

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

ACC

10000 | 120 | 644

SD/94

Cyrena

Ap. 1

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

785020

10000 | 120 | 644

SD/94/3 Ceilings + CATEGORIES 3rd Cover
Opened Ap. 2, 1945 - Closed Ap. 14, 1945
Ap. 1945

785020

COPY OF INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : ADRIATIC BASE COMD
TO : AFHQ
INFO : MIA
REF : 2194

091120 B

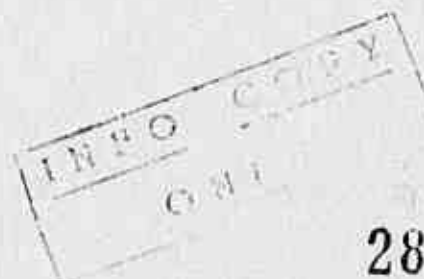
ROUTINE

RESTRICTED

PRESENTLY 21 OFFICERS 38 NCOS AND 378 ENLISTED MEN
FOR TOTAL OF 437 US-ITS ARE EMPLOYED UNDER THIS COMD
REF YOUR FX 32 581 (.) MADE AVAILABLE TO MIA WERE 14
OFFICERS 36 NCOS AND 494 ENLISTED MEN OF THE 33 51 52
AIR SERVICE COMPANIES WHICH WILL NOT BE EMPLOYED BY
THIS COMD

SD DISTRIBUTION

ACTION COPY : SD/204
INFO : SE/94/3
ACTION → "A"
INFO → "Q" (TWO)



2834

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE 061425B
THGCT
TO : ADRIATIC BASE COMMAND
INFO : AAF/SC/MTO MMIA RESTRICTED
REF : FX 32581

SD/204 to 72 *See to 6*

YOUR 2114 DATED 31 JULY NOT TO ALL REFERS(.)
ITALIAN UNITS WILL CONTINUE TO BE ADMINISTERED
UNDER 205 DIVISION (ITALIAN)(.) EFFECTIVE
THIS DATE 1000 EXISTING ITI CEILING FOR ABC WILL
BE INCLUDED WITH 4000 CEILING FOR AAF/SC/MTO
TOTAL 5000(.) DESIRE SOONEST NUMBER US-ITIS AT
PRESENT EMPLOYED UNDER YOUR COMMAND

SD Distribution/

Action Copy:SD/204
INFO " :SD/94/3
:A
:Q(Two)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No.

785020

Land Forces Sub Commission.

The attached letter signed by the Chief Commissioner is returned to you for despatch copies having been withdrawn for the C.C. and E.C. files.

Office of the Executive Commissioner.

14 April 1945.

N.W. Stearns
Major.

despatched

16/4

3
SD/44/3-13 Apr.

five

SD/44/3.

283

SD/94/3.

13 April 1945. *sol 4*

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

The desire expressed in your letter, 274 of 2 April to transfer the 210, 228 and 231 Divisions and Units under their administrative command from Category 3 to Category 2 status is fully appreciated.

The basic difference between Category 2 and Category 3 does not, however, lie in a differentiation between the tasks, which the Italian troops operating in this theatre are called up to do, but solely in the provision of equipment. Category 2 troops are equipped entirely with clothing, personal weapons, guns, specialist equipment and vehicles similar to those in use by British fighting troops. Category 3 Units do not have British clothing similar to that in use by the British Army and are only equipped with British equipment when Italian Army equipment is not available. The number of troops which can be included in Category 2 is determined, therefore, by the quantity of all types of equipment, which can be spared over and above current British Army requirements.

When Field Marshal ALEXANDER discussed, in LONDON, the question of raising an Italian Combat Force, the War Office agreed to make available the equivalent of 3 British Infantry Divisions' worth of equipment for 6 Italian Combat Groups. Since then the scale of equipment for the Combat Groups has been increased and might well be increased again, so that it is unlikely that there will be any surplus equipment available after the requirements of the five Combat Groups and the Italian Reinforcement Training Centre (i.e. present ceiling of 57,000) are met. Any increase in the number of Units for which equipment must be found from this original allocation will thus react unfavourably on the scale which can be provided for the Combat Groups.

I regret, therefore, that the transfer of 210, 228 and 231 Divisions from Category 3 to Category 2 cannot be agreed to and I am sure that from the above you will realise why this is not possible.

Yours very truly,

2831

18/1/45 *W. Stone*

ELMER W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
R O M E.

R15/4

1294
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

SUBJECT: Transfer of 210, 228 and 231 Divs
from Category 3 to Category 2

Land Forces Sub Com, A.C.
(M. I.A.)
File No: SD/94/3
April 45.

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C.

Ref DO letter, 274 of 2 April, from the President of the
Council of Ministers to Admiral STONE, herewith suggested reply to
be sent to Signor BONCHI explaining to the letter why his request
cannot be agreed to.

tvs.

L.B.
Major General
M. I.A.

283

1 2 9 5

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

785020

DRAFT

SUBJECT: Transfer of 210, 228 and 231 Divs
from Category 3 to Category 2

My Dear

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I regret, therefore, that the transfer of 210, 228 and 231 Divs from Category 3 to Category 2 cannot be agreed to and I am sure that from the above you will realise why this is not possible.

H.F. SIMON I. BOKMAL.

Translation

The President of the Council of Ministers
20.

Rome, 2 April 1945

Dear Admiral,

among the auxiliary forces which, besides the operating ones, the Italian Army put at the disposal of the Allies, are the 210, 228, and 231 divisions which are operating in contact with and in the zone of the big allied operating units.

Of those, the 210 division operates under the 7th American army; the 228 under the 8th British army; and the 231 under the 9th American army for the services of the XIII British army corps.

Because of the tasks assigned to the said divisions, they include among others, various pack train, pioneers, and engineers units, for supply in advanced zones, mine-clearing, road-repairs, etc.

While fulfilling their duty, these units, to which 1500 men have to be sent monthly to make up for the losses they suffer, have now had numerous fighting episodes, and many allied acknowledgements; among which the one which appeared in the communique of March 20th of the Command of the 9th Army.

However, the troops of the said three divisions are included in the 3rd category, together with the units which are employed in the country for the maintenance of harbours, depots and such like.

Therefore, for reasons of justice, and leaving aside all other motives, the 210, 228, and 231 divisions ought to be transferred from the third to the second category, in addition to the 27,000 men of the combat formations to which they actually belong.

Such a regulation would of course have a great effect on the moral and therefore on the efficiency of the troops concerned.

I therefore beg you to see whether it would be possible to change the category of the said divisions.

Truly yours,

G. I. Bonomi

Admiral Milroy W. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the
Allied Commission
Rome

G.C.

MMIA - 'G'

FILE: 50/94/3

DATE: 4/4

EC DIST - 3 APR

ACTION: LAND FORCES 282

INFO: CHIEF COMMR

2 EXRC COMMR

*See folio 2
in reply*

M



APR 3 REGD

*Il Presidente
del Consiglio dei Ministri*
27/4

Roma, 2 aprile 1945

Caro Ammiraglio,

tra le forze ausiliarie che, oltre quelle operative, l'Esercito Italiano ha messo a disposizione degli Alleati, vi sono le divisioni 210, 228 e 231, le quali agiscono a contatto e nella zona delle grandi unità alleate operanti.

Di esse la 210 divisione opera alle dipendenze della 5^a armata americana; la 228 alle dipendenze dell'8^a armata inglese; e la 231 alle dipendenze della 5^a armata americana per i servizi del XXIII corpo d'armata inglese.

Per i compiti attribuiti alle suddette divisioni, esse inquadrano, tra l'altro, unità varie di salmerie, di pionieri, del genio, per rifornimenti in zona avanzata, rimozione di mine, riattamenti stradali e simili.

Nell'adempimento del loro dovere tali unità, le quali per le perdite che subiscono richiedono un afflusso mensile di complementi di 1500 uomini, contano ormai numerosi episodi di combattimento e ripetuti riconoscimenti alleati; tra i quali quello inserito nel comunicato del 20 marzo scorso del comando 5^a armata.

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Al sig. Ammiraglio
Ellery W. STONE

Capo Commissione Alleata

R O M A

2827



- 2 -

*Al Presidente
del Consiglio dei Ministri*

Le truppe di dette tre divisioni, però, sono comprese nella 3^a categoria, insieme alle unità impiegate nell'interno del Paese in lavori di manovalanza nei porti, depositi e simili.

Pertanto, per ragioni di equità, anche a prescindere da altri motivi, bisognerebbe che le divisioni 210, 228 e 231 fossero trasferite dalla terza alla seconda categoria, in aggiunta cioè ai 57.000 uomini delle formazioni di combattimento, delle quali effettivamente fanno parte.

Un provvedimento del genere avrebbe naturalmente un grande riflesso sul morale e quindi sul rendimento delle truppe interessate.

Perciò La pregherei vivamente di voler esaminare la possibilità di procedere al prospettato cambiamento di categoria di dette divisioni.

Molti cordiali saluti.

1300