. A crowd gathered, I asked if a Military Policeman was present, and there was, I remained at my post.

Q.1. What was the visibility in the rooms.

A.1. It was quite dark I could not see anything.

Q.2. Was the first burst you fired, fired objectively or as a warning.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

after I heard the door being pushed open, and then one or more people entered the billet. After walking about inside they appeared to be startled and left the hut closing the door after them. About ten minutes later I heard the door opened and closed again. This time the steps continued in the billet and I heard my cupboard being pulled open. I knew by their speech that they were Italians. To the best of my ability I challenged them in Italian, saying "Aspe Her", ~~expecting~~ expecting them to stand. At that moment I heard a loud bang against the other door, against which I was sitting, something metallic fell on the floor. Thinking it was a shot, taking no chances I gave a short burst in the direction of my cupboard. I still got no reply. I then heard them running away through the outer room. I went out after them to the outer room and fired another short burst. This was followed by some yelling. The outer door was ~~opens~~ opened inwards. I could then see two figures on the ground. I went outside to them. One was lying close to the door, the other was staggering about. A crowd gathered, I asked if a Military Policeman was present, and there was, I remained at my post.

Q.1. What was the visibility in the rooms.

A.1. It was quite dark I could not see anything.

Q.2. Was the first burst you fired, fired objectively or as a warning.

A.2. I fired on the ground, in the direction of the cupboard as a warning.

Q.3. What were your orders as sentry

A.3. To maintain a normal guard.

Q.4. Had you any reason to be particulary on the alert on that night.

A.4. Yess

Q.5. Why.

A.5. For three nights in succession the Messing billet had been broken into and various articles of food stolen from the food cupboard, as well as wanton destruction. As a consequence my crew had been without bread for two days. We had found outside the billet a large quantity of half emptied tins of rations. On another occasion, the door of the Commanding Officer's Office, which adjoins the Messing Billet, had been tampered with. It was to my knowledge this office contained secret documents.

Signed C. Camburn, L.A.C., RAF.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

2652/ [illegible] 200,000/3/42.

A/Q

Army Form A 2.

PROCEEDINGS of a* Court of Inquiry

assembled at Movements Officers' Mess, 13 Via Melo, BARI

on the 12 May 44

by order of Lt. Col. G. Coaker M.B.E., R.E.,

Port Commandant, BARI.

for the purpose of investigating the circumstances in which the following Italian Personnel were killed and injured on Molo Capitaneria, Bari Docks, at 0210 hrs 10 May 44 :

Punzi Quirico - killed, Nuzzo Bartolomeo - injured, both attached 401 Regiment Fanteria.

PRESIDENT.

Major L.F.E. James R.E.

4860

MEMBERS.

Capt. R.G. Hemmons, R.E.
Lt. A.S. Daniell, R.E.

*N.B. — The Form being applicable to any Board, or Committee, or Court of Inquiry, this blank to be filled in accordingly.

The proceedings should be signed by the President and by each Member of the Board, etc.

Attention is particularly drawn to the Rules for Courts of Inquiry contained in Rules of Procedure 124-125A, and especially to Rule 125A (B); also to paragraph 751, et seq., King's Regulations, 1935.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759030

Molo Capitaneria, Bari Docks, at 0210 hrs 10 May 44 :

Punzi Quirico - killed, Nuzzo Bartolomeo - injured, both attached 401 Regiment Fanteria.

PRESIDENT.

Major L.F.E. James R.E.

4860

MEMBERS.

Capt. R.G. Hemmons, R.E.
Lt. A.S. Daniell, R.E.

IN ATTENDANCE.

Witnesses (2211129 Sjt Teale J.W., 994 Docks Optg Coy RE
(1268133 LAC Camburn, 253 Air/Sea Rescue Squad, RAF.
(Flying Officer Dalkin-Potts, 253 Air/Sea Rescue, RAF.

The Court having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to examine the first witness, who having been duly sworn states,

I, 2211129 Sjt Teale J.W., RE was, at 0210 hours on the tenth of May 1944, on duty at berths one to four at Port of Bari. I was staning near the gates when I heard two bursts of machine gun fire. I ran toward the RAF Orderly Room to investigate and found two Italians soldiers shot, lying on the ground. I assisted an M.P. to get the injured personnel away to the hospital by lorry.

Q.1. Were you aware of the direction from which the shots came.

A.1. They seemed to come from the RAF Orderly Room.

Q.2. How many shots would you estimate as having been fired

A.2. Two short bursts, of 4 and 3 shots respectively.

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1st Witness (Recalled)

Q.7. What interval of time was there between the two bursts you heard.

A.7. Practically none.

Signed J.W. Teale. Sjt., RE

Signed L.F.E. James, Major RE, President.
R.G. Hemmons, Capt RE, Memeber.
A.S. Daniell, Lt. R.E, Member.

Bari
12 May 44

I am of the opinion that Punzi Quirico was killed, and Nuzzo Bartolomeo was wounded, by shots fired by 1268133 L.A.C. Camburn in the course of his duty as guard on R.A.F. 253/ Air/Sea Rescue Squad Billet.
The Italians were on enclosed premises without authority, and I can attach no blame to L.A.C. Camburn for his action.

16/5/44

(Signed) G. Coaker Lt. Col. R.E.

4859

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:- Incident - NEMBO Div/Indian Tps at BENEVENTO

CONFIDENTIAL

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ (MOLA)
LECUILE. (LECCE)
AO/6/1
11 June 44

IO AAI

Reference your AO/365 dated 31 May.

I forward herewith two copies of report by the Officer Comd NEMBO Division to the Stato Maggiore R Esercito.

for Major General
Army Sub Comm.A.C.C.

jrp/FJN

4857

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AQ/61 A 5244

SUBJECT:- Court of Inquiry -
Shooting of two Italian Soldiers.

6BSA/231/A

HQ Mov EASTERN ITALY

Reference this HQ letter of even number dated 23 May 44.

MMIA have reported that the copy of proceedings forwarded to them is illegible. May a further copy be supplied please.

13/6/44
10 June 44
FJH/VA

File

J. Lt-Col.
AA & QMG.
6 Base Sub Area.

Copy to:- MMIA (your signal AQ 1295 of 7 June 44 refers.)

221

4038

RISERVATA

STATO MAGGIORE R. ESERCITO

UFFICIO SEGRETERIA E PERSONALE

223

AQ/6/1

P.M.151 li 7 giugno 1944

N. 110/Ris. Pers. prot. S.P.

Risposta al foglio N. ____

Allegati 1)

del ____

OGGETTO: Incidente fra paracadutisti e militari indiani in Benevento.- Incident between parachutists and Indian Military at Benevento.

→ ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C. = LECCE =

AL GENERALE ALLFREY
-Comandante del V corpo d'armata inglese-

Trasmetto copia del foglio n°2001 in data 27 maggio u.s. del comando della 184ª divisione fanteria "Nembo", affinchè ne sia tenuto conto nei provvedimenti che verranno presi a carico del paracadutista CERRUTI Luigi, in quanto egli - come risulta dal foglio stesso - sembra abbia agito in stato di legittima difesa.- sembra abbia agito

Att. copy of 2001 dated May 27th. last. from H.Q. 184th "Nembo" Inf. Div. in order that it may be born in mind when

4856

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
-F.Berardi-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

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4856

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
-F.Berardi-

Act. copy of 2001 dated May 27th. last. from H.Q. 184th "Nembo" Inf. Div. in order that it may be born in mind when judging the case against Paradutist CERRUTI, Luigi Since, judging from said letter, it showed appear he acted in self-defense.

(K)

Copy sent AAM. 11/6

DB/ 13 Vme

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759020

C O P I A

COMANDO 184ª DIVISIONE FTR. "NEMBO"
Ufficio personale

N° [illegible]91 di prot. P.M.146,lì 27 maggio 1944

OGGETTO: incidente fra paracadutisti e militari indiani in Benavento.-

A S.E. IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE DELL'ESERCITO

L E C C E

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Per doverosa informazione riferisco a V.E. in merito al conflitto avvenuto fra paracadutisti e soldati indiani in Benevento il mattino del 25 maggio u.s.

Premetto che nei giorni precedenti essendosi verificati incidenti fra paracadutisti e soldati indiani, era stato stabilito - d'accordo con il comando inglese della guarnigione - un servizio di pattuglia, disimpegnato da paracadutisti, allo scopo di assicurare che tutti i paracadutisti che si trovassero a Benevento, fossero solo per servizio e disarmati.

Precise disposizioni erano state personalmente da me impartite ai militari comandati in tale servizio.

Allo stato attuale, dagli accertamenti relativi all'incidente in argomento occorso il 25 maggio u.s. fra indiani e paracadutisti, risulterebbe quanto segue:

- verso le ore 9,30 del giorno suddetto una pattuglia di paracadutisti raggiungeva l'imbocco del ponte sul Calore diretta verso la stazione di Benevento.

Tale ponte consente la circolazione dei veicoli in senso unico al centro e porta ai lati due passerelle sulle quali dovrebbero transitare i pedoni. Lo stato delle passerelle laterali, d'altra parte, non consente un agevole transito.

4895

Un militare indiano di servizio all'imbocco del ponte faceva cenno alla pattuglia che si accingeva ad attraversarlo, di fermarsi, perché una colonna di automezzi momentaneamente ferma dal lato opposto, doveva transitare.

La nostra pattuglia, obbedendo all'ordine ricevuto, si

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

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La nostra pattuglia, obbedendo all'ordine ricevuto, si fermava all'imbocco del ponte, finché la colonna di automezzi, che nel frattempo era stata fatta avanzare, non ebbe attraversato il ponte stesso.

La pattuglia allora, poiché sul momento non sopraggiungevano altri automezzi, iniziò il passaggio del ponte al centro, anziché sulle passerelle.

Questo fatto provocò gesti di disappunto da parte del militare indiano addetto al servizio e pare che questi abbia proferito la frase " non bono italiano " probabilmente con l'intenzione di far rilevare che i paracadutisti non si erano attenuti all'ordine di transitare sulle passe-

./.

4835

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

relle laterali.

Intanto mentre la pattuglia era giunta all'altra estremità del ponte un paracadutista tendeva la mano ad una donna transitante sulla passerella di destra per aiutarla a scendere dalla stessa.

Altro militare indigeno avvicinatosi al paracadutista lo apostrofava con la seguente frase: "" non donna italiana avere paura tu avere paura "".

Il paracadutista si volse verso l'indiano e con la mano gli fece cenno di allontanarsi. Questo non si mosse e si mise a gridare.

Immediatamente accorsero altri militari indiani per spalleggiare il compagno ad aggredire il paracadutista.

Detti indiani erano armati di picozze e badili e si avvicinarono con gli arnesi di cui erano armati, minacciosamente alzati, nell'atto di percuotere.

Alcuni dei componenti la pattuglia comprendendo di non poter far fronte al contegno aggressivo degli indiani, senza far uso delle armi, retrocedettero di alcuni metri, mentre un paracadutista (certo Cerruti) rimaneva circondato dagli indiani che lo assalivano malmenandolo.

Tutti i paracadutisti, Cerruti compreso, recavano il moschetto automatico a tracolla e quindi può essere escluso che ne abbiano fatto uso in un primo tempo.

Il Cerruti veniva ripetutamente percosso da un attrezzo da lavoro e un colpo lo feriva alla testa mentre l'altro colpiva la sommità della canna del moschetto tenuto a tracolla.

Come rilevasi dall'esame dell'arma del Cerruti, il colpo vibrato con arnese di ferro deve essere stato di estrema violenza, dato che detto moschetto presenta una forte ammaccatura nella parte colpita. Lo stesso colpo provocava inoltre una forte contusione alla spalla sinistra del Cerruti che cadeva a terra. Col volto insanguinato e sempre sotto la minaccia degli arnesi brenditi dagli indiani, il Cerruti sollevatosi a fatica rapidamente il moschetto da tracolla faceva partire una raffica di colpi sugli assalitori.

4854

Uno di questi cadeva ucciso mentre altri due rimanevano gravemente feriti.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 950020

Tutti i peracadutisti, Cerruti compreso, recano in dotazione il moschetto automatico a tracolla e quindi può essere escluso che ne abbiano fatto uso in un primo tempo.

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4854

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Anche gli indiani aprivano il fuoco.

I compagni del Cerruti a loro volta rispondevano al fuoco.

Una seconda pattuglia (cinque uomini al comando di un sottufficiale) richiamata sul posto dagli spari, interveniva aprendo essa pure il fuoco indirizzandolo contro alcuni indiani che appostati da un lato del ponte sparavano contro il Cerruti ed i suoi compagni.

Lo scambio di fucilate cessò poi quasi subito senza che si avessero a lamentare ulteriori perdite.

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I paracadutisti delle due pattuglie si allontanavano ma poco dopo quasi tutti i componenti di esse venivano tratti in arresto dalla polizia inglese sopraggiunta.

Il Cerruti, pure essendo ferito, riusciva nel trambusto ad allontanarsi ed a raggiungere il suo comando di reggimento al quale si presentava.

Dopo i fatti sopra accennati la polizia inglese ha proceduto al sistematico fermo di tutti i paracadutisti che comunque venivano trovati a Benevento senza distinzione di grado e mansione.

Risulta che alcuni di essi siano stati sottoposti a maltrattamenti.

Gran parte dei paracadutisti per altro furono messi in libertà nella serata stessa. In mia assenza - perché recatomi a visitare il 184° fanteria in linea - il vice comandante la divisione, si recò accompagnato dal comandante dei CC.RR. divisionale presso il comando alleato di Benevento per procedere agli accertamenti del caso.

Il giorno successivo mi sono personalmente recato a Benevento oltre che per precisare la responsabilità, anche per ottenere la rimessa in libertà di quelli che erano stati trattenuti dalla polizia inglese.

Dal colloquio col generale inglese comandante la piazza di Benevento mi é stato comunicato che ormai la questione era stata evocata al comando interalleato e che perciò rientrava nella sua competenza ogni decisione in merito.

Prevedo quindi un processo a carico del paracadutista Cerruti, che per legittima difesa ed in servizio ha dovuto fare uso delle armi.

Qualunque testimonianza possano gli alleati portare, é mia convinzione assoluta che il paracadutista in servizio ha agito in conformità dei fatti occorsi e che nessuna colpa gli può essere imputata.

Prego quindi V.E. di adoperare in merito la Sua autorità per salvaguardare il nostro prestigio.

4853

La questione ha carattere urgente.-

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE LA DIVISIONE
f/to Giorgio Morigi

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 759020

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4553

Prego quindi V.E. di adoperare in merito la Sua autorità onde salvaguardare il nostro prestigio.

La questione ha carattere urgente.-

IL GENERALE COMANDANTE LA DIVISIONE
f/to Giorgio Morigi

P.C.C.
COLONNELLO CAPO UFFICIO
Roberto Griglio)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

TRANSLATION.

From: H.Q. 184 Infantry Division 'NEMBO'. Ref: 2001

To: His Excellency, The General Chief of Staff 27th May 1944.

SUBJECT: Incident between Parachutists and Indian Military in BENEVENTO.

For your information I beg to report hereunder on the incident which took place in BENEVENTO during the morning of May 25th last between Parachutists and Indian soldiers.

I wish to point out that several incidents having taken place during previous days between Indian soldiers and Parachutists it had been decided, in agreement with the local British Command, to establish a patrol service to be carried out by Parachutists in order to ensure that all Parachutists who visited BENEVENTO were on duty and disarmed.

I personally issued the necessary instructions to the Military in charge of such service.

At the present moment and judging from investigation made of what happened on the 25th May between Indians and Parachutists the case may be deemed to be as follows:

At about 0930 hrs on the said date a Parachutist Patrol reached the entrance to the Bridge on the CALORE river travelling towards BENEVENTO station. This Bridge only allows for one way traffic of vehicles in the centre and has two side footpaths for pedestrians. The state of these footpaths renders transit rather awkward. An Indian soldier on duty at the entrance to the bridge signalled to the patrol who were about to go across to stop because a motor convoy which had, for the moment, stopped on the opposite side had to come through. Our patrol obeying the order halted at the entrance to the bridge until the motor convoy which, in the meantime, had been signalled on had finished passing over the bridge.

The patrol then, since at the moment, no other vehicles were crossing the bridge, started to cross along the central way instead of along the footpaths.

(1)

This entailed disapproving gestures on the part of the Indian Military on duty and it appears that the latter said: "Non buno Italiano." Probably with the intention of pointing out to the Parachutists that they had not complied with the order to use the footpaths.

In the meantime the patrol had reached the other end of the Bridge and one of the Parachutists offered his hand to a lady who was walking along the footpath

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The patrol then, since at the moment , no other vehicles were crossing the bridge, started to cross along the central way instead of along the footpaths.

This entailed disapproving gestures (1) on the part of the Indian Military on duty and it appears that the latter said: "Non buno Italiano." Probably with the intention of pointing out to the Parachutists that they had not complied with the order to use the footpaths.

In the meantime the patrol had reached the other end of the Bridge and one of the Parachutists offered his hand to a lady who was walking along the footpath on the right in order to help her to descend from same.

Another Indian Military approaching the Parachutists said to him: (2) "Non donna Italiana avere paura tu avere paura."

The Parachutist turning towards the Indian motioned to him to go away with his hand. The Indian did not move and started to shout.

Immediately a number of other Indian soldiers arrived to back up their pal and attack the parachutists.

Said Indians were armed with picks and shovels and they approached in a threatening attitude holding such implements above their heads.

Some of the members of the patrol realising that they could not contend with the aggressive attitude of the Indians withdrew a few yards away without making use of their arms, whilst one parachutist (named CERRUTI) remained surrounded by the Indians who attacked him.

All the Parachutists, CERRUTI included were carrying automatic rifles in the slung position and consequently there is no doubt that they did not use them in the first moment.

Sheet 2/..

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CERRUTI was repeatedly hit with an implement. One blow wounded him in the head while another hit the butt of the rifle which he was carrying in the slung position. An examination of CERRUTI's rifle proves that the blow must have been given with extre e violence bearing in mind that the butt of the rifle has a deep notch where it was hit. The same blow caused a violent bruising of the left shoulder of CERRUTI who fell to the ground. With his face covered in blood and still under the threat of the implements brandished by the Indians CERRUTI rose from the ground and rapidly unslinging his rifle fired a burst against his assailants.

One of these fell dead while two others were seriously wounded. The Indians then also started firing. CERRUTI's companions in their turn also started firing. A second patrol (5 men under a senior NCO) called to the spot intervened also firing against some Indians who, stationed on one side of the bridge, were firing against CERRUTI and his companions. The firins then ceased instantaneously without further casualties.

The Parachutists of both patrols then withdrew but shortly afterwards they were all arrested by British police who arrived on the spot.

CERRUTI, though wounded, managed to get away during the confusion and reached his Regimental HQ where he reported.

After these incidents the British police have proceeded to the systematic arrest of all parachutists found in BENEVENTO regardless of reason, rank or duty.

It appears that some of these parachutists have been ill-treated.

A large number of these parachutists were released the same evening. During my absence - because I had been to visit the 184th Infantry Regt at the line - the second-in-command of the Division went to visit the Allied Comd of BENEVENTO accompanied by the Commander of the Carabinieri in order to investigate the case.

On the following day I have personnaly gone to BENEVENTO not only to investigate responsibilities but also to obtain the release of those who had been arrested by the British police.

I was informed by the British General commanding BENEVENTO during my interview with him that the matter has now been submitted to the Inter-Allied Command and that consequently all decision on the matter would be issued by said Command.

I therefore forsee a case against Parachutist CERRUTI who, in self defence, and whilst on duty was forced to make use of his arms.

Whatever testimony may be forthcoming from the Allies I am absolutely convinced that the parachutists on duty has acted in accordance with the circumstances and that no blame can be attached to him.

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Whatever testimony may be forthcoming from the Allies I am absolutely convinced that the parachutists on duty has acted in accordance with the circumstances and that no blame can be attached to him.

I beg Your Excellency, therefore, to act accordingly using your authority to safeguard our prestige.

The matter may be considered as urgent.

Signed: The General Commanding The Division
GIORGIO MORIGI.

tvs.SDJ.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI B A R I
TENENZA DI MAGLIE

N. 42/43-1-1937 di prot. div. 2/to Maglie, li 2 giugno 1944

OGGETTO: Ordine pubblico nel comune di Uggiano la Chiesa-Segnalazione.

Further report on incident at

AL COMANDO ARMY SUB-COMMISSIONS A.C.C.(A.M.G.A.) LECCE (Lecce)
AL COMANDO DEL IX° CORPO D'ARMATA P.M. 67
AL COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE DI L E C C E
AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE DEI CC.RR. DI L E C C E
ALLA REGIA PREFETTURA DI L E C C E
ALLA REGIA QUESTURA DI L E C C E
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC. RR. DI L E C C E
AL COMANDO DELLA COMPAGNIA CC.RR. DI L E C C E

198/2

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Seguito segnalazione 42/43 del 22-5-1944 l'Arma Minervino di Lecce avendo assodato singole responsabilità, data 29 maggio 1944 ha proceduto al fermo per trascorsa flagranza delle persone indicate nella segnalazione sopracitata resesi responsabili di rapina aggravata in danno dei Rubrichi Brillante, depositandole sotto custodia carcere mandamentale di Otranto in attesa provvedimento dell'autorità giudiziaria punto Detentivo irreperibile.

22.5.44 dei CC.RR. di Minervino (Lecce) having checked on individual responsibility on the 29th. May proceeded to arrest the persons referred to in the said report 42/43 dated 22.5.44 from Rubrichi Brillante delivering them to Otranto at the disposal of Judicial authorities. Recovery of stolen property impossible.

N.H. Bonfanelly Felix
9/6 pp
File

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COMANDO SUPERIORE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DELLA II BARI

COMANDO TENENZA DI MANFREDONIA

Prot. Riv. N/to

Foglio, li 2 giugno 1944

Oggetto: Rapina nel comune di Otranto - Segnalazione.

Rapport on incident at

Al COMANDO SUB-COMMISSIONE A.C.C. (M.M.I.A.)
AL COMANDO DEL IX° CORPO D'ARMATA
AL COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE DI
AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE DEI CC.RR. DI
BARI PERPETUA DI
BARI QUESTURA DI
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC. RR. DI
AL COMANDO DELLA COMPAGNIA CC.RR. DI

LECCE (Lecce)
P.M. 67
L E C C E
BARI
L E C C E
L E C C E
L E C C E
L E C C E

198/2

Relazione 42/43 del 22-5-1944 l'Arma Minervino di Lecce avendo responsabilità, data 29 maggio 1944 ha proceduto al fermo per rapina aggravata in danno dei fabbricati Brillante, depositando a carceri mandamentali di Otranto in attesa provvedimento de.

Further to report 42/43 dated 22.5.44 the CC.RR. of Minervino (Lecce) having checked on individual responsibility on the 29th. May proceeded to arrest the persons referred to for theft with violence from Rubrichi Brillante delivering them to Otranto at the disposal of judicial authorities. Recovery of stolen property impossible.

Lt. Col.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

220/1

Subject:- Incident at POLIGNANO - 27 May 44.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
MILANO. (MILA)
LECCE. (LECCE)
AC/O/1
6 June 44.

Air Force Sub Commission,
ACC.

1. A copy of a report from LO Tn Alys with a covering letter from No.2 District is forwarded to you for necessary action.

2. There are no Italian Army parachutists at COZZE, and it seems probable that the unit referred to is the Battaglione Azzuro, an Italian Air Force unit, stationed at COZZE.

Sgd F.J.N.

Major General.
Army Sub Commission ACC.

fb

Copy to:
HQ. No.2 District(ref your 2022/41 SS1 dated 31 May 44)

212/1

4849

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

220

Subject:- Discipline- Italian Military Personnel.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MAIA)
LECCHI. (LECCH)
AG/S/1
5 June. 44

Ministry of War.

See folio 208/1

1. At SARNO, at about 2230 hrs on 7 May 44, one Italian Sergeant and five Italian soldiers, all of 90b, Engineer Coy., assaulted and robbed 4633600 Pte. H.J. CRAXTON.ACC attached K.O.Y.L.I.

2. It is understood that the ITALIAN soldiers concerned are under arrest pending disciplinary action by the ITALIAN Military Authorities.

3. HQ. AAI. have directed that a full report on the disciplinary action taken be forwarded forthwith.

4. The Ministry of War will therefore, without delay, forward such a report to this HQ for onward transmission to HQ.AAI.

208/1

fb

for Major General.
Army Sub Commission A.C.C.

Copy to: HQ.AAI. (your AAI/5069/17/A(PS) of 29 May 44 Pt II)
MMIA.LO with HQ. ACC.

4048

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

219

Subject:- Incident involving Carabinieri.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MAIA)
LECCE. (LECCE)
AC/6/1
5th June 44.

HQ. No.2 District.

203.

Reference your letter 34/2A dated 26 May 44

The Italian Ministry of War have furnished the following additional information.

The Incident took place on 26 April 44 at 1430 hrs. on train No.3540 leaving Bari for Naples at 1620 hrs.

J Reid, Capt
for Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

4847

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(218)

Subject:- Shooting of Carabinieri.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MHA)
LECCE. (LECCE)
AG/6/1
5th June 44

C.C. P.P.S.

211/1

Reference your AG250-1(PPNO-1) dated 30 May.

Will you please report in due course the decision of the Courts Martial or such other proceedings as the C.C. P.P.S. may have directed.

F.S. Noble
Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

4846

SUBJECT:- Death of Three Indian Soldiers.

SECRET

217

A12 6/1
66/6

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M M I A)
Rear H Q EIGHTH ARMY.
MM/104/17

3 Jun 44.

Al Sig Generale Tomaselli
I F A HQ EIGHTH ARMY.

Copy to:- Army Sub Comm,ACC
LEQUILE (LECCE)

4845

1. In an incident which took place between INDIAN troops and troops of the PNR BN., NEMBO Div., three INDIANS were killed.

2. Four of the ITALIAN troops are in custody but one CERRUTI, who is alleged to have fired the shots, escaped.

3. The Under Secretary for War has directed all ITALIAN Commanders to find CERRUTI and any others involved.

4. May the necessary action be taken to ensure that commanders of all units under your command make every effort to apprehend CERRUTI and any others who were involved in the incident?

5. Please treat this matter as most urgent

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

Copy to:- Army Sub Comm,ACC
LEQUILE (LECCE)

4845

1. In an incident which took place between INDIAN troops and troops of the PNR BN., NEMBO Div., three INDIANS were killed.

2. Four of the ITALIAN troops are in custody but one CERRUTI, who is alleged to have fired the shots, escaped.

3. The Under Secretary for War has directed all ITALIAN Commanders to find CERRUTI and any others involved.

4. May the necessary action be taken to ensure that commanders of all units under your command make every effort to apprehend CERRUTI and any others who were involved in the incident?

5. Please treat this matter as most urgent. May a copy of your orders be sent to this office for onward transmission to H Q M M I A?

7/6 W/. X 7/6

N. Feldman

Major,
Liaison Officer.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

~~RQ 291 ORIG NO AND WA SERIAL PSE~~

MEYT MEGB HR 316/3 P 11 ALRAR 004

GR

AQR

21/3

~~MEGB V LRAR 331 IMPORTANT~~

~~T MEYT~~

FROM FILPOT 031140B

TO MMIA

QQY GR ---

A0386 (.) RESTRICTED (.)

YOUR AQ1260 OF 1 (.)

CERRUTI REPORTED IN CUSTODY AT BENEVENTO WITH 8 ~~[redacted]~~ OTHER ~~[redacted]~~

ITALIANS

RPTN 331 IMPORTANT T MEYT 031140 A0386

AQ1260 1 CERRUTI 8

SENT 1433 DGH BB

4844

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

MEGB .V LRAR 6008 IMPORTANT

MEYT MEGB MR312/3 P MQURI A LOGU G 34 GR

QQY 03 1108 A+LOGU

GR 83 BT

22/3

TO MMIA (ACTION)

INFO AAI MMIA LO ACC MAIN

213

REF 4707 REFERENCE YOUR ABLE OBOE ONE TWO SIX ZERO

OF ONE JUNE (.)

SUBJECT CERRUTI (.) HAVE DIRECTED COMMANDING GENERAL

TWO ONE ZERO DIVISION TO SCREEN AND ALERT HIS UNITS

FOR CERRUTIS PRESENCE IN THIS AREA (.)

PAREN FIVE ARMY ACTION MIKE MIKE ITEM ABLE CMA INFO

ABLE ABLE ITEM CMA INFO MIKE MIKE ITEM ABLE

HEADQUARTERS ABLE CHARLIE CHARLIE MAIN PAREN TF CERRUTI

LOCATED HE WILL BE DELIVERED TO HEADQUARTERS TWO ONE

ZERO DIVISION AND THEN DELIVERED TO ABLE

CHARLIE CHARLIE AUTHORITIES

4843

RDQB

BT

RPTN 6008 IMPORTANT T MEYT Q QQY

031108 A/LOGU 83 4707

3/6 OK

SENT 1442 DGH BBB

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Tom Rheni

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI BARI
TENENZA DI MAGLIE

Rd. by enclosure mail 10.6.44.

N.IO/II2 di prot. div.III^ Maglie, li 2 giugno 1944

OGGETTO: Danneggiamento fili telegrafici e telefonici da parte di militari delle FF.AA. Alleate-Segnalazione.

Damage to phone & telegraph wires by allied military.

COMANDO ARMY=SUB.COMMISSIONE A.C.C.(M.M.I.A.) LEQUILE (Lecce)
COUNTER = INTELLIGENC - CORP. Via Princ. Amedeo 31 B A R I
AL COMANDO DEL IX° CORPO D'ARMATA B A R I
AL COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE DI L E C C E
AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE CC.RR. DI B A R I
ALLA COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC.RR. DI L E C C E
AL COMANDO DELLA COMPAGNIA CC.RR. DD L E C C E

Rd. 6/11

Alle ore I9 del 3I-5-I944 militari delle forze alleate sulla provinciale Maglie-Muro (Lecce) esplodevano vari colpi proprie pistole contro gli isolatori dei pali telegrafici e telefonici ed anche per terra danneggiando materiale per rottura fili punto Una pallottola sfiorava tale Verardi Giovanni di Alessandro di anni II senza conseguenze. Militari erano diretti, S. Cesarea Terme-Ritardata segnalazione. At 19.00 hrs. on 31.5.44. allied military in the Maglie-Muro Rd.-(Lecce) fired several pistol shots against the insulators on the telegraph and telephone poles and also at the ground causing damage by breaking wires &. One bullet grazed Verardi Giovanni aged 2 without consequences. Militaries were going towards S. Cesarea Terme.

IL S.TENENTE COMANDANTE
(Francesco Manzella)

6 gli NA
Fil

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

IN REPLY
REFER TO

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
UNITED STATES ARMY
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

AG

2 June 1944

AG 250.1 (BPLNO-1)

SUBJECT: Assault on Carabinieri

TO : General Officer Commanding, Army Sub Commission, A. C. C., Main Hq (MLTA), Lequile (Lecce).

1. Reference is made to your letter on the above subject, file AG/6/1, 24 May 44, wherein was transmitted a complaint received from the Italian Ministry of War as to an assault on Carabinieri in the Naples area, resulting in the death of one Carabinieri and severe wounds and injuries to another.

2. An immediate investigation was made as to this incident and it has developed that an armed group of some 15 U. S. soldiers (colored) did participate in an attack upon this Carabinieri, -- they having incorrectly received the impression that some of their own number had previously been assaulted and shot by these same Carabinieri. The entire incident involved a serious infraction of discipline and an episode of concerted willful action, which, of course, cannot be tolerated.

3. You are advised that 7 soldiers, of the probable 15 or more participating, have been apprehended, placed in close arrest, and have been charged with murder as the result of riotous and unlawful assemblage and assault. These individuals will be brought to trial by General Court Martial for their participation in this incident and appropriate punishment will ensue.

4. Sporadic incidents of this type have occurred recently in the Naples area. Each occurrence has been investigated, and wherever possible to apprehend the parties participating, appropriate military discipline and punishment has been applied. It is hoped that by vigilance in these matters the number of such unfortunate occurrences can be quickly reduced.

HEADQUARTERS
8 JUN 1944
A. C. C.

ARTHUR R. WILSON
Major General, USA
Commanding.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Army Sc.(Legal)

SUBJECT:- Relations with Italians. HQ ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY.

AAI/5063/6/A(PS). 213/1

1 Jun 44.

AQ/6/1 U-9643

Army Sub-Commission,
A.C.C.

204. AQ/6/1

Ref AQ/6/1 of 26 May 44.

1. The question if incidents between soldiers of the Allied Forces and Italian Caribinieri has already been taken up with Formation and District Comds.

A copy of this H.Q. letter 5063/6/A(PS) of 10 May 44 is attached.

2. The incidents mentioned in para 1 of your letter had not come to the notice of this H.Q. They are now being investigated.

3. In the case of any further incidents they will at once be investigated with a view to disciplinary action being taken against any Allied soldiers found to have acted incorrectly.

C.H. Lakeman
Brigadier
D.A.G.

CMP/IY.

HEADQUARTERS
1 - GIU 1944
A. C. C.

4839

8237.

Subject :- Relations with Italians.

Headquarters,
Allied Armies in Italy,
C.M.F.

5063/6/A(PS).

16 May 44.

C.G., FIFTH ARMY.
Main H.Q. EIGHTH ARMY.
5 Corps.
H.Q. 1 District.
H.Q. 2 District.
H.Q. 3 District.

A considerable number of cases have occurred where troops of the Allied Forces have come into conflict with the Italian Caribinieri. In several instances the Caribinieri have used their arms, with fatal results.

It should be very clearly understood by all ranks that cases of this nature will be judged strictly upon their merits. The Caribinieri have important responsibilities. If Allied soldiers molest them, or interfere with them in the course of their duties, they should not expect any different treatment from that which they would receive if they gave similar trouble to Military Police of the Allied Forces.

On the whole the Italian Caribinieri have behaved well and constitute an important factor in the maintenance of order among the civil population. So long as they carry out their responsibilities in a correct manner, the Commander-in-Chief wishes them to be given support, and he directs that suitable punishment should be meted out to any ill-disciplined soldiers who misbehave towards them.

[signature]

Major-General

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785040

merits. The Caribinieri have important responsibilities. If Allied soldiers molest them, or interfere with them in the course of their duties, they should not expect any different treatment from that which they would receive if they gave similar trouble to Military Police of the Allied Forces.

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BHR/Johnston

Major-General,
Chief Administrative Officer.

BHR/emb.

Copy to :- C.G., T.A.F.
C.G., P.B.S.
Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission.

40.0

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Page) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No.

Call	Srl. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

AQ 67 213

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) Originator: MMIA | Date-Time of Origin: 011315B | Office Date Stamp

For Action.

TO MMIA LO 5 Army
LO 8 Army
60,Sub Area
MMIA LO 5Corps
LO ACC Main

For Information (INFO)

AAI

212

Message Instructions. GR

Originator's No.

~~AQ 1260 Secret (.) Reference AAI A 0 365 of 3~~ May not to all (.)
Subject incident at BENEVENTO between members of Piano r Battalion of
Nembo Div and India n soldiers in which three Indians killed(.) C in C has
directed that Italian soldiers responsible be turned over to ACC Provincial
Commissioner for trial by ACC military Court(.) Reported here four of Italians
involved now in Allied custody but Italian soldier named CREBUTI who is alleged
to have fired shots has escaped (.) Under Secretary for War is directing all Italian
Commanders to surrender to ACC all Italians involved if not already accomplished
and to find CREBUTI(.) Check Italian Commands and ascertain position now(.)
Take necessary action to ~~investigate~~ ensure immediate and prompt compliance
by all Italian Commanders(.) Acknowledge and report action taken

4838

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

AC 1260 Secret (.) Reference AFI A 0 365 of 31 May not to all (.)
Subject incident at BENEVENTO between members of Pioneer Battalion of Nembo Div and Indian soldiers in which three Indians killed(.) C in C has directed that Italian soldiers responsible be turned over to ACC Provincial Commissioner for trial by ACC military Court(.) Reported here four of Italians involved now in Allied custody but Italian soldier named CESARUTI who is alleged to have fired shots has escaped (.) Under Secretary for War is directing all Italian Commanders to surrender to ACC all Italians involved if not already accomplished and to find CESARUPI(.) Check Italian Commands and ascertain position now(.) Take necessary action to ensure immediate and prompt compliance by all Italian Commanders(.) Acknowledge and report action taken

4838

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except ..... WIRELESS.	If liable to be Intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of priority.	Time	System	Op.
Signed.	Signed. Gen Staff Capo	IMMEDIATE	THF or TOR		
			Time Cleared		

P.S.S. «A» A.F.C. 2136 - 1-44.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AQ6/

218/1

Subject: Assault by Italian Military 27 May 44.

HQ 2 District CMF
2022/41 GSI

31 May 44

Army Sub Commission ACC
MMIA

Copy to: DD Tn Rlys

Attached is a copy of a report from DD Tn Rlys to No 2 District.

It is requested that the Italian authorities be asked for a full report and for severe disciplinary action to be taken against the offenders and this HQ informed of the result.

A S Walker

Major General,
Commanding.

EMB+

Qr 5/6.

5/6 PP

Passed to Air Force SC.
Bn Arzano is at Co 4836.

See folio 220/1

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY

Subject: Assault by Italian Military 27 May 44.

Transportation (Rlys)
H.Q., I.S.H. BARI
(Phone 12205)

RD3/11/220

HQ No 2 District

29 May 44

Train TV.56([illegible]/BARI service) was standing in POLIGNANO station on 27 May when an Italian parachutist threw a hand grenade at the train, causing head injuries to a civilian passenger. Italian police were prevented from apprehending the parachutist by his companions: the latter had a supply of grenades in his possession.

It is understood these parachutists are stationed at COZZE. The guard of the s/s train states there have been several similar incidents lately.

Will you please arrange for the matter to be taken up strongly with the Italian Military Authorities.

DI/HRJ

A.C.J.PAYNE Col.
DD.Tn (Rlys)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

HEADQUARTERS
PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
APO 782

30 May 1944

AG 250.1 (BPLNO-1)

SUBJECT: Shooting of Carabinieri

TO : Army Sub Commission, ACC, Main Hq (MMIA), Lequile (Lecce)

1. Reference is made to your letter, above subject, dated 24 May 1944.

2. Attached is a copy of the recommendation following investigation conducted by Captain Aime E. Borgers, CMP, Chief Agent CID.

For the Commanding General:

L. C. SUTTON, JR.
Captain, A. G. D.,
Ass't Adj. General

1 Incl: Recomm.

See folio 218

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

RECOMMENDATION:

9. Corporal John A Clark, Private First Class Alfred Taylor, and Privates John H. Barnes, Augustus J. Garcea, John McCall, Alfred A. Petersen, and John Whitney be tried under the 92nd Article of War, in that they did, at Naples, Italy, on or about 25 April 1944, with malice and aforethought, willfully, deliberately, feloniously, unlawfully, and with premeditation kill one Mastrini Euclide Di Alfonso, a human being, by shooting him with a fifle.

10. Cpl. Clark, Pfc. Taylor, and Pvts. Barnes, Garcea, McCall, Petersen, and Whitney be tried under the 89th Article of War, in that they being in and near their bivouac area, Via Reggia, Di Portici, Naples, Italy, did, at the said place, on or about 25 April 1944, commit a riot, in that they together with certain other soldiers to the number of fifteen, whose names are unknown, did, with force and arms, unlawfully, and riotously and in a violent and tumultuous manner, assemble to disturbe the peace of civilians then and there present, and having so assembled, did unlawfully and riotously assault Piccolo Lino and Bagnardi Francesco and others unknown by striking and kicking them to the terror and disturbance of civilians at the said place.

11. Cpl. Clark, Pfc. Taylor, and Pvts. Barnes, Garcea, McCall, Petersen, and Whitney, did, at Naples, Italy, on or about 25 April 1944, with intent to do bodily harm to him, commit as assault on Domini Silveo fu Graziano, by shooting him in the right and left knees with a dangerous weapon, to wit, a rifle.

12. Cpl. Clark, Pfc. Taylor, and Pvts. Barnes, Garcea, McCall, Petersen, and Whitney, did, at Naples, Italy, on or about 25 April 1944, with intent to do them bodily harm commit an assault upon Piccolo Lino and Bagnardi Francesco, by willfully and feloniously striking and kicking the said Piccolo Lino and Bagnardi Francesco in the face and body with their fists and feet.

4834

A TRUE COPY:

GILBERT F. BRODERS
Major, G. S. C.,
Executive Officer.

AIME E. BORGERS,
Captain, C.M.P.,
Chief Agent, C.I.D.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

211

Subject:- Incidents.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (AMLA)
LECCE. (LICCE)
AG/5/1
30 May 44.

Ministry of War.

1. On 11 May 44, at about 1830 hrs, an incident occurred on the MODUGNO Road, near BARI, between a British soldier, Spr. PARKER, 658, A/w Coy and Corporal Francisco Collette of Comando Tappa, No.3, BARI.

2. Corporal Francesco Collette was driving a cart of supplies, and was struck by the vehicle driven by Spr. Parker. A fight ensued, involving civilians.

3. Reports on the incident have been made by the two men involved, and also by Lt.Col LOIACONO Guiseppe, Commander of 209, Bn. Mitraglieri, MODUGNO.

4. Will the Ministry of War please inform this HQ of any disciplinary action taken against Corporal Collette.

See 264/2 3rd Jacket 4033

for F.J. Noiné
Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

Copy to: HQ. 6, BSA.
Stato Maggiore R Esercito.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

210

Subject:- Court of Inquiry. - Loss of WD Vehicle.
1001 (Italian)G.T. Coy.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (AMIA)
LEQUILE. (LECCE)
AC/6/1
30 May 44.

HQ. No.2 District.

206

Reference your 25/1/1A dated 26 May 44.

1. The Italian Ministry of War have been instructed to forward a report on the disciplinary action taken against Dvr. SELIARO Nito di Pietro, for the loss of a W.D. vehicle on 31 Jan 44.

2 of 1

J.Reid, Capt
for Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.

4832

Fb

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

209

Subject:- Loss of British Army Vehicle.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (BARI)
LECCE. (LECCE)
AG/6.1
3rd May 44.

Ministry of War.

See folio 206

1. On 31 Jan 44, a British vehicle, Dodge L4819918 on charge to SELLANO Nito di Pietro, Italian driver of 1001, G.T. Coy., was stolen.

2. The Court of Enquiry assembled to inquire into the loss of the above vehicle, found that the loss was due to the negligence of SELLANO.

3. Will the Ministry of War please forward to this HQ a report of the disciplinary action taken against SELLANO.

ae 245

Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

Copy to: Stato Maggiore R. Esercito.

4831

See folio 311

3rd Draft

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

2006

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI BARI

TENENZA DI MAGLIE

N.IO/IO8 di prot. div.III^ Maglie, li 29 maggio I944

OGGETTO: Furto di filo telefonico Militare-Segnalazione.

Theft of Mil. Telephone wire.

AL COMANDO ARMY-SUB COMMISSIONE A.C.C.(M.M.I.A.) LEQUILE (Lecce

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORP. Via Principe Amedeo 3I BARI

AL COMANDO DEL IX° CORPO D'ARMATA P.M. 67

AL COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE L E C CE

AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE CC.RR. DI B A R I

AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC.RR. DI L E C C E

AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE CC.RR. DI LECCE

AQ 6/1

Nei giorni ventuno o 22 andante militari alleati di transito sullo stradale Sanarica-Poggiardo (Lecce) esplodevano vari colpi proprie pistole contri isolatori linea telefonica militare facendo cadere per terra circa I60 metri filo poscia asportato da ignoti. Fervono indagini scoperta autori et recupero refurtiva punto. Ritardata denunzia.

From: CC.RR. Outpost MAGLIE (BARI)

On the 21st 22nd inst allied soldiers on the [illegible] road POGGIARDO (LECCE) firing [illegible] pistols at insulators of the Mil. Telephone line [illegible] two meters of wire drops to the ground where it was later removed by unknown persons. Investigation are carried out to find out the responsibles and to recover the wire. Report was delayed ⊙

IL S.TENENTE COMANDANTE
(Francesco Nunzella)

4830

Capt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

CONFIDENTIAL 207

Subject: Discipline - Allied Troops on L of C

AQ,16

HQ No.2 District CMF
207/A
29 May '44

MMIA LO XXXI Corps

3515

1 Reference your G.14/83 of 9 May '44 (copy to this Headquarters), the suggestion made in your para 3(ii) has been considered, but it is felt that as only Northbound convoys are concerned, the decision as to its practicability does not rest with this Headquarters, but with HQ AAI. The possibility of Southbound convoys of 25 vehicles or over is most unlikely.

2 Reference para 3(ii), it is regretted that it is not possible to provide a mobile CMP section from the Provost resources at present in this District, but it is hoped that it may be possible to obtain some assistance from the Provost Company of a formation due to arrive shortly.

See 4y see folio 205 and 197

See by AQ for Col Howard

for Major-General
Comd No.2 District

File

Copies to: Main HQ (MMLA)
HQ 3 District
Pro No.2 District

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI BARI
TENENZA DI MAGLIE

N.10/106 di prot.III^ Maglie,li 28 maggio 1944
OGGETTO:Esplosione colpi pistola nell'abitato di Maglie(Lecce) da parte di militari americani+Segnalazione.-

AL COMANDO ARMJ SUB COMMISSIONE-A.C.C.(M.M.I.A.)
LEQUILE(Lecce)
AL COMANDO DEL IX° CORPO D'ARMATA P. M. 67
AL COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE DI L E C C E
AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE DEI CC.RR. B A R I
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC.Rt. DI L E C C E
AL COMANDO DELLA COMPAGNIA CC.Rt. DI L E C C E

^^^^^^^^^^^^

Alle ore 18 del 27-5-1944,militari americani a bordo di camionetta di transito per la via Roma dell'abitato di Maglie (Lecce) esplodevano tre colpi pistola in aria allo scopo di colpire delle rondini.Polizia americana sopraggiunta con macchina,rilevava generalità militari responsabili.
Nessuno incidente.
Locale comando Presidio informato.

IL TENENTE COMANDANTE
(Francesco Nunzella)

4828

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

AQ

GABINETTO

Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 2468/c P.M.107, li 27 maggio 1944

OGGETTO: Incidenti fra militari alleati e popolazione.

Incidents between Allied soldiers & civ. population

Alla ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C. - Main HQ (MMIA) - LEQUILE

e, per conoscenza:

Al G A B I N E T T O S E D E

Continuano a pervenire, da parte dei Comandi periferici, segnalazioni di incidenti provocati, in genere, da militari Alleati, in stato di ubriachezza.

Il 26 aprile, a Taranto, sei militari inglesi, molestavano una ragazza accompagnata da un marinaio; alle rimostranze di questi, lo aggredivano violentemente, causando, per l'intervento dei civili presenti, un vero tumulto, con scariche di armi da fuoco in aria.

L'episodio non è che uno dei tanti che si verificano sovente in Taranto, ove, non di rado, militari Alleati cercano di penetrare, anche con la violenza, in abitazioni private allo scopo di procurarsi vino, liquori ed anche donne.

Il 9 maggio, a Bari, un soldato inglese ubriaco si recava davanti alla caserma "Giordano" del 401° Rgt.Ftr. minacciando con un moschetto automatico i militari che uscivano dalla caserma. Il giorno successivo altri soldati inglesi, sempre ubriachi, si avvicinavano al cancello della caserma stessa insultando la sentinella a cui tentavano togliere le giberne.

48:27

Questi due incidenti non hanno mancato, naturalmente, dal provocare forte risentimento da parte della truppa accantonata nella caserma.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ubriachezza.

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48:27

Questi due incidenti non hanno mancato, naturalmente, dal provocare forte risentimento da parte della truppa accantonata nella caserma.

Allo scopo di evitare il ripetersi di tali spiacevoli incidenti, che potrebbero portare ad inutili perturbamenti dell'ordine pubblico, le Autorità Militari italiane hanno disposto speciali servizi d'ordine e quelle civili hanno adottato misure intese a limitare sempre più l'orario di vendita degli alcoolici, ma, finora, con scarsi risultati.

Si sarà, pertanto, molto grati a codesta Sottocommissione se vorrà intervenire presso i Comandi Militari Alleati, dislocati specialmente nei maggiori Centri.-

GENERALE ALIBERTI

Aliberti

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT:- Court of Inquiry - Loss of WD Vehicle
1001 (Italian) GT Coy.

206

AQR(6

HQ No 2 District CMF.
25/141 A.
26 May 44.

HQ META.

1. The a/m vehicle was stolen whilst in the charge of SELLARO Nito di Pietro, an Italian driver of 1001 (Italian) GT Coy.

2. Disciplinary action was ordered against Sellaro, who has been posted away from 1001 (Italian) GT Coy, together with the Italian OC.

3. Please obtain a report of the disciplinary action taken against Dvr Sellaro, and return the attached documents with your reply.

File Pedi, reply to HQ

for Major General,
Comd. No 2 District.

4826

See folios 209
210
& 327 Trs Jacket

1254a/CHQP/150,000/8-42.

Army Form A 2.

*N.B. — The Form being applicable to any Board, or Committee, or Court of Inquiry, this blank to be filled in accordingly.

The proceedings should be signed by the President and by each Member of the Board, etc.

Attention is particularly drawn to the Rules for Courts of Inquiry contained in Rules of Procedure 124-125A, and especially to Rule 125A (B): also to paragraph 751, et seq., King's Regulations, 1935.

PROCEEDINGS of a* Court of Inquiry

assembled at Palo del Colle

on the Second of February 1944

by order of Major. G.B. Phipps. RASC, Commanding

130 Water Tank Company RASC.

for the purpose of enquiring into the circumstances in which Dodge L 4919918 was lost on the BITONTO - GIOVINAZZO road at approximately 07.00 hours on the 31st January 1944.

4825

PRESIDENT.

Capt. R.F. Mansfield. RASC.

MEMBERS.

Lieut. J. Simpson. RASC.

C.S.M. Boyes. J.W. RASC.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Attention is particularly drawn to the Rules for Courts of Inquiry contained in Rules of Procedure 124-125A, and especially to Rule 125A (B); also to paragraph 751, et seq., King's Regulations, 1935.

130 Water Tank Company RASC.

for the purpose of enquiring into the circumstances in which Dodge L 4813918 was lost on the BIFERNO - GIOVINAZZO road at approximately 07.00 hours on the 31st January 1944.

4825

PRESIDENT.

Capt. R.H. Mansfield. RASC.

MEMBERS.

Lieut. J. Simpson. RASC.

C.S.M. Boyes. J.W. RASC.

IN ATTENDANCE.

The Court having assembled pursuant to order, proceed to take evidence :-

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The first witness called was the driver of the vehicle SELLARO VITO DI PIETRO, whose signed statement in Italian is attached.

1st.Q. Why did you not immobilise your vehicle.
A. Because I was only about six or seven yards from the vehicle.

2nd.Q. From where you were was it possible to see the cab of your vehicle.
A. Not from where I was squatting.

3rd.Q. Did you hear anybody approach your vehicle before it was driven away.
A. No.

4th.Q. Are you quite certain your engine was stopped.
A. Yes.

5th.Q. Did you hear anybody open the door of your vehicle.
A. I had left the door open.

6th.Q. How far was the vehicle from the wall.
A. About 3 yards.

7th.Q. What type of ground was there between the vehicle and the wall.
A. Broken ground and a small ditch.

8th.Q. Did you take care to look around when you left your vehicle to see if there was anybody about.
A. No - as I was in a hurry.

9th.Q. Are you certain that the person who took the vehicle was wearing Battle-dress.

A. I only saw that he was wearing a Cap F.S.

10th.Q. At what time was the vehicle stolen.
A. About 07.00 hours.

11th.Q. At what time did you report to the Military Police in Bari.
A. Between 12.00 and 13.00 hours.

12th.Q. What did you do between 07.00 hours and Mid-day.
A. I was looking for my vehicle.

13th.Q. At what time did you return to Palo.
A. About 18.00 hours.

14th.Q. What did you do then.
A. I reported the theft to my Platoon Officer.

15th.Q. Do you know how to immobilise a vehicle.
A. Yes.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799020

see if there was anybody about.
A. No - as I was in a hurry.

9th.Q. Are you certain that the person who took the vehicle was wearing Battle-dress.

A. I only saw that he was wearing a Cap F.S.

10th.Q. At what time was the vehicle stolen.
A. About 07.00 hours.

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A. I was looking for my vehicle.

13th.Q. At what time did you return to Palo.
A. About 18.00 hours.

14th.Q. What did you do then.
A. I reported the theft to my Platoon Officer.

15th.Q. Do you know how to immobilise a vehicle.
A. Yes.

The second witness called was the 'C' Platoon Officer Tenente Citrani Ugo who states that:-

At about 18.00 hours 31 Jan 44 the driver Sellaro Vito di Pietro reported to me that his vehicle had been stolen at about 07.00 hours that morning. I immediately reported the fact to my O.C. and told the driver to make a declaration. This vehicle was on detail carrying ammunition in 14 B.A.D. and was on an authorised journey and route.

1st.Q. What type of man is Sellaro Vito di Pietro.
A. I have not known him long enough to pass an opinion.

2nd.Q. Had Sellaro Vito die Pietro been instructed never to leave his vehicle unattended.
A. On many occasions.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

3rd. Q. Have you received instructions to the effect that an other person will always be carried in a vehicle.
A. Yes - But that morning the usual spare driver was in hospital and I was unable to find a replacement.

4th. Q. Do your vehicles normally carry a second driver ?.
A. Many do and many do not because there are not sufficient men.

5th. Q. On whose charge was the vehicle.
A. It was on charge to Sallaro Vito di Pietro.

The Court then recalled Sellaro Vito di Pietro for further questioning:-

Q. Had you signed for the stolen vehicle.
A. Yes.

The third witness called was T/6642393.M.S.M. Bedlow.E.G.

Q. On what Unit's charge is vehicle L. 4819918.
A. This vehicle was issued to 130 Water Tank Coy. RASC on a A.B. 108 by 582 Arty Coy.RASC. It has subsequently been reissued on A.B. 108 to 1001 (Italian) G.T.Coy. RASC, and has been signed for by Sellaro Vito di Pietro on another AB 108. Consequently the vehicle is on charge to 1001 (Italian) G.T.Coy.RASC.

The Court having heard the evidence, records the following opinions:-

1. The lost vehicle is on ledger charge to 1001 (Italian) G.T.Coy.RASC. British Cadre in accordance with 2 District letter 4491/1/ST3 dated 25 January 1944., For the purpose of safe custody, however, the vehicle is the responsibility of the Italian Officer Commanding, and at the time of loss was on charge to SELLARO VITO DI PIETRO.

2. The loss of the vehicle was due to the gross negligence of the Italian driver who failed to immobilise his vehicle as laid down in his Company Standing Orders and made known to him by his Platoon Officer The Court is further of the opinion that had a spare driver been

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 779080

Q. On what Unit's charge is vehicle L. 4619918.
A. This vehicle was issued to 130 Water Tank Coy. RASC on A.B. 108 by 582 Arty Coy.RASC. It has subsequently been reissued on A.B. 108 to 1001 (Italian) G.T.Coy. RASC, and has been signed for by Sellaro Vito di Pietro on another AB 108. Consequently the vehicle is on charge to 1001 (Italian) G.T.Coy.RASC.

The Court having heard the evidence, records the following opinions:-

1. The lost vehicle is on ledger charge to 1001 (Italian) G.T.Coy.RASC. British Cadre in accordance with 2 District letter 4491/1/ST3 dated 25 January 1944., For the purpose of safe custody, however, the vehicle is the responsibility of the Italian Officer Commanding, and at the time of loss was on charge to SELLARO VITO DI PIETRO.

2. The loss of the vehicle was due to the gross negligence of the Italian driver who failed to immobilise his vehicle as laid down in his Company Standing Orders and made known to him by his Platoon Officer. The Court is further of the opinion that had a spare driver been available to accompany the lorry the theft might have been avoided.

3. The precautions taken to avoid loss was that the fact that a vehicle must never be left unattended was made known to every driver and the drivers were also told that when this was not possible the vehicle would be immobilised.

4. In order to prevent the occurrence of a similar loss in the future it is recommended that:-

   (a) A label bearing a suitable order in Italian to the effect that vehicles will never be left unattended and where this is unavoidable the vehicle will be immobilised be affixed in a prominent position on each vehicle windscreen.
   (b) Great emphasis is laid during training of Italian drivers on the importance of unattended vehicles and also the exact method to be adopted with regard to immobilisation.
   (c) Suitable disciplinary action be taken against the person responsible i.e. the driver.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

(Signed) R.H.Mansfield. Capt. PRESIDENT.

(Signed) J.Simpson.Lt.RASC. MEMBER.

(Signed) T/31130. J.Boyes. C.S.M. MEMBER.

I concur with the finding of the Court

(Signed) C.B.Phipps. Major.RASC.

Commanding Cadre 1001 G.T.Coy.RASC.

4/2/44.

I concur

7/2/44

C Beale

LT. COLONEL

COMDG 12 LOP & TRANSPORT COLUMN RASC

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 799020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

OPINION OF SUB AREA COMMANDER

In my opinion Sellaro Vito Di Pietro was negligent and direct that disciplinary action be taken against him

G.V. Peluso

Brigadier.
Commander.
6 Base Sub-Area.

3 Mar 44

4824

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

List of (ARMS, (a) / Personal Equipment, (a) / CLOTHING (a) / STORES, (a) (a) British Cedre, 1001 Italian G.T. Coy. belonging to the above, reported lost, damaged or d

(a) Strike out headings not applicable. A separate form to be used for each of the above.

Station.

CAT. or Part No.	ARTICLES. Designation (Registered Nos. where such exist to be given	No.	RATE.	New value at Vocn. Rates. or (b) actual cost of repair. £ s. d.	(c) Value at 75%. or actual value if greater or less. £ s. d.	It the abl the of rep evi evi he
	Dodge Lorry, 3 Ton. GS. 4 x 2. Model. T-110. W.D.No. L. 4216018. Engine No. T110L-256650. Chassis No. 010753259.	One.		150 - -	£ 116 - - Amended 11 June Copy 16 April 43 6BSA/306/43 Q	Re ame sic he 26

(b) Where the amount refers to cost of repair, it should be stated.

(c) In the case of article value should be deduct

Mc Griffe Major

.....
Signature of the Officer in whose charge the articles are held.

Submitted.....
Signature of C.O.C. or D.A.D.O.S.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(UNIT OR DEPAR.MENT) A.F.G. 998.

...dre, 1001 Italian G.T. Coy.
...to the above, reported lost, damaged or destroyed.
...ugh ...licable. A separate Form
...ch of the above.

Station. Field. Date 19 March 1944.

	RATE.	New value at Vocab. Rates. or (b) actual cost of repair.	(c) Value at 75%. or actual value if greater or less.	REMARKS. It should be certified that the amount chargeable, when it is less than the Vocab. rate, is the actual value at date of loss or damage beyond repair; the nature of the evidence on which the evidence is based should be given.	Decision of the Superior Authority.
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.		
		150 - -	~~75~~ 116	Assessed as being the average price, as per instructions in 12 Lofc Signal ST 1712 dated 26 March 44	

Amended 11 June 44 Capt 16 AGM 6 BSA/306/43 Q

of repair, (c) in the case of articles damaged beyond repair the residual value should be deducted.

Submitted.....
Signature of O.C.O.C. or D.A.D.O.S.

ESU
.....
Signature of the Superior Authority.

Dichiarazione dell'autiere SELLARO Vito

Ieri mattina alle ore 7 circa mentre mi dirigevo da Bitonto verso Giovinazzo sulla camionabile, per recarmi a caricare munizioni che si trovavano a circa metà della detta camionabile, appena uscito da Bitonto ho fermato l'automezzo per impellenti necessità fisiche. Nessun militare italiano e alleato si trovava sulla mia macchina.

Mi sono allontanato dal veicolo non più di 5 o 6 metri per mettermi dietro al muricciuolo che sorge sul lato destro della camionabile per fare i miei bisogni. La mia assenza é durata circa 6 minuti. Nel frattempo mi accorgevo che il motore della mia macchina era stato acceso e sollevato la testa per vedere chi fosse scorgevo un tale vestito in divisa tipo inglese che si affrettava a partire.

Non ho potuto a tempo raggiungerlo né l'ho più rivisto.

Spno salito su una macchina inglese che si trovava a passare subito dopo nella stessa direzione, non ho potuto rggiungere il mio automezzo perché ho trovato un crocivia sbarrato.

Ho informato più tardi la polizia inglese di Bari in Corso Cavour, raccontando l'accaduto e fornendo i dati del mio veicolo.

Palo del Colle, li 1/2/1944 Sell. Vito

IL COMANDANTE
(Cap. Calfa Fernando)

4822

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 779030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Discipline - Allied Troops, CALABRIA L of C.

1D/11/A

26 May 44

Liaison Officer,
MMIA
Hq XXXI Italian Corps
CATANZARO

Reference your 6.14/83 dated 9 May 44.

1. With regard to para 3 (ii) of the above quoted letter, it is suggested that movements REGGIO should insert a paragraph in the orders for Convoy Commanders, drawing attention to their responsibilities regarding

(a) the discipline of Allied troops in transit,
(b) Relations with Italians, both civil and military,
(c) the necessity for respecting Italian property.

2. It is recommended that action be taken as proposed in para 3 (ii).

File

Colonel i/c Administration,
No 1 District.

C.M.F.
PEI/RML

Copies to :- Army Sub-Commission ACC) ref
Main Hq (MMIA)) AC/6/1 dated 18 May 44.
Lequile (LECCE))
Headquarters, 40 (Br) Inf Div.
Movements REGGIO.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Attack on Major LEOTTI by Allied Military

AQ

1

HQ No.2 District
CMF

207 A 26 May 44

Army Sub Commission ACC
Main HQ (MMIA),
Lequile, LECCE.

1864.283

Ref your AQ/6/1 of 30 Apr 44.

Attached please find copies of letters, resulting from investigations in respect of the attacks on Major LEOTTI and Lt BIANO.

for Major-General,
Commander, No.2 District.

Maj W informed by Hdqrs lack of evidence

File 4819

28/5 CMP

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY

SUBJECT: Attack on Major LEOTTI Nicola by Allied Military

21 May 44

6BSA/53/Pro

HQ 6 Base Sub Area

1. Ref your 6BSA/201/11/A dated 6 May 44 concerning the above named Italian Officer.

2. The records of this office have been thoroughly examined and there is no report on the alleged attack by Allied soldiers.

3. Should any relevant details come to light the information will be passed on immediately.

(Sgd) ????????

Major,
Assistant Provost Marshal,
Headquarters 6 Base Sub Area.

4818

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(Copy)

1st Ind

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL, 1052 Military Police Col (Avn)., APO - 520 11 May 44

To: Assistant Provost Marshal, Headquarters, 52 Area

1. No report of this incident has ever been made to the undersigned nor to his predecessor.

2. All possible leads have been investigated but to no avail.

3. Officer in question has left this area about ten days ago for the "Front".

(Sgd) DON C. CURRY,

1st Lt, CMP
Provost Marshal

48-17

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AQ 9/1
27/5
203

SUBJECT: Incident involving Carabinieri

HQ No 2 District CMF
34/2 A
26 May 44

Main HQ
Army Sub Commission ACC

201

Ref your AQ/6/1 dated 24 May 44.

1. It is regretted that it is quite impossible to begin investigation in respect of the incident reported by the Italian Ministry of War letter 7246/1 dated 15 May unless further particulars can be provided. 194

2. If you can state the station from where the train started, the time of departure and destination, enquiries will be initiated immediately.

27/5 Fdc P.Mcdell. babs
4816 folio 219
Major General,
Comd No 2 District

Maj Byatt
making further enquiries
29/5/44

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

202

Subject:- Searching of CCRR Barracks.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MILAN)
LECCE. (LECCE)
AQ/6/1
24 May 44.

HQ. No.2 District.

A translation of the Italian Ministry of War letter 6736/1 dated 10 May 44 is forwarded for information and such action as may be necessary.

for Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb/JB

4015.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY TRANSLATION.

From: War Ministry.
To : MMIA.

Ref: 6736/I
Date 10/5/44

Subject: Search of Carabinieri Barracks by British M.P's.

It is hereby reported that on 23 April at 22.00 hrs., six British Military Police, led by a certain Angelosante Constantino, entered the Carabinieri Barracks at S Giovanni a Teduccio, Naples, and proceeded to a careful search for Allied goods requisitioned and possibly concealed. During the search, the Maresciallo Commander of the station and the Carabinieri present, were held at the point of automatic weapons.

The search yielded negative results.

It is to be noted that during the morning of 16 April, Angelosante's wife - Somino Anna - was arrested by the Carabinieri of San Giovanni a Teduccio, charged xxxx and sentenced on 18 April by the Barra Allied Summary Court for illegal possession of Allied property.

4814

signed: Col. R. FIORE-VERNAZZA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(201)

Subject:- Incident involving Carabinieri.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MAIN)
LEQUEIL. (LECOT)
AG/6/1
24 May 44.

HQ. No.2 District.

1. A translation of the Italian Ministry of War letter 7240/1 dated 15 May 44 is forwarded for such action as may be necessary.

2. In view of the seriousness of the allegations, it is regretted that further information is not available.

fb/JB

for Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY TRANSLATION.

Ref : 7246/I
Date: 15/5/44

From: War Ministry.
To : MMIA.

Subject: Incident-an English Lieut. and an Italian Carabinieri.

I have been informed that on 26 April last, and English Lieut. on duty on a train reserved for Allied troops ordered a Vicebrigadier of Carabinieri and a Carabinieri who were escorting two prisoners to get off the train, in spite of the fact that they produced an MMIA permit to travel on said train.

While the two Italian Military were getting off the train, the officer slapped the face of the Carabinieri who replied with his fist. The immediate intervention of the Vicebrigadier put an end to the incident.

The Bari Military Tpt. Delegation attempted to investigate the matter at the PTO's office, but the a/m Lieut., when questioned, declared that as far as they were concerned, the incident was closed.

I consider it my duty to place these facts before MMIA in case you should deem it advisable to take measures to avoid the recurrence of such incidents.

In this particular instance, besides, the British officers gesture acquires a special importance since it was to the detriment of a member of the Italian Police Force which has always and at all times offered the Allies its most willing co-operation.

Signed: The Minister.
Taddeo ORLANDO.

4812

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

200

Subject:- Shooting of Carabinieri.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (BARI)
LECCE. (LECCE)
AG/6/1
24 May 44.

C.G. P.B.S.

1. A translation of the Italian Ministry of War letter 7330/1 dated 13 May 44 is forwarded for information and action as necessary.

2. In view of the seriousness of the incident, may this HQ please be informed of the results of further investigations.

Geo Ashley Hall
Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb/JE

4811

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY TRANSLATION.

Ref :7386/I
Date:18/5/44

From: Ministry of War
To : MMIA.

Subject: Death of a Carabinieri and wounding of another by Allied Coloured Soldiers.

It has been reported that on the evening of 25 April, Carabinieri MASTRILLI Euclide and DONINI Silvio of the Naples Carabinieri HQ Coy., while walking along Via Foglia di Portici, Naples leading their own horses were fired at by at close range with automatic weapons by coloured military, who disappeared before they could be recognised.

Carabinieri Mastrilli, seriously wounded in the femoral region died almost at once. Carabinieri Donini suffered a fracture of the right knee, his leg being immediately amputated on arrival at the Incurables Hospital where he was taken by an Allied Police lorry.

British Police HQ in Naples have been informed of the incident.

The incident is brought specially before MMIA in case you should deem it opportune to have measures taken in avoidance of such aggravating incidents as the above.

signed: Col. FIORE VERNAZZA.

4810

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

1991

G-AA/201/1/A

AQ 16/1

SUBJECT:- Discipline

MMA

The attached reports are forwarded for investigation please.

Will you please inform this HQ if any disciplinary action will be taken against Corporal Francesco COLETTA of Comando Tappa No 8 BARI.

Brigadier.
Commander.
6 Base Sub Area.

23 May 44.
KH:/JV

Copy to:- 658 AW Coy, RE.

File pending reply from MMA

2035

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

R E P O R T.

To : The Officer Commanding
230 Provost Company.

Sir,

I have to report that at Bari 11th May 44 at about 1845 hrs. I was on duty at C.M.P. H.Q. when I was informed by N° 1906336 SPR PARKER A.W. of 658 A/W Company, R.E. that an incident had occurred during which he had been stoned and attacked by Italian civilians and Soldiers.

I accompanied Spr. Parker to the scene of the occurrence where he pointed out an Italian soldier, Corporal FRANCESCO COLETTA of Comando Tappa N°8, Bari, as being one of the participants in the stone throwing.

The Italian Corporal bore a mark on his nose, at the bridge of the nose, which he stated had been caused by Spr. Parker kicking him, this was denied by Spr. Parker, who bore marks on his forehead, and a scratch on his upper lip which he stated were caused by stones blows. Both made statements.

I inspected a Horse Drawn vehicle which had been knocked into the ditch by Spr. Parker's vehicle, and which had been the initial of dispute, the vehicle was in a ditch, but the only damage sustained was a stretcher piece upon which the brake blocks are held. The horse sustained THREE SMALL GRAZES which did not inconvenience it at all. The G.M.C. SH BY Six, N°4186123 which vehicle is on the strenght of C.R.E. was damaged to the extent of a BROKEN WINDSHIELD and was driven away by Spr. Parker at the conclusion of my questionary. I accompanied Spr. Parker to his unit where I interviewed the Company Sergeant Major, and pointed out that the WORK TICKET which was in the driver's possession was irregular in every particular. On examining it closely I saw that for the entry of 11th May 44 it bore only the signature of person authorising the journey, a Corporal Jones, of the same unit, no other columns had had any entry of any disoription, and for the previous two journies the columns 8:9:10:12:13:14:15:16:18 had had no entries made against them.

I was later approached by an Italian Officer ~~illegible~~. LOIACONO GIUSEPPE, Commander of 209 Btg. Mitraglieri, Modugno who stated that he had witnessed the dispute between Spr. Parker and the Italians. He also made a statement.

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

C. SKETCH MAP of the scene of the accident is attached.
Statements by Spr. Barker, Lt. Col. Loiacono, Cpl. Colletta are also attached.

Bari 11/5/44

(Signed) F. CARPENTER Cpl.
C.M. Police

2037

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Statement by No 1906336 SPR. PARKER A.W. of 658 A/W Coy R.E. Bari and taken down in writing by Cpl. F. CARDINER, C.M. Police on 11th May 1944 at about 1910 hrs.

I, Spr. Parker do say :

I was driving along the Modugno road at Bari and at about half a mile distance from Bari when I overtook a horse drawn vehicle, whilst overtaking I struck the BRAKE BLOCK of the cart with my bumper and knocked the cart into the ditch. I stopped and returned to find the extent of the damage, finding that no one was injured I asked the driver of the cart if every thing was alright, he replied, to the best of my knowledge, that it was alright for me to go. I entered the cab of my truck and was about to leave when a crowd of Italian crowded around the truck, they appeared to be of a threatening nature. I attempted to defend myself but they pulled me out of the cab and struck me with stones, they also threw stones at the windscreen which was smashed on the left side, when at last I did get away I drove off and was soon overtaken by an American Military Policeman in a Jeep; who stopped me, questioned me, and led the way to C.M.P. HQ. Bari.

The accident happened at about 1830 hrs. The Italian soldier who was brought in for questioning by the C.M.P. was definately one of those who stoned me.

I sustained cuts on the forehead and lip through the stone and blows.

(Signed) A.W. Parker.

4807

2038

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Bari 11th May 44.

I,Corporal COLETTA FRANCESCO of the Comando Tappa N°8 Ba!, Corso Mazzini, state the following:

Today, the 11th May 44, at about 1630 hrs. I was on the Modugno road to transport vegetables on a carriage from my unit at Bari. I didn't hear any signal, when suddenly a British vehicle coming from behind, or trying to overtake my carriage, though the road at that moment was occupied by another lorry coming from the frontside, collided with my carriage

My car upon that collision was towed away from the road, damaged and also the horse got contusions on his fore legs.

The British lorry stopped after a few yards. I asked the British driver to help me to transport the vegetables on his truck to my billet. Instead, the driver returned to his vehicle and tried to move on. Seeing that, with standing on the running board and holding the steering vehicle, I tried to prevent the driver to move on, repeating my wish to transport my food to my billet. He refused again this request and struck me in my face. Seeing that I didn't yield to keep him stopping, he kicked me in my face, causing injury on my nose and denture.

Some civilians afterwards intervened, opened the cabin door and took the driver out of his lorry, Knocked him down with a stone, injuring him on his forehead. An Italian Lieutenant-Colonel then approached the scene, wanting to get the driver's particulars, also an American M.P. arrived on his motorcycle, spoke to the British driver, and they then went away. Afterwards the British M.P. arrived and accompanied me to their H.Q.

(Signed) Cpl. COLETTA FRANCESCO

N.B. I am not able to state the names of the Italian civilians who were on the scene because I don't know them but if I saw them, I think I could recognize them. I think they are workers employed at "ANIC".

4206

2039

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Bari 11th May 1941.

I, Lieutenant-Colonel LOIACONO GIUSEPPE, Commander of the 2.9 Battaglione Mitraglieri at Modugno state as follows:

Today, the 11th May 44, at about 1630 hrs., whilst I was driving on my motor cycle along from Modugno towards Bari I noticed a damaged Italian military cart on the same road near "ANIC" in a ditch on the right hand side. More forwards towards Bari an Allied vehicle was proceeding very slowly by jerks. I increased my speed and that time I heard voices from some civilians who stopped to look, saying "They are fighting in the driver's cabin". I understood there was trouble between Italian and British soldiers. I stopped my motor cycle and proceeding towards the lorry, I saw an Italian civilian opening the cabin's door and threw a large stone inside.

Before I got time to arrive to the lorry, the same Italian pulled the British driver out from his car, knocked him on the ground and pulled him across the road. At this moment I arrived on the scene and stopped the quarrel. I don't speak English and therefore I couldn't make the driver understand that I wanted his particulars, because the same driver became afraid something serious could happen to him, he started his car moving and drove on with speed towards Bari. I followed him on my motor cycle. On the town-border at Bari I met an Allied Policeman and gave him with signs to understand to follow me, showing him the British lorry. Arriving at Bari the Policesergeant approached and reached the British driver and conveyed him to the C.M.P. H.Q.

(Signed)
Lieutenant-Colonel LOIACONO GIUSEPPE

SUBJECT:- Death of INDIAN Soldier.

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M M I A)
Rear H Q EIGHTH ARMY.
MM/104/10.

22 May 44.

"A" Branch
Rear EIGHTH ARMY.

Copy to :- Army Sub Commission, ACC
Main H Q (M M I A)
LEQUILE (LECCE)

Reference MM/104/4 of 10 May 44.

1. General Tomaselli of I F A HQ is taking the following action with regard to the charge preferred against :-

Fante. BRAVI Mario.

and

Fante. COTUGNO Pietro.

2. The soldiers will be held in custody at the prison in PIEDMONTE D'ALIFE.

3. The local Commander will charge them with culpable homicide and forward to the Military Tribunal [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Reference MM/104/4 of 10 May 44.

1. General Tomaselli of I F A HQ is taking the following action with regard to the charge preferred against :-

Fante. BRAVI Mario.

and

Fante. COTUGNO Pietro.

2. The soldiers will be held in custody at the prison in PIEDMONTE D'ALIFE.

3. The local Commander will charge them with culpable homicide and forward to the Military Tribunal FF AA CAMPANIA. The police evidence both from the British Military Police and from any other sources ~~is~~ considered necessary.

4. The Military Tribunal, having received the charge, will hold the trial and pass sentence.

4005

25/5 JB

21 2 45

M. Fieldman

Major,
Liaison Officer.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

From: Maglie Branch of Bari Carabinieri Legion. Ref. 42/
TO: M.M.I.A. Date: 22
Subject: Incident at Ugiano la Chiesa.

At about 17.30 hrs. on May 21st. 194
Rubichi, Biagio, 25, labourer, employed
an English vessel torpedoed and anchor
Otranto waters, was returning to the
of Ugiano la Chiesa (Lecce) with a p
containing old material of British flag
near the said village he was attacke
DE GIORGI, Raffaele, 44, MINTEFORTE Fran
his father brother Angelo, 40, DE GIUSEPPE, 2
Cosimo 34, MERICO Gaetano 34 and C
Alfredo 40, all labourers who due to
against him brother Romolo, to whom

480

Noted in Case of further

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Bench of Bari Carabinieri Legion. Ref. 42/43. (198)
1A. Date: 22.5-44.
AM 16/1041/6

ncident at Ugliano la Chiesa.

about 17.30 hrs. on May 21st. 1944 a
Bridante, 25, labourer, employed on board
h naval torpedoed and anchored in
waters, was returning to the village
o la Chiesa (Lecce) with a pack
old material of British flags. When
said village he was attacked by
Raffaele, 44, MONTEFORTE Francesco, 43
rother Angelo, H.O, DE GIUSEPPE, Damiano
4, MERICO Pietro, 34 and CORDELLI
0, all labourers mules due to hostility
n brother Romolo, to voluntary report.
noted in Case of prior allegiance to

480

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

42/42-937 of this date refus, beat him with sticks and took away the Pack.

Investigations continue to determine individual responsability above 6 individuals and charge them before competent authority.

(Sgd) Francesco MUNZELLA.
2nd. Lt. I/C Station.

Sgt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI BARI
TENENZA DI MAGLIE

N. 42/43 di prot. Riv. Rs. Maglie, li 22 maggio 1944

OGGETTO: Ordine pubblico nel comune di Uggiano La Chiesa-Segnalazione incidente in Uggiano la Chiesa -.

AL COMANDO ARMY SUBCOMMISSION A.C.C. (MMIA)
ANGLO = AMERICANO LECCE
AL COMANDO DEL IX° CORPO D'ARMATA P.M. 67
AL COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE LECCE
AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE DEI CC.RR. DI BARI
ALLA REGIA PREFETTURA DI LECCE
ALLA REGIA QUESTURA DI LECCE
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO DEI CC.RR. DI LECCE
AL COMANDO DELLA COMPAGNIA DEI CC.RR. DI LECCE

Verso le ore 17,30 del 21 maggio 1944 dal SUBACQUEO Brillante di anni 25 bracciante, occupato bordo piroscafo Inglese silurato ancorato acque Otranto, rincasava abitato Uggiano la Chiesa(Lecce) con un sacco contenente vecchie stoffe bandiere Inglesi-Giunto nei pressi abitato predetto veniva aggredito da tali DE GIORGI Raffaele di anni 44-MONTEFORTE Francesco di anni 43 di costui fratello Angelo di anni 40-DE GIUSEPPE Damiano Cosimo di anni 34-MENDOO Gaetano anni 34 e CORDELLI Alfredo di anni 40, braccianti i quali per ostilità contro fratello Romolo cui tratta odierna segnalazione N° 42/42-937 lo malmenavano con bastonate togliendogli sacco sopracitato.

Furono indagini per stabilire singole responsabilità predetti sei individui et formulare denunzia loro carico competente autorità giudiziaria.

4803

IL TENENTE COMANDANTE
(Francesco Runzella)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

From: Maglie Branch of Bari Carabinieri Legion Ref: 42/42-1937
To: HMMTA. AQ16/1 Date: 22.5.44
Subject: Arrest of Laborer Rubrichi, Romolo at Uggiano la

Laborer Rubrichi, Romolo, of Uggiano la Chies
been working for the past 3 months on board an
naval torpedoed and ground in waters of Otranto.
some time he has been bragging among the populat
of Uggiano la Chiesa (Lecce) of the special treatm
with which he was favored by the Command
of the naval ruler, according to him, presenti
him with tins of meat and other goods. The
constant bragging angered the population ruler
became hostile towards him. Having aroused
this hostility Rubrichi yesterday, 21.5.44, re
leaving the ship armed himself with an 189
stolen from the ship. When he returned to
neighborhood of Uggiano several men ha

4802

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Branch of Bari. Carabinieri Legion Ref. 42/42-1937.
AQ16/1 0416 Date: 22. 5. 44. (1961)
of Laborers Rubricchi, Romolo at Uggiano la Chiesa.

u Rubricchi, Romolo, of Uggiano la Chiesa has
p the past 3 months on board an English
d and ground in waters of Otranto. For
as been dragging among the population
Chiesa (Lecce) of the special treatment
he was favoured by the Commanders
rules, according to him, presented
s of meat and other goods. This
cing aroused the population rules
de towards him. Having armed
Rubricchi yesterday, 2/5/44, when
ship armed himself with an 1891 rifle
the ship. When the carried in the
of Uggiano several men having

4802

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Sien him armed attacked him, fought
and slapping him and disarming him
W.O.I. Garofalo Giovanni of the Carabinei
promptly intervened and arrested Rubiclu
in illegal carrying of firearms and took
of the rifle. Investigations are being ca
out to ascertain further responsability of R
goods from the a/m vessel.

(Sgd.) Francesco MUNZE
2nd. Lt. i/c Station

2049

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

him armed attacked him, punching
slapping him" and disarming him.
Carapelo, Giovanni of the Carabinieri.
ly intervened and arrested Rubrichi.
ed carrying of firearms and took possession
rifle. Investigations are being carried
ascertain further responsibility of Rubrichi
y strip of rifle and possibly other
from the a/m vessel.

(Sgd.) Francesco MUNZELLA.

2nd. Lt. i/c Station.

S/Sgt.

LEGIONE TERRITORIALE DEI CARABINIERI REALI DI BARI

SEZIONE DI MAGLIE

N.42/42-1937 di prot. Ris. Maglie, li 22 maggio 1944

OGGETTO: Ordine pubblico nel comune di Uggiano la Chiesa-arresto di RUBRICHI Romolo di anni 22, bracciante per porto abusivo moschetto 1891.

Residente in Uggiano la Chiesa

ARMY SUB COMMISSIONE A.C.C. (M.M.I.A.)

AL COMANDO [illegible] LEQUILE
AL COMANDO DEL IX° CORPO D'ARMATA P.M. 67
AL COMANDO DEL PRESIDIO MILITARE LECCE
AL COMANDO DELLA LEGIONE CC.RR. DI B a R I
ALLA REGIA PREFETTURA DI LECCE
ALLA REGIA QUESTURA DI LECCE
AL COMANDO DEL GRUPPO CC.RR. DI LECCE
AL COMANDO COMPAGNIA CC.RR. DI LECCE

Il bracciante RUBRICHI Romolo da Uggiano la Chiesa da circa tre mesi trovasi a lavorare a bordo del piroscafo Inglese silurato arrenato nelle acque di Otranto. Il medesimo vantavasi tra la popolazione di Uggiano la Chiesa (Lecce) per il trattamento speciale che riceveva da parte comandanti piroscafo che secondo sue asserzioni gli cedevano scatolette di carne et altri generi. Dali sue vanterie hanno indignato popolazioni e da qualche tempo erasi mostrato ostile al Rubrichi il quale avendo avuto sentore tale ostilità ieri 21-5-1944 nel rincasare reduce dal piroscafo armavasi di moschetto 1891 sottratto bordo piroscafo stesso. Giunto nei pressi abitato Uggiano vari individui avendolo scorto armato lo aggredivano malmenandolo con pugni e schiaffi et disarmandolo. Intervenuto prontamente Maresciallo Maggiore Garofalo Giovanni comandante stazione arma Minervino di Lecce procedeva arresto del Rubrichi per porto abusivo moschetto previo sequestro arma punto Indagasi onde stabilire eventuali altre responsabilità carico Rubrichi circa sottrazione moschetto et altri generi piroscafo suddetto punto.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Il bracciante Rubichi Nicola da Uggiano la Chiesa da circa tre mesi trovasi a lavorare a bordo del piroscafo Inglese silurato arrenato nelle acque di Otranto.Il medesimo vantavasi tra la popolazione di Uggiano la Chiesa (Lecce) per il trattamento speciale che riceveva da parte comandanti piroscafo che secondo sue asserzioni gli cedevano scatolette di carne et altri generi.Tali sue vanterie hanno indignato popolazioni e da qualche tempo erasi mostrato ostile al Rubrichi il quale avendo avuto sentore tale ostilità ieri 21-5-1944 nel rincasare reduce dal piroscafo armavasi di moschetto 1891 sottratto bordo piroscafo stesso.Giunto nei pressi abitato Uggiano vari individui avendolo scorto armato lo aggredirano malmenandolo con pugni e schiaffi et disarmandolo.Intervenuto prontamente Maresciallo Maggiore Garofalo Giovanni comandante stazione arma Minervino di Lecce procedeva arresto del Rubrichi per porto abusivo moschetto previo sequestro arma punto Indagasi onde stabilire eventuali altre responsabilità carico Rubrichi circa sottrazione moschetto et altri generi piroscafo suddetto punto.

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IL [illegible] COMANDANTE
(Francesco Nuncella)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(196)

Subject:- Assault on Guardia di Finanza.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MMIA)
LECUILE. (LECCE)
AG/6/1
21 May 44.

Ministry of War.

Reference your letter 770/C dated 22 Feb 44.

The personnel involved in the assault on the GUARDIA di FINANZA barracks, SALERNO on 17 Feb., have been tried by Court Martial, and those found guilty have been discharged from the Service, and received sentences of imprisonment varying from ONE to FIVE years.

for F. J. Norman
Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

See fol 195.

4800

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

197

Subject:- Discipline - Allied Troops, CALABRIA L of C.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MMIA)
LECCE. (LECCE)
AC/6/1
15 May 44

HQ. No.1 District.
HQ. No.2 District.

1911.

Reference the report No. C.44/83 dated 9 May from our Liaison Officer in CATANZARO (CALABRIA), copy of which was sent direct to you .

Will you please indicate direct to the Liaison Officer with copy to this HQ, any action which you wish him to take in CALABRIA.

fb/FJN

for Major General,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

Copy to: MMIA LO. XXXI Corps.

TRANSLATION 2015.

(196)

From. W/Cr. Naples....

Ref. 7.386/I....

To: M.M.I.A. File. AG/44.... Date 18.5.44.

Subject. Death of a Carabiniere & wounding of Austin by Allied Coloured soldiers

It has been reported that on the evening of April 25th. Carabinieri MASTRILLI, EUCLIDE and DONINI, Silvio of the Naples Carabinieri H.Q. Coy., while walking along Via Regia di Portici, Naples leading their own ~~h~~ horses were fired at at close range with automatic weapons by Coloured military, who disappeared before they could be recognised.

~~Four~~ Carabiniere Mastrilli, seriously wounded in the femoral region died almost at once. Carabiniere Donini suffered ~~the~~ a fracture of the right knee, his leg being immediately amputated on arrival at the Incurables Hospital where he was taken by an ~~Italian~~ Allied Police lorry.

British Police H.Q. in Naples have

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

close range with automatic weapons by Coloured military, who disappeared before they could be recognised.

~~Four~~ Carabiniere Mastulli, severely wounded in the femoral region died almost at once. Carabiniere Donini suffered ~~the~~ a fracture of the right knee, his leg being immediately amputated on arrival at the Incurables Hospital where he was taken by an ~~army~~ Allied Police Army.

British Police H.Q. in Naples have been informed of the incident.

The incident is brought especially before MMIA in case you should deem it opportune to have measures taken in avoidance of such aggravating incidents as the above.

(Sgd) Col. FIORE VERNAZZA.

Sgt 20/9/45

See folio 200

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

TRANSLATION 2015.

(196)

From. W/Cs Mussolini...

Ref. 7.356/I...

To: M.M.I.A. File. AQ/41... Date 18.5.44.

Subject. Death of a Carabiniere & wounding of another by Allied Coloured Soldiers

It has been reported that on the evening of April 25th. Carabinieri MASTRILLI, EUCLIDE and DONINI, Silvio of the Naples Carabinieri H.Q. Coy., while walking along Via Regia di Portici, Naples leading their own ~~h~~ horses were fired at at close range with automatic weapons by Coloured military, who disappeared before they could be recognised.

~~Both~~ Carabiniere Mastrilli, seriously wounded in the femoral region died almost at once. Carabiniere Donini suffered ~~the~~ a fracture of the right knee, his leg being immediately amputated on arival at the Incurables Hospital where he was taken by an ~~army~~ Allied Police lorry.

British Police H.Q. in Naples have

4...y

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

close range [illegible]
Coloured military, who disappeared before they could be recognised.

~~Two~~ Carabiniere Mastelli, seriously wounded in the femoral region died almost at once. Carabiniere Domini suffered a fracture of the right knee, his leg being immediately amputated on arrival at the Incurables Hospital where he was taken by an ~~army~~ Allied Police lorry.

British Police H.Q. in Naples have been informed of the incident. 4.9

The incident is brought especially to MMIA in case you should deem it opportune to have measures taken in avoidance of such aggravating incidents as the above.

(Sgd) Col. FIORE VERNAZZA.

See folio 200

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Ma/ma

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 7386/I
18-2-201

Lecce, li 18 MAG 1945 194

OGGETTO. Uccisione di un carabiniere e ferimento di un altro ad opera di militari di colore.

Death of a carabinieri & wounding of another by colored Allied soldiers.

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO LEQUILE

E' stato segnalato che la sera del 25 aprile i carabinieri MASTRILLI Euclide e DONINI Silvio della Compagnia Comando della Legione CC.RR. di Napoli, mentre transitavano in Via Regia di Portici in Napoli nei pressi di un accantonamento alleato conducendo per mano i propri cavalli, venivano proditoriamente fatti segno ad alcuni colpi di arma automatica sparati da breve distanza da militari di colore, che si dileguavano senza poter essere riconosciuti.

Mentre il carabiniere MASTRILLI, colpito gravemente alla regione femorale, decedeva quasi istantaneamente, il carabiniere DONINI riportava la frattura del ginocchio destro, che gli veniva in seguito amputato all'Ospedale degli Incurabili dove era stato trasportato con un autocarro della polizia alleata.

Dell'incidente ne è stata data comunicazione al Comando della Polizia Inglese di Napoli.

Si segnala l'incidente alla particolare attenzione di codesta Sottocommissione per il caso ritenga interessarsi per promuovere i provvedimenti necessari per [illegible]

4 38

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

E' stato segnalato che la sera del 25 aprile i carabinieri MASTRILLI Euclide e DONINI Silvio della Compagnia Comando della Legione CC.RR. di Napoli, mentre transitavano in Via Regia di Portici in Napoli nei pressi di un accantonamento alleato conducendo per mano i propri cavalli, venivano proditoriamente fatti segno ad alcuni colpi di arma automatica sparati da breve distanza da militari di colore, che si dileguavano senza poter essere riconosciuti.

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Dell'incidente ne è stata data comunicazione al Comando della Polizia Inglese di Napoli.

Si segnala l'incidente alla particolare attenzione di codesta Sottocommissione per il caso ritenga interessarsi per promuovere i provvedimenti necessari per evitare il ripetersi di fatti incresciosi del genere di quello sopra riportato. - 4.58

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
(Col.R.Fiore Vernazza)

Translation please.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
.....

AQ 6/1 Q3440

8/11/51 1951

17 May 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Court-Martial Cases.

TO : Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C. Main HQ (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE).

121 (1st Packet).

Reference your letter No. I/104 dated 25 February on the above subject.

Submitted herewith for you is a copy of the report on Court-Martial cases, arising out of the incident at SALERNO on the 17th of February when a group of American troops assaulted GGFF Barracks.

Jack Bender Capt
For Major

(J. A. CAMPBELL)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters

1 Encl. as above.

4797

File.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
96TH SERVICE GROUP, AIR SERVICECOMMAND
OFFICE OF THE GROUP COMMANDER

C 4

A.P.O. 650
U. S. ARMY
12 May 1944

SUBJECT: Report on Court-Martial Cases.

TO : Colonel. M.H. Meaney, A.C.C. Salerno, Italy.

The following report on Court-Martial cases of First Lieutentant Omar D. Blair, 0573959, AC, Technical Sergeant John L. Mitchell, 16030000, Staff Sergeant Harold G. BLUE, 32239452, and Private Otis J. Hicks, 13117674 all of the 366th Service Squadron, 96th Service Group, who were tried under charges indicated with results as shown below:

1st Lt. Omar D. Blair 0573959, AC

CHARGES: Violation of the 95th and 96th Articlesof War.
SENTENCE: Not confirmed.

Technical Sergeant John L. Mitchell, 16030000, General Court-Martial #10, HQ XII AFSC, 2 May 1944.
CHARGE: Vilation of the 93rd Article of War.
SENTENCE: To be dishonorably discharged the Service, to forfeit all pay and allowances due or to be come due, and to be confined at hard labor, at such place as the reviewing authority may direct for two (2) years. (Period of confinement reduced to one (1) year at hard labor.)

Staff Sergeant Harold G. Blue, 32239452, Special Court-Martial #15, Hq 96th Serv. Gp., 10 April 1944
CHARGE: Vilation of the 96th Article of War.
SENTENCE: Acquitted.

Private Otis J. Hicks, 13117674, General Court-Martial #9, HQ XII AFSC, 26 April 1944.
CHARGE: Vilation of the 96th Article of War.
SENTENCE: To be dishonorably discharged the Service, to forfeit all pay and allowance due or to become due, and to be confined at hard labor, at such place as the reviewing authority may direct for five (5) years.

For the Group Commander:

PERCY L. JONES
Major, Air Corps,
Adjutant

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

195

Subject:- British WD Vehicle-8 cwt Dodge.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MLIA)
LEQUILE. (LECCE)
AQ/6/1
16 May 44.

AMIA.IC. HQ. ACC. NAPLES.

It is understood that the above vehicle has been stolen. Will you please

a) confirm that the appropiate British Area Command has been informed in order that Police enquiries may be made.

b) Forward to this HQ signed statements from ALL personnel concerned, in order thatsuch further action may be initiated, as is necessary.

fb

4795

Lt.Col.
A.A. & Q.M.G.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

(194

TRANSLATION

From: War Ministry.... Ref. 7246/I.F....

To: M.M.I.A. File..A.G/16/1... Date .15..5..44.

Subject. Incident an English Lt. and an Italian Carabiniere.

I have been informed that on April 26th. last. an English Lt. on duty on a train reserved for Allied troops ordered a Vicebrigadier of Carabinieri and a Carabiniere who were escorting two prisoners, to get off the train, in spite of the fact that they produced an M.M.I.A permit to travel on said train.

While the two Italian Military were getting off the train, the Officer slapped the face of the Carabiniere who replied with his fist. The immediate intervention of the Vicebrigadier put an end to the incident.

The Bari Military Tpt. Delegation attempted to investigate the matter at the R.T.O's office, but the a/n Lt. when questioned declared that as far as they were concerned the incident was closed.

I consider it my duty to place these facts before M.M.I.A. in case you should deem it advisable to take measures to avoid the recurrence of such incidents.

In this particular instance, besides, the British Officer's gesture acquires a special

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

permit to travel on said train.

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I consider it my duty to place these facts before M.M.L.A. in case you should deem it advisable to take measures to avoid the recurrence of such incidents.

In this particular instance, besides, the British officer's gesture adquires a special importance since it was to the detriment of a member of an Italian Police Force which has always and at all times offered the Allies its most willing cooperation.

(Sgd) Il Ministro
Taddeo ORLANDO.

H.Q.

In time a British Officer struck a Carabiniere

See folio 24532

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

MA/df

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 1246/I
18.2.202

Lecce, li 15 MAG 1944

OGGETTO: Incidente fra un tenente inglese ed un carabiniere italiano.- Incident between an English Lt. + an Italian Carabinieri.

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO
= LEQUILE = 4193

^^^^^^^^^^^^

Mi viene comunicato che il 26 aprile c.a. un tenente inglese, in servizio di ispezione su di un treno riservato alle truppe alleate, obbligava a scendere un vicebrigadiere ed un carabiniere, in servizio di traduzione di due detenuti, nonostante gli fosse esibita regolare autorizzazione della Commissione Alleata di Controllo a fruire del treno stesso.

Mentre i due militari italiani si accingevano a scendere, l'ufficiale dava uno schiaffo al carabiniere che, risentito, reagiva con un pugno. Il pronto intervento del vicebrigadiere poneva termine all'incidente.

La Delegazione Trasporti Militari di Bari ha cercato di ap-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

= LEQUILE = 4793

^^^^^^^^^^^^

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La Delegazione Trasporti Militari di Bari ha cercato di appurare presso il locale Ufficio R.T.C. inglese l'andamento dei fatti, ma il tenente suddetto, interrogato in proposito, ha dichiarato che l'incidente, da parte loro, era chiuso.

Ho ritenuto di dover segnalare quanto sopra a codesta Sottocommissione per il caso ritenga intervenire con provvedimenti atti ad evitare il ripetersi di fatti del genere.

Nel caso specifico, poi, il gesto dell'ufficiale inglese assume un carattere di particolare gravità in quanto viene a colpire un elemento della polizia italiana la quale si sforza di dare agli Alleati, in ogni circostanza, la sua volenterosa fattiva collaborazione.

IL MINISTRO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

N° 8
193

TRANSLATION

From Min. of War - Cabinet. 611 Ref. 2162/C.

To: M.M.I.A. File AG [redacted] Date 11. MAY. 44

Subject. Attempted theft of clothing from Allied Forces.

On the 30 APRIL, Bdr. BACCIO Alfio, 59 Heavy Mobile W/Shop TREPUZZI was arrested by the British M.P. near PARADISE camp (BRINDISI) while attempting to steal bales of clothing and loading them on the Italian W.D trucks he had in charge.

Kept for a few days at the CC.RR. BRINDISI outpost he was sent back to his camp on the 2nd May accompagnied by British M Ps. in order to be interrogated.

He declared that he was asked by a few civilians (not yet identified) to effect a trip from TREPUZZI to BRINDISI in order to load British stores. He was promised a reward of 8000 lire and told that the theft would have been an easy job as two British M Ps were supposed to give him a hand.

On the 7 May a/m Bdr. was sent to the War Territorial Court with the following charges: absent from duty, abandonned his post, abused use of W/D trucks.

For your information.

Gen. ALIBERTI

Capt. 15/5/44 B. NA File

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO
Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 2162/C.

P. M. 107, li 11 maggio 1944

OGGETTO: Tentato furto oggetti di vestiario di provenienza alleata.-
attempted theft of allied clothing

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA PER L'ESERCITO, A.C.C. - LEQUILE -

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Il 30 aprile u.s. l'autiere BACCIO Alfio della 59^ Officina Mobile Pesante di Trepuzzi, veniva arrestato dalla Polizia militare inglese, nei pressi del Campo Paradiso (Brindisi), mentre tentava di asportare sacchi di vestiario e caricarli su di un automezzo militare a lui in consegna.

Trattenuto, in un primo tempo, nella Caserma dei CC.RR. di Brindisi, il 2 maggio, rientrava al Reparto di provenienza accompagnato dalla Polizia inglese per essere ivi tenuto a disposizione per la ricerca e la identificazione dei corresponsabili.

Dalle dichiarazioni fatte dall'autiere, è risultato che lo stesso aveva aderito alla richiesta di alcuni civili, non ancora identificati, di compiere un viaggio da Trepuzzi a Brindisi per il carico di materiale alleato, attratto dalla lusinga di un compenso di lire 8.000 e rassicurato che l'operazione sarebbe stata facilita-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

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In data 7 maggio l'autiere è stato denunciato al Tribunale Territoriale di Guerra per i reati di: violazione di consegna, abbandono di posto, uso abusivo di automezzi militari.

Quanto sopra per informazione.-

GENERALE ALIBERTI

Alberti

(8)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(192/1)

TRANSLATION

From. W/S Munster..... Ref. 8.736/I.....

To: M.M.I.A. File. A9/6/1... Date 1.8.5.44.

Subject. Search of Carabinieri Barracks by British M.P.'s.

It is hereby reported that on April 23rd. at 22.00 hrs. 6 British Military Police, led by a certain Angelosanti Constantino, entered the Carabinieri Barracks at S. Fiorano a Teduccio (Naples) and proceeded to a careful search for Allied goods requisitioned and possibly concealed. During the search the Maresciallo Commander of the Station and the Carabinieri present were held at the point of automatic weapons. The search yielded negative results.

It is to be noted that during the morning of April 16th. Angelosanti's wife — ~~Sommino~~ Anna — was arrested by the Carabinieri of San Fiorano a Teduccio, charged and sentenced on April 18th. by the Bari Allied Summary Court for illegal possession of allied property.

4.0.U

(Sgd) Col. R. FIORE-VERNAZZA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Carabinieri Patrols at S. Floriano a requisition and proceeded to a careful search for Allied goods requisitioned and possibly concealed. During the search the Maresciallo Commander of the Station and the Carabinieri present were held at the point of automatic weapons. The search yielded negative results.

It is to be noted that during the morning of April 16th. Angelosanto's wife - Sommino Anna - was arrested by the Carabinieri of San Giovanni a Teduccio, charged and sentenced on April 18th. by the Bana Allied Summary Court for illegal possession of Allied Property.

4.0

(Sgd) Col. R. FIORE-VERNAZZA.

A 1st/Sqn
20/Sqn

Find out

DI/ba

AG.
45.

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 6736/I
18-2-211

Lecce, li 10 MAG 1945 194

OGGETTO: Perquisizione della polizia inglese nella caserma dei CC.RR.di S.Giovanni a Teduccio (Napoli).=
British M.P.s search of the CC. RR. station at S. GIOVANNI a TEDUCCIO (Naples)

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO DELLA
COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

= LEQUILE =

^^^^^^^^^

Si segnala che il giorno 23 aprile alle ore 22, sei militari della polizia inglese, guidati da tale Angelosante Costantino, irrompevano nella caserma dei Carabinieri di S.Giovanni a Teduccio e procedevano ad una minuta perquisizione, con esito negativo, per rinvenire merce alleata sequestrata ed eventualmente occultata, tenendo immobilizzato sotto la minaccia di armi automatiche il maresciallo comandante la stazione ed i militari presenti.

4129

E' da notare che nella mattinata del 16 aprile la moglie dell'Angelosante, Sonnino Anna, era stata arresta-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788030

COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

= LEQUILE =

^^^^^^^^^

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4789

E' da notare che nella mattinata del 16 aprile la moglie dell'Angelosante, Sonnino Anna, era stata arrestata dai carabinieri di S.Giovanni a Teduccio, processata e condannata il 18 aprile dalla Corte Sommaria Alleata di Barra per illecito possesso di merce alleata.=

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
(Col.R.Fiore-Vernazza)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

192

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M M I A)
Rear H Q EIGHTH ARMY.
MM/104/4

10 May 44.

"A" Branch
Rear EIGHTH ARMY.

Copy to:- Army Sub Comm, ACC LEQUILE.
I F A HQ EIGHTH ARMY.

SUBJECT:- Discipline.

File

Attached please find a copy of a report on an incident in which an Indian soldier was killed by two ITALIAN soldiers.

The soldiers have now been detained a fortnight.

May I be informed what the procedure will be in dealing with these two men? I should like to point out that discipline of ITALIAN troops is normally left to the ITALIAN authorities.

May General Tomaselli be allowed to send a representative down to interview the two men?

M. Fieldman

4788

Major,
Liaison Officer.

Passed to Fieldman

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

27 Apr 44

REPORT OF 2/LT. TARTAGLIA MICHELE - 2 COY 96 INF.BN.

At 1530 hrs on 26 Apr 44 at No.4 Road Post (MONTE ROTONDO) Ptes. BRAUI Mario and COTUGNO Pietro, who were on guard there, noticed an Indian soldier molesting two women apparantly with the intention of assaulting them. One of the women managed to escape, but the Indian seized the other and struck her with a spanner, badly wounding her right and left arms. She fainted and fell to the ground, and the Indian was attempting to assault her when the two a/m soldiers, having heard the woman's screams, rand to her aid. They ordered the Indian to go away and, when he refused, and was feeling in his pockets for a weapon to use against them, they were compelled to use their own weapons as the only means of protecting the woman from further assault by the Indian, who weemed like a wild animal. They shot and killed him.

The a/m soldiers have been placed in custody by the British C M P. Their present location is unknown.

This report has also been rendered to F S S VENAFRO.

4787

Subject:-Discipline Allied Troops on L. of C.

191/1

AG 16/1
17/5

L.O.,Army Sub-Commission,(ACC).,
XXXI Italian Corps,
Pontegrande-CATANZARO._____

9 May 44.

Ref:-G.I4/83.

To:-Army Sub Commission,ACC.,
Main H.Q., (M.M.I.A.).,
Lequile._(Lecce)._____

Copy to:-No. I District.
No. 2 District.
No. 3 District.
XXXI° Corpo d'Armata.
Mov. & Tn.,REGGIO CAL.

In view of the regrettably increasing number of incidents along the CALABRIAN L. of C., between Allied troops on the one hand and Italian civilians and the XXXI Corps personnel maintaining the staging areas on the other I believe that some action to remedy this state of affairs is now necessary.

2. The incidents, whilst not of an exceptionally grave nature, are usually in the following two categories:- 4/86

(i). Drunkeness resulting in disorderly behaviour and disputes

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Leguile. (Lecce). - - - -

Copy to:-No. I District.
No. 2 District.
No. 3 District.
XXXI° Corpo d'Armata.
Mov. & Tn., REGGIO CAL.

In view of the regrettably increasing number of incidents along the CALABRIAN L. of C., between Allied troops on the one hand and Italian civilians and the XXXI Corps personnel maintaining the staging areas on the other I believe that some action to remedy this state of affairs is now necessary.

2. The incidents, whilst not of an exceptionally grave nature, are usually in the following two categories:- 4/86

(i). Drunkeness resulting in disorderly behaviour and disputes with civilians in the villages near the staging areas and damage to civilian property.

(ii). Wanton destruction of Italian Army property at staging areas themselves i.e., the destruction of barracks and barrack furniture to make fires.

3. I recommend that the following action be taken:-

(i). Warning notices be placed at both terminal ends of the L. of C. and at each staging area.

18/5

...cont'd...

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789030

3. (ii). Convoys of 25 vehicles or over be commanded by an officer. All convoy commanders on reporting to Mov.,& Tn., REGGIO CALABRIA before leaving northbound, read and sign a directive on behaviour of Allied troops travelling over CALABRIANL. of C.

(iii). A small mobile C.M.P. section be allocated to the CALABRIAN L. of C. by No. 2 District.

4. If you agree I will carry out para 3 sub para (i) immediately and will contact No.I and No.2 Districts to obtain their views on sub para (ii) and (iii).

5. I understand that Col.KIRKWOOD, Regional Commissioner for this Region will contact No. 2 District regarding the provision of a small C.M.P. detachment for CALABRIA to deal with another problem, that of Allied Deserters.

H.C. Howard

Lt.Col.,
M.M.I.A.,
L.O.XXXI Corps.

4185

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(191)

Subject:- Incidents.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (NAPLES)
LEQUILE. (FOGGIA)
AG/6/1 6 May 44.

HQ. No.2 District.

Felling of Trees at Putignano Sanatorium. 187

Copies of Italian Ministry of War letters 1978/C dated 4 May 1944 are forwarded for action as necessary.

Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

41

Q

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

190

Subject:- Incidents.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (AMLA)
LEQUILE. (LECCE)
AG/6/1
6 May 44

AMLA. LO. XXXI Corps.

Giannelli Alfredo. See folio 186

The attached correspondence is forwarded to you for necessary action.

Please return the original reports on completion of your investigations.

F.A.C.
Major General.
Army Sub COmm. A.C.C.

fb

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

189

Subject - Incidents.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MAIA)
LEQUILE. (LECCE)
AQ/6/I
5 May 44

HQ. No.2 District

A report on an incident in MOLFETTA, passed by the Italian Ministry of War, is forwarded for information and action as required.

J.Bird, Capt
for Major General.
Army Sub Commission A.C.C.

fb

4782

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

TRANS[illegible]TION.

STATION LECCE.

29.4.44 MOLFETTA (Bari)

At 1345 hrs on the 29th inst at Molfetta, Lieuts. LODI, Enrico, LUBELLI, Carlo, and BRASINI, Luigi of the 226, Inf Regt. Depot were attacked by three English soldiers who attempted to disarm Lt. Lubelli.

Lt. Brasini, hit in the face, fell to the ground. On getting up again, and seeing that the other two officers were still struggling with the assailants, and were in danger, he fired his pistol and wounded one of the English soldiers in the thigh. Wounded man held by Depot Commander, who intervened immediately.
War Ministry informed.

signed Maresciallo Donchia.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

TRANSLATION

188/1

From. War Ministry...

To: M.M.I.A.

File.....

Ref..6425/1.....

Date .4..5..44..

Subject..Attack on Italian Officers.....

Please note that on April 29th. at Molfetta Lt. Lodi, Enrico, Lubelli, Carlo and Biasini, Luigi of the 226 Inf. Rig. Depot were attacked by 3 Allied Military who attempted to disarm Lt. Lubelli. Lt. Biasini, knocked down by a blow on the face resp, when attempting to get up again, that the other two officers still struggled with the aggressors and were in serious danger and fired a shot with his pistol which wounded one of the Military in the lower extremity. The wounded man was picked up by an Allied Ambulance and it would appear is in a serious condition.

4.80

Until such time as the incident is cleared up and responsibility is assessed Lt. Biasini is

18/5 JB. NA. Report passed to 2 District (see folio 189) file

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Confirmed to Barracks by this am C.O.

(Sgd) Col. Flora - Vernazza.

* Italics.

NOTE: There is another report of this occurrence made by the Paratroopers on the spot and recorded elsewhere in records.

* Italics

DA/df

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 6125/I
18.2.195

Lecce, li 4 MAG 194

OGGETTO: Aggressione ufficiali italiani.-
attacks on Italian officers by allied soldiers

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

= L E Q U I L E =

^^^^^^

Si informa che il giorno 29 aprile c.a., nell'abitato di Molfetta, i Tenenti LODI Enrico, LUBELLI Carlo e BRASINI Luigi del deposito 226° reggimento fanteria venivano aggrediti da tre militari di truppa alleati che tentavano di disarmare il Tenente Lubelli.

Il Tenente Brasini, colpito da pugni al viso cadeva per terra; rialzatosi e visti in serio pericolo gli altri due ufficiali che colluttavano con gli aggressori, esplodeva un colpo di pistola ferendo uno dei militari alleati al bacino. Il ferito è stato raccolto da un'autoambulanza alleata e, a quanto risulta, versa in stato grave.

41 / 9

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788020

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

= L E Q U I L E =

^^^^^^

Si informa che il giorno 29 aprile c.a., nell'abitato di Molfetta, i Tenenti LODI Enrico, LUBELLI Carlo e BRASINI Luigi del deposito 226° reggimento fanteria venivano aggrediti da tre militari di truppa alleati che tentavano di disarmare il Tenente Lubelli.

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In attesa di chiarire come si sono svolti i fatti e le relative responsabilità, il Tenente Brasini è stato trattenuto dal proprio comandante di corpo in caserma.

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
(Col.R.Fiore-Vernazza)

Fiore Vernazza

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

6/1 (188

At 13.45 hrs on the 29th inst. at Melfetta Sts. LODI, Enrico, LUBELLI, Carlo and BRACINI, Luigi of the 226 Inf. Reg. Depot whilst attacked by 3 english soldiers who attempted to disarm Lt. Lubelli. Lt Brasini hit in the face fell to the ground. On getting up again and seeing that the other two Officers were still struggling with the assailants and were in danger he fired his pistol and wounded one of the English soldiers in the thigh. Wounded man held by Depot Commander who intervened immediately. War Ministry informed.

4 DSPolit 3/5 W 4178 See fol 189

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

STATION LECCE No. 55 TGM

STRALCIO DI INFORMAZIONE

CONTENT SHEET

NUMERO DEL CENSORE C.D.P. DATA 30.4.944

LUOGO: (*) LECCE

MITT.: (*) Maresciallo Donchin

MOLFETTA (Bari)

DATA (o timbro postale) 29.4.944

DEST.: (*) MINISTERO GUERRA

Lancia M. LECCE

(*) SCRIVERE TUTTO CON CARATTERE MAIUSCOLO.

"COLLUTTAZIONE TRA UFFICIALI ITALIANI E MILITARI INGLESI."

" Ore 13,45 del 29 corrente abitato Molfetta Ten.Lodi Enrico,Ten.Lubelli Carlo et Ten.Brasini Luigi del locale Deposito 226 Fanteria venivano senza motivo aggrediti da tre militari truppa inglese che tentavano disarmare Ten.Lubelli.Ten.Brasini colpito da pugni al viso cadeva per terra.Rialzatosi et notato che Ten.Lubelli et Lodi colluttavano con aggressori et erano seriamente in pericolo esplodeva un colpo di pistola ferendo uno dei soldati inglesi al bacino. Ferito trovasi disposizione Comandante Deposito immediatamente intervenuto.Segnalazione estesa Ministero Guerra informato

Maresciallo Donchia."

M.M.I.A.Lequile
F.S.S.Lecce
C.I.C.Lecce.

Action to be taken:
Passed
4/7 Sec 189

12089

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

FILE.

Subject closed

Org CN KERR

1575 & A/Q.

15/c

Col KERR to see 167/1

TRANSLATION AQ/16/1

From: H.Q. S.M.A.E.

Ref. 153/S.C.

To: M.M.I.A. for information. File. AQ/16/1 Date 4.5.44.

Subject. Incident at the "PATRIA" Hotel - (Attached to G.H.Q. Baker)

I have carried out a thorough investigation of the incident dealt with during yesterday's meeting and it appears from same that on April 28th. the Directorate of the Officers Mess of this S.M.A.E. received two letters signed by Capt. Howard Potter, O/c the "Risorgimento" Hotel stating that Pts. Mangini, Donato and Ferrari Vitorio, employed in said Mess, owned become members of the U.S. Army as from April 29th.

In view of present regulations, the Director of the Mess wrote to Capt. Potter saying he very much regretted being unable to comply with the requests as all such requests had to be made to M.M.I.A.

During the afternoon of the 28th a certain GIUNTANI, Attilio incited both the a/n men to abandon service with the Italian Army and go for employment with the "Risorgimento" Hotel, which they both did.

As Pts. Mangini and Ferrari had deserted their duty and were therefore guilty of an offense punishable under Italian Military Law. Lt. Col. STAGNI ordered their search.

4/16

A Carabinieri Patrol ordered to carry out

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775030

employed in said Mess, would become members of the U.S. Army as from April 29th.

In view of present regulations, the Director of the Mess wrote to Capt. Potter saying he very much regretted being unable to comply with the requests as all such requests had to be made to M.M.I.A.

During the afternoon of the 28th a certain GIUNTANI, Attilio incited both the a/n men to abandon service with the Italian Army and go for employment with the "Risorgimento" Hotel, which they both did.

As Pte. Manzari and Ferrari had deserted their duty and were therefore guilty of an offense punishable under Italian Military Laws, Lt. Col. STAGNI ordered their search.

4176

A Carabinieri Patrol ordered to carry out the search only managed to arrest Pte. Manzini who was escorted to the "PATRIA" hotel at about 22.00 hrs. on the 29th of April.

Immediately after the Carabinieri, Giuntani reached the hotel and, in haughty tones, asked for the release of the two men whom, he stated, his Commanding Officer had ordered him to engage.

Giuntani, who was, evidently, not acting in good faith, was informed that it was

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not considered ~~possible~~ that it could be possible for an Allied Officer to have given orders to engage Italian personnel because he was bound to know that soldiers have duties from which they can in no way be absolved.

Lt Col. Stagni furthermore pointed out to Fiuntani that, as an Italian he ashamed of himself going round inciting soldiers to desertion when he had ample means of obtaining required personnel among civilians

But Fiuntani, always in the same haughty tone, replied that he was only complying with orders from his Commanding Officer adding that he had always done his duty whereas (his actual words): "You others (referring to the officers present) have been those that have betrayed your country."

These words said by an Italian to an Italian officer resulted in a first reaction on the part of Lt. Col. Stagni and also Lt. Col. CAVONE, officer who have given ample proofs of courage on the battlefield

From all the above it is evident that: -

1. No offence was made to the American Army or any member thereof.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

civilians

But Fiumani, always in the same haughty tone, replied that he was only complying with orders from his Commanding Officer adding that he had always done his duty whereas (his actual words): "You others (referring to the officers present) have been those that have betrayed your country."

These words said by an Italian to an Italian officer resulted in a fist reaction on the part of Lt. Col. Stagni and also Lt. Col. CAVONE, officers who have given ample proofs of courage on the battlefield

From all the above it is evident that: -

1. No offense was made to the American Army or any member thereof
2. It is a personal matter between Fiumani, inviter, instigator, Italian citizen (and as such accountable for his acts according to Italian law) and Italian officers who, hurt in their military honour, answered Fiumani's insulting phrases as they deserved. I feel sure that American Officers would have acted in the same way under similar circumstances.
3. No preconceived animosity existed against the American Army and this is proved by the more than polite attitude of Lt. Col. Stagni towards

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Capt. Potter notwithstanding the latters most 2.
devious and unjust provocation (when he visited
also Patria Hotel that same evening with intent
of recovering Pte. Mangini.

Having thus made matters clear, I must
request you to be kind enough to order the return
of Pte. Ferrari Vitebo who must continue to
fulfil his duties with the Italian Army.

There is only left for me to say that if you
stand in need of personal, this should be
obtained from civilian source and should this
prove impossible the S. M. R. E. will be pleased to
meet your requirements provided application
is made via M.M.I.A., to whom, in accordance
with existing arrangements, all applications should
be made.

(Sgd) Lorenzo OXILIA. 4.75

A12 5/5

URGENTE

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO

UFFICIO DEL SOTTOCAPO

N. 153/S.C. di prot. — P. M. 151, li 4 maggio 1944

Risposta al foglio del

N.

Allegati

Al TEN.COLONNELLO BAKER

COMANDANTE 62° CENTRO SERVIZI

MANDURIA

OGGETTO: Incidente avvenuto nell'albergo Patria.-
Incident at the "Patria" Hotel.

e, per conoscenza:

→ ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C. LEQUILE

****

In relazione all'oggetto della riunione di ieri mattina, da una accurata inchiesta da me svolta è risultato che il 28 aprile la Direzione della mensa degli ufficiali di questo S.M. riceveva due lettere, a firma del capitano HOWARD POTTER, ufficiale in carica presso l'albergo Risorgimento, con le quali veniva comunicato che i soldati MANZINI Donato e FERRARI Viterbo, inservienti della mensa stessa, passavano dal 29 aprile alle dipendenze delle Forze Americane.

In virtù delle vigenti disposizioni, il Direttore della mensa rispondeva per iscritto al capitano POTTER di essere molto spiacente di non poter aderire alla richiesta, giacchè la richiesta stessa doveva pervenire dalla Sottocommissione per l'Esercito A.C.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785040

OGGETTO: Incidente avvenuto nell'albergo Patria.-

Incident at the "Patria" Hotel.

e, per conoscenza:

→ ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C. LEQUILE

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Nel pomeriggio del giorno 28 aprile certo GIUNDANI Attilio incitava i sopraddetti soldati ad abbandonare il servizio presso l'Esercito Italiano per passare alle dipendenze della Direzione dell'albergo Risorgimento, cosa che gli interessati fecero senz'altro.

Siccome i soldati MANZINI e FERRARI vennero meno ai loro doveri e quindi erano incorsi in una mancanza perseguibile dal nostro Codice Penale Militare, il Ten.Colonnello STAGNI' dispose affinchè gli stessi fossero rintracciati.

Una pattuglia di carabinieri incaricata delle ricerche riuscì a fermare solo il soldato MANZINI che fu condotto all'albergo Patria verso le ore 22 della sera del 29 aprile.

././.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

Al seguito dei carabinieri giunse all'albergo anche il GIUNTANI il quale venne a perorare, in tono altezzoso, la causa dei due soldati che egli aveva avuto ordine, diceva, dal suo comandante di ingaggiare.

Al Giuntani, che evidentemente era in mala fede, gli venne fatto osservare che non poteva essere possibile che un ufficiale delle forze alleate avesse potuto dare ordini di ingaggiare personale militare perchè certamente egli doveva essere a conoscenza che i militari hanno degli obblighi dai quali non possono in nessun modo essere distolti.

Il Ten.Colonnello STAGNI' fece ancora osservare che doveva vergognarsi, come italiano, di fare opera sobillatrice tra i soldati quando invece aveva ampie possibilità nell'ambiente civile per provvedersi di personale.

Ma il GIUNTANI, sempre in tono altezzoso, replicò dicendo che egli eseguiva solo gli ordini del suo comandante aggiungendo che aveva fatto sempre il proprio dovere e che invece, testuali sue parole: "siete voialtri (alludendo agli ufficiali presenti) che avete tradito la Patria".

Queste parole pronunciate da un italiano ad ufficiali italiani provocarono la giusta reazione prima del Ten.Colonnello STAGNI' e poscia del Ten.Colonnello CANNONE, ufficiali comportatisi valorosamente sui campi di battaglia.

Da quanto sopra appare evidente:

1)- che nessuna offesa venne fatta all'esercito americano od a membri di esso;

2)- che trattasi di un fatto personale tra il GIUNTANI, provocatore, sobillatore, cittadino italiano (come tale risponde dei suoi atti verso italiani alle leggi italiane) ed ufficiali italiani che toccati sull'onore militare reagirono alle parole offensive pronunciate dal GIUNTANI stesso, trattandolo come si meritava. Sono convinto che ufficiali americani in simile circostanza si sarebbero comportati allo stesso modo;

3)- che nessun preconcetto esisteva verso membri dell'esercito americano, ciò è provato dal contegno più che corretto del Ten.Col. STAGNI' che non raccolse le gravissime ed ingiuste provocazioni del capitano POTTER quando egli, nel corso della stessa sera, si re-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

quando invece aveva ampie possibilità nell'ambiente davale per provvedersi di personale.

Ma il GIUNTANI, sempre in tono altezzoso, replicò dicendo che egli eseguiva solo gli ordini del suo comandante aggiungendo che aveva fatto sempre il proprio dovere e che invece, testuali sue parole: "siete voialtri (alludendo agli ufficiali presenti) che avete tradito la Patria".

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3)- che nessun preconcetto esisteva verso membri dell'esercito americano, ciò è provato dal contegno più che corretto del Ten.Col. STAGNI' che non raccolse le gravissime ed ingiuste provocazioni del capitano POTTER quando egli, nel corso della stessa sera, si recò all'albergo Patria a pretendere la restituzione del soldato MANZINI.

4713

Chiarite così le cose, prego la Signoria Vostra di volersi compiacere disporre per la restituzione del soldato FERRARI Viterbo il quale deve continuare a compiere gli obblighi di servizio presso l'Esercito italiano.

Infine tengo ancora a dichiarare che se per i Vostri bisogni occorre del personale, questo dovrebbe essere ricercato tra l'elemento civile e nel caso ciò non fosse possibile questo S.M. sarebbe disposto a venire incontro alle Vostre esigenze purchè le richieste siano fatte pervenire tramite la Sottocommissione per l'Esercito A.C.C. di

./.

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Lequile alla quale, in base agli accordi esistenti, si deve dar conto dell'impiego dei militari dell'Esercito italiano.-

IL SOTTOCAPO DI S.M.
- G.B. Oxilia -

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187

TRANSLATION

From Min. of War Liaison Office Ref. 1975/C

To: M.M.I.A. File AG 6/1 Date 4 MAY 1944

Subject Felling of trees at the Putignano Sanatorium. Payment of damages

The Royal Prefettonate of Bari has reported that the personnel of the English Hq. located at Putignano and encamped in the Sanatorium, besides exploiting the timber from the woods next to said Sanatorium for their own use, on 25 of March deported a considerable quantity in a field belonging to SALADINO GIOVANNI fu PUTIGNANO - ORTO LAMA S. CATALDO STREET.

As the trees planted around the Sanatorium were planted especially in the benefit of the T.B patients, we would be most grateful to the MMIA if it would approach the said Hq. with the view of having the felling of trees stopped at once and if possible, to have compensation paid to the CONSORZIO ANTITUBERCOLARE for the great damages suffered up to now.

GENERALE ALIBERTI

1 fol. 95 Calendini

for their home use, on 25 of March deposited a certain quantity in a field belonging to SALADINO GIOVANNI in PUTIGNANO — ORTO LAMA S. CATALDO STREET.

As the trees ~~——~~ planted around the Lanatonum were planted especially in the benefit of the T.B patients, we would be most grateful to the MMIA if it would approach the said Ng. with the view of having the felling of trees stopped at once and if possible, to have ~~damages~~ compensation paid to the CONSORZIO ANTITUBERCOLARE for the great damages suffered up to now.

4.1

GENERALE ALIBERTI

Col. 915 Colombini

Action Taken

File. 6/5

See fol. 191

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO
Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 1978/c. P. M. 107 li 4 maggio 1944.

OGGETTO: Taglio di alberi al Sanatorio di Putignano. Risarcimento danni.- Felling of Trees at the Putignano Sanatorium. Payment of damages

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA PER L'ESERCITO, A.C.C. L E Q U I L E
e, per conoscenza:
ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL GENIO S E D E

4.10

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

E' stato segnalato dalla R Prefettura di Bari che il personale del Comando Inglese dislocato a Putignano ed alloggiato in quel Sanatorio, oltre ad usufruire per proprio conto della legna del bosco annesso al Sanatorio stesso, ne ha depositato, il 25 marzo u.s., un rilevante quantitativo nel campo di proprietà di certo SALADINO Giovanni in Putignano - contrada Orto Lama S. Cataldo.

Poiché il bosco è stato appositamente piantato attorno al Sanatorio a beneficio dei malati di petto, ricoverati in quel luogo di cura, si sarà molto grati a codesta Sottocommissione se vorrà intervenire presso il Comando suddetto allo scopo di far cessare il taglio delle piante e far risarcire, se possibile, il Consorzio Antitubercolare dei gravi danni finora subiti.-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA PER L'ESERCITO, A.C.C. — L E Q U I L E

e, per conoscenza:

ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL GENIO — S E D E

4.70

E' stato segnalato dalla R Prefettura di Bari che il personale del Comando Inglese dislocato a Putignano ed alloggiato in quel Sanatorio, oltre ad usufruire per proprio conto della legna del bosco annesso al Sanatorio stesso, ne ha depositato, il 25 marzo u.s., un rilevante quantitativo nel campo di proprietà di certo SALADINO Giovanni in Putignano - contrada Orto Lama S. Cataldo.

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p. GENERALE ALIBERTI aps

Col M Rand

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

(186

Subject :- Discipline - Allied Tps

PRO/71/182

3 May 44.

Ag/6/1

M.M.I.A.,
LECCE.

Attached H.Q. 2 District letter 6B/154/Pro dated 30 Apr 44 and appended report is forwarded for information and action you deem necessary.

MORLANNO is in the Area of 31 Italian Corps.

Major.
A.P.M.
H.Q. 52 Area.

Field.

File
4769 letter
Copy D.P.M. - 2 Dis
6/5 - Orders taken

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT : Indiscipline Allied Troops.

HQ 2 District, CMF.
68/15A/Pro.
30 Apr 44.

DAPM
HQ 52 Area

GIANNELLI Alfredo.

1. The attached report relating to the alleged robbery of the above named civilian at MORIANNO by a British soldier who was accompanied by 2 Italian civilians, is forwarded.

2. If practicable, please initiate investigations and keep this office informed of the result.

Lt. Col,
Deputy Provost Marshal.

BMCN/LR.

4768

26 April 1944

GIANNELLI ALFREDO FU GIULIO -

ISOLA CAPO RIZZUTO (PROV. CATANZARO)

States:

I am the General Manager of large farms in the provinces Catanzaro, Cosenza and Naples.

On the 22nd April, 1944, I was leaving Isola to go to Naples. I was using my Fiat type motor car N° 1100, Reg. N° CZ 2924 and was accompanied by my mechanic. At about 12.30 pm, on approaching the town of MORMANNO, Province of Cossenza, I was stopped by a British soldier who was accompanied by two Italian Civilians. The soldier asked me for my pass and personnal papers. After I had shown them to him, he asked me and my mechanic to place our luggage out on to the road, so that he could inspect it. As the mechanic was placing the cases in the road, the soldier and the civilians surrounded him with drawn pistols. The soldier had a revolver similar to that used by the Military Police and the civilians had automatic pistols. After the cases were moved out of the car, the one civilian ordered me to get into the back seat of the car, which I did. My mechanic was ordered to do the same. One of the civilians then sat in the back with us, one in the front seat, and the soldier took the wheel.

The soldier drove the car through Mormanno, and for a distance of 13 km and we stopped on a small bridge (N°12), then they made us get out of the car, at the same time threatening us with their pistols, and took us into some nearly woods. They made us sit down, and while the soldier covered us with his revolver, the Civilians tied our hands behind our backs, and tied our legs. 4467

The soldier took my wallet containing 7000 lire, from my trouser pocket, and also 900 lire which were lose in my pocket. The soldier then tied my handkerchief round my mouth.

The soldier then took 300 lire from my mechanic and tied his handkerchief round his mouth also.

They then left us, and we heard the car being driven, and I have not seen the car or the soldier or men since. After some time we managed to release ourselves and got back to mormanno, where we

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795030

After I had shown them to him, he asked me and my mechanic to place our luggage out on to the road, so that he could inspect it. As the mechanic was placing the cases in the road, the soldier and the civilians surrounded him with drawn pistols. The soldier had a revolver similar to that used by the Military Police and the civilians had automatic pistols. After the cases were moved out of the car, the one civilian ordered me to get into the back seat of the car, which I did. My mechanic was ordered to do the same. One of the civilians then sat in the back with us, one in the front seat, and the soldier took the wheel.
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The soldier took my wallet containing 7000 lire, from my trouser pocket, and also 900 lire which were lose in my pocket. The soldier then tied my handkerchief round my mouth.
The soldier then took 300 lire from my mechanic and tied his handkerchief round his mouth also.
They then left us, and we heard the car being driven, and I have not seen the car or the soldier or men since. After some time we managed to release ourselves and got back to mormanno, where we reported the matter to the CC.RR. My mechanic went back to where we were first stopped, where he found the cases being taken care of by a roadman who had witnessed the incident. At that time the mechanic was informed by a passing farmer, that the soldier and the civilians had stopped at his farm for the past three nights.
We collected our luggage and obtained a ride, and at LAGONEGRO, we stopped and reported at the CC.RR there. A CC.RR named MOBILE stated that he had seen a soldier with 2 civilians pass him with a car, proceeding towards Salerno.
We then came on to Salerno, and on the 25th I reported the facts to the Questore at Salerno, who informed me that investigations would be made.

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Description of Soldier:- about 25 years, 5'8", very dark hair, pale complexion, very good teeth except two side teeth overlap, which is very noticeable, neat distinctive appearance spoke bad Italian, and in my consider opinion is more likely to be American, than English.
Uniform:- British battledress with gaiters, white belt, revolver holster, field service cap unknown badge in cap.

Description of Civilians (1) 25 years, 5'4", curly brown hair, blue eyes, brown tie, light brown suit, shoes, rough dirty. appearance. Neapolitan accent.

(2) About 28 years, 5'6", black hat and suit, dirty appearance, very insignificant type.

I could recognise all three men again.

I am returning home at the end of the month, where I shall report it to the Questore there.

The name of my mechanic is ANGOTTI Biagio, address as mine.

GIANNELLI ALFREDO

4.66

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:- Discipline.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main Hq. (MAIA)
HQ/Utan. (illegible)
HQ/G/I.
2 May 44.

Stato Maggiore R. Esercito.

Reference your letter 1547/OP dated 15 Feb 44.

This matter has now been fully investigated and all necessary action taken.

for F T Noame Lieut
Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

0184

Subject:- Incidents.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMLA)
LE.ULLE. (LKCCB)
A.G/6/I.
30 April 44.

Hq. No.2 District.

Copies of Italian Ministry of War letters 62I3/1 of 27 April 44 and 1691/c of 28 April 44 are forwarded for action as necessary.

J Bond, Capt
for Major General.
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

fb

DA/Col.

183

Az 6/1
27/4

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 6213/I
18.2.135

Lecce, li 27 APR 1944 194

OGGETTO: Aggressione Maggiore LEOTTI Nicola da parte di militari inglesi.-

Attack on Major Leotti by allied soldiers.

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO (A.S.C.)
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

It has been reported that during the evening of March 12th last major LEOTTI, Nicola, 1896 class, of the 513 Inf. Reg staying at LEQUILE Bari for an inspection visit, was attacked and disarmed of his pistol, on leaving the famous mess, by 8 allied soldiers who during the struggle stabbed him twice, once on the nose and once near the carotide causing wounds estimated to be healed in 10 days.

E' stato segnalato che la sera del 12 marzo 1944 il Maggiore di fanteria LEOTTI Nicola, classe 1896, del 513° Reggimento Fanteria, in sosta a Bari per visita di controllo, all'uscita dalla mensa di presidio veniva aggredito e disarmato della pistola da otto militari alleati che, nella colluttazione, lo colpivano con due colpi di coltello, uno al naso e l'altro alla carotide producendogli ferite guaribili in giorni 10 s.c.-

Dell'incidente è stata data comunicazione ai seguenti Comandi Inglesi:

4763

- Comando Provincial Police Officier - Bari A.C.C.
- Comando D.A.P.M. 6ª Base Sub-Area - Bari.-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO (A.S.C.)
DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

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Dell'incidente è stata data comunicazione ai seguenti Comandi di Inglesi:

4.163

- Comando Provincial Police Officier - Bari A.C.C.

- Comando D.A.P.M. 6^ Base Sub-Area - Bari.-

1/3 Aff

Si segnala la questione alla particolare attenzione di codesta Sottocommissione rappresentando che gli incidenti del genere di quello sopra riportato, oltre che costituire un pericolo per l'incolumità delle persone, ledono il prestigio dell'Esercito Italiano.-

The incident has been reported to the Police Officer ACC Provincial H.Q., Bari and DAPM. 6th. Base Sub Area, Bari

MMIA's attention is specially drawn to this matter and it is pointed out that such incidents in addition to personal damage are very prejudicial to the prestige of the Italian Army.

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
(Col.R.Fiore-Vernazza)

Fiorentino

Dott/Sgt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AQ 16/1 187

29/4

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 1891/c. P.M. 107, li 28 aprile 1944.-

OGGETTO: Aggressione tenente artiglieria BIANO Vincenzo.-
Attack on Lt. Biano Vincenzo

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA PER L'ESERCITO; A.C.C.- L E Q U I L E

E' stato segnalato che la sera del 26 marzo u.s. il tenente BIANO Vincenzo del IV Gruppo - 58° Reggimento Artiglieria -, veniva proditoriamente aggredito nei pressi della propria abitazione in Manduria da due militari alleati, scesi da un autocarro americano, con il presumibile intento di impadronirsi della pistola dell'ufficiale.

Il tenente Biano, gettato a terra e colpito ripetutamente alla testa, non ebbe la possibilità di reagire.

I dua assalitori, constatato che la fondina era priva della 4662
pistola, risalirono rapidamente sull'autocarro allontanandosi a grande velocità.

1/5 9/2

Quanto sopra si comunica per conoscenza e a seguito foglio nº 6213/I del 27 corrente, di questo Gabinetto.-

It has been reported that during the evening of the 26th of March last Lt. BIANO Vincenzo of the 4th Gp. 58th Artl. Reg. was attacked in the vicinity of his home in Manduria by two

d'ordine
IL COLONNELLO ADDETTO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

BIANO Vincenzo del IV Gruppo - 58° Reggimento Artiglieria -, veniva proditoriamente aggredito nei pressi della propria abitazione in Manduria da due militari alleati, scesi da un autocarro americano, con il presumibile intento di impadronirsi della pistola dell'ufficiale.

Il tenente Biano, gettato a terra e colpito ripetutamente alla testa, non ebbe la possibilità di reagire.

I due assalitori, constatato che la fondina era priva della 4662
pistola, risalirono rapidamente sull'autocarro allontanandosi a grande velocità.

1/5 9/3

Quanto sopra si comunica per conoscenza e a seguito foglio n° 6213/I del 27 corrente, di questo Gabinetto.-

d'ordine
IL COLONNELLO ADDETTO
(M. Ravagli)

It has been reported that during the evening of the 26th of March last, Lt. BIANO, Vincenzo of the 58th Gp. 58th Artl. Reg. was attacked in the neighbourhood of his own domicile at Manduria by two Allied Military who had arrived in an American lorry, presumably with the intention of stealing his pistol. Unbeknown!

Lt. Biano, knocked to the ground and hit repeatedly on the head was unable to defend himself.

The two assailants having found the holster to be empty jumped on the lorry again and disappeared at great speed.

The above information is furnished to our 6213/I of the 27th. inst.

D/S/Sgt.

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C O P Y

(For HQ M M I A)

CONFIDENTIAL

A 127

25 Apr 44.

181

M M I A Rear EIGHTH ARMY

Adm 1/1

SUBJECT:- Discipline - Offrs.

Ref EIGHTH ARMY R 18997 A dated 17 Mar and attached correspondence.

This matter has now been fully investigated and the officer concerned has been severley censured. He has expressed his sincere regrets at the incident.

The 2 i/c of the Italian Coy has also offered his apologies, as the Italian soldiers were not working well, and the work was of an urgent nature.

This matter will now be considered as closed.

Sgn:XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Major.
For Lt-Gen.
Commander 5 Corps.

4761

1/5 AB

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

STATEMENT BY LIEUT. S. HUMPHREYS, R.E. ()

In the afternoon of 2nd February, 1944, I and most of my N.C.O's were engaged on an intricate part of bridge erecting. During these operation I looked down to watch the Italians working at a task which had been set them. Instead of twenty men working there were only about ten. I asked my section sergeant where the others were and he said he didn't know. The Italian sergeant was amongst those missing.

After about five minutes I went to look for them and after about another five minutes I found two soldiers one of whom was shaving the other.

I sent one back to work and sent the other to find the sergeant and the remainder of the men.

He went to a house about 100 yards away and after a short interval reappeared with the sergeant and the remainder of the soldiers. I marched the men back to work and called the sergeant over to me.

I asked him why he had left the work and he started whining; I caught hold of him by the collar and he whined more. I was now somewhat annoyed. We were engaged on important work replacing the roadway which was to be the benefit of the Italians. The moment I turned my back the Italian soldiers and their sergeant had left work to drink wine in a nearby house.

So I hit the Italian sergeant on the jaw. He fell on the ground and stopped whining but started to weep.

I then left him.

I next saw him being dragged by my direct subordinate.

I told the latter old man to send the sergeant back to work as soon as he had finished crucifying him.

This was done and the N.C.O. returned to work.

Dated:- 2/2/1944.

Lieut. R.E.
160th Railway Construction Coy. R.E.

4760

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Appendix "A"

From - Italian General Staff
To - M M T A

Subject:- Relations with Allied Troops

1. On Feb 2 at S VITO CHIETINO with a squad of the 3rd Coy of the 216 Rn working on the North gallery of the railway line towards Ortona:

An English officer who had noticed the absence of the Italian NCO (S/Lt SANTINI Tullio) had him called.

When the NCO appeared the English Officer insulted him and finally punched him twice causing him to fall and hit his head on the edge of the railway line suffering several injuries medically certified to be healable in 10 days, complications excepted.

2. The NCO's behaviour was at all times correct. He had left his place to look for two men who had left their work and was endeavouring to explain this to the British officer when he was hit.

The OC of the 209 Div has reported the incident to the MMTA British Liaison Officer Maj FIELDEN.

This SMGE would appreciate MMTA intervention in order that the culprit of such discorteous behaviour be severely reprimanded.

(sgd) MARIOTTI General
A C G S

ANX "I"

M M I A
Rear H Q
EIGHTH ARMY.
MM/104

180

19 Feb 44.

MILITARY MISSION.

M M I A
Rear H Q
EIGHTH ARMY.

Date 21st Feb 44.
to
ITALIAN ARMY.

SUBJECT:- Discipline - Alleged Assault.

Reference your verbal request for full report on incident mentioned in attached sheet.

A full investigation which is NOT a Court of Enquiry is most difficult in a case which might give rise to disciplinary action. I therefore contented myself with questioning Serg. Maj/ SANTINI. His story is as follows :-

On the day in question - 2 Feb 44 - while he was incharge of a working party on the railway line NORTH of S. VITO MARINA, he noticed that two of the men had slipped away. He went off to look for them and found them drinking wine in a house. He routed them out and sent them back to work, following behind himself.

4769

In the meantime, the British officer in charge had arrived and noted that there were some men missing including the N C O i/c. When the two men came along, the officer cuffed them and gave them each a kick in the pants. The two men were VIGANO Clemente and SCARRIONE Giovanni.

The officer then called to SANTINI who came up and stood to attention. The officer caught him by the collar and struck him a blow on the left jaw causing him to fall to the ground. In his fall his head struck the railway line, bruising his nose and drawing blood from his forehead. When he rose the officer caught him by the back of the collar and conducted him back to work. The officer would not allow

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789020

mentioned in attached sheet.

A full investigation which is NOT a Court of Enquiry is most difficult in a case which might give rise to disciplinary action. I therefore contented myself with questioning Serg. Maj/ SANTINI. His story is as follows :-

On the day in question - 2 Feb 44 - while he was incharge of a working party on the railway line NORTH of S. VITO MARINA, he noticed that two of the men had slipped away. He went off to look for them and found them drinking wine in a house. He routed them out and sent them back to work, following behind himself.

In the meantime, the British officer in charge had arrived and noted that there were some men missing including the N C O i/c. When the two men came along, the officer cuffed them and gave them each a kick in the pants. The two men were VIGANO Clemente and SCARRIONE Giovanni.

The officer then called to SANTINI who came up and stood to attention. The officer caught him by the collar and struck him a blow on the left jaw causing him to fall to the ground. In his fall his head struck the railway line, bruising his nose and drawing blood from his forehead. When he rose the officer caught him by the back of the collar and conducted him back to work. The officer would not allow SANTINI to dress his head.

On return to camp he was dressed by the ITALIAN M.O. and kept off work for one day.

That is SANTINI'S story. He describes the officer as being small, with a fair moustache and wearing two stars. He does not know the officers name.

I did NOT question any officer of the above description in order not to prejudice the defence should any disciplinary action be contemplated.

4759

G O Donnell,
Captain,
Liaison Officer.

Copy to:- Army-Sub-Commission, ACC
Rear H Q (M M I A)
LECCE.
(without enclosure).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Arranged File (179)

TRANSLATION

From. S.M.I.F. Ref. 1685

To: M.M.I.A. File. A 9/6/22 Date 22.4.44.

Subject. ~~Acc~~ Labour accidents

The following accidents have been suffered by Italian ~~lab~~ military employed in labour:-

1. On Feb. 16th. at the port of Bari former BARRA, Giuseppe of the 402 Arty. Rgt. fell off a scaffolding injuring his knee with probable fracture.

2. On Febr. 5th. at the General Depot in Via Re David, Bari Infantryman VELLUTI, Domenico of the 401 Inf Rgt. slipped while carrying a case and suffered the probable fracture of the right clavicle.

3. On March 18th. at the port of Brindisi former SISTI Agostino of the 404 Arty Rgt. suffered the probable fracture of the right foot when one of the cases he was loading on a lorry slipped and fell.

4. On April 1st. at the S Vito dei Normanni Airport (Brindisi) former DI REDA, Carlo of the 404 Arty. Rgt. was hit by a bundle of iron plates while being loaded on a lorry and suffered injuries to left foot with probable fracture. 4758

6. On April 12th. at the S. PANCRAZIO Airport (Brindisi) former GALATOLA Domenico of the 404 Arty. Rgt. had his left index finger caught under a Petrol drum as he was unloading and suffered injuries to the bone.

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5. On April 9th. at the Vito dei Normanni Airfort (Brindisi) Gunner Cardinali Giovanni of the 204 Anty Brg was hit on the right foot by an incendiary and suffered injuries to the foot and probable fracture of the 1st Metatarsus.

7. On April 13th. at the port of Brindisi Gunner Chiavarini Dosio of the 204 Anty. Brg. sustained injuries to right middle finger caught by the cables of a crane suffering the loss of the nail and flesh of the top phalanx.

8. On April 14th. at the port of Brindisi Gunner Guggiari Giovanni of the 204 Anty. Brg. was hit on the head by an iron bar suffering injuries to right parietal region, multiple injuries to the face and right hand and slight symptoms of concussion.

(Sgd) Ferruccio MATTIOLI

A True Copy

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
Ispettorato della Manovalanza

1744

N° 1688 di prot. P.M. 151, li 22 Aprile 1944

OGGETTO: Infortunii.-
accidents while on labour duty

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ESERCITO A.C.C.

LECCE

Si comunicano i seguenti incidenti avvenuti a nostri militari sul lavoro nel servizio di manovalanza.-

1. Il giorno 16 febbraio nel porto di Bari l'Artigliere Barra Giuseppe del 402° Artiglieria cadeva da un impalcatura riportando contusione al ginocchio sinistro con notevole emartro e probabile sinovite.-

2. Il giorno 5 febbraio in Bari presso i magazzini generali in Via Re. David il fante Veluti Domenico del 401° fanteria durante il trasporto di casse scivolava riportando la probabile frattura del radio destro.-

3. Il giorno 18 Marzo nel porto di Brindisi l'artigliere Sisti Agostino del 404° artiglieria mentre caricava casse su un autocarro per la caduta di una cassa riportava la probabile frattura del piede destro.- 6.57

4. Il giorno 1° Aprile all'Areoporto di S. Vito dei Normanni (Brindisi) l'artigliere DI REDA Carlo del 404° artiglieria rimaneva colpito da un fascio di lamiere che si stavano caricando su un camion riportando una contusione al malleolo sinistro dell'arto inferiore sinistro con probabile frattura dello stesso.-

5. Il giorno 9 Aprile nell'areoporto di S. Vito dei Normanni (Brindisi) l'artigliere Cardinali Giovanni del 404° artiglieria veniva colpito al piede destro da una sprangа di ferro riportando contusione al dorso del piede stesso con probabile frattura del 1° metatarso.-

6. Il giorno 12 aprile all'areoporto di S. Pancrazio (Brindisi) l'artigliere Galatola Domenico del 404° artiglieria rimaneva col dito indice

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789030

lavoro nel servizio di manovalanza.-

1. Il giorno 16 febbraio nel porto di Bari l'Artigliere Barra Giuseppe del 402° Artiglieria cadeva da un impalcatura riportando contusione al ginocchio sinistro con notevole emartro e probabile sinovite.-

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4. Il giorno 1° Aprile all'Areoporto di S. Vito dei Normanni (Brindisi) l'artigliere DI REDA Carlo del 404° artiglieria rimaneva colpito da un fascio di lamiere che si stavano caricando su un camion riportando una contusione al malleolo sinistro dell'arto inferiore sinistro con probabile frattura dello stesso.-

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6. Il giorno 12 aprile all'areoporto di S. Pancrazio (Brindisi) l'artigliere Galatola Domenico del 404° artiglieria rimaneva col dito indice della mano sinistra schiacciato sotto un fusto di benzina che stava scaricando riportando una contusione ossea alla falange.-

7. Il giorno 13 aprile nel porto di Brindisi l'artigliere Chiavoni Desio del 404° artiglieria rimaneva col dito medio destro fra i cavi di una grù, riportando asportazione dell'unghia e del polpastrello della falange unghiare.-

./.

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8. Il giorno 14 aprile nel porto di Brindisi l'artigliere Viggieri Giovanni del 404° artiglieria veniva investito al capo da un tubo di ferro riportando contusione alla regione parietale destra e abrazioni multiple al viso, e alla mano destra, nonché lievi segni di commozione cerebrale.-

IL GENERALE ISPETTORE
(E. Mattioli)

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CC. This is not for FBI.

CA Shipley. Ltr

In my business I should do this & ought I would you? Ofm

ORD

Arrange necessary adjustment on our records to obtain for Elvidge and authorize SAC to do the same with their records D.S 2/4

Q

Ltr 2/4

4156

Ltr Q 2/4

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ACTION SLIP

This slip will NOT be removed

To:

AFCC
End

1) Believe you are interested in this
letter from Dot Thomas in town.
They reported anything about it

A.A. 3 3/4

As to matters of interest to the Air Force
mentioned in the letter, only those specifically
noted, AFCC 1033 [illegible] appear
to be [illegible] by the Lt. Col. [illegible]
For Detachment Officer.

which [illegible] to the cause
which [illegible] would [illegible]
their [illegible] value [illegible] Tribune [illegible]
check [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
damaged [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible].

Now [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] check [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible].

Jr 40

O

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Q 178

Boots

Subject: Boots. Discrepancy of Stock.

Army Sub Commission, ACC,
Main HQ (M.M.I.A),
LECUILI (LECCE).
AC/6/1
25 April 44.

To: Ministry of War.

Reference your 6454/30/V dated 20 April 1944.

Authority is given for the "write off" of 39 (thirty nine) pairs of Boots.

Will you please amend your Stock Sheets accordingly.

4755

Major.
D.A.D.C.S.
Army Sub Comm. A.C.C.
(M.CHOWN)

MC/id

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178

TRANSLATION

From. Wa. Ministry.....

To: M.M.I.A. File. [illegible] Date 20.4.44..

Subject..Boots ex ss "Fort Stuyvesant" at Taranto.....

When some of the packages unloaded at Taranto ex ss "Fort Stuyvesant" were opened and examined by the Taranto Commissariat office on the 18th. of March last, they were found to contain varying numbers of pairs of boots instead of the 30 prs. declared. In view of this all 88 packages were checked and verbal proceedings of which is attached duly made.

From this proceedings it can be seen that Italian personnel in charge of unloading the packages were not guilty of negligence since condition, size and sealing of packages lead to believe that contents of parcels moved coincide with declaration; furthermore the Committee's report states that the fact that 39 prs. of boots are missing out of the 2638 prs declared must be attributed to packing error at origin.

This Ministry is in full agreement with the theory put forward by the Taranto Commissariat and therefore having already sent in 475/42/30/V receipt for 2638 prs. of boots under our G.1033 dated April 1st. requests M.M.I.A. to kindly alter the figures on said receipt G.1033 to

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25'99 Kgs. of coals.

Will you please also let us have your approval in order to regularize accounts.

(Sgd) Samuel PELLIGRA.

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

DIREZIONE GENERALE SERVIZI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE

D1/Rp **DIVISIONE VESTIARIO-EQUIPAGGIAMENTO**

N.6454/30/dV prot. P. M. 107, li 20 ott. 1944 194

Risposta al foglio N. *del* *Carte annesse*

OGGETTO: Stivaletti scaricati dal piroscafo alleata "Fort Sturgeon" a Taranto Boots unloaded per ~~Fort~~ ship Fort Sturgeon at TARANTO.

All'ARMY SUB COMMISSION A.C.C. - Main H.Q. (M.M.I.A.)

LEQUILE

e, per conoscenza:

ALLA DIREZIONE DI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE — B A R I

ALL'UFFICIO DI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE DI — TARANTO

S'informa codesta M.M.I.A. che,avendo l'Ufficio di Commissariato di Taranto riscontrato, dall'apertura di qualcuno dei colli sbarcati nella città stessa il 18/3 u.s. dal piroscafo "Fort Sturgeon", che soltanto due contenevano come dichiarato 30 paia di stivaletti, mentre gli altri racchiudevano un numero difforme di calzature, ha proceduto alla completa verifica degli 88 colli, giunti nella circostanza, compilando apposito verbale, di cui si unisce copia in duplice.-

Dal detto verbale si rileva come da parte del personale italiano addetto allo scarico dei colli non vi sia stata alcuna negligenza nel ricevimento dei materiali, giacchè la condizionatura, la saldezza e lo spessore dei colli facevano presupporre che il quantitativo per essi dichiarato corrispondesse a quello effettivamente contenuto; non soltanto, ma che la commissione compilatrice del verbale ha ritenuto che la deficienza delle 39 paia di scarpe ricevute rispetto alle 2638 paia dichiarate debba imputarsi ad errore materiale di conteggio all'atto della confezione dei colli sul luo-

4753

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

ALLA DIREZIONE DI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE — B A R I

ALL'UFFICIO DI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE DI — TARANTO

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4753

Questo Ministero è del parere di accogliere integralmente la tesi sostenuta dall'Ufficio di Commissariato Militare di Taranto; eppertanto, avendo inviato con il foglio n.5152/30/V del 1º aprile u.s. ricevuta per 2638 paia di stivaletti, prega codesta M.M.I.A. perchè voglia correggere la cifra segnata nel mod.G 1033 in paia 2599 in luogo di paia 2638.-

Prega inoltre di un cortese cenno di benestare, allo scopo di regolarizzare le scritture contabili connesse con la questione di che trattasi.-

PEL MINISTRO

Pelligra

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

COPIA

UFFICIO DI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE TARANTO

VERBALE CONSTATANTE L'APERTURA DI 88 COLLI DI SCARPE USATE E RIPARATE DEDUTE DAL GOVERNO ALLEATO ALL'A.M. PER I BISOGNI DELLE FF.AA. ITALIANE

L'anno millenovecentoquarantaquattro, il giorno trenta del mese di marzo in Taranto presso il Deposito Centrale Viveri.-

SIA NOTO

- che il piroscafo inglese ss Fort Sturgeon, giunto in questo porto, ha sbarcato, tra l'altro n.88 colli di scarpe, col numero dichiarato di 30 (trenta) paia per ciascun collo.;
- che una cassa, aperta ad una fiancata all'atto della consegna, è stata verificata sul molo ed ivi accertata nel contenuto con paia 28 (ventotto);
- che le altre casse si presentavano ben chiodate e ben confezionate, munite nelle fiancate di due nastri metallici integri e senza tracce di manomissioni;
-che, procedutosi all'apertura di qualche collo, si è constatato che non tutti risultavano conformi al contenuto dichiarato, (paia trenta), e, in conseguenza, resosi necessario operare l'accertamento allo scopo di rilevare il quantitativo effettivamente consegnato, nei giorni 20-23-25-28- e 29 c.a., si è proceduto alla schiodatura ed alla verifica di ciascuna cassa, provvedendo per ognuna, a contrassegnarla con un numero progressivo, data dell'operazione e numero di paia di scarpe realmente riscontrato. Ogni cassa è stata siglata dall'ufficiale commissario addetto al controllo.-
- che le casse sono, a verifica ultimata in numero di 88 e contengono complessivamente 2599 (duemilacinquecentonovantanove) paia di scarpe così ripartite: 4754
colli n.2 e n.55 a paia 20 ciascuno
colli n.8 e n.80 paia 28 ciascuno
collo n.53 paia 17
colli n.64-70-74-79 paia 29 ciascuno

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

- che le altre casse si presentavano ben chiodate e ben confezionate, munite nelle fiancate di due nastri metallici integri e senza tracce di manomissioni;
-che, procedutosi all'apertura di qualche collo, si è constatato che non tutti risultavano conformi al contenuto dichiarato, (paia trenta), e, in conseguenza, resosi necessario operare l'accertamento allo scopo di rilevare il quantitativo effettivamente consegnato, nei giorni 20-23-25-28- e 29 c.a., si è proceduto alla schiodatura ed alla verifica di ciascuna cassa, provvedendo per ognuna, a contrassegnarla con un numero progressivo, data dell'operazione e numero di paia di scarpe realmente riscontrato. Ogni cassa è stata siglata dall'ufficiale commissario addetto al controllo.-
- che le casse sono, a verifica ultimata in numero di 88 e contengono complessivamente 2599 (duemilacinquecentonovantanove) paia di scarpe così ripartite: 4734
colli n.2 e n.55 = paia 20 ciascuno
colli n.8 e n.80 paia 28 ciascuno
collo n.53 paia 17
colli n.64-70-74-79 paia 29 ciascuno
gli altri 79 colli paia 30 ciascuno;
- che, data la buona condizionatura dei colli e la saldezza e lo spessore del materiale, si deve ritenere che le altre 39 (trentanove) paia mancanti si debbano solamente imputare ad orrore materiale all'atto della confezione dei colli stessi nei luoghi di spedizione.

Del che si è redatto il presente verbale per tutti gli effetti.
Fatto, letto, chiuso alla data ed al luogo di cui sopra.-

IL S.TEN.COMMISSARIO
F.to Antonio Rendina

IL COLONNELLO DI SUSSISTENZA CONSEGNATARIO
F/to Bernardo Baldini

Per Copia Conforme
Il Direttore Capo Divisione II.
(Maggiore Aldo Natisti)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

176

Subject:- Labour Accidents.

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MMIA)
LECUILE. (LECCE)
AQ/6/1
24 April 44.

State Maggiore R. Esercito.

175

Reference your letter 1516 dated 10 April 44.

1. H.Q. No.2 District to whom these returns are forwarded, state that they are no longer required by them, as they have their own system of checking accidents in the Ports.

2. These returns are not, therefore, required in future.

Brid, Capt

Major General
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

FB

47

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SECRET SLIP
This slip will NOT be removed

To: BF & AQ

AQ

MMIA DADL has enquired from 2 District Shelton re accidents in Police. This return is required by them. The answer is NO. The Arabic have their own scheme of insurance and compensation.

I don't see how these accidents, could be charged against any Allied personnel.

1) Do we require these returns for any purpose?
2) Shall we keep them for records?
3) Shall we tell SHAPE to stop sending them?

21/4 [illegible]

NO

File

see Q

Q 2314

50

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

21/4 MPO

I. (175)

TRANSLATION

Ref. 15/6.....

From. S.M.R.E.....

To: M.M.I.A. File..... Date .19..4..44..

Subject..Labour accidents.....

Hereunder details of accidents suffered by our military employed in labour Sqs.

1. On Jan 3rd. at 19.00 hrs. at the port of Bari Infantryman SORRENTINO, Salvatore of the Hosp Det Reg. an iron bar which was being unloaded by crane suffering fracture of left collar bone and several ribs of the right side.

2. On Jan 18th. at 01.00 hrs. at the port of Bari Infantryman FONTE, Antonio of the 401 Inf. Reg. had his right foot caught under a car and slowly dropped by a crane suffering fracture of the metatarsus.

3. On Feb 11th. at 17.00 hrs. in the port of Bari, farmer SANTUCCI, Sirio of the 402 Arty Reg. suffered a fractured ankle when a pile of flour sacks fell off a ship.

5. On Feb 22nd. at 15.40 hrs at the port of Bari Cap. Magg. CAROSIELLO, Domenico of the 401 Inf. Reg. had his hand crushed between two steel plates which he was unloaded and suffered fracture of index and middle fingers.

4. On Feb. 18th. at 07.30 hrs. in the port of Bari

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Infantryman CECCARELLI, Piero of the 402 Inf. Reg. as a result of a fall on board a ship suffered the probable fracture of the right ulna, with contusion, bruise and displacement of the articulation.

6. On Feb. 24th. at 06.30 hrs. in the port of Bari, Gunner SUBISSATI, Luigi of the 202 Arty. Reg. was hit by a tree trunk which was being loaded on a railway truck, and suffered the fracture of the lower third of the right leg and probable injury to the spine.

7. On March 9th. at 03.00 hrs. at the port of Bari, Sgt. DE MARIA, Silvio of the 202 Arty. Reg. was crushed between the buffers of two trucks suffering the probable fracture of the spinal apophyses of the 7th. Spinal Vertebra.

8. On March 13th. at 15.30 hrs. in the port of Brindisi Infantryman MONTINARI, Giuseppe of the 405 Inf. Reg. had his left hand caught under one of the cases he was loading on a cart suffering crushing of the index and middle fingers.

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9. On March 18th. at 17.00 hrs. near the Allied depot of RESTINCO Cpl. CHIESA Vittorio of the 404 Arty. Rg. suffered a tearing wound followed by festering to his right hand produced a protruding nail on one of the cases he was loading.

10. On March 19th. at 19.00 hrs. at the S MARCO Field (Bari) Gunner LONGARETTI, Vincenzo of the 402 Arty. Rg. was hit by an iron bar whilst loading goods on a railway truck and suffered injuries to his left foot with suspected injury of the metacarpe.

11. On the evening of March 21ST. at the port of Bari Lt. PARDINI, Laurio of the 402 Arty. Rg. fell down owing ~~to~~ to ~~the~~ uneven and muddy ground whilst personally directing shifting of guns unloaded from a ship and suffered a blow on the left knee which produced swelling on the knee.

(Sgd) V. PIZZONIA.

D/S/Sgt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

S/Sgt De Juan.

You will have to do this Swap - me one in return.

NCB 18/8 2

1

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

DADMS not
intercepted. Returned
to Admiralty.
NCB 17/4

Have since learned that
these reports required by A/Q etc
are I believe forwarded to
Claims department with views
to arranging compensation for
the injured men.

Wells. 18/4.

Return to N.C.B.

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
Ispettorato della Manovalanza

N°15/6 di prot. P.M.151, li 10 Aprile 1944

OGGETTO: Incidenti.

lavoro accidenti

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C.

LEQUILE

Si comunicano i seguenti incidenti avvenuti a nostri militari sul lavoro durante il servizio di manovalanza:

1. Il giorno 3 gennaio alle ore 19 nel porto di Bari il fante SORRENTINO Salvatore del 400° fanteria veniva colpito da una spranga di ferro ammainata con una grù, riportando la frattura della clavi= cola sinistra e di varie costole all'emitorace destro.

2. Il giorno 18 gennaio alle ore 1 nel porto di Bari il fante FONTE ANtonio del 401° fanteria rimaneva col piede destro sotto una cassa improvvisamente ammainata con una grù, riportando la probabile frattura del metatarso.

3. Il giorno 11 febbraio alle ore 17 nel porto di Bari l'artigliere SANTUCCI Gino del 402° artiglieria a causa della caduta da una nave di una pila di sacchi di farina, riportava la frattura bimalleolare sinistra.

4. Il giorno 18 febbraio alle ore 7, 30 nel porto di Bari il fante CECCARELLI Pietro del 401° fanteria in seguito a caduta a bordo di una nave riportava la probabile frattura all'ulna destra, con con= tusione, ematoma e versamento articolare. 4447

5. Il giorno 22 febbraio alle ore 15,40 nel porto di Bari il Cap. Magg. CAROSIELLO Domenico del 401° fanteria rimaneva con la mano destra schiacciata fra due blocchi di lastre di ferro che stava scaricando, riportando la frattura dell'indice e del medio.

6. Il giorno 24 febbraio alle ore 6,30 nel porto di Bari l'art

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

1. Il giorno 3 gennaio alle ore 19 nel porto di Bari il fante SORRENTINO Salvatore del 400° fanteria veniva colpito da una spranga di ferro ammainata con una grù, riportando la frattura della clavicola sinistra e di varie costole all'emitorace destro.

2. Il giorno 18 gennaio alle ore 1 nel porto di Bari il fante FONTE ANtonio del 401° fanteria rimaneva col piede destro sotto una cassa improvvisamente ammainata con una grù, riportando la probabile frattura del metatarso.

3. Il giorno 11 febbraio alle ore 17 nel porto di Bari l'artigliere SANTUCCI Gino del 402° artiglieria a causa della caduta da una nave. di una pila di sacchi di farina, riportava la frattura bimalleolare sinistra.

4. Il giorno 18 febbraio alle ore 7, 30 nel porto di Bari il fante CECCARELLI Pietro del 401° fanteria in seguito a caduta a bordo di una nave riportava la probabile frattura all'ulna destra, con contusione, ematoma e versamento articolare.

5. Il giorno 22 febbraio alle ore 15,40 nel porto di Bari il Cap. Magg. CAROSIELLO Domenico del 401° fanteria rimaneva con la mano destra schiacciata fra due blocchi di lastre di ferro che stava scaricando, riportando la frattura dell'indice e del medio,

6. Il giorno 24 febbraio alle ore 6,30 nel porto di Bari, l'art. SUBISSATI Luigi del 402° artiglieria veniva colpito da un tronco di albero che si stava scaricando su un carro ferroviario, riportando la frattura del III inferiore della gamba destra e la probabile lesione della colonna vertebrale.

7. Il giorno 9 marzo alle ore 3 nel porto di Bari, il Sergente DE MARIA Libero del 402° Artiglieria veniva schiacciato fra i respingenti di due carri ferroviari, riportando la probabile frattura dell'apofisi spinosa della 7ª vertebra dorsale.

./.

4?47

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785040

8. Il giorno 13 Marzo alle ore 15,30 nel porto di Brindisi il fante MONTINARI Giuseppe del 405° fanteria mentre caricava delle casse su un carretto rimaneva con la mano sinistra sotto una cassa riportando lo schiacciamento dell'indice e del medio della mano stessa.-

9. Il giorno 18 marzo alle ore 17 presso i Magazzini anglo-americani di Restinco il Cap. CHIESA Vittorio del 404° artiglieria mentre trasportava cassette di viveri, a causa di un chiodo riportava alla mano destra una ferita complicatasi poi con infezione a carattere flemmomoso.-

10. Il giorno 19 marzo alle ore 19 al campo S. Marco (Bari) l'artigliere LONGARETTI Vincenzo del 402° Artiglieria mentre scaricava materiale da un carro ferroviario veniva colpito da una sbarra di ferro riportando una forte contusione al piede sinistro con sospetto di lesione metacarpica.-

11 La sera del 21 marzo nel porto di Bari il Ten. PAROLINI Sante del 402° Artiglieria mentre dirigeva personalemente il traino di cannoni scaricati da una nave dato il terreno accidentato e fangoso cadeva riportando una borsite traumatica al ginocchio sinistro.-

Per ordine
IL TEN.COL. CAPO UFFICIO
(V. Piazzonia)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775020

MILITARY MISSION
TO
ITALIAN ARMY

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO
Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 1549/c P.M.107 li 11-4- 1944

OGGETTO: Ferimento fante CUCCURU' Orlando ad opera di militari americani.

Allegati:n.2

Alla ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C.
- Main HQ (MMIA) -
LEQUILE

Per notizia si comunica che la sera del 10 marzo, verso le ore 18, il fante CUCCURU' Orlando, aggregato alla 1^ Compagnia del LXVIII Battaglione complementi, mentre ritornava ai propri accantonamenti in Manduria, incontrava tre militari americani di colore, verosimilmente avvinazzati.

Uno di questi, dopo avere rivolto al Cuccurù alcune parole 4746 si che il soldato non comprese, lo feriva, senza alcun apparente motivo, con un colpo di pistola.

L'incidente si sarebbe svolto come risulta dalle dichiarazioni rilasciate dal fante Cairoli Felice, che accompagnava, quella sera, il Cuccurù e dal Cuccurù stesso all'Arma dei CC.RR. di Corpo d'Armata, dichiarazioni che si allegano in copia.-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775030

Per notizia si comunica che la sera del 10 marzo, verso le ore 18, il fante CUCCURU' Orlando, aggregato alla 1^ Compagnia del LXVIII Battaglione complementi, mentre ritornava ai propri accantonamenti in Manduria, incontrava tre militari americani di colore, verosimilmente avvinazzati.

Uno di questi, dopo avere rivolto al Cuccurù alcune frasi 4746 si che il soldato non comprese, lo feriva, senza alcun apparente motivo, con un colpo di pistola.

L'incidente si sarebbe svolto come risulta dalle dichiarazioni rilasciate dal fante Cairoli Felice, che accompagnava, quella sera, il Cuccurù e dal Cuccurù stesso all'Arma dei CC.RR. di Corpo d'Armata, dichiarazioni che si allegano in copia.-

22/4 Alts passed to MMIA Dist Jo.

22/4 FF

File.

GENERALE ALIBERTI

Aliberti

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

174

From.. M.F.W. (Cabinet).. Ref..1666/C.....

To: M.M.I.A. File. AQ/6/1.... Date ..15. April 44

Subject.....Incidents..with..Allied..personnel..at..CAROVIGNO...

As a result of incidents taken place at CAROVIGNO as reported in letter H5479/11 dated 11/4, the Naval military HQ and the Prefect at Brindisi have asked H.Q 11 Sub area to move the Yougoslav detachment at CAROVIGNO to S. MICHELE. This in order to prevent any further incidents as the situation there is rather tense.

We would be very grateful if you could support this request with 11 Sub. area

Sd. Gen ALIBERTI

B/ BH

21/4 BE

File

4745

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

RA/fi AQ

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. 1866 di prot. P.M.107, li 15 aprile 944.

OGGETTO: Incidenti con militari alleati a Carovigno.
Incidents with Allied Military at Carovigno.

ALL'ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C.
Main HQ. (MMIA)

^^^^^^

L E C U I L E

In seguito agli incidenti avvenuti a Carovigno (Brindisi) il giorno 9 aprile u.s., segnalati con foglio n. 4547/II dell'11 aprile c.m., il Comando Militare Marittimo ed il Prefetto di Brindisi hanno interessato il Comando della 71^ Sub-area, per ottenere lo spostamento del Distaccamento jugoslavo da Carovigno a S. Michele (Brindisi). Ciò allo scopo di evitare ulteriori incidenti che potrebbero aver luogo fra la popolazione di Carovigno e gli elementi jugoslavi, data la tensione ancora esistente in posto.

Si sarà molto grati a codesta Sottocommissione se vorrà appoggiare presso i Comandi Alleati competenti la richiesta delle predette Autorità Italiane.

MILITARY MISSION GENERALE ALBERTI 1/2 - 1 1/4

Date _____

to
ITALIAN ARMY Alberti

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

21/4 NA, as incident already reported to 6 BSA on the 2nd ult. File

TRANSLATION

173

From..S.I.B.E..... Ref..3.9.6./O.P..

To: M.M.I.A. File..2161... Date 15..4..44.

Subject. Incident...between..Italian And..Allied..Military....

1. On the 2nd inst. at 12.45 hrs. one of the famous patrols of Molfetta on arrival at the corner of Via Crocifisso and Vico S. Stefano 1°, was attacked by an English ~~soldier~~ soldier, who attempted to disarm Sgt. Major TARTARO, Nicola, 1/C patrol.

During the ensuing struggle the a/m NCO suffered some injuries to the right hand and reacted by hitting the English military with the butt of his rifle;

As a large group of English soldiers approached the scene, one of the patrol, Soldier MINERVINI, in order to avoid further fighting, fired two rifle shots in the air, after which all the English military withdrew.

2. 9th Army Corps has already reported the incident to H.Q. 6th. Base Sub-Area, Bari. 4443

M.M.I.A. is requested to issue the necessary instructions which will avoid such incidents in the future.

(Sgd) Samuel OVILIA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

N. 290 [illegible]308) del Catal.
(R. 1936 - Anno XIV)

M/pe. AQ 16 11

P.M. 151, li 15 aprile 19 44 Anno

STATO MAGGIORE R.ESERCITO
-Ufficio Operazioni-

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA CONTROLLO - Sottocommissione per l'Esercito
L e q u i l e

Risposta al foglio del

Prot. N. 3966 Allegati OP. Div. Sez. N.

OGGETTO incidente fra militari italiani e militari alleati.
Incidents between Italian and Allied Military.

1°) - Il giorno 2 c.m. alle ore 14,45 una delle ronde di vigilanza nel presidio di Molfetta, giunta all'incrocio Via Crocifisso - Vico S.Stefano 1°, veniva aggredita da un militare inglese, il quale tentava di disarmare il sergente maggiore TARTARO Nicola comandante la ronda stessa;-

Nella colluttazione seguita, detto sottufficiale mentre riportava alcune abrasioni alla mano destra, reagiva colpendo col calcio del moschetto il militare inglese.

Al sopraggiungere di un numeroso gruppo di soldati inglesi il soldato MINERVINI, di ronda, allo scopo di evitare un seguito increscioso, sparava due colpi di fucile in aria, dopo di che tutti i militari inglesi si allontanavano.

2°) - Il IX Corpo d'Armata ha già segnalato l'incidente all'H.Q. 6^ Base Sub-Area di Bari. 4742

Si prega codesta Sottocommissione di diramare opportune disposizioni affinchè fatti del genere in avvenire non abbiano più a verificarsi.=

IL SOTTOCAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
(Gen. di Div. G.B.Oxilia)

G. Oxilia

(Ediz. Poligrafico Stato) Trattare per ogni lettera un solo argomento ed indicare nella risposta il numero di protocollo e l'ufficio cui si risponde.
Indirizzo telegrafico: ; c/c postale n.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT:- Theft of Italian Military Property

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
L'AQUILE (LECCE)
AG/6/1
19 Apr 44

HQ 2 District

A translation of the Italian Ministry of War letter 1041/T/Te dated 11 Apr 44 is forwarded for information.

J Bird, Capt
for Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

ABC

4741

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

TRANSLATION

17

SUBJECT:- Theft of Military Property

Ministry of War

Ref No:- 1041/T/Te
11 Apr 44

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)

Please note that during the night of the 27 to 28 March a theft of Military property was perpetrated at the BARI clothing and equipment stores. So far the following material has been found to be missing:-

Merino cloth 90cm wide	45 metres
10 rolls of sleeve lining	500 "
Sicilia brand sleeve lining	150 "
Braid	60 "
Soft stiffening	100 "
Shoe soles assorted	12 kgs
Cotton reels, grey-green, 500 metres each	33
White cotton in 400 metre reels Catena brand	4

Inquiries are being made to trace the culprits and establish responsibility.

4740

Signed General PELLIGRA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AQ/ 61

From: Ufficio Minister. Commissariat. No. 1041/T/Te...

To: M.M.I.A. File..... Date 11.4.44...

Subject...Theft of Military Property.....

Please note that during the night of the 27 to 28th March a theft of military property was perpetrated at the Bari clothing and equipment stores. So far the following material has been found to be missing:—

Merino cloth 90 c/m wide	45	metres
10 rolls of olive lining	500	"
Sicilia brand olive lining	150	"
braid	60	"
soft stiffening	100	"
steel poles, assorted	12	Kgs.
cotton reels, grey green, 500 mts ea.	33	
white cotton in 1000 mt reels katena brand.	4	

Inquiries are being made to trace the culprits and establish responsibility.

(Sgd). Lemmal PELLIGRA.

S/Sgt.

4739

VA/gu

MILITARY MISSION
Date 12/4 AQ/6
to
ITALIAN ARMY.

170

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

DIREZIONE GENERALE SERVIZI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE

ISPETTORATO

N. 1041/1/7e di prot. P. M. 107, li 11 aprile 1944

Risposta al foglio N. ..... del ..... Carte annesse .....

OGGETTO: Furto in danno dell'amministrazione militare.-
night of March 27 Missing 7 shoes from Lt. warehouse in the

Al L'A.C.C. - Sottocommissione per l'Esercito -
LEQUILE

Theft of clothing shoes from Italian
clothing - equipment Depot at Bari

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Per informazione comunicasi che durante la notte dal 27 al 28 marzo è stato perpetrato un furto in danno dell'amministrazione militare italiana e precisamente presso il deposito vestiario equipaggiamento direzionale di Bari. Finora il danno accertato dalla Direzione di Commissariato militare di Bari è costituito da: 4238

- panno merino alto cm.90	ml.	45
tela fodere maniche pezze IO	"	500
fodere maniche marca Sicilia	"	I50
cordovino	"	60
mollettone candido	"	I00

Theft of clothing stores from ... Clothing + equipment Depot at Bari

^^^^^^^^^^^^

Per informazione comunicasi che durante la notte dal 27 al 28 marzo è stato perpetrato un furto in danno dell'amministrazione militare italiana e precisamente presso il deposito vestiario equipaggiamento direzionale di Bari. Finora il danno accertato dalla Direzione di Commissariato militare di Bari è costituito da:

4238

- panno merino alto cm.90	ml.	45
tela fodere maniche pezze 10	"	500
fodere maniche marca Sicilia	"	150
cordovino	"	60
mollettone candido	"	100
semenze per calzature assortite	Kg.	12
spoloni filo g.v.da mt 500 del n.16	n.	33
rocchetti filo bianco marca Catena da mt.400	"	4

Sono in corso accertamenti per individuare i colpevoli e stabilire le responsabilità.

PEL MINISTRO

Translate please

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

169

SUBJECT:- Incident in BARI

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
AQ/6/1
16 Apr 44

HQ 2 District

A translation of the Italian GHQ letter 1522 dated 10 Apr reporting an incident in BARI, is forwarded for action as necessary.

AEC

J Ford, Capt
A/Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

4737

6

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

TRANSLATION

SUBJECT:- Incident involving an Italian Soldier

168

Stato Maggiore Regio Esercito
Inspectorate of Labour

Ref: 1522
10 Apr 44

Army Sub Commission ACC
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)

Please note that on 18 Mar at 1630 hrs an Italian unit of the 400 Inf Regt was returning from work along the sea front at BARI, in proper formation and under the comd of an officer when an English soldier travelling on a lorry threw an iron bracket at the unit. The object hit Corporal Maggiore FONTANOT Augusto on the left knee, causing bruises and a wound which tore the tissues.

It was impossible to recognise the soldier who threw the iron or to take the number of the vehicle which did not stop.

4136

signed

V. Pizzonia Lt Col
Head of the Branch

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

AQ/41

Para 2
N.2 Dodicesimo
Gabinetto

12/4

N. 2000 (208) del Catal.
(R. 1941 - Anno XX)

P.M.151,li 10 Aprile 1944 - Anno

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
Ispettorato della Manovalanza

Alla SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C.
- L E Q U I L E

Risposta al foglio del

Prot. N. 1022 *Allegati* *Div.* *Sez.* *N.*

OGGETTO Incidente occorso a militare italiano.-
Incident involving an Italian soldier

Si comunica che il giorno 18 marzo u.s. alle ore 16,30 circa sul lungomare di Bari da un autocarro alleato che passava, un soldato inglese lanciava un supporto di ferro contro un nostro reparto del 400 Ftr. che, regolarmente inquadrato al comando di un ufficiale, rientrava dal servizio di manovalanza; l'oggetto lanciato colpiva al ginocchio destro il Cap. Magg. FONTANOT Augusto che risportava contusione e ferita lacera al ginocchio stesso con asportazione di lembi cutanei.-

Non é stato possibile individuare il militare che ha effettuato il lancio ne prendere il numero dell'automezzo alleato che ha regolarmente continuato nella sua corsa.-

Please note that on March 18th. at 16.30 hrs. an Italian Unit of the 400 Ftr Reg. was returning from work along the Sea front at Bari, in proper formation and under the command of an Officer when an English soldier travelling on a lorry threw an iron bracket at the unit. The object hit Cap. Magg. FONTANOT, augusto on the left knee causing bruises and a wound with tearing and rending of tissues.
It was impossible to recognise the soldier who threw the iron or to take the number of the vehicle which did not stop.

4735
d' ordine

IL TEN.COL.CAPO UFFICIO
(V. Pizzonia)

Trattare per ogni lettera un solo argomento ed indicare nella risposta il numero di protocollo e l'ufficio cui si deposde.
Indirizzo telegrafico:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

From. War Ministry, Zagreb. 13/4 9P NA File
No. 4543/II.8.2.9.

To: M.M.I.A. File..... Date 11.4.44

Subject. Incident involving Allied Military at Carovigno.

9th Army Corps H.Q. reports that on the 9th inst. at 17.00 hrs at CAROVIGNO (Brindisi) seven Allied Military were walking along the public thoroughfare in a state of drunkeness, annoying passers by and even slapping women on the back.

The attitude of these military provoked a reaction on the part of those annoyed which led to a scuffle which developed into a battle when members of the local Yugoslav detachment intervened firing pistols, and the result was wounding two persons, one of them very seriously. Further yugoslavs then intervened also using firearms against the population and causing violent reaction.

During the fight a Carabinieri and two civilians were injured and one of the Yugoslavs wounded in the face.

Order was restored by the intervention of garrison troops and the Carabinieri.

Security measures have been taken to avoid further disorders.

4734

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Pirandisi Navy Command has
reported the incident to 7/ Sub Area.
Will MAMIA please intervene
in order that the Yugoslavs may
be transferred elsewhere or at least
that measures may be taken to
avoid such incidents.

(Sgd) Col. FIORE VERNAZZA.

1 S/Sgt.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Translate please.

12/4

Gu/ce

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

N. di prot. 4547/II
8.2.9.

P.M. 107 li 11 aprile 1944

OGGETTO: Incidenti con militari alleati a Carovigno.-
incidents caused by drunken yugoslav soldiers

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO
DELL'A.C.C. (Comando Principale M.M.I.A.) LEQUILE

Il Comando del IX Corpo d'Armata informa che in Carovigno (Brindisi), il giorno 9 corrente alle ore 17, sette militari alleati che transitavano in stato di ubriachezza lungo la pubblica via, infastidivano i passanti, colpendo altresì talune donne con manate alle spalle.-

Il contegno di tali militari provocava reazione da parte delle persone molestate e quindi una mischia che successivamente si aggravava per l'intervento di elementi del locale distaccamento jugoslavo, i quali sparavano con pistole sulla folla, causando due feriti di cui uno gravissimo. Altri jugoslavi intervenivano facendo ancora uso di armi contro la popolazione che reagiva energicamente contro di essi.-

Durante la mischia rimanevano ancora contusi un carabiniere 4533
e due civili, mentre uno degli jugoslavi restava ferito alla guancia.

L'intervento di truppe del presidio di Ostuni e dell'Arma dei carabinieri ristabilivano l'ordine.-

Sono state attuate misure di sicurezza per prevenire eventuali disordini.-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 795030

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO

DELL'A.C.C. (Comando Principale M.M.I.A.) LEQUILE

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Il Comando del IX Corpo d'Armata informa che in Carovigno (Brindisi), il giorno 9 corrente alle ore 17, sette militari alleati che transitavano in stato di ubriachezza lungo la pubblica via, infastidivano i passanti, colpendo altresì talune donne con manate alle spalle.-

Il contegno di tali militari provocava reazione da parte delle persone molestate e quindi una mischia che successivamente si aggravava per l'intervento di elementi del locale distaccamento jugoslavo, i quali sparavano con pistole sulla folla, causando due feriti di cui uno gravissimo. Altri jugoslavi intervenivano facendo ancora uso di armi contro la popolazione che reagiva energicamente contro di essi.-

Durante la mischia rimanevano ancora contusi un carabiniere 4733
e due civili, mentre uno degli jugoslavi restava ferito alla guancia.

L'intervento di truppe del presidio di Ostuni e dell'Arma dei carabinieri ristabilivano l'ordine.-

Sono state attuate misure di sicurezza per prevenire eventuali disordini.-

Il Comando Marina di Brindisi ha segnalato il fatto alla 71^ Sub-Area.-

Si prega codesta Sottocommissione di voler intervenire perchè gli elementi jugoslavi vengano allontanati dal luogo o almeno diffidati ad evitare incidenti del genere.=

d'ordine
IL CAPO DI GABINETTO
(Col. R. Fiore - Vernazza)

Fiore Vernazza

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

U - 3533 Army SC (Secce)

SUBJECT:- Incident in Ca' bria - death of CARDONA Francesco.

HQ No 2 District CMF.
203 A.
4 Apr 44.

Rear HQ
Eighth Army,
A.M.F.

1. The attd file received fron Army Sub-Commission ACC is referred.

2. Fron a statement made by BRUNNI Clementina widow of CARDONA Francesco, it would appear that this case is already known to you.

MILITARY MISSION.

10 6/1 March.

for Major General,
Cond. No 2 District.

Copy to:- Army Sub-Commission ACC,
Main HQ (MMIA)
Lequile,
LECCE.

4031

Appt
1/4.

10.152
reins

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

164

SUBJECT: Accidents.

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ (MMIA)
LEQUILE. (LECCE)
AQ/6/1.
9 Apr 44.

H.Q. No. 2 District.

A translation of Italian C.M.Q. letter, 1/23 dated 4 Apr 44 is forwarded for action as necessary.

tvs.JB

Brig.
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

4730

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

163.

TRANSLATION.

From: Stato Maggiore R Esercito,

To : MMIA.

Ref: 1423 di prot.
4 Apr 44.

1. On 19th Mar 44 at about 2330 hrs along the front at BARI a squad of the 401 Inf Regt was being marched towards the port in proper formation and along the footpath. A British lorry going at great speed and with no lights ran into the squad.

2. As a result of the accident the following Italian Military suffered the injuries listed opposite their names:

Cpl. OLIVIERI Sante: wounds to the forehead, face and nose and probably fracture of the 3rd. metatarsal bone of the left foot.

Infantryman SANTOPIETRO, Oronzo : wounds to the scalp, forehead and left knee.

" SALAMIERO, Francesco : wounds to left parietal region with probably caving in of bone and damage to right eye.

" BASILE, Giovanni: wounds to scalp and left knee.

Another 6 men suffered slight injuries.

3. It would appear the lamps on the lorry were not working. The number of the vehicle is: V. 211032 driven by T/253708 ABSOLOM, K of 354 G.T. Coy., RASC.

4129

Sgd: E. MATTIOLI
Il Generale Ispettore.

copy-tvs.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

MILITARY MISSION. AQ 1611. 162 c.

Ref. 1420

From S.M.R.F. Date 8 Apr 44

To: M.M.I.A. File 10 ITALIAN ARMY. Date 4.4.44

Subject. Road Accident

1. On ~~night 18/19 Apr 44~~ 19 Apr 44 at about 23.30 hrs. along the front at Bari, a squad of the 601 Inf. Reg., was being marched towards the port in proper formation and along the footpath. A British lorry going at great speed and without any lights ran into the squad.

2. As a result of the accident the following Italian military suffered the injuries listed opposite their names:-

Cpl. OLIVIERI Santo wounds to the forehead face and nose and probably fracture of the 3rd. metatarsal bone of the left foot.

Le Q Distro

Infantryman SANTOPIETRO, Drogo. wounds to the scalp, forehead and left knee.

" SALAMIPRO, Francesco wounds 4732 left parietal region with probable cerebral lesion of bone and damage to right eye.

" BASILE Geremia wounds to scalp and left knee.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Quarters 6 men Duffers Object
Inspection.

3. It would appear this damage on the
Army were not working. The members
of the Mission in T.253705 ABSOLOM, K. of 354 G.T. Coy,
RASC.

(Sgd.) E. MATTIELI,

T/HQ/SIC.

162.

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
Ispettorato della Manovalanza

N° 1423 di prot. P.M. 151, li 3 Aprile 1944
OGGETTO: Investimento.-
Road Accident.

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C.

L E Q U I L E

1) Comunicasi che il giorno 19 marzo u.s. alle ore 23,30 circa sul lungomare di Bari un camion inglese a fanali spenti ed a forte andatura investiva un reparto di truppe del 401 Ftr. che regolarmente inquadrato, marciava sul marciapiede per recarsi al servizio di manovalanza al porto.-

2) Nell'investimento i seguenti militari, riportavano le lesioni a fianco di ciascuno indicate:

- Cap.le OLIVIERI Sante - contusioni escoriate alla fronte, al viso, al naso, e probabile frattura del 3° metatarso al piede sinistro;
- Fante SANTOPIETRO Oronzo - ferita lacero contusa al cuoio capelluto e alla fronte, contusione del gionocchio sinistro con ematrro;
- Fante SALAMIERO Francesco- contusione con ematoma regione parietale sinistra con probabile infossamento al tavolato osseo, e disturbi visivi all'occhio destro;
- Fante BASILE Giovanni - ferita lacero contusa al cuoio capelluto e contusione ginocchio sinistro.-

Rimanevano inoltre feriti lievemente altri 6 militari.-

3) Il camion che sembra avesse i fari guasti, portava la targa 211032 ed era guidato da ABSOLOM K. appartenente al T.253708-354 G.T. COG RAS.-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

di manovalanza al porto.-

2) Nell'investimento i seguenti militari, riportavano le lesioni a fianco di ciascuno indicate:

- Cap.le OLIVIERI Sante - contusioni escoriate alla fronte, al al viso, al naso, e probabile frattura del 3° metatarso al piede sinistro;
- Fante SANTOPIETRO Oronzo - ferita lacero contusa al cuoio capelluto e alla fronte, contusione del gionocchio sinistro con ematrro;
- Fante SALAMIERO Francesco- contusione con ematoma regione parietale sinistra con probabile infossamento al tavolato osseo, e disturbi visivi all'occhio destro;
- Fante BASILE Giovanni - ferita lacero contusa al cuoio capelluto e contusione ginocchio sinistro.-

Rimanevano inoltre feriti lievemente altri 6 militari.-

3) Il camion che sembra avesse i fari guasti, portava la targa 45.38 211032 ed era guidato da ABSOLOM K. appartenente al T.253708-354 G.T. COG RAS.-

MILITARY MISSION.

Date_____.

to

ITALIAN ARMY.

IL GENERALE ISPETTORE
(E.Mattioli)

Arrested
Rel
AD

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

From U.S. Military Cable Dept. Ref. 1480/c 16°

To: M.M.I.A. File ..... Date 5.4.44

Subject: Incidents between Canadians & Canadian Soldiers

1. On March 18th. last at 21.00 hrs. two drunken Canadian soldiers, belonging to a motor convoy which had halted on the CICCIANO - CANCELLO road, armed with a tommy gun and a pistol entered the Acciano Carabinieri barracks and attempted to obtain delivery of all the arms therein. The Carabinieri jumped on the Canadians and succeeded in throwing them out of the barracks. During the scuffle Carabiniere CIMINO Angelo suffered a wound in the back of his head.

2. On March 21st at 1800 hrs. in the outskirts of ATRIPALDA (Avellino) Carabiniere RIZZO Antonio was attacked by two Canadian soldiers who robbed him of a Smith Wisson automatic pistol of his property and 1.200 lire.

Investigations made by local authorities in cooperation with the Canadian M.P. led to one of the aggressors being recognised and searched but he had not the stolen property in his possession. His name is Gnr. Coulter, B.H.

The Canadian Police are continuing their inquiries. 9/4/44.

4727

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

3.- On March 21st. at 20.15 hrs. on the Appia Road, near Piantodardino Ausiliario Carabinieri QUINTAVALLE, Andrea and ZULLO, Pietro who had just finished their turn of guard duty at the railway station, were stopped by 10 Canadian soldiers who, on the pretext of asking for information, held them up and robbed Quintavalle of his "Beretta" pistol, disappearing immediately afterwards in the darkness.

Inquiries made by the Canadian Military Police have yielded no results so far.

(Sgd) Gennaro ALIBERTI

Thanks for info. CMP Lab

maltenschland.

NA File. 9/5

16

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO
Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 1481/c P.M. 107 li 5 aprile 1944

OGGETTO: Incidenti fra Reali Carabinieri e militari canadesi.-
Incidenti tra Reali Carabinieri e Canadesi.-

ALLA ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C. - Main HQ (MMIA) - LEQUILE

1.- Il 18 marzo u.s., alle ore 21, due militari canadesi ubriachi appartenenti ad una autocolonna che sostava sulla strada Cicciano-Cancello, armati di fucile mitragliatore e di pistola entravano nella caserma dei RR.CC. di Cicciano pretendendo la consegna delle armi. I CC.RR. lanciatisi contro i canadesi riuscivano ad immobilizzarli e a gettarli fuori della caserma. Nella colluttazione il carabiniere Cimino Angelo riportava una ferita lacero-contusa alla regione occipitale.

2.- Il 21 marzo, alle ore 18, alla periferia di Atripalda (Avellino) il carabiniere Rizzo Antonio veniva aggredito e immobilizzato da due militari canadesi e rapinato della pistola tipo Smith Wesson di proprietà del militare e della somma di lire 1.300.
Le indagini effettuate dall'Arma di Atripalda col concorso della polizia canadese del luogo, portavano al riconoscimento di uno degli aggressori, il soldato Gnr. Coulter, B.H. che perquisito non veniva trovato in possesso della refurtiva.
La polizia canadese prosegue nelle indagini. 4 rivolta

3.- Il 21 marzo u.s., alle ore 20,15 sulla via Appia, in località Piano-dardine Avellino i carabinieri Quintavalle Andrea e Zullo Pietro reduci dal servizio di sorveglianza al locale scalo ferroviario venivano fermati da dieci militari canadesi che col pretesto di chiedere

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

Cimino Angelo riportava una ferita lacero-contusa alla regione occipitale.

2.- Il 21 marzo, alle ore 18, alla periferia di Atripalda (Avellino) il carabiniere Rizzo Antonio veniva aggredito e immobilizzato da due militari canadesi e rapinato della pistola tipo Smith Wesson di proprietà del militare e della somma di lire 1.300.
Le indagini effettuate dall'Arma di Atripalda col concorso della polizia canadese del luogo, portavano al riconoscimento di uno degli aggressori, il soldato Gnr. Coulter, B.H. che perquisito non veniva trovato in possesso della refurtiva.
La polizia canadese prosegue nelle indagini.

3.- Il 21 marzo u.s., alle ore 20,15 sulla via Appia, in località Piano-dardine Avellino i carabinieri Quintavalle Andrea e Zullo Pietro reduci dal servizio di sorveglianza al locale scalo ferroviario venivano fermati da dieci militari canadesi che col pretesto di chiedere informazioni li immobilizzavano asportando al Quintavalle la pistola "Beretta", dileguandosi, poi, nell'oscurità.
Le indagini svolte dalla polizia canadese hanno dato, finora, risultato negativo.-

per GENERALE ALIBERTI a.p.s.

File

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT:' Accidents to Italian Military Labour

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MAIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
AQ/6/1
1 April 44

HQ 2 District

A translation of SMRE letter 1278 dated 27 March is forwarded for your information and necessary action.

B. Glanvill Tann
for Brigadier,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

From SMRE Labour Inspectorate Ref 1278

To MIA File _____ Date 27 3 44

159

Subject Accidents to Italian Military whilst working for labour Units

The following accidents have happened to Italian military whilst employed with labour units: -

1. On Feb 10th at 0430 hrs in the port of Bari, Infantryman CORTANA Attilio of the 400 Inf Regt had his left hand caught between the tailboard of a lorry he was loading and a sheet of iron suffering such a long and deep w ound in the palm of the hand that it is very doubtful whether he will ever recover use of same.

2. On Feb 26th at 2400 hrs in the port of Bari fumer BIANCO Angelo, of the No 2 Arty Regt whilst loading metal sheets en a railway truck suffered injuries to the little finger of his left hand which will probably entail loss of said finger.

3. On Feb 16th at 0030 hrs in the Port of Bari Infantryman TROIANI Antonio of the 400 Inf Regt whislt on a railway truck stocking metal sheets which were being unloaded from a ship, was hit on the head by a crane hook and thrown into the sea suffering from a ddep wound in the scalp plus diverse other wounds to the left cheek and cheek bone and the left leg.

4. On Feb 27th at 0300 hrs in the port of Bari, Inf FEDELE Trieste of the 400 Inf Regt, while unloading goods suffered injuries and splintering of the top joint of the right hand mid le finger.

5. On March 2nd at 0600 hrs at the Medieval Castle Station of Bari fumer CALZI, Giuseppe of the 402 Arty Regt had the first joint of the 3rd finger left hand torn off while stocking bombs on a railway truck.

6. On March 6th at 1500 hrs in the port of Bari Mf TULLI Sabotino of the 4 400 Mf Regt while stacking iron bars which were being unloaded by crane had his right hand caught under one of the bars which dropped off a crane and suffered a wound down to the bone.

7. On March 7th at 2320 hrs at the port of Bari Inf PICCHIRI Giovanni of the 401 Inf Regt while stacking steel plates, which were being unloaded by crane off a ship, on a railway truck, the crane suddenly changed direction and he received a blow to his right leg causing complete fracture of lower third of tibia.

8. On March 10th at 0330 hrs in the port of Bari fumer TOMMASI, Giuseppe of the 402 Arty Regt fell down while stacking beams on a lorry and is suffering from water on the left knee.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

unloaded from a ship, was hit on the head by a crane hook and thrown into the sea suffering from a ddep wound in the scalp plus diverse other wounds to the left cheek and cheek bone and the left leg.

4. On Feb 27th at 0300 hrs in the port of Bari, Inf FEDELE Trieste of the 400 Inf Regt, while unloading goods suffered injuries and splintering of the top joint of the right hand middle finger.

5. On March 2nd at 0600 hrs at the Medieval Castle Station of Bari fumer CALZI, Giuseppe of the 402 Arty Regt had the first joint of the 3rd finger left hand torn off while stocking bombs on a railway truck.

6. On March 6th at 1500 hrs in the port of Bari Mf TULLI Sabotino of the 4 400 Mf Regt while stacking iron bars which were being unloaded by crane had his right hand caught under one of the bars which dropped off a crane and suffered a wound down to the bone.

7. On March 7th at 2320 hrs at the port of Bari Inf PICCHIERI Giovanni of the 401 Inf Regt while stacking steel plates, which were being unloaded by crane off a ship, on a railway truck, the crane suddenly changed direction and he received a blow to his right leg causing complete fracture of lower third of tibia.

8. On March 10th at 0330 hrs in the port of Bari fumer TOMMASI, Giuseppe of the 402 Arty Regt fell down while stacking beams on a lorry and is suffering from water on the left knee.

9. On March 13th at 1630 hrs at the Barletta Railway Station Mf SIMMONETTI, Serafino of the 408 Inf Regt received serious injuries to his right thumb which affected both joints and left part of thumb hanging on only by the skin.

10. On March 16th at 1315 hrs while working at the 18 Sp PC (S Vito DEI NORMANNI) fumer CIVES Ubaids of the 404 Arty Regt was injured and is suffering from the probable fracture of the lower third of the right humerus.

11. On March 16th at about 1600 hrs, Cpl PICCININO Luciano of the 404 Arty Regt was thrown down while travelling to work at Restinio on an English lorry owing to the driver having to apply his brakes suddenly and suffered from a probable fracture of his right shoulder blade.

(Sgd) E. MATTIOLI

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Subject:- Accidents to Italian Military Labour.

To HQ 2 District.

A translation of SIRE letter 1278 dated 27 March is forwarded for your information & necessary action

Bonè.

4723

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

From: H.S.M.R.E. Labour Inspectorate. 10/6/11 Ref. 1275
To: M.M.I.A. File 31 bis. Date 27.3.44

Subject: Accidents to Italian Military whilst working for labour Units

The following accidents have happened to Italian Auxiliary whilst employed with labour units: -

1. On Feb. 10th at 04.30 hrs. in the port of Bari, Infantryman GORTANA, Attilio had his left hand caught between the tailboard of a lorry he was loading and a sheet of iron suffering such a long and deep wound in the palm of the hand that it is very doubtful whether he will ever recover use of same.

2. On Feb. 26th. at 24.00 hrs. in the port of Bari Gunner BIANCO Angelo, of the 402 Arty. Reg. whilst loading metal sheets on a railway truck suffered injuries to the little finger of his left hand which will probably entail loss of said finger

3. On Feb. 16th. at 00.30 hrs. in the Port of Bari Infantryman TROIANI Antonio of the 400 Inf. Reg., whilst on a railway truck stacking metal sheets which were being unloaded from a ship, was hit on the head by a crane hook and thrown into the sea suffering from a deep wound in the scalp plus divers[illegible] wounds to the left cheek and cheek bone and the left leg.

4. On Feb. 27th. at 03.00 hrs. in the port of Bari, Inf! FEDELE Trieste of the 400 Inf. Reg., whilst unloading foods, suffered injuries and splintering of the top joint of the right hand middle finger. -

5. On March 2nd. at 06.00 hrs. at the Mediaval Castle Station of Bari Gunner CALZI, Giuseppe of the 402 Arty Reg.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

had the first joint of the 3rd finger left hand torn off while stacking bombs on a railway truck.

6.- On March 6th. at 15.00 hrs. in the port of Bari Inf. TULLI, Salvatore of the 400 Inf. Reg. while stacking iron bars which were being unloading by Crane had his right hand caught under one of the bars which dropped off a crane and suffered injuries to the index finger of said hand with a wound down to the bone

7. On March 7th. at 23.20 hrs. at the port of Bari Inf. PICCHIERI, Giovanni of the 401 Inf. Reg. while stacking steel plates, ~~on a railway Truck~~ which were being unloading by crane off a Ship, on a railway truck, the crane suddenly changed direction and he received a blow to his right leg causing complete fracture of lower third of tibia.

8. On March 10th. at 03.30 hrs. in the port of Bari Gunner TOMMASI, Giuseppe of the 402 Arty. Reg. fell down while stacking beams on a lorry and is suffering from wound on the left knee.

9. On March 13th. at 16.30 hrs. at the Barletta Railway Station Inf. SIMONETTI, Serafino of the 408 Inf. Reg. received serious injuries to his right thumb which affected both joints and left part of thumb hanging on only by the skin.

10. On March 16th. at 13.15 hrs. while working at the 18 Sp P.C. (S. VITO DEI NORMANNI) Gunner CIVES

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Ubaldo of the HOH Anty. Reg. was injured and is suffering from the probable fracture of the lower third of the right humerus.

11. On March 16th. at about 16.00 hrs., Cpl. PICCININO Luciano of the HOH Anty. Reg., was thrown down while travelling to work at Restinco on an English lorry owing to the driver having to apply his brakes suddenly and suffers from a probable fracture of his right shoulder blade.

(Sgd) E. MATTIOLI

4721

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
Ispettorato della Manovalanza

N° 1276 di prot. P.M. 151, li 27 Marzo 1944

OGGETTO: Incidenti occorsi sul lavoro a militari italiani addetti al servizio di manovalanza.
Accidents to Italian military while working for labour units

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISIONE ESERCITO A.C.C.

LEQUILE

Si comunicano i seguenti incidenti avvenuti a nostri militari sul lavoro durante il servizio di manovalanza:

1) il giorno 10 febbraio alle ore 4,30 nel porto di Bari, il fante GORTANA Attilio del 400° Ftr., mentre sistemava su un autocarro del materiale rimaneva con la mano sinistra fra la spalliera dell'autocarro ed una lamiera di ferro riportando ampia e profonda ferita lacero contusa del palmo della mano con probabile impossibilità di usare la mano stessa in avvenire;

2) il giorno 26 febbraio alle ore 24 al porto di Bari, l'artigliere BLANCO Angelo del 402° artiglieria mentre sistemava su un vagone dei lamieroni riportava lesioni al dito mignolo della mano sinistra con probabile perdita del dito stesso;

3) il giorno 16 febbraio alle ore 0,30 nel porto di Bari il fante TROIANI Antonio del 400 Fanteria mentre a bordo di un carro ferroviario sistemava delle lastre di lamiera scaricate da una nave veniva colpito alla testa dal gancio di una grù e gettato in mare riportando una ferita penetrante interessante il cuoio capelluto oltre ad altre ferite allo zigomo sinistro e alla gamba sinistra;

4) il giorno 27 febbraio alle ore 2 nel porto di Bari, il fante FERELLA 4720 Trieste del 400° Fanteria, mentre scaricava del materiale riportava contusione e schiacciamento della falangetta del dito medio destro;

5) il giorno 2 marzo alle ore 6 alla stazione del castello medioevale di Bari l'Art. CALZI Giuseppe del 402° Artiglieria mentre sistemava delle bombe su un carro ferroviario riportava l'asportazione della prima falange dell'anulare sinistro ;

6) il giorno 6 marzo alle ore 15 nel porto di Bari il fante TULLI Sabotino del 400 fanteria mentre sistemava delle spranghe di ferro calate da una grù rimaneva con la mano sotto una di dette spranghe caduta dalla grù

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 765020

in avvenire;

2) il giorno 26 febbraio alle ore 24 al porto di Bari, l'artigliere BIANCO Angelo del 402° artiglieria mentre sistemava su un vagone dei lamieroni riportava lesioni al dito mignolo della mano sinistra con probabile perdita del dito stesso;

3) il giorno 16 febbraio alle ore 0,30 nel porto di Bari il fante TROIANI Antonio del 400 Fanteria mentre a bordo di un carro ferroviario sistemava delle lastre di lamiera scaricate da una nave veniva colpito alla testa dal gancio di una grù e gettato in mare riportando una ferita penetrante interessante il cuoio capelluto oltre ad altre ferite allo zigomo sinistro e alla gamba sinistra;

4) il giorno 27 febbraio alle ore 2 nel porto di Bari, il fante FERELL 4720 Trieste del 400° Fanteria, mentre scaricava del materiale riportava contusione e schiacciamento della falangetta del dito medio destro;

5) il giorno 2 marzo alle ore 6 alla stazione del castello medioevale di Bari l'Art. CALZI Giuseppe del 402° Artiglieria mentre sistemava delle bombe su un carro ferroviario riportava l'asportazione della prima falange dell'anulare sinistro ;

6) il giorno 6 marzo alle ore 15 nel porto di Bari il fante TULLI Sabotino del 400 fanteria mentre sistemava delle spranghe di ferro calate da una grù rimaneva con la mano sotto una di dette spranghe caduta dalla grù stessa riportando schiacciamento con ferita penetrante fino al piano osseo della falangetta dell'indice destro;

7) il giorno 7 marzo alle ore 23, 20 nel porto di Bari, il fante PICCHIERI Giovanni del 401° Fanteria, mentre procedeva alla sistemazione su un vagone ferroviario di lastre di acciaio scaricate da una nave, riceveva un colpo alla gamba destra, per improvvisa ammainata del paranco della grù, tale da procurargli la completa frattura della tibia destra al III inferiore;

8) il giorno 10 marzo alle ore 3,30 nel porto di Bari l'Art. TOMMASI Giuseppe del 402° Artiglieria mentre sistemava delle travi su un autocarro rimaneva infortunato riportando tumefazione al ginocchio sinistro e presenza di liquido;

9) il giorno 1[illegible] marzo alle ore 16, 30 alla stazione ferroviaria di Barletta, il fante SIMONETTI Serafino del 408° fanteria, rimaneva infortunato riportando gravi ferite lacero contuse alla II e I falange dell'alluce destro con sezione della falange che resta attaccata alla base del dito da un lembo cutaneo;

./.

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10) il giorno 16 marzo alle ore 13,15 mentre lavorava al deposito inglese del 18° Group P.C. (S. Vito dei Normanni) l'Artigliere CIRES Ubaldo del 404° artiglieria rimaneva infortunato, riportando probabilmente la frattura del III inferiore dell'omero destro;

11) il giorno 16 marzo alle ore 16 circa, il Cap.le PICCININO Luciano del 404° Artiglieria, mentre veniva trasportato a Restinco al lavoro con un autocarro inglese, per brusco arresto dell'autocarro stesso rimaneva infortunato riportando probabilmente la frattura della spalla destra.-

IL GENERALE ISPETTORE
(E.Mattioli)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

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File 157

Subject:- Incidents

Army Sub Commission, ACC
Main HQ (MMIA)
Lequile (Lecce)
AG/6/1
20 Mar 44

HQ No 2 District

The attached translation of a letter 1253/C dated 25 Mar received from the Italian Ministry of War is forwarded for such action as you consider necessary.

for Brig
Army Sub Comm, ACC

cc/nm

TRANSLATION

To M.M.I.A.

Ref of 1253/C
Date 25 Mar 44

Subject:- Attacks on Italian Officer by Allied Military

HQ 51st Army Corps reports that on Saturday, 18th inst at about 1930 hrs, at Bari via ABATE GIUMA, 1ST Capt DELL'AQUILA, Giuseppe, employed at the above HQ, was attacked from the back by two Allied military, who pointing a dagger at him, wrenched away his belt and pistol. File 19

The Officer's reaction, quite evident from the signs left on his waterproof and jacket, could not prevent the attackers from possessing themselves of the pistol and threatening him with same to avoid further action on his part.

Bearing in mind the number of those unpleasant incidents which have taken place within a short space of time and always in Bari, we would be very grateful if you could arrange for suitable measures to be taken to prevent further aggressions to the detriment of Italian officers in said city.

(Sgd) Gen ALBERTI

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

TOP M(1)6/1

From. War Ministry, Cabinet, L.O. Ref. 12.5.3[illegible]...156

To: M.M.I.A. File. ~~A.G.~~ 6.11... Date 25.3.44...

Subject. Attacks on Italian Officers by Allied Soldiers.....

H.Q. 5th. Army Corps reports that on Saturday 18th inst at 19.30 hrs. at Bari, one ABATE GIMMA, M.T. Capt. DELL'AQUILA, Giuseppe, employed at the above H.Q, was attacked from the back by two Allied military, who pointing a dagger at him, wrenched away his belt and pistol.

The officer's reaction, quite evident from the signs left on his waterproof and jacket, could not prevent the attackers from possessing themselves of the pistol and threatening him with same to avoid further action on his part.

Bearing in mind the number of these unpleasant incidents which have taken place within a short space of time and always in Bari, we would be very grateful if you could arrange for suitable measures to be taken ~~by~~ to prevent further aggressions to the detriment of Italian officers in said city.

4718

~~S.S.~~ To DISTRO (Sgd) GENERAL ALIBERTI

~~S.S.~~ 13013

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MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO
Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. di prot. 1253/C. P.M.107 li 25 marzo 1944.-

OGGETTO: Aggressioni di Ufficiali italiani da parte di militari alleati. Incidents caused by Allied soldiers.

Alla ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C. - Main HQ (MMIA) -
LEQUILE

Il Comando del 51° Corpo d'Armata ha segnalato che, sabato 18 corrente, alle 19,30, in Bari, via Abate Gimma, il capitano degli autieri DELL'AQUILA Giuseppe, in servizio presso il Comando predetto, veniva afferrato alle spalle da due militari alleati che, puntatogli contro un pugnale, lo rapinavano del cinturone con pistola.

La reazione dell'ufficiale, resa evidente dai segni rimasti sull'impermeabile e sulla giubba, non ha potuto impedire agli aggressori di impadronirsi della sua pistola e di minacciarlo con la stessa arma sottrattagli, per impedirgli ulteriori reazioni.

4.17

Dato il ripetersi in breve tempo di simili fatti disgustosi, sempre nella città di Bari, si sarà veramente grati a codesta Sottocommissione se vorrà provocare disposizioni idonee ad impedire che si verifichino altre aggressioni a danno di ufficiali italiani in quella

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785030

18 corrente, alle 19,30, in Bari, via Abate Gimma, il capitano degli autieri DELL'AQUILA Giuseppe, in servizio presso il Comando predetto, veniva afferrato alle spalle da due militari alleati che, puntatogli contro un pugnale, lo rapinavano del cinturone con pistola.

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Dato il ripetersi in breve tempo di simili fatti disgustosi, sempre nella città di Bari, si sarà veramente grati a codesta Sottocommissione se vorrà provocare disposizioni idonee ad impedire che si verifichino altre aggressioni a danno di ufficiali italiani in quella città.-

GENERALE ALIBERTI

Alberti

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Aa/011 154

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO
Ufficio Collegamento Missioni Alleate

N. 1213/C di prot. P.M. 107 li 23-3-1944

OGGETTO: Aggressione da parte di militari alleati del Capitano SIMONUCCI Bruno.-
Attack on Capt Simonucci by allied Militany.

Alla ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C.
- Main HQ (MMIA) -

LEQUILE

Per notizia, si trasmette copia del rapporto presentato dal Capitano SIMONUCCI Bruno, del 20° Raggruppamento Artiglieria di C.A., in merito all'aggressione subìta in Bari la sera del 15 febbraio u.s. da parte di militari alleati.-

Copy of report made out by Capt. SIMONUCCI Bruno of the 20 Army Corps Artly. ref. regarding an attack made on him by Allied Military on Feb. 15th. at Bari, is enclosed for your information.

GENERALE ALIBERTI

Alberti

4/16

MILITARY MISSION.
Date 27 Mar 1944
to
ITALIAN ARMY.

Transl'd pl cc

PA Pg Cit. 27/3

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

From. Capt. SIMONUCCI, Bruno Ref. 0

To: ~~M.M.I.A.~~ H.Q. 20th Army Corps Rear Hq. File..... Date .....

Subject..Report.....

I, the undersigned, Capt. SIMONUCCI, Bruno, beg to inform this H.Q. that on the evening of the 15.2.1944 at about 2030 hrs, whilst walking along via Cavour, near the Hotel of even name, I was stopped by 3 allied military whose nationality I am not in a position to state.

~~From~~ Of all that they said I understood only one word, because it was said in Italian: "PISTOLA".

As a few days previously Lt. MARINO had told me how he had been held up by an allied soldier who asked him to hand over his pistol, I gathered these wanted me to do the same.

I answered that I had no pistol and attempted to withdraw but they retained me despite my protests.

As in effect I had left my pistol 4/45 home in order to have it cleaned by my batman, I showed them my empty holster.

Thinking this would suffice, I tried to go away but was again violently stopped.

One of the three military jumped on my back and tried to immobilise me while another put his hand in my left pocket

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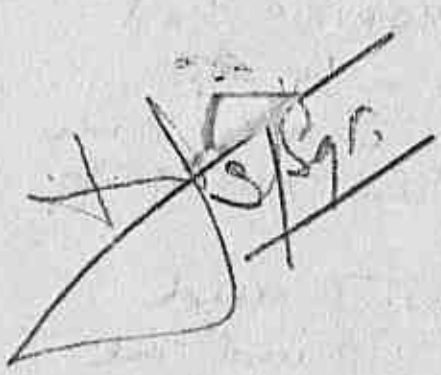
pocket. ( )

I reacted energetically and tried to release myself from their grip but I was then hit in the face. I answered back hitting one of the men, but after having received several blows on the head I fell to the ground.

Before I could get up again the three soldiers had disappeared.

(Sgd.) Capr. Simonucci, Bruno.



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Incident in CALABRIA.

Army Sub Commission, A.
Main HQ (MMLA)
LECQUILE (LECCE)
AQ/6/1.
29 Mar. 44.

HQ. No. 2 District.

Death of Francesco CARDONA, 6th Oct. 43.

1. Ministry of War letter, 361/AC dated 23 Mar is passed to you in original, for necessary action, with copies of statements made by eight witnesses.

2. Briefly, the incident concerns the shooting of Francesco CARDONA at PIZZO CALABRO on 6th Oct 43 by Allied troops, alleged to have disembarked in the neighbourhood.

4/14

Brig.
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

tvs.BGCH.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

Translation.

From: Royal Ministry, Cabinet. Ref: 361/PC.
To : M. M. I.A. Date: 23.3.44.
Subject: BRUNINA, Clementina
widow of CARDONA, Francesco

AQ/6/1 Nb Mar

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Further to M.I.A.M.'s request contained in their 1/10H of Jan. 9th. last regarding the death of CARDONA, Francesco, husband of BRUNINA, Clementina, the following information has since been received from H.Q. 31st. Army Corps:-

a) Widow CARDONA lives at PIZZO CALABRO.

b) The circumstances under which her husband was killed are the following: During the afternoon of Oct. 6th. 1943, CARDONA together with his brother Nicola and brothers Rocco and Carmelo DUMAS were standing at PONTE DI FERRO Street, near PIZZO CALABRO. Having heard rifle shots and the explosion of hand grenades the four decided to return to the Country. As they walked on, they could hear noises coming from a house occupied by a certain AMODIO, Domenico, near which there were some English soldiers apparently trying to force an entry. Shortly afterwards a fusilade came from the house, the bullets whistling over the heads of the four. Having reached the street facing the sea, and exactly at the height of PONTE DI FERRO, another shot was fired from the same house but this time the bullet passed amid the group. Scared, they scattered. This 4/43
shot was followed by another and yet another and CARDONA wounded on the left hand side of the neck dropped down. His brother Nicola rushed for help on a bicycle to the nearby railway station, where he explained his case to some English soldiers (who were on their way to Villa S. GIOVANNI) and who sent a lorry

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and a stretcher to the spot. In the meantime, the injured man, by the DUMAS brothers and a certain PIZZONIA Francesco, on a chair made available by the latter, had been carried to the house of a certain PASTORINO whence, having received first aid, he was taken to the Military Hospital of Vibo Valentia by the British Army. He died at said Hospital.

In the vicinity of AMODIO's house, peasant BRESCIA, Angela, found an English rifle from which 11 cartridges were missing.

c) As regards declaration of witnesses or of persons able to give precise and useful information, enclosed please find declarations of the following: -

- CARDONA, Nicola son of the late Domenico, brother of deceased.
- DUMAS, Rocco " " " " Alessandro
- DUMAS, Casmolo " " " " "
- AMODIO, Domenico " " " " Nicola
- PASTORINO, Romeo " " " " Felice
- PIZZONIA, Francesco " " " " Antonio
- BRUNINI, Clementina widow of Cardona, wife of deceased.
- SICARI Angela IN BRESCIA (?)

all of PIZZO CALABRO, obtained by the Carabinieri Command of Catanzaro.

d) Apart from aid given by Allied Military personnel (First aid and transport of wounded man to hospital) it has been impossible to ascertain what other action the Allied Command may have taken, and the Unit to which the soldiers who fired belong is also unknown.

Chief of Cabinet
(Sgd) Col. R. FIORE-VERNAZZA.

D/S/Sgt.

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P. M. 151, li 24 marzo 1944

STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO

UFFICIO SEGRETERIA E PERSONALE

Al LA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER L'ESERCITO A.C.C.

L E Q U I L E

N. 8631/138 SP di prot.

Allegati N.

Risposta al foglio del

N.

OGGETTO: incidente occorso in S.Vito dei Normanni tra italiani e militari inglesi.-

MILITARY MISSION.

C.L. B/F.

.118

Date 10/6/44

to ITALIAN ARMY.

Riferimento foglio n° I/104 in data 24 febbraio 1944 di codesta Sottocommissione.

Il comando della 4^ zona aerea territoriale ha comunicato che il sergente maggiore SPARAPANO Ernesto - appartenente al presidio della R.Aeronautica di Terlizzi - sarà denunciato alla competente autorità giudiziaria.

Attualmente la pratica è all'esame dei CC. RR. del comando predetto, per le indagini di competenza.-

IL SOTTOCAPO DI S.M.

Ref. your I/104 dated 24 Feb. 1944.

H.Q. 4th. Air Territorial Zone reports that Sergeant maggiore SPARAPANO Ernesto - of the Sergente Magg. Ernesto of the Air Garrison of TERLIZZI - will be denounced to the competent judicial Authority.

At present the matter is being investigated by the Carabinieri of the a/m Command.

4/12

PA Bacot 5/13

T/S&Q