

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

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Opened

July 19

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Q/53/24 Liaison Log (May Fossett) Florence
Opened July 23, 1945. Closed July 30, 1945
July 1945

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

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) FLORENCE COMMAND
A. P. O. 782 SD

→ Q (Please show to 'A')
LO/F/9
23/24, July 30, 1945.

Subject : Weekly Liaison Log.

To : Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (M.M.I.A.) Rome.

Saturday, 21 July:

Visited Col. Atizzani, Director of Artillery, 7 Terr. Hdqtrs. The matter of storage space for 200 tons of saddlery equipment being returned from Fifth Army was discussed and final arrangements were made. Later visited the 7th Sorting Depot at Bagno a Ripoli. Here, clothing and stores from Allied Sources are received and sorted. The depot is in a very poor location, is entirely unsatisfactory and unsuitable, and is greatly under manned. I made several suggestions as to how the situation might be improved. Compiled reports in P.M.

Sunday, 22 July:

Captain Clark and I celebrated our mutual birthday.

Monday, 23 July:

Visited Public Safety Section of A.M.G. of Lucca and then the Military District of Lucca, in ref to an Italian Army Truck in the hands of C.C.R.R. Gave instructions that it should be turned in to S.V.R.U. Florence. Also learned that about 30 military trucks are in hands of civilians under ENAC control. Instructed the Dist. Hq. that these should be turned in. Confirmed both of these instructions by letter to 7th Terr. Hdqtrs.

Went to Pontedera and conferred with Officers of 14 AFOD ref turning over of vehicles to Italian Army thru 5 V.R.U. Florence.

Tuesday, 24 July:

Visited 7th Sorting Depot again. About 18 more women are working but at least 10 more shoemakers are needed to sort shoes and 10 more men are needed for unloading trucks and handling material.

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Quantity of material being received from P.B.S. is increasing.

Then I visited the tailor shop in Dir. of Commissary building. This shop is now turning out about 120 pairs of new pants for C.C.R.R. every day from bolts of new cloth. Whole shop needs to be reorganized. Instructed Capt. Fischietti on what needed to be done at both places.

In the afternoon, I contacted Maj. Walker, A.C. L.O. for Florence in an effort to turn over to A.C. Some clothing which is no longer of military value. This material was notified for release a month ago but no action on part of A.C. yet. (Capt. Fordyce advised by phone on 28 July and he is acting on the matter).-

Wednesday, 25 July:

Met C.G. 7th Terr. Hdqtrs., Gen. De Simone, this day after his return from Rome. Capt. Thrupp and I conferred with the General reference some up start Italian Captain who thinks because he has done five cents worth of work for the Allies that he is now too good for the rest of the Italians. Matter of safe guarding British property in hands of this unit was primary subject of conference.

Later in the morning I visited the Geographical Institute, Florence. (See our letter LO/F/6 of 28 July to Col. Noakes).

In the afternoon, I returned to AFOD No 14 at Pontedera accompanied by an Italian Lt. from 5 V.R.U. to make definite plans for moving vehicles to Florence. The main reason for delay in removing these vehicles is lack of energy and initiative on the part of Italian Officers, concerned.

Thursday, 26 July:

Drove over to Cattolica, to see vehicles there at D.P. No 1 of AFOD No 14 to be turned over to 6 V.R.U. Bologna. Matter of turn over of British trucks and trailers must be decided.

Friday, 27 July:

Checked vehicles at Cattolica in detail. There are a number of good trailers there and a few German truck which are in fair shape. Returned to Florence. (See our letter ST/T/F/7 of 30 July 1945).-

6 JF
GEORGE L. FOSSETT
MAJOR C. E.
LIAISON OFFICER

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LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) FLORENCE COMMAND
A. P. O. 782

Q/53/24

ST/T/F/7
July 30, 1945.

Subject : Recovery of Italian Army Vehicles. (E)

To : M.M.I.A. Hdqtrs. Rome.

Q/5/10

1. Ref. your signal Q 449 of 19 July on above subject, and related correspondence. The following is a summary of my actions on this matter.

2. Attached as appendices A and B are lists of vehicles held by AFOD No 14 at Pontedera and Cattolica respectively. These lists are not exactly correct but are close enough to serve their purpose.

3. The vehicles at Pontedera are being moved by 5th Vehicle Repair Unit to Florence. As of this date about 30% have been moved. Several factors are delaying the movement. One factor is the lack of sufficient and suitable recovery vehicles in the hands of 5 V.R.U. - A second is lack of skilled workers to improvise means of moving derelict vehicles. A third factor is the usual lack of initiative on the part of Italian Officers and men. A final factor was reluctance on part of AFOD No14 personnel to turn over to the Italians the good material first. They feared that once the best was taken away, the rest of the junk would be left in their depots for them to disperse of. I have removed the latter factor by several visits and conferences. The first three are largely beyond my powers but I keep urging them on.

4. As a result of the delay in picking up these vehicles, considerable damage was done to them by the Italian soldiers, who were assigned to guard them. Head lamp lenses were smashed so as to steal light bulbs, leather was ripped from seats, and tires wheels were stolen. However, the latter was a blessing in disguise. Twenty one wheels and tires were stolen. When the U.S.A. and C.C.R.R. raided the local houses, they recovered twenty three wheels and tires.

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5. As a result of my last visit to Pontedera, accompanied by an Officer of 5 V.R.U., we hope to get out this week some of the better vehicles. With minor repairs these will run and I have instructed 5 V.R.U. to then use these additional vehicles in moving more derelicts. Lack of spare parts causes delays because vehicles, which should be moving derelicts, are being sent all over Italy to get spare parts needed, to repair derelicts which have been brought to Florence. I have not yet heard of a five ton truck being sent to Milan for a dozen spark plugs, but it will not surprise me when it happens.

6. Since the AFOD No 14 depot at Cattolica is along the coast, vehicles are to be moved from there to Bologna. As of this date no vehicles have been moved. The first hitch occurred when an Italian Officer from 6 V.R.U. showed up at Cattolica with a vague letter, in Italian, but no interpreter. This resulted in the exchange of signals terminated by Q 449 referred to above. On 20 July, the Italian Officer re-appeared and promised to start moving vehicles in a few days, but as of 27 July nothing had moved.

7. I inspected the vehicles in some detail on 26 and 27 July at Cattolica and there are a few German trucks that are in fair shape. Most of the trailers are in good order and can be moved very easily. German jeeps, motorcycles and etc. can be put in trailers and taken away.

8. Also at Cattolica, as shown on the list are number of old British trucks and trailers turned in by U.S. units. Request that a decision be made as to whether these vehicles can be turned over to the Itis. Until a decision is reached no acting will be taken on these vehicles.

9. Since it is necessary to clear the depot at Cattolica by 20 August, I will contact 6 V.R.U. at Bologna in an effort to speed them up.

10. Further progress on this matter will be reported. A visit by the MMIA REME Officers concerned might help, to expedite the movements.

George L. Fossett
GEORGE L. FOSSETT
MAJOR C. E.
LIAISON OFFICER

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HEADQUARTERS
AIR FORCES ORDNANCE DEPOT No 14
APO 528 - U. S. ARMY

App.A to letter ST/T/F/7
of 30 July 1945
M.M.I.A. IO Florence
Vehicles at Pontedera.

15 June 1945

1. The following captured enemy and unregistered vehicles are on hand
at Air Force Ordnance Depot No.14

REGISTRATION NO.	MAKE	TYPE	CONDITION
1605-TT-2526	Italian Fiat	4-door sedan, 4x2	Class X
(No number)	German Kloeckner	Truck, 4x4 (Diesel)	Class X
1605-TT-9632	German Opel Kapitän	Sedan 4-door 4x3	Class X
(No number)	Italian Lancia	Panel body 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9163	Italian Fiat	Truck Cargo 4x3	Class X
1605-TT-9887	German Ford	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9177	German V.M.K.I.	Jeep Type 4x2	Class X
(No number)	Chrysler	Moadster	Class X
1605-TT-9757	German Opel Olympia	3-door sedan 4x2	Class X
(No number)	German Ford	3-door sedan 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9753	French Matford	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9894	French Renault	4-door sedan 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9647	French Renault	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-10047	German White	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9005	German Opel Kapitän	4-door sedan 4x2	Class X
(No number)	Ford	2-door sedan 4x2	Class X
U. S. A. 370	Chrysler	4-door sedan 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9885	French Renault	4-door sedan 4x2	Class X
U. S. A. 132	Italian Fiat	4-door sedan 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9126	German Opel Blatz	Truck Cargo 4x4	Class X
1605-TT-9020	Ford	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-8600	Canada Chrysler	Truck water tank 4x2	Fair
1605-TT-9149	German Opel Blatz	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9129	Canada GMG	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
(No number)	Italian Fiat	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9608	Italian Lancia	Coupe 4x2	Class X
(No number)	German Opel Blatz	Truck Cargo 4x2	Class X
(No number)	German Volkswagon	Jeep 1/4 ton 4x2	Class X
1605-TT-9024	Ford	Pickup 4x2	Class X
(No number)	English Bedford	Water tank truck 4x2	Class X

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REGISTRATION No.	MAKE	TYPE	CONDITION
(No number)	Italian trailer	Trailer 2 wheel	Class X
(No number)	Italian trailer	Trailer 2 wheel	Fair
(No number)	German trailer	Tir & generator unit	Fair
1605-TT-9148	Italian torino	Trailer 4-wheel	Fair
1605-TT-9889	Italian trailer	Trailer 4-wheel	Fair
(No number)	Italian Torino	Trailer 4-wheel	Fair
(No number)	Italian trailer	Fiat bed 4-wheel	Class X
(No number)	Unknown make	Trailer 2-wheel	Class X
1605-TT-9952	Italian Trailer	4-Wheel shop type body	Fair
(No number)	Unknown make	Trailer 2whl fiat bed	Fair
(No number)	Italian trailer	Trailer 2whl shop	Fair
1605-TT-8222	Italian Torino	Trailer 4whl shop	Fair
1605-TT-9953	Italian Trailer	4 wheel shop type body	Fair
(No number)	Italian trailer	4 wheel enclosed body	Fair
(No number)	Italian trailer	4 wheel shop type body	Fair
1605-TT-9131	Italian Torino	4 wheel wooden cargo Tir	Fair
1605-TT-9891	Italian trailer	2-wheel shop type body	Fair
(No number)	Italian Torino	Tir 4 whl wood & steel	Fair
(No number)	American made	4 whl tir GMG cargo body	Fair
(No number)	Italian Birtoza	4 whl Fiat bed tir	Fair
1605-TT-9752	American made	Tir 2whl GMG cargo	Fair
(No number)	Italian Torino	Tir 4 wheel wood	Fair
(No number)	Trailer	Tir 6 wheel Fiat bed	Fair
1605-TT-9156	Italian Trailer	4-wheel wooden cargo	Fair
(No number)	Italian trailer	4-wheel wood cargo body	Fair
(No number)	Italian trailer	4-wheel metal shop type	Fair
1605-TT-9032	Italian trailer	4 wheel cargo	Fair
1605-TT-9132	Italian trailer	4-wheel cargo	Fair
(No number)	Italian trailer	4-wheel shop type body	Fair
(No number)	Italian Advige	4-wheel wooden shop	Fair
1605-TT-4132	Italian trailer	4-wheel shop type	Fair
1605-TT-9892	Italian trailer	4-wheel shop type	Fair
1605-TT-9893	Trailer	4whl enclosed wood body	Fair
(No number)	Italian Gianitti	4-wheel shop type	Fair
1605-TT-9261	Italian Torino	4-wheel metal body	Fair
1605-TT-9801	Italian Coder	Tir 4-Wheel metal body	Fair
1605-TT-9992	Dittman trailer	2-1/2 ton 4wheel	Fair
1605-TT-9797	Ackermann trailer	4 ton 4 wheel	Fair
1605-TT-2248	Van type trailer	4 wheel	Fair
1605-TT-9089	Unknown	Motorcycle solo BNV	Good
1605-TT-2252	Unknown	Trailer 5 ton Van	Fair
1605-TT-2253	Unknown	Trailer 5 ton Fiat	Class X
1605-TT-1766	German Ford	Truck 1-1/2 ton	Fair
1605-TT-2251	Unknown	Truck Delahaye tanker	Fair

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1605-TT-2250	Italian Fiat	Truck 4x2 3 ton	Fair
1605-TT-9674	M.A.N. Truck	Cargo 4x2	Fair
1605-TT-9798	German Ford	Truck 1-1/2 ton	Fair
1605-TT-9503	German trailer	4-wheel trailer	Fair
1605-TT-9120	German Motorcycle	two cyl two wheel	Class X
1605-TT-9122	German Motorcycle	" " " "	Class X
1605-TT-9116	German Motorcycle	three wheel two cyl	Class X
1605-TT-9735	German Motorcycle	two wheel one cyl	Class X
1605-TT-9112	Italian Motorcycle	2 whl 1cyl	Class X
1605-TT-9110	" "	" " "	" "
1605-TT-1921	" "	" " "	" "
1605-TT-1909	Italian Motorcycle	" " "	" "

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AUTOMOTIVE OFFICE
 AIR FORCE ORDNANCE DEPOT NO. 14
 DISTRIBUTION POINT NO. 1
 APO 528 U.S. ARMY

App.B. to letter ST/T/V/7
 of 30 July 1945
 M.M.I.A. LO Florence
 Vehicles at Cattolica.

26 July 1945.

FOREIGN VEHICLES ON HAND AS OF THIS DATE:

CLASS	WEIGHT	DRIVE	BODY	MAKE	REG. NO.
English Vehicles;					
French Vehicles;					
C	3 ton	4x4	Cargo Trk.	Chevrolet	Q1165
X	1, 1/2 ton	4x2	Cargo trk.	Ford	1605-TT-2670
X	3/4 ton	4x2	Cargo trk.	Dodge	1605-TT-4203
X	3/4 ton	4x2	Cargo trk.	Beford	No number
X	3/4 ton	4x2	Cargo trk.	Dodge	1605-TT-9011
X	1/2 ton	4x2	Water bowser	Dodge	T-801030
X	1/2 ton	4x2	Water Bowser	Dodge	T-801031
X	1/4 ton	4x2	Pick up	Chevrolet	1605-TT-2640
X	5 "	4 wheel	Office trailer	EEC Co.	11519
C	5 "	4 "	Cargo trailer	Jb Co	65809
C	5 "	4 "	Office trailer	EEC Co.	85362
C	5 "	4 "	Office trailer	EEC Co.	85943
C	5 ton	4 wheel	Office trailer	CR & Co.	90672
C	4 - 5 "	4 wheel	Cargo trailer	Brokhhouse	T-01081
C	4 - 5 ton	4 wheel	Panel trailer	EEC	T-01082
C	5 ton	4 wheel	Panel trailer	Brkhhouse	T-01079
X	1-1/2 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trk.	Dodge	1605-TT-9625
X	3 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trailer	Ford	1605-TT-9881
C	2-1/2 ton	4 wheel	Shop trlr.	JB & Co	1605-TT-9681
C	1-1/2 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trailer	Unknown	99049
X		2 wheel	Water trlr.	Unknown	0161418
X		4 wheel	Gas trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-8269
X		2 wheel	Water trlr.	Homenade	1605-TT-9624
X			Motorcycle	Norton	1605-TT-9411
X	3/4 ton	4x2	Cargo trk.	Dodge	90096
X	1/2 ton	4x2	Cargo trk.	Dodge	88759
X	1-1/2 ton	4x4	Trk photo lab	Dodge	No number
C	5 ton	4x4	Cargo trlr.	EEC	09660
C	5 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	JB & Co	1605-TT-9874
X	3 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9625
C	2 ton	2 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9872
C	5 ton	4 wheel	Office trlr.	EEC	No number
X	2 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9782
X			Motorcycle Matchless	1605	1605-TT-9235
X	1 ton	4x2	Truck	Citroen (FR)	1605-TT-2648

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X	3	4x2	Gas tanker	Lorraine(FR)	1605-TT-267
X		4x2	Passenger Car	Matford (Fr)	1605-TT-1592
X	1/2 ton	4x2	Station Wagon	Humber	8004
X	4 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9871

German Vehicles:

X	1 1/2 ton	4x2	Cargo trk.	Opal Blitz	1605-TT-9375
X	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "-10026
X	1 ton	4x2	" "	Krupp	" "-9852
X	1/4 ton	4x2	Jeep	Volks wagen	1605-TT-920
X	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "-194
X	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "-9199
X	5 ton	4 wheel	trailer	Unknown	1605-TT-9789
C	6 ton	4 wheel	Trailer	Serottke	1605-TT-9783
C	5 ton	4 wheel	Trailer	Diettmann	1605-TT-9768
X	5 ton	4 wheel	Panel trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9215
C	2 ton	4 wheel	Panel trlr.	Glaser	1605-TT-9221
X			Motorcycle	Ernestach	1605-TT-9185
C	2 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Schrottke	1605-TT-9784
C	3 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Goublohot	1605-TT-9788
C	3 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	BP	No number
X			Motorcycle	Unknown	1605-TT-9186
X			" "	BMW	No number
C	5 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9783

Italian Vehicles:

X	5 ton	4 wheel	trlr(BUS)	Viberti	1605-TT-9600
X	3 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9216
C	3 ton	4 wheel	Van trlr.	Viberti	1605-TT-9218
X	5 ton	4 wheel	trlr. (BUS)	Fiat	1605-TT-9599
X	5 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Unknown	1605-TT-9842
C	5 ton	4 wheel	trlr.	Viberti	1605-TT-9285
X			Motorcycle	Bianchi	1605-TT-9765
X	2 ton	4 wheel	trlr. flat bed	Viberti	1605-TT-9217
X	3 ton	4 wheel	" " "	"	No number
C	3 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Litrafurni	No number
C	5 ton	4 wheel	Cargo trlr.	Adige	1605-TT-9216
C		4 wheel	Gas trlr.	Litrafurni	No number.

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) FLORENCE COMMAND
A. P. O. 782

LO/F/9
July 28, 1945.

Subject: Weekly Liaison Log: period: 14-20 July 1945.

To: Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (M.M.I.A.) Rome.

During the period under report in this log, a large part of the time was spent in getting acquainted with the duties and workings of this Office. This will account for any observations and questions, to which the answers will be found in succeeding periods.

On Saturday, 14 July, I met with Lt. Col. Chiariotti, Asst. Chief of Staff of 7 Terr. Hdqtrs. He held the same position last year in Sicily and we had a very pleasant chat concerning our liaison duties there. The C.G., Gen. De Simone and Chief of Staff, Col. Piccinini, of 7 Terr. Hdqtrs., were both away on official duties. Remainder of day was spent in office orientation.

On Sunday, 15 July, I met Capt. Clark in Leghorn to determine how our duties connected. Had his driver sign the 2691 Co. Payroll so it could be submitted here in Florence. Later in the afternoon we also went swimming.

On Monday, 16 July, I had a conference with Capt. Fieschi, who is the Officer in charge of the Florence Section of the Italian Army Central Clothing Salvage and Repair Organization. I inquired as to the reasons for the laxity in his work. Reasons advanced were lack of space and no definite program from Ministry of War as to how much his unit was expected to produce. Also conferred with Capt. Thrupp M.M.I.A. LO to 230 Adm. Div. reference operation of Transit Camp.

On Tuesday, 17 July, I inspected the 7th Food Distribu-

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No. 785020

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On Tuesday, 17 July, I inspected the 7th Food Distribution Depot. The Depot is too small, list of units authorized to draw rations is not up to date and stock records are not being

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closed at the end of each day. Letter to 7 Terr. Hdqtrs. Att. Directorate of Commissariato (Copy to ADST M.M.I.A.) pointing out these deficiencies was written. In the afternoon, I met Col. Piccinini, Chief of Staff, who had returned. We discussed the needs of the Italian Army in regards to space for depots. It seems that while Allied Units needs have shrunk, they have not relinquished any of their buildings. Now that commitments of Italian Army are increasing, it becomes increasingly difficult to find space. I am working on specific examples to try to arrive at definite arrangements or recommendations.

On Wednesday, 18 July, I conferred with Major Marino, 1st Section of Commissary reference Distributing Depot deficiencies and on subject of rations in general. Also conferred with Major Parone and Capt. Fischietti on Clothing Repair Program. Maj. Parone had just arrived to form program for Clothing Repair in Florence.

On Thursday, 19 July, I conferred with Col. Deidda, Director of Commissary reference operation of Comm. Section in general. They are suffering the usual growing pains of an organization that has only been operating for a short while but nothing serious. Also had a report from Maj. Parone with suggestions for increasing the output of the Clothing Repair Shops. Will continue to observe actions of Capt. Fischietti in carrying out this program. Visited workshops of 5 Vehicle Repair Unit to observe their operation. General clutter and confusion of an Italian Army Vehicle Repair Unit.

On Friday, 20 July, I conferred with Col. Faronato, Director of Motor Vehicles, in regard to speeding up the drawing of vehicles from 14 AFOD at Pontedera. Twenty four vehicles out of a total of about eighty have already been picked up.

Later in the morning, an Italian Officer came in to my office with a long sad story. It seems his unit, the 2 Engineer Pipe Line Co. (Italian) US-ITI had been ordered to move by road from Naples to near Bologna. He had no travel orders, his trucks had broken down, the U.S. Officer who was accompanying them had an accident and landed in the hospital, and they had eaten up all their rations. I arranged for his unit to draw rations here and sent him on his way.

Also met Lt. Col. Edgerton and Capt. Thrupp. Together we saw Col. Piccinini, and Lt. Col. Edgerton asked several questions on volunteers and related matters.

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Major Pinkeley arrived on his way to Fifth Army Hdqtrs. *George E. Pinkeley*
MAJOR C. E.
LIAISON OFFICER

* Contacted Farrell by phone. No particular requirements by PMS. *Farrell has to let us know if difficulties. Outpost of shops.*
Satisfactory
1/8.
3161
Rome Branch

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