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

10000|120|1142 50/31

ACC

Ap. - N

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

10000/120/1142 SC/31 Italian Troops in Yugoslavia + Greece

Ap. - Nov. 1944

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

2157 A 230 90

Watch for weekly report KGS AFHQ & annuals & [illegible]

TS/8/31

~~[illegible]~~

8/21/11

R

24/21

LROF V LAEE NR 7 IMPORTANT

QVR 1

SD.

21/11 14[illegible]1

FROM MMIA LO 52 AREA 201715

TO MMIA ROME

INFO 54 AREA FOR

~~INFO 54 AREA FOR~~ MMIA LO

QQY GR — BT

22 CONFIDENTIAL

STOPP DESPATCHES YESTERDAY WERE HOSPITAL 26 PW CAMP 5 DEMOBILISHED TO OWN HOME 4 PIEDMONTE DALIFE 563 LEAVE THEN TRANI 4 CCRR 12 FFICERS TO SANTA CESAREA TERME CAMP LECCE 4 STOP REMAINS THREE NINE SEVEN EIGHT STOP

WAR MIN TRYS 16/21 DATED 16 NOV TO CAMP PROVIDED

(PARA A-2) OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT VOLUNTEERS FOR GRUPPI GO TO SANTA CESAREA TERME CAMP AND MEDICAL OFFICERS REPORT TO DIREZIONE SANITA BARI STOP THIS IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH MUCELLS FS/311 STOP WHICH IS RIGHT QUERY SUSPENDING DESPATCHES UNTIL YOU RPELY AS NOT MANY INVOLVED STOP

[illegible] BY HQ APULIA SINCE CAMP STARTED

QVR 1

FROM MMIA LO 52 AREA 201715

SD.

14-1

TO MMIA ROME
INFO 54 AREA FOR
~~INFO GR4 AREA STOP~~ MMIA LO
QQY GR — BT
Q 22 CONFIDENTIAL

STOPP DESPATCHES YESTERDAY WERE HOSPITAL 26 PW CAMP 5 DEMOBILISHED TO OWN HOME 4 PIEDMONTE DALIFE 563 LEAVE THEN TRANI 4 CCRR 12 FFICERS TO SANTA CESAREA TERME CAMP LECCE 4 STOP REMAINS THREE NINE SEVEN EIGHT STOP

WAR MINISTRYS 16/21 DATED 16 NOV TO CAMP PROVIDED (PARA A-2) OFFICERS WHO ARE NOT VOLUNTEERS FOR GRUPPI GO TO SANTA CESAREA TERME CAMP AND MEDICAL OFFICERS REPORT TO DIREZIONE SANITA BARI STOP THIS IS NOT CONSISTENT WITH MUCELLS FS/311 STOP WHICH IS RIGHT QUERY SUSPENDING DESPATCHES UNTIL YOU RPELY AS NOT MANY INVOLVED STOP

FOLLOWING OFFICERS WERE DESPATCHED BY HQ APULIA SINCE CAMP STARTED TO IMPROVE DISCIPLINE COLON MAJOR VALVASSORI (47 INF REGT LECCE) CAPT GREBORIO (CAMPO SOSTA LECCE) LT MARINO (20 RACAT BARI) STOP THEY ARE ALL HOPELESS AND I REQUIRE THEIR IMMEDIATE SUBSTITUTION PLEASE

BT 201830A

SENT NR 7 210030A RNB

NR 7 RECD 210025A PJB KKK

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

0812

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

LRKB V LAEE NR 50 PPP

OVR -1

FROM MMIALO 54 A A 201600A

TO MMIA MMIALO 52 AREA - PBS FOR MMIALO

INFO 54 AREA EIGHT ARMY FOR MMIALO DISTHREE

DISTONE FOR MMIALO

QQX GR ---- BT

PV 344 . RESTRICTED . REF THIS OFFIE SIGNAL PV 335

OFFICE .

FOR 160 READ 161 RPT 161 . 160 IS OFFICERS BILLETING

BT 1710

SENT NR 50 AJW BBBDKKKK

RCD 2014A HRA KKK

0813

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

To :- G(Internal).
Ufficio Trasporti.
Flont File.

From :- Nov. L.O. (M.I.A).

20 Nov 44.

Move of vehicles ex Greece.

I give below copy of AFHQ signal FX 54492 dated 18 Nov 44.

FROM AFHQ cite EHGAA.

TO MOVEIT. MOV III CORPS.
(INFO) ALCOM FOR MAIA. DISTGREE. DISTGREE EAST.
52 AREA. MOV 52 AREA. MOV BRINDISI. PORT
COMMANDANT PREVEZA. FOTALI. MILALO TARANTO.
MILALO BARI.

FX 54492 (.) CONFIDENTIAL (.) PRIOR (.) ACC Italian military vehicles requiring evacuation to mainland will be lifted on return voyages LST 12 (.) Para 5 our MX 55234 not to all refers (.)

SECOND (.) MOVEIT will arrange sufficient rations to be loaded at BRINDISI for return voyage (.)

THIRD (.) If available on arrival personnel will be despatched to and accommodated at ST ANDREW'S CAMP TARANTO under arrangements 52 AREA.

Copy RE.

0814

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

T5/6/57

To :- G(Internal).
Ufficio Trasporti.
Plot File.

From :- Mov. L.O. (MIA).

19 Nov 44.

Move of Repatriates.

Following is copy of MOVEIT signal MOV1/1369 dated 18 Nov 44.

FROM: MOVEIT.

TO: MEDLO 5th AREA. DETRAMILES BARI. MOV TARANTO. MOV BARI. MOV BARLETTA. MOV FOGGIA. MOVWIT. MOV VAIRANO. DISTREE. DISTREE EAST. 52 AREA. 5th AREA. 210 AREA. 5th SUB AREA. 56 AREA. 207 SUB AREA. MIA.

MOV1/1369 (.) RESTRICTED (.) 5SB ITALIAN REPATRIATES move TARANTO to PIEDIMONTE D'ALIFE by rail 19 Nov (.) Dep 1927 in 19 box BARI arr 200219 dep 0304 BARLETTA arr 0620 dep 0720 BIVIO arr 1014 dep 1020 BENEVENTO arr 1500 dep 1600 ETA VAIRANO AM 21 Nov (.) Hot meals BARLETTA BENEVENTO arrangements MOV BARLETTA MOVWIT respectively (.) Three days rations will be carried (.) Authority AFHQ CHEF MEDM MX 55735 dated 17 Nov.

14

Dist- 50/13/3
50/50
50/42
50/46

Capt. RE.
Mov. L.O.

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

TS/6/31

19

[illegible] for 01 (EX) 5 (OR) 95

[illegible]

[illegible] 1917

Further to this H.Q. tel. of 15 (.) please arrange extension beyond 30 Nov of temporary det of Dr Sikes at present running at [illegible] Camp [illegible] for Italians repatriated from [illegible] until Camp closes

76

147

0 8 1 6

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

Transmission

From: M of W
To: NAVCOM

Ref: 204 of 15th.
Date: 15th Nov. 44.

CAB 85

TS | Cl | 3N
R 20/11

Subject: Sending Italian officers to Marshal Tito's H.Q.

Will M of W kindly communications between NAVCOM and C.H. Office of the Cabinet, hereof the names of those who will form the commission to be sent, with the least possible delay, to Marshal Tito's HQ:-

- Col. MESSO VITTORIO
- T.Col. SISCHKO ENZO TORE
- S/L. RUSSO MARCO
- S/L. GUSEN QUEINHZEN EDERICO
- Cpt. TIGANI RUSSIO
- Spt. BRANDANO LUIGI.

The sending of the commission has become urgent. It is, therefore, requested that you may please inform the commission to be sent, with the least possible delay, to Marshal Tito's HQ:-

as to whether they can be ~~*~~ made with the ~~representatives~~ Jugoslave representations of the United Nations.

(Sgd) Gen. G.B. Oxford.

S/L FABRE.

1476

CAB 31

0817

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

2 Copies
83

LRKB V LAEE NR 6

QVR 3

FROM MMIALO 54 AREA 181745A

TO MOVEIT AFHQ

INFO MMIA MMIALO 52 AREA

QQX GR--BT

PM 338. RESTRICTED. REQUEST MOVEMENT ITALIAN REPATRIATES ST ANDREWS TARANTO FOR 20 NOV AS FOLLOWS. PIDEIMONTE DALIFE 23 CMA TRANI 94 CMA CATANZARO 30 CMA BARI 56 CMA PESCARA 28 CMA POTENZA 15 CMA NAPLES 51 CMA ROME 46BT 181745A

SENT NR S/ 6 190017A IH BB

IMI LINE 4 W D BEFORE ROME K
51 CMA ROME 46 IMI 51 CMA ROME 56 PLS

RECD NR 6 190017A J O E KK

0818

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

1501 4/5/19/62

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR	IMPORTANT	QVR 1

SPACES WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

	DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN
FROM (A) MIA LO 52 AREA	181730
TO (FOR ACTION) MIA ROLE	
TO (FOR INFORMATION) 54 AREA FOR MIA LO	Message Instructions GR T 5/6/31
(REF. No.) Q19	(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

YOUR SD 1809(SD1849). FIRST. RECEIVED NO ST ANDREWS CAMP B COMPOUND BETWEEN 11 AND 17 INCLUSIVE 6166 DIRECT INTO HOSPITAL 142. SECOND DESPATCHES. TO HOSPITAL EX CAMP 276 FOR LEAVE TRAIN PILEORTE DALFIO SEVEN FOR LEAVE THEN TRAIN FOR BRITIS 22 DIRECT TO TRAIN FOR BRITIS 166 LOCAL CIVILIANS 49 CIVILIANS EMPLOYED OF NAVY (LOCAL) 562 NAVY (LOCAL) 389 AIR FORCE (LOCAL) 239. THIRD. REMAINS IN CAMP A3 AT 2359 HOURS 17 5062. THERE ARE ALSO 855 PERSONS IN CAMP A FOR WHOM WICH THERE WAS NO ROOM ON ARRIVAL IN CAMP B. EXPECTING ABOUT 3800 ON 21. APPENDIX TO MY TLO/19 OF 12 OUT OF DATE. WAITING YOU WITH NEW APPENDIX AND NOMINAL ROLL

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION	PRECEDENCE: IMPORTANT ORIGINATING SECTION: A. G. AUTHENTICATION: ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:	Deciphered 190730 THI OR TOR 1 TIME CLEARED 5017. 855

0819

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

81

10/20

1072

LROF V LADEN NR 6

QVR-1

FROM MAIA 52 AREA 171725

TO AMAIA ROME

INFO 52 AREA

GR-- ET

T Sp 6/31

20/11 R20/11

C16 RESTRICTED. CAMP. NO ENTRIES YESTERDAY. 685 WENT OUT. NORMAL ROLLS WILL FOLLOW. FURTHER TO MY 0 19 POINT FOUR.

EXTRA BRITISH HYGIENE PERSONNEL WERE INSTALLED ON 15 OUT

ITALIANS SPOIL ALL THEIR WORK BY TREATING ANYWHERE IN CAMP AS LATRINE. HIGHLY INADVISABLE HIS TAKEOVER. 52 AREA RECOLL

ET 171725

SENT NR 6 29/0206A JY B K

RECD NR 6 29/0206A SLW AR K

1412

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

80

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Liaison Officers

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.I.A.)
C/7
19 NOV 44

TO : MAIA LO 52 Area
MAIA LO 54 Area

Major [redacted], Inf. of "G" Branch, H.Q. M.I.A. will proceed to TARANTO on 20 Nov and leave TARANTO on 23 Nov unless ordered otherwise. During his stay his duties, inter alia, will be as follows.

1. Visit St. [redacted] Camp, TARANTO and other camps to which Italian personnel from overseas are arriving.

2. Represent G(SD) and A/Q MAIA on the spot, informing MAIA of any executive action taken.

3. Solve the day to day problems as may be possible vide para 2 above and hasten the flow of personnel through the camps. See that the system of screening personnel is efficient and see that the system of advising all concerned, especially MAIA, of nos due to be incorporated into the Army is fool-proof. In particular inf is required as under.

(a) nos of personnel
(b) unit
(c) from where arrived (Balkans, Greece)
(d) housed in which allied camps
(e) result of screening (how many etc. how many sent on leave, how many to be demobilized, etc.)
(f) of the personnel liable for service from above, how many are due for (a) combat (b) MAI-ITI (c) [redacted]-ITI
(g) to which camp the above will report and when.

4. Advise on nos of camp staffs who should remain at the camps.

(a) Allied
(b) Italian

14/-

5. Report, in conjunction with Capt CRAWFORD, on present position of

3. Solve the day to day problems as may be possible vide para 2 above and muster the flow of personnel through the camps. See that the system of screening personnel is efficient and see that the system of advising all concerned, especially MMIA, of new due to be incorporated into the Army is fool-proof. In particular inf is required as under.

(a) nos of personnel
(b) unit
(c) from where arrived (Balkans, Greece)
(d) housed in which allied camps
(e) result of screening (how many etc, how many sent on leave, how many to be demobilised, etc.)
(f) of the personnel liable for service from above, how many are due for (a) combat (b) ERI-ITI (c) IB-ITI
(g) to which camp the above will report and when.

4. Advise on nos of camp staffs who should remain at the camps.

(a) Allied
(b) Italian

1472

5. Report, in conjunction with Capt CRAWFORD, on present position of

(a) drawing rations for camps and also hospitals.
(b) adequacy and quantity of household equipment and tpt giving quantities furnished by Italian army and Allied of all household equipment and blankets, palliasses etc.
(c) issuing boots and clothing, giving quantities issued to date, quantities and condition of remaining stocks.
(d) evacuation to hospitals, general medical state of arrivals e.g. percentages of light or serious sick, numbers lousy etc.

Lt Col G.S.
M M I A

Internal copy to:- Maj STANLEY "G" Branch MMIA
2 i/c
A/Q
T./G/31

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

0822

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

SECRET

79

MAAF FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Reply----------Forward Counter Intelligence
To----------G.A.F.

TS/6/31
D

B-269.500/80-3 Adv. 15 November 1944.

20/11

SUBJECT: MISSION 79.

18/11

TO : G-2 (S.I.) Section, AFHQ. (2 copies).
A.A.I.U.
C.M.B.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).
F.B.I(b). SO(M). (2 copies).
Comando S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.I.I.A.

Acked. 18/11

167/

1. Italian military numbering ~~1067~~ arrived at TARANTO on 13 Nov 44 and were delivered to St.Andrew's Camp for screening by the Commission. The parties comprised

a. 11 Italian civilians to SILO #1 Transit Camp.
b. 5 Greek " " " " " "
c. 1068 Italian military from CEPHALONIA (Acqui Div).
d. 806 " " " PATRAS.

It is understood that the Italians from patras have been fighting with the Greek Partisans.

2. Particulars of categories (a) and (b) are given below:-

LONGINO	Gino	a. born	AUSONIA	30.1.14
D'ACCARDI	Giovanna	"	"	13.8.24
LAMENTI	Corneia	"	"	1921
LUGLIONI	Orolanda	"	" TIVOLI	1922
GIUGETTI	Atanassia	"	" ARCOSTOLI	1928
ROMIO	Elena	"	"	10.9.28
ANTICCHIA	Lenini (Giovanna)	"	" DILINATA	1932
RUSSO	Suon (Antonia)	"	" LARGAGO DEL GRAPPA	28.9.93
PANATO	Suon (Angelica)(Romanda)	"	" VALDOBBIADENE	29.3.94
DESIMONI	Andrea	"	" CEPHALONIA	1929
LA BIANCA	Vincenzo	"	"	15.8.27

141

- 1 -

SECRET

15.6.31

0823

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

CORSI	Stamo	Gr.	born	ARCOSTOLI	15.2.26
MUSCETTOLA	Maria	"	"	"	-------
MAURI	Ermi	"	"	"	18.10.21
SALVEMINI	Theodora	"	"	RAVRATA	25.1.20
PICCOLO	Urinia	"	"	CAPPALONGA	8.10.26

3. Nominal rolls and records of final disposal of the Italian Military will be available from P.O.I. offices.

PSS

for S. S. HILL-SMITH,
Colonel, Gen. Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

14 ")

0824

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

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

B-399.506/80-2 Adv. 12 November 1944.

SUBJECT: Arrivals From Yugoslavia

TO : G-2 (C.I.) Section, AFHQ.
S.I.L.O.
Rear H_, 'M' Military Mission. (2 copies).
Comando S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.

1. The following Italians arrived Italy from Yugoslavia and were disposed of as shown.

CASCIERE Tullio It. born AQUILA 26.8.23
CURNIERE Michele " " CATANIA 7.12.18
Members of Garibaldi Division evacuated from Yugoslavia to Galatina airport (Lecce) 6 Nov 1944 and taken to Campo Contumaccia Sosta, Lecce.

BENCHI Nicola It. born AVELINO 21.4.17
VERDE Vincenzo " " PORTICI 3.5.24
Members of Garibaldi Division being returned for health reasons. Arrived Bari seaport aboard the m/v ARBIA from RAGUSA, Yugoslavia 10 Nov 1944 and taken to Campo Contumaccia Sosta, Bari.

A. D'Ammaco, 1st Lt.
for S. S. HILL-DILLON,
Colonel, Gen. Staff.
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

SECRET

0825

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

15/6/31 77

T.

To :- G(Internal).
Ufficio Tramporti.
Float File.

From :- Mov. L.O. (MILA).

18 Nov 44.

Move of Italian Repatriates.

Following is copy of AFHQ signal FX 55735 dated 17 Nov 44.

FROM AFHQ. cite MAIN.

TO MOVEIT.
15/6/31 (INFO) MEDIALO 54 AREA. MILA. DISTHERE. DISTHERE EAST.
MEDIALO 52 AREA. MOVWIT. ADRIS ROME.

FX 55735 (.) CONFIDENTIAL (.) Reference MEDIALO 54 AREA signal

PS 519 dated 15 Nov (.) ITALIAN REPATRIATES TARANTO (.)

ONE (.) 112 for TRANI move under arrangements MOVEIT 17 Nov (.)

TWO (.) 548 for PIEDMONTE D'ALIFE move to VAIRANO by rail

19 Nov under arrangements MOVEIT.

Date 15/6/31 A/c
SD/13/3 info
SD/50

Capt RE.
Mov. L.O.

1428

14 Nov 44

10820

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

76

From : MEDITA 18 [illegible] A

To AFHQ (ATTN G-5)

SD 1814 CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY

British Staff should remain at ANDREWS Camp TARANTO until camp closed down for following reasons: (*) FIRST (*) Camp in British area impracticable to administer solely by ITIS (*) SECOND (*) Rations British drawing and issue should be supervised by British (*) THIRD (*) Tentage restores proportion of accomodation stores are British prevention damage and appropriation essential (*) FOURTH (*) Standard of medical hygiene and sanitation should be preserved on British scale (*) FIFTH (*) Reception organisation confused and slow if run by ITIS exclusively (*) SIXTH (*) Documentation British will only work quickly if they are thereto push it (*) SEVENTH (*) Despatch and transportation close liaison essential between British Camp Commandant MEDIA LO and MOVTA if camp to be cleared quickly (*) EIGHTH (*) Discipline inmates obey British private soldiers quickly but obey only very few ITI officers (*) Above report was required by DRIFFIELD WHITE and is agreed with by British Camp Commandant.

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTHENTICATED

Copt to: A/G
PWA/51

1471

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

670. CIPHER MESSAGE OUT

Reg. 17/11 SECRET

TO: FREEDOM cite FRCIM. D.D. RMF: GCA/ 668 75

RPT: VIO for 3 CORPS. RMF: GCA/ 100

RPT: FORCE 133. " RMF: GCA/ 2538

FROM: FORCE 399. 13 Nov 44.

TS/6/31

17/11

Foll fm STINGER QUOTE Nr six three of twelve fm LAYZELL rpt FORCE three nine nine (.) Foll message sent by destroyers to FOTALI (.) Pse pass to all concerned (.) QUOTE intend sailing EM today Sunday twelve Nov with six hundred Italians military including thirty wives and two seven wounded embarked in LEGIONARIO and ARTIGLIERE (.) Five LCTs at present ARGOSTOBI will evacuate remaining six hundred troops BTA TARANTO zero five zero zero GMT fourteen Nov UNQUOTE (.) Destroyers BTA TARANTO zero six zero zero GMT thirteen Nov (.) UNQUOTE.

B.P. Purves Capt

B.P. PURVES, Capt.
for Maj. G.S.

Originated by LO. E. MED. GP.

DISTR: Dist 3 TOO 0930 GMT
Dist 3 East.
Cond 399 TMX
Mov Bari
Mov Eastern Italy. TOO
SOM G
LO MMIA
G.1 (b) (3) pse pass FOX
[illegible]
[illegible]

original Copy 5
Copy Mov
SmRE

[illegible] (.) [illegible] message [illegible] by destroyers [illegible] (.) [illegible]

to all concerned.(.) QUOTE intend sailing [illegible] today Sunday twelve Nov with six hundred Italians military including thirty wives and two seven wounded embarked in LEGIONARIO and ARTIGLIERE (.) Five LSTs at present AEGOSTOSI will evacuate remaining six hundred troops ETA TARANTO zero five zero zero GMT fourteen Nov UNQUOTE (.) Destroyers ETA TARANTO zero six zero zero GMT thirteen Nov (.) UNQUOTE.

B.P. Purves Capt

B.P. PURVES, Capt.
for Maj. G.S.

Originated by LO. E. MED. GP.

DISTR: Dist 3
Dist 3 East.
Cond 399
Nov Bari
Nov Eastern Italy.
SCM G
LO MMIA
G.1 (b) (3) pse pass FCI
DAMS
CSO
FILE
NLO BAF - pse pass: HAMILCAR
C-in-C Med.
FOTALI
SENO GREECE
FOLEM.

TOO 0930 GMT

TMI

TOC

Original Copy 4 Copy Nov
SMRE
float
17/11

Distn 15/6/31 A/c
SD/SO

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

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

74

1. Subject:- St. Cassiano Camp.

Italian Officer
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. (Italy)
c/o H.Q. 5th Army
TIO/IO

To: Italian Army Comm
Commandant.

SD TS/G/31
.8/11 K 18/11

It appears that the instructions contained in para 5 of my letter of 11 Nov need some further explanation:-

(a) All men whose homes are in former occupied territory will go to CRITI units and report to THANI.

(b) There may be men whose homes are on the west side of Allied occupied Italy (and who are for CRITI units) who do not wish or are not able to go on leave: these you may dispatch direct to ASPROMI.

(c) It is regretted that leave cannot be granted to men whose homes are formed of the four army Security Line.

Wm Shaw Forsyth
Capt. R.A.O.C.
Senior Liaison Officer - TARANTO

16 Nov 44.

Copies to: HQ MTOA
MTOA TO 5th Army
Major SCOTT
Gen. SACHERINI

O 1st Aust
4/12

1400

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

73

Subject:- St. Andrews Camp.

Liaison Officer
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C. (MMIA)
c/o H[illegible] 52 Area
TLO/19

To: Col. BONELLI

TS/S/3

Confirming my conversation with you to-day as to (1) Documentation, (2) Transportation of Repetriates on leave, etc:-

1. Documentation: Each man will be interrogated, and the following particulars recorded - (a) Date of interrogation, (b) Camp Pen Number, (c) Name and personal number, (d) Army Class (e) Home address, (f) Whether leave is possible, (g) Certificate of Doctor for type of duty, and (h) subsequent destination after leave.

2. Transportation: From such particulars you will be able to prepare a "Request for Transportation", following the attached form. It is essential that this request be submitted to me not later than 1730 hrs two days before the date that transportation is required. If necessary, you will please telephone me (TARANTO Civil 2539), sending me the written request later via the British Camp Commandant. You will realise the importance of complying very strictly with thes instruction, as the request has to be transmitted the same day to Allied Movements at BARI.

3. It is impossible to cater for individuals travelling to their own homes, and they will have to be d spatched to the following distributing points, from which they must make their own way home: CATANZARO, BARI, POTENZA, NAPLES, ROME and PESCARA. Leave is NOT at present permitted to SICILY and SARDINIA.

14

2. Transportation: From such particulars you will be able to prepare a "Request for Transportation", following the attached form. It is essential that this request be submitted to me not later than 1730 hrs two days before the date that transportation is required. If necessary, you will please telephone me (TARANTO Civil 2539), sending me the written request later via the British Camp Commandant. You will realise the importance of complying very strictly with thes instruction, as the request has to be transmitted the same day to Allied Movements at BARI.

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14

WHS. Lawford
Capt. R.A.S.C.
Senior Liaison Officer - TARANTO

14 Nov 44

Copies to:- HQ MMIA
MMIA LO 54 Area (2 copies: one to Movts BARI, please)
Gen. MANNERINI
Major SEYD

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

0831

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

Request for Transportation

Date of Request

Date Transportation Required

Destination	Numbers
TRANI (for demobilised)	
TRANI (for BRIT Units)	
TRANI (for USIT Units)	.....
Total for Trani	
PIEDIMONTE D'ALIFE	.....
ASTRON I	.....
CATANZARO	.....
BARI	.....
PESCARA	.....
POTENZA	.....
NAPLES	.....
ROME	.....

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

10834

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

From:- [illegible]

S/J 17/11

T5/6/31 70

Liaison Officer
Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.(MEDIA)
S/o H.Q. 5 Area
Kandy

To: Del. SWANLEY

I set out below the instructions for the demobilisation of the Australians in this Camp, after they have been interrogated

1. Personnel due to be demobilised: These will be demobilised immediately and sent home if this is not possible, because their homes are in German occupied territory, they will be sent to MILNI Depot to report to Lieutn O'DONNELL, the Australian Officer there.

2. Volunteers for Combat Troops: After 1 month's leave they will be sent to depot at MILNIGRAM BARRACKS: If their homes are in German occupied territory, they will be sent direct to this Depot.

3. Personnel eligible for military service, but who are not volunteers as in (2): After 1 month's leave, to report to:
(a) MILNI Depot if for MILNI units
(b) MILNI Depot if for MILNI units
Personnel with homes in west should be selected for MILNI units, and with homes in the East for MILNI units. If they cannot go on leave because their homes are in German occupied territory, they will be sent direct to MILNI Depot

4. You will please submit nominal rolls of all persons demobilised, giving following particulars

Name & No.	Unit	Home Address	Date demobilised (or to depot if leave impossible)	Date due to return from leave	To report to. (Name of Depot

1421

0835

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

of the each day.

You are also requested to endorse all leave or travel warrants of military personnel the eventual destination of each person

5. It is understood that all patients for hospital are being sent to ALNWICK hospital: it will be necessary for this countries, if it transfers men to another hospital (e.g. in venereal disease cases) to inform you of the name of the that hospital, so that you can keep a proper record of the whereabouts of the men for whom you are responsible.

Will you please arrange this.

6. I send you a proforma amending that enclosed in my [illegible] as it is now, as the letter is now out of date.

[illegible]

Senior Liaison Officer - [illegible]

In duplicate

Copies to:- [illegible]

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

0836

69

629

Action TS/6/31
Info SD/50
R 17/11

SD
17/11

28/11

Signal APHQ
Re staff rep.

LNOF V LAEE NR122 P R

QVR 1

FROM MMIA LO 52 AREA 161410A

TO MMIA ROME

INFO 52 AREA 54 AREA FOR MMIA LO

DISTHREE DISTHREE EAST

GR --- QQX BT

114 CONFIDENTIAL

STO ST ANDREWS CAMP FOR REPATRIATES

STOP NONE ARRIVED YESTERDAY STOP ITI STAFF FUNCTINING AR

TO AFHQ for G 5 ①

RESTED UNDER GALLIANI STOP FOLLOWING ARE REASONS WHY PRESENT

FROM NMIA LO 52 AREA 161410A

TO NMIA ROME

INFO 52 AREA 54 AREA FOR NMIA LO

DISTHREE DISTHREE EAST

GR --- 20X ET

114 CONFIDENTIAL

FTO ST ANDREWS CAMP FOR REPATRIATES

STOP ROME ARRIVED YESTERDAY STOP ITI STAFF FUNCTIONING AR

BETTER UNDER GALLIANI STOP FOLLOWING ARE REASONS WHY PRESENT

BRITISH STAFF SHOULD REMAIN IN CAMP UNTIL CAMP CLOSED DOWN

FIRST CAMP IS IN BRITISH AREA AND WOULD BE IMPRACTICABLE TO

ADMINISTER FROM SOLELY BY ITIS STOP SECOND RATIONS ARE

BRITISH AND THEIR DRAWING AND ISSUE SHOULD BE SUPERVISED

BY THE BRITISH THIRD TENTAGE AND RESTORES AND A PROPORTION

OF ACCOMODATION STORES ARE ARE BRITISH AND PREVENTION OF DAMAGE

AND APPROPRIATION IS ESSENTIAL STOP FOURTH STANDARD OF

MEDICAL HYGIENE AND SANITATION SHOULD BE PRESERVED ON A

BRITISH SCALE FIFTH RECEPTION ORGANISATION IS CONFUSED AND

SLOW IF RUN EXCLUSIVELY BY ITIS SIXTH ENTIRE ORGANISATION

OF DOCUMENTATION DEVISED BY BRITISH AND WILL ONLY WORK

QUICKLY IF THEY ARE THERETO PUSH IT SEVENTH DESPATCH AND

TRANSPORTATION CLOSE LIAISON ESSENTIAL BETWEEN

BRITISH CAMP COMMANDANT NMIA LO AND MOVTS

IT CAMP TO BE CLEARED QUICKLY STOP EIGHTH DISCIPLINE

INMATES OBEY BRITISH PRIVATE SOLDIERS

QUICKLY BUT OBEY ONLY VERY FEW ITI OFFICERS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

BRITISH STAFF SHOULD REMAIN IN CAMP UNTIL CAMP CLOSED DOWN
FIRST CAMP IS IN BRITISH AREA AND WOULD BE IMPRACTICABLE TO
ADMINISTER ~~IF~~ SOLELY BY ITIS STOP SECOND RATIONS ARE
BRITISH AND THEIR DRAWING AND ISSUE SHOULD BE SUPERVISED
BY THE BRITISH THIRD TENTAGE AND RESTORES AND A PROPORTION
OF ACCOMODATION STORES ARE ARE BRITISH AND PREVENTION OF DAMAGE
AND APPROPRIATION IS ESSENTIAL STOP FOURTH STANDARD OF
MEDICAL HYGIENE AND SANITATION SHOULD BE PRESERVED ON A
BRITISH SCALE FIFTH RECEPTION ORGANISATION IS CONFUSED AND
SLOW IF RUN EXCLUSIVELY BY ITIS SIXTH ENTIRE ORGANISATION
OF DOCUMENTATION DEVISED BY BRITISH AND WILL ONLY WORK
QUICKLY IF THEY ARE THERETO PUSH IT SEVENTH DESPATCH AND
TRANSPORTATION CLOSE LIAISON ESSENTIAL BETWEEN
BRITISH CAMP COMMANDANT MMIA LO AND MOVTS
IF CAMP TO BE CLEARED QUICKLY STOP EIGHTH DISCIPLINE
INMATES OBEY BRITISH PRIVATE SOLDIERS
QUICKLY BUT OBEY ONLY VERY FEW ITI OFFICERS
STOP ABOVE REPORT WAS REQUIRED
BY DRIFFIELD WHITE AND IS AGREED WITH BY BRITISH
CAMP COMMANDANT
BT161410A Copy to A/d IMMEDIATE
SENT NR122 2155A HF BBBBBBB [illegible] 5/9/31
RD NR 122 2155A F A BBBBB

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

0838

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

Translation

[redacted] 3824

From: M. of W.
To: M.M.I.A.

Ref. 400 121/R.P.G.
Date: 10.11.44.

T5/e/31. R 17/11

Subject: Italians resident in Rumania.

It has been reported that the Russian Authorities intend to deport the many military and civilian Italians at present resident in Roumania.

I deem necessary that such a proceeding should not take place specially bearing in mind that it has never been possible to obtain any news of P.O.W. taken by the Russians.

I beg you therefore to take an interest in the fate of the Italians in Roumania and to do everything possible to enable them to repatriated by sea, similarly to what has been done with the Italians resident in Greece.

The Minister
(Sgd) A. CASATI

s/Sij

and civilian Italians at present resident in Roumania.

I deem necessary that such a proceeding should not take place specially bearing in mind that it has never been possible to obtain any news of P.O.W. taken by the Russians.

I beg you therefore to take an interest in the fate of the Italians in Roumania and to do everything possible to enable them to repatriated by sea, similarly to what has been done with the Italians resident in Greece.

The Minister
(Sgd) A. CASATI

s/sig.

1429

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

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

MINISTERO DELLA GVERRA

Gabinetto

Ufficio Reduci Prigionia Guerra

Bor/cb

Gab. N. 406124 /R.P.G. Allegati

Risposta al dispaccio

Roma, 16 Novembre 1944

Div. N. 1

OGGETTO: Italiani residenti in Romania.-

Italiani Residenti in Romania

AR

11 11

11 COLONNELLO CAMPBEL - CAPO DELLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE
PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA E RECUPERI = R O M A =

ALLA M. M. I. A. = R O M A =

e, per conoscenza:

ALL'UFFICIO DELL'ALTO COMMISSARIO PER I
PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA
= R O M A =

Viene segnalato che le autorità russe hanno intenzione di deportare i numerosi italiani militari e civili attualmente esistenti in Romania.

Ritengo necessario che tale provvedimento non abbia attuazione anche considerando che non è stato mai possibile avere notizie dei prigionieri caduti in mano dei russi.

Prego pertanto di volersi interessare dell[illegible]

PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA E RIFUGIATI = R O M A =

ALLA M. M. I. A. = R O M A =

e, per conoscenza:

ALL'UFFICIO DELL'ALTO COMMISSARIO PER I
PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA
= R O M A =

"""""""""""""""""""""

Viene segnalato che le autorità russe hanno intenzione di deportare i numerosi italiani militari e civili attualmente esistenti in Romania.

Ritengo necessario che tale provvedimento non abbia attuazione anche considerando che non è stato mai possibile avere notizie dei prigionieri caduti in mano dei russi.

Prego pertanto di volersi interessare della sorte degli italiani in Romania e di fare tutto il possibile perchè essi possano rimpatriare a mezzo di piroscafi analogamente a quanto è stato disposto per gli italiani residenti in Grecia. 1428

IL MINISTRO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

0843

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

67

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. G. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

D-283,506/20-2 AGV. 25 November 1944.

SUBJECT: GEORGE 79.

TO : G-2 (C.I.) Section, AFHQ. (2 copies).
SILO.
CSDIC (Sub-Centre East).
CSDIC(b), SC(M). (2 copies).
Comando S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.

1. Nine Italian Military were disembarked with R.A.F. personnel at Taranto on 12 Nov 44. They were delivered to Campo Contumacia South at Bari.

2. These men are said to have worked for British forces for some six months as cooks, muleteers etc., and to have given very good service.

3. Their names are as follows:-

LUCIANO	Antonio
MANCONI	Gino
ZAMATEL	Antonio
BERNUCE.	Enrico
CANEGRO	Dante
RECCHIA	Giovanni
MARCHETTE	Giovanni
VERONESI	Silvio
AMATI	Enrico

1427

for A. E. HILL-DILLON,
Colonel, Gen. Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

SECRET

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

T3/G/31

From MMIA LO 54 Area

To MOVEIT AFHQ

Info MMIA MMIA LO 52 Area

FM 327 (*) RESTRICTED (*) Request movement Italian repatriated TARANTO for 18 Nov as follows (*) CATANZARO 13 BARI 224 PESCARA 23 POTENZA 31 NAPLES 64 ROME 37 TOTAL 392

0845

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

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

A-389.000/G0-2 Adv.

15 November 1944.

SUBJECT: GREECE 94.

TO : G-2 (G.I.) Section, AFHQ. (2 copies).
M.I.L.O.
C.C.D.I.U. (Sub-Centre East).
G.S.I(b), SO(E). (2 copies).
Command S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.

1. H.M.T. "ALCANTARA" arrived Taranto 12 Nov 44 from SALONIKA with 4,147 Italian Military repatriates who were delivered to ST.ANDREWS Camp Taranto. Also aboard were 1 Greek and 5 Italian women who have been passed to #1 Transit Camp for info.

2. Particulars of the women are given below:-

RIZZOTTA, Giovanna fu Vittorio born KANIA 1923
Italian. Mother is Greek. Returned to KANIA from Italy 1938. Father had carpet business at KANIA, he was killed in an Allied bombing raid in Aug 44 and she was left with her sister Maria in KANIA. During the German occupation she worked as interpreter at the Capitaneria del Porto from 41 to Aug 42, was idle until Sep 43 and when the Germans came to KANIA in Sep 43, the two sisters escaped and went to 530 Italian Mil Hosp at CHIOS, near ATHENS. There she managed to become a part of hosp worker and remained there until the time of the evacuation. States that she was threatened by Greeks. Has relatives at her father's family at VICENZA.

RIZZOTTA, Maria fu Vittorio born KANIA 1919
Same as above, except for the fact that she worked for Consorzio Agrario at KANIA and at the hosp as a pharmacist's assistant.

RAUILLACI Filomena born CATANIA 1926
Italian. Went to Greece fifteen years ago with her father, her mother having died at Catania. Lived at Athens for the last fifteen years. At the outbreak of the Italian-Greek war was interned at TATOI by the Greeks for six months, and liberated

1420

SECRET

0846

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

by the Italians in 41. From 41 to 43 she lived with a Greek family in ATHENS called MANDOVANO, and worked in their house as a tailoress. After Sep 43 an Italian med officer got her a job at 536 Italian Mil Hosp where she worked as assistant to her sister. She remained there up to the date of evacuation.

RICCI, Raffalde di Domenico born ISTANBUL 1920
Italian. Mother is Greek and is in Athens. Remained in Istanbul until she was 22 yrs, then went to Athens, then to Italy and returned to Greece in 39. Her father was headmaster of the Italian school in Athens where she was a pupil. He was put in a concentration camp by the Greeks in 40 and liberated by the Italians in 41. While he was inside she was supported by a subsidy from the Hungarian Consulate. He came out in 41 and life was resumed as before. She was at school as a pupil until Sep 43. Then she worked at an Italian public assistance org in ATHENS as a storekeeper. In Jul 44 a Capt Tosrelli, an Italian med officer found her a job at 586 Italian Mil Hosp where she worked as a nurse.

REGRO, Anna fu KOLOTZKOI. born HALMATA 1922
Italian. Mother is Greek. Married Soldier (Italian) named REGRO, Franco 11 May 43 at HALMATA. As from date of marriage, husband his in her house until captured and interned by Germans in Dec 43. Lived with her mother until Apr 44, and then fled to ATHENS as she was afraid of being attacked by Communists for having married an Italian. In Jun 44 gave birth to a child, and a fortnight later obtained employment at 586 Italian Mil Hosp ATHENS where she worked in the kitchen. Intends to join husband's parents at Villa Castella, BRINDISI.

COSTANTINI, Nica born ATHENS 1929
Is of Greek citizenship, but applied for Italian nationality on the strength of her mother being Italian. Italian passport was destroyed together with all the documents at the Italian Consulate. Has lived in Greece all her life except for two months at LUCCA. Lives mostly at ATHENS, but also at HALMATA. She and her mother went to ATHENS and lived there from Sep 43 to Jun 44. In Jun 44 an official at the Consulate found her a job in 586 Italian Gen Hosp.

142

3. The above were provided with various notes of recommendations from a British Captain.

for C. C. HILLHOUSE,
Colonel, Gen. Staff,
G-2 (S.I.) Section.

0847

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

LROF V LAEE NR 1// 4 "P P"

QVR 1

FROM MMIA LO 52 AREA 151448

TO MMIA ROME INFO 54 AREA FOR MMIA LO

QQY GR 76 BT

Q13 (.) CONFIDENTIAL (.) STOP CAMP STOP

FOR 13 OFFICERS AND 1433 MEN MENTIONED IN MY Q13 READ 13 OFFICERS

AND 1203 MEN STOP ARRIVED YESTERDAY 400 WELL FED AND CLAD

STOP BONELLI HAS GONE STOP FOR LO 54 AREA

STOP AM SENDING LOCAL MARINA AND AERONAUTICA PERSONNEL TOMORROW

TO REPORT LOCAL HQ AS WISHED MY MANTERINI STOP ALSO

SENDING LOCAL CIVILIANS TO REPORT PREFECT STOP

CARABINIERI AND GUARDIA DI FINANZIA TO REPORT DEPOT

BARI STOP NUMBERS FOLLOW

BT 151448

SENT NR 4 0009A AAN B K

RECD NR 4 0009A JN AR

0848

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

64

T4/6/31

R&R

FD

16 A

M M I A

MINISTRY OF WAR

82 AREA FOR MEMALO
84 AREA FOR MEMALO

2218
AQ xxxxxx

CONFIDENTIAL

Col BONELLI ITALIAN CAMP COMMANDANT at FT ANDREWS CAMP TARANTO has proved completely inefficient (.) He will be removed IMMEDIATELY and replaced by present second in command Lt Col GALIANI (.) Treat as MOST URGENT

1423

Informal

"G" MMIA

IMPORTANT

0849

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

ARMY FORM C 2186 (Small) **MESSAGE FORM** Register No. 63

Call | Srl. No. | Priority | Transmissl. Instructions

Copy for TS/0/31.

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: MAIN CO 92 ARCM

Date-Time of Origin: 141500A

— Office Date Stamp — Original G-2 R 5/5

For Action

TO: MAIN ROME.

(W) For Information (INFO)

5th AREA for MAIN CO.

—Message Instructions— | —GR—

P.S.S. B/D 20/16-M-1881/M4

Originator's No. Q 12 ⊙ CONFIDENTIAL ⊙ Repatriates Camp 13 offs and 1433 men arrived yesterday two and 382 fit and well clad remainder were poor in health and badly clad ⊙ Present Camp Commandant EL BONELLI unofficially requests this place be taken by present 2 i/c Lt Col BACIANI ⊙ It has been necessary for me to arrange various system documentation and despatch as per W instructions Wagne ⊙

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 THI or TOR 1421 System Op

Time cleared

SIGNED

SIGNED Received your AQ 2207

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

Land forces 5/938 E 272 6-2

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : 215
Classification : SECRET
Precedence : Priority
From : G-3 (Operations) Fortune Field
To : 37 MILITARY MISSION

Date | Time Rec'd : 15 0030Z
Date | Time Sent : 14 1130Z
Reference NR : [illegible]
Clte : [illegible]

R 15/11 S
15/11/31 SD 15th

1 © REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE THIS HQ FOR SUPPLY CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT TO ALLEVIATE PLIGHT OF GARIBALDI DIVISION NOW IN MONTENEGRO ©

2 © CONSIDERED PREFERABLE TO SHIP THIS DIVISION TO ITALIAN MAINLAND FOR ABSORPTION INTO ITALIAN ARMY PROPER, PROVIDED PROJECT WILL NOT JEOPARDISE PRESENT PARTISAN ACTIVITIES ©

3 © REQUEST YOUR RECOMMENDATION ON PARA 2, TOGETHER WITH SUGGESTED PORT OF ASSEMBLY TO WHICH PERSONNEL SHIPPING SHOULD BE DESPATCHED IF PROPOSITION AGREED

1420

HEADQUARTERS
15 NOV 1944
A.C.

15/11/45

0851

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

SECRET 61

CIPHER

CALL	CIRCUIT No.	PRIORITY	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
	NR 9864	IMMEDIATE	QVR2

38/14

SPACES WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) MEIA LO 54 AREA

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 131540A

TO (FOR ACTION) MEIA LO 52 AREA

18/6/31

TO (FOR INFORMATION) MEIA

Message Instructions | CR

(REF. No.) FS/521

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) SECRET

14/4

SUBJECT IS SCREENING OF ITALIAN TPS EX BALKANS. PROCEDURE TO BE ADOPTED AS FOLLOWS.

FIRST. Personnel due for demob will be demobilised immediately and sent home. Where this is not possible owing to homes German occupied Italy send to TRANI for O'DONNEL.

SECOND. Volunteers for combat ops to PIEDMONTE DAILY after one month leave home unless condition Para First apply in which case send direct to PIEDMONTE.

THIRD. Non volunteers for combat ops but eligible for service to report to TRANI for BRITI and ASTRONI for USITI after one month leave home. Personnel with homes in west should be selected for USITI and in east for BRITI. If conditions Para First apply direct to TRANI.

FOURTH. Nominal rolls must be made of personnel as screened and information given as to their eventual destination. Send copies MEIA and this office. Travel or leave passes will show eventual destination unless tps demobilised

111

Deciphered 141325A-TSW

LOCAL DISTRIBUTION

PRECEDENCE: IMMEDIATE

ORIGINATING SECTION:

A. G. AUTHENTICATION:

ORIGINATOR'S AUTHENTICATION:

TIME FOR | CR

TIME CLEARED

0852

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

Translation.

TS/E/51 59

From:- XI C.d'A.
To:- XIX Br. for information.

Ref:- 300-14/RPG
Date:- 13th Nov. 42.

Subject:- Italian Soldiers in Albania.

We have been informed by signal, signed by Capt. TRUSSO Rosario, XIX Brigata d'Assalto IIa Bn. Sante Buonanta, in which it was mentioned that Italian Soldiers, who fought against the German after the armistice was declared, request to be repatriated.

It was mentioned in the message as well that the maximum part of those soldiers suffer from malaria, exanthem and under fed and are actually located in Valona - Apirocastro area.

Please examine the possibility to repatriate same.

1418

Gen. G. B. CAVIGLIA.

Lt. FIORE.

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

549

MINISTERO DELLA GVERRA

Gabinetto

Ufficio Reduci Prigionia Guerra

Prot. 400094/RPG Allegati

Roma 13 novembre 1944

Risposta al disp. del

Div.

OGGETTO: Militari italiani in Albania.

Italian Military in Albania

13/11

11 WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB COMMISSION

R O M A

e, per conoscenza:

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.) R O M A

E' pervenuto a questo Ministero un messaggio firmato dal Cap. TRUSSO Rosario (XIX Brigata d'assalto - III Battaglione-Santi Quaranta) in cui viene segnalata l'esistenza in Albania di militari italiani che, dopo l'armistizio, si sono gettati nella zona montana, hanno combattuto contro i tedeschi a fianco dei partigiani albanesi, ed ora chiedono di essere rimpatriati.

A quanto afferma detto messaggio, un numeroso gruppo di tali militari, costituito in massima parte da malarici, reumatizzati, e denutriti, trovasi riunito nella zona Valona - Argirocastro.

Prego vivamente esaminare la possibilità di esaudire il deside

13/11

// WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB COMMISSION

R O M A

e, per conoscenza:

→ LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C.(M.M.I.A.) R O M. A

E' pervenuto a questo Ministero un messaggio firmato dal Cap. TRUSSO Rosario (XIX Brigata d'assalto - III Battaglione-Santi Quaranta) in cui viene segnalata l'esistenza in Albania di militari italiani che, dopo l'armistizio, si sono gettati nella zona montana, hanno combattuto contro i tedeschi a fianco dei partigiani albanesi, ed ora chiedono di essere rimpatriati.

A quanto afferma detto messaggio, un numeroso gruppo di tali militari, costituito in massima parte da malarici, reumatizzati,e denutriti, trovasi riunito nella zona Valona - Argirocastro.

Prego vivamente esaminare la possibilità di esaudire il desiderio di tali militari.

1117

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

0835

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

T-19131 S6

To :- G(Internal).
Ufficio Trasporti.

From :- Mov. L.O. (IIIA).

14 Nov 44.

Following is copy of AFHQ signal

To :- G(Internal).
Ufficio Trasporti.

From :- Mov. L.O. (IIIA).

14 Nov 44.

Following is copy of FORCE 399 signal dated 12 Nov 44.

FROM FORCE 399
TO AFHQ CITE FIGHT.
(INFO) VIC for THREE CORPS. FORCE 133.

SECRET (.) Following from STEER QUOTE Number 52 of 12 from BUC (.) Please pass following to PAUL (.) From SOMERS to HARRIET: embarkation of personnel in destroyers(.) Request instructions regarding sailing of LST on completion (.)

Capt RE.
Mov. L.O.

1410

0856

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

661

CIPHER MESSAGE
OUT
DD

SECRET

FREEDOM cite FHGLM
Rpt VIC for 3 CORPS
Rpt FORCE 133

GCA/ 641
GCA/ 97
GCA/ 2531

FROM:- FORCE 399

11 Nov 44

Foll fm STINKER QUOTE Nr five one of eleven fm BUD (.) LCTs rpt LCTS did not rpt not sail because of bad weather (.) Sea is still rough expecting weather report from your end urgently (.)

B.P. Purves Capt

(B.P.PURVES) Capt.
For Major G.S.

TOO. 1530
THI.
TOO.

Dist:- Dist 3
Dist 3 East
Comd 399
Mov BARI
Mov +Eastern Italy
SCM G
LO MEDIA
G.I.(b) (3) pse pass FCI
DADMS
CSO
FILE
NLO RAF ~pse pass HAMILCAR
C-in-C MedA
FOTALI
SHAO GREECE
FOLEM

how

14/11

copy
1415 14/11

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

55

TS
SD/6/31
15/11 R 15/11

9782

LROF V LAEE NR1 PRIORITY IMPORTANT

QVR 1

FROM MMIA LO 52 AREA 131615

TO MMIA ROME

INFO 54 AREA FOR MMIA LO

QQY GR 103 BT

Q11 CONFIDENTIAL STOP ALCANTARA 1414

DISEMBARKED YESTERDAY FOUR ONE

SIX SEVEN REPATRIATES STOP

ONE ONE ONE WERE HOSPITAL CASES AND FIFTEEN LIGHT SICK STOP

FOURTEEN WOMEN WERE SENT TO NUMBER ONE PW TRANSIT CAMP BARI

... WERE IN GOOD HEALTH

LROF V LAEE NR1 PRIORITY

QVR 1

FROM MNIA LC 52 AREA 131615

TO MNIA RONE

INFO 54 AREA FOR MNIA LC

QQY GR 103 BT

Q1. CONFIDENTIAL STOP ALCANTARA

1414

DISEMBARKED YESTERDAY FOUR ONE

SIX SEVEN REPATRIATES STOP

ONE ONE ONE WERE HOSPITAL CASES AND FIFTEEN LIGHT SICK STOP

FOURTEEN WOMEN WERE SENT TO NUMBER ONE PW TRANSIT CAMP BARI

AFTER SCREENING STOP PRACTICALLY ALL MEN WERE IN GOOD HEALTH

AND SO WELL CLAD THAT NO SALVAGE CLOTHING HAS BEEN ISSUED STOP

SCREENING STARTS FOR MEN TOMORROW STOP

NOT POSSIBLE BEFORE BECUASE COMMISSION ENGAGED TODAY ON PW

STOP IT IS STILL ARRIVING TODAY IN VARIOUS TYPES OF CRAFT STOP

DRIFFIELD WHITE HERE YESTERDAY STOP

I DISCUSSED ALL PROBLEMS WITH HIM INCLUDING LENGTH

OF TIME ITIS SHOULD STAY IY IN CAMP

BT

SENT NR

LROF/V/LAEE////NR//

SENT NR 1 14/0001A VG BBBB

RECD NR1 14/0001A SLW A2 K

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

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

53

15/6/51

121805A

FROM MMIA LO 52 Area

TO MMIA ROME

CONFIDENTIAL (.) CAMP (.) 250 well fd well clad ITIS arrived today ex SAMFAITHFUL mostly with implements for eating (.) All under control (.) POSITIO RE ACCOMODATIO stores satisfactory (.) Request expedite reply my V PFY

IMPORTANT

cgl

15/11

15/11

1410

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52

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

E-389.506/80-D Adv. 10 November 1944.

SUBJECT: GEORGE 72.

TO : G-2 (C.I.) Section, AFHQ. (2 copies).
S.I.L.O.
C.S.D.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).
G.S.I(b), SC(M).
Commando S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.

1. Reference our E-389.506/80-D Adv. dated 9 Nov 44.

2. The following Italians were included on the same operation but had been left behind in charge of all baggage.

DAMERA	Giorgio	It.	born CORFU	1.5.95
BALTATSI	Giorgio	"	" "	1.5.07
PAIMIERI	Francesco	"	" TUNIS	1.8.04
VEZZOLI	Carlo	"	" CORFU	13.10.03
POLO	Antonio	"	". SASARI	11.10.11
TITA	Paolo	"	" CORFU	16.2.16

Sent to #207 P.W. Camp, GRUMO.

for S. G. HILL-DILLON, Maj.
Colonel, General Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

SECRET

0861

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

647.

GRNSA RESTRICTED
CSE

SECRET 75/E/551
5/171

TO: CINCPAC CINCPACFLT [illegible] DTG: 021/ 628

INFO: CTF 168 CTF 169 [illegible] DTG: 021/ 87

INFO: USCINCEUR [illegible] DTG: 021/ 2513

INFO: USCINCSO.

K 13

WILL BE PRESENT ORANGE 3 AT CHARLESTON dated 9 Nov (S)

Intend sailing at 1430 hrs CST 10 Nov (.) Expect Norf

Julio Bird rpt Bull [redacted] hrs CST 12 Nov (.) Ops estimated

0700

YOU Indiana [illegible] (.) All Informed.

J Hyman CAPT
[illegible] Capt.
for Adm U.S.N.

Originated by Lt. Cdr. [illegible]

Distr: Capt J
Capt J Asst
Cdr SAF
Cmdr JCS
Cdr Asst
Lcdr Eastern Area
Lcdr G
Lt [redacted]
CX(S) (3) plus pouch FCL
CNO
[illegible]

Original
Copy Hand
Hand

14 1911

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

S/19

RC

5 apt 8 LCI's left for ANCONCOLI to evacuate
Italians (.) Expected to arrive 0900 hrs GMT.
8 apt 8 NOV (.) Pilot must meet off CAPT
YYYXXXXXXXX (.) Each LCI will carry 100 men (.)
You must therefore have 800 ready to embark.

[illegible]
for Maj. G. S.

Originated by LO. [illegible]

DISTR: Movements Italy. [illegible] GMT
AMG Bty.
G
G.1(b)
CAO
File.
LO. MMIA.

[illegible]
Copy sent
1/19 Howard
1911

0863

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

54

TOP SECRET

Subject:- Italian Soldiers in the BALKAN Regions

Land Forces Sub Com., A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

TS/G/31
14 Nov 44

H.E. The MARSHAL OF ITALY G. MESSE
STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

With reference to this HQ letter TS/G/31 of 2 Nov.

I am instructed to state that an extra ship became available and that 2000 personnel over and above the 3700 mentioned in the above quoted letter have now been landed in TARANTO. In addition 500 Italian soldiers ex-CEPHALONIA have arrived.

I have requested that the Ministry of War keep you fully informed of future arrivals as this HQ is negotiating with SMRE on these matters of detail almost continuously.

Lt-Col

Major General,
M.M.I.A.

0864

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

15/6/31 49

MESSAGE FORM

DATE TIME OF ORIGIN

11

FROM: MMLA

TO: (FOR ACTION) DISTRESS EAST

TO:(FOR INFO) 52 AMRA
FREEDOM GEORGE FIVE
52 AMRA for MMLA LO

REF NO. A. 2187

RESTRICTED

Uncertainty exists on length of time ST ANDREWS Camp TARANTO will retain personnel (.) request you confirm personnel will remain until screened documented and passed medically suitable for discharge to civil or military life

PRECEDENCE_____

ORIGINATORS AUTHENTICATION_____

1408

File: Greece: Yugoslavia

R 18/11 TS/9/31

(2) All the remaining personnel (i.e. other than hospital cases) will be billetted in the transit camp for two or three weeks, probably three, where they will be classified and equipped and undergo matriculation, interrogation, and administrative settlement.

Should it not be possible at the time to accommodate all the personnel, it will be necessary to put part of the personnel under canvas.

(3) At the end of this period, those who are not liable for military service will be discharged from the army and returned to their homes. Those having service obligations and who have their homes in Liberated Italy will be sent home on special 30 days leave with pay.

Before going on leave, the place where they will have to report ~~as~~ at the termination of their leave, will be decided on and shown on the leave pass, specifying unit and location. That is:

For the Combat Groups (Reinforcement regt. BENEVENTO)
For BR-ITIS (MINERVINO and AFRAGOLA)
For US-ITIS (ASTRONI)

Those troops who have not volunteered for combat duties will be sent in equal proportion to the last two units.

(4) Those liable for military service but having their homes in the north of Italy, at the end of the period in the camp, will also be sent to the a/m units with the same procedure.

(5) Those who have no service obligations, but with their families in the north of Italy, and who do not choose to be sent to one of the units shown in para (3), will be given employment as civilian workers, for whom there is a demand in the south.

(6) The troops who are not physically fit, both with or without liabilities for military service, will be sent to convalescent homes.

G I ... is relevant part ... ministry's orders ... personnel ... been

1407

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equal proportion to the last two units.

(4) Those liable for military service but having their homes in the north of Italy, at the end of the period in the camp, will also be sent to the a/m units with the same procedure.

(5) Those who have no service obligations, but with their families in the north of Italy, and who do not choose to be sent to one of the units shown in para (3), will be given employment as civilian workers, for whom there is a demand in the south.

(6) The troops who are not physically fit, both with or without liabilities for military service, will be sent to convalescent homes.

G I
Above is relevant part of Warministry's orders for disposal of personnel from Balkans.
other adm details have been checked & are OK
D. G2(L)

1407

9/11

Landled D.

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

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

Bor/c

Roma 7 Novembre 19 41

Ministero della Guerra

Al Maggiore BAUMAN

- M.M.I.A. -

Divisione Sez. Allegati
Prot. N° 400058 1
F.P.Q.

Risposta al f.llel
Div. Sez. N°

OGGETTO: Arrivo di prigionieri provenienti dai Balcani .-

Come da accordi, Le invio una copia della circolare riguardante l'arrivo a Taranto del 1° scaglione di militari provenienti dai Balcani.

IL GENERALE ADDETTO
(A.Mannerini)

A. Mannerini

Traduire Jeune Montalcini CEI

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

GABINETTO

Ufficio Reduci Prigionia Guerra

Roma, li 5 novembre 1944

OGGETTO : Arrivo militari provenienti dai Balcani.-

AL COMANDO MILITARE DELLA PUGLIA E BASILICATA F.to 67

Oggi, 5 novembre, partirà da Taranto la nave "ARCADIARA" diretta in Grecia per imbarcare colà il giorno 6 un primo blocco di 3700 uomini degli 8000 attualmente nei Balcani. Di questo primo blocco risultano 400 ammalati e 30 barellati gravi. La nave farà ritorno a Taranto l'11 novembre p.v.

A bordo della nave viaggerà il seguente personale di sanità italiano ed alleato:

- 4 ufficiali medici italiani;
- 4 ufficiali medici alleati;
- 20 uomini di sanità italiani;
- 10 civili pel servizio antibrico;
- 10 crocerossine;
- 2 ufficiali d'arma alleati;
- 2 interpreti italiani;

1405

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Oggi, 5 novembre, partirà da Taranto la nave "ALCANTARA" diretta in Grecia per imbarcare colà il giorno 8 un primo blocco di 3700 uomini degli 8000 attualmente nei Balcani. Di questo primo blocco militare 400 ammalati e 60 ammalati gravi. La nave farà ritorno a Taranto l'11 novembre p.v.

A bordo della nave viaggerà il seguente personale di sanità italiano ed alleato:

- 4 ufficiali medici italiani;
- 4 ufficiali medici alleati;
- 20 uomini di sanità italiani;
- 10 civili pel servizio antivifico;
- 10 crocerossine;
- 2 ufficiali d'arma alleati;
- 2 interpreti italiani;
- 1 interprete americano.

1405

Per il ricevimento a Taranto del predetto personale il Comando Supremo Alleato ha disposto che sia colà organizzato un "campo sosta e contumacia" e che due ufficiali alleati e 10 uomini di truppa provvedano per l'organizzazione e sistemazione del campo. Resteranno altresì a disposizione del campo stesso, per i servizi interni e fino al 20 novembre p.v., 2 Jeeps e 3 autocarri.

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

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

Codesto Comando prende contatto e stabilisca accordi con i comandi 1° e 3° District e poi con la 52ª Area, attuando quanto qui di seguito è stato concordato:

1°) - Gli ammalati di questo primo scaglione, come da ordini già impartiti dalla Direzione Generale di Sanità, verranno ricoverati in unico ospedale a razionamento civile, e precisamente nell'Ospedale militare "ACANFORA" in Taranto avente la capacità di 513 posti letto. Gli ammalati attualmente degenti in detto ospedale saranno senz'altro sgomberati su ospedali viciniori secondo direttive che verranno impartite dalla Direz. di Sanità di Bari.

L'ospedale "ACANFORA" resterà unicamente riservato per lo scopo di cui, trattasi e fino ad esaurimento di tutti i restanti scaglioni provenienti dalla Balcania.

Sarà provveduto perchè a cura degli alleati venga corrisposto, per il periodo di degenza di 30 giorni, la prescritta razione viveri militare.

2°) - Tutto il rimanente personale sarà alloggiato nel campo sosta e contumacia per due o tre settimane, probabilmente tre, per le operazioni di bonifica, vestizione, disbrigo delle pratiche amministrative e matricolari ed interrogatorio.

Qualora non sarà possibile accantonare tutto il personale si dovrà ricorrere a parziale accampamento.

1404

3°) - A termine del suddetto periodo i non aventi obblighi di servizio militare con famiglia in territorio liberato verranno congedati

1°) - Gli ammalati di questo primo scaglione, come da ordini già impartiti dalla Direzione Generale di Sanità, verranno ricoverati in undici ospedali e sanatorio civile, e precisamente nell'Ospedale militare "GALLOSA" in Taranto avente la capacità di 543 posti letto. Gli ammalati attualmente degenti in detti ospedali saranno poi sgomberati su ospedali vicinori secondo direttive che verranno impartite dalla Direz. di Sanità di Bari.

L'ospedale "GALLOSA" rimarrà unicamente riservato per lo scopo di cui trattasi e fino al sgombramento di tutti i restanti scaglioni provenienti dalla Balcania.

Sarà provveduto perchè a cura degli alleati venga corrisposta, per il periodo di degenza di 30 giorni, la prescritta razione viveri militare.

2°) - Tutto il rimanente personale sarà alloggiato nel campo sosta e contumacia per due o tre settimane, probabilmente tre, per le operazioni di bonifica, vestizione, disbrigo delle pratiche amministrative e particolari ed interrogatorio.

Qualora non sarà possibile accantonare tutto il personale si dovrà ricorrere a parziale accampamento.

1404

3°) - A termine del suddetto periodo i non aventi obblighi di servizio militare con famiglia in territorio liberato verranno congedati ed inviati a casa. Gli aventi obblighi di servizio con famiglia in territorio liberato verranno inviati in licenza straordinaria, con assegni, di 30 giorni.

Prima di partire per la licenza e con registrazione sulla licenza stessa, sarà fissata la destinazione da raggiungere al termine della licenza con specificazione del reparto e località, e cioè:

-/.

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

- Per gruppi di combattimento (reggimento complementi Benevento);
- Per Br-Iti (Minervino e Afragola);
- Per Us-Iti (Astroni).

A tali ultimi reparti verranno destinati, in parti uguali, i militari che non abbiano fatto domanda per l'assegnazione ai gruppi di combattimento.

4°) - Gli aventi obblighi di servizio con famiglia risiedente al Nord, al termine del periodo di contumacia, verranno anche essi inviati ai reparti predetti con analogo criterio.

5°) - Per gli idonei non aventi obblighi di servizio ma aventi la famiglia al Nord, qualora non optino per l'assegnazione ai reparti di cui al n° 3, dovrà essere curato il loro collocamento come mano d'opera civile della quale risulta esservi richiesta nel Meridione.

6°) - I militari non idonei, aventi o no obblighi di servizio, dovranno essere inviati in convalescenziari.

7°) - I trasporti dalla nave al campo e dal campo in altre località saranno effettuati a cura della 52^ Area.

8°) - Per l'inquadramento del personale alloggiato presso il campo sosta e contumacia codesto Comando dovrà impiegare il seguente personale da trarre da elementi disponibili in posto e per quello non

Nord, al termine del periodo di contumacia, verranno essi inviati ai reparti predetti con analogo criterio.

5°) - Per gli idonei non aventi obblighi di servizio ma aventi la famiglia al Nord, qualora non optino per l'assegnazione ai reparti di cui al n° 3, dovrà essere curato il loro collocamento come mano d'opera civile della quale risulta esservi richiesta nel meridione.

6°) - I militari non idonei, aventi o no obblighi di servizio, dovranno essere inviati in convalescenziari.

7°) - I trasporti dalla nave al campo e dal campo in altre località saranno effettuati a cura della 52° Area.

8°) - Per l'inquadramento del personale alloggiato presso il campo sosta e contumacia codesto Comando dovrà impiegare il seguente personale da trarre da elementi disponibili in posto e per quello non disponibile da richiedere a questo Ministero:

1403

- 1 Colonnello;
- 4 Ufficiali superiori;
- 20 Ufficiali inferiori;
- 30 Sottufficiali e truppa, di cui 10 da impiegare esclusivamente per le operazioni matricolari.

Detto personale resterà in posto anche dopo il termine del NO

./.

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periodo contumaciale del primo scaglione in arrivo per attendere alle incombenze e predisposizioni dei successivi arrivi.

9°) - Per l'attrezzatura del campo predetto, in base alle direttive impartite dalla Direz. Gen. dei Servizi di Commissariato Militare, le Direzioni di Commissariato di Bari e di Catanzaro forniranno i materiali di casermaggio e quelli di servizio generale a mezzo previa autorizzazione ottenuta dalla A...I.A. direttamente da questo Ministero. (Pagliericci 3500 - coperte da campo 3500 - tazze di creta 3500 - cucchiai 3500 - marmitte da campo con coperchio 100 - mescoli 30 - coltelli da cucina 30 - schiumatoi 30 - coltelli a leva per scatolette 10).

Tutti i suddetti materiali costituiranno dotazione fissa del campo scuola e contumacia di Taranto.

10°) - Il fabbisogno di vestiario e calzature per i militari di cui trattasi sarà fornito dagli alleati che hanno già disposto per il relativo concentramento a Taranto.

11°) - Durante la permanenza nel campo scuola e contumacia verrà distribuita una speciale razione viveri denominata "30" che sarà simile a quella goduta dai nostri militari di truppa. Not So!

12°) - Dovrà essere predisposto per l'interrogatorio del personale in arrivo, particolareggiato per gli ufficiali e sottoufficiali e

1402

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le Direzioni di Commissariato di [illegible]
materiali di casermaggio e quelli di servizio generale e cucina pre=
via autorizzazione ottenuta dalla [illegible] direttamente da questo Mi=
nistero. (Paglericci 3500 - coperte da campo 3500 - tazze di creta
3500 - cucchiai 3500 - marmitte da campo con coperchio 100 - mescoli 30 -
coltelli da cucina 30 - schiumatoi 30 - coltelli a leva per scatolet=
te 10).

Tutti i suddetti materiali costituiranno dotazione fissa del cam=
po sosta e contumacia di Taranto.

10°) - Il fabbisogno di vestiario e calzature per i militari di cui
trattasi sarà fornito dagli alleati che hanno già disposto
per il relativo concentramento a Taranto.

11°) - Durante la permanenza nel campo sosta e contumacia verrà di=
stribuita una speciale razione viveri denominata "30" che sa=
rà simile a quella goduta dai nostri militari di truppa. Not So!

12°) - Dovrà essere predisposto per l'interrogatorio del personale in
arrivo, particolareggiato per gli ufficiali e sottufficiali e
sommario per la truppa.

1402

13°) - E' stato disposto perchè il S.I.M. invii presso il campo 12
ufficiali italiani e 2 alleati per particolare interrogatorio.

14°) - E' indispensabile provvedere che tutto il personale in arrivo,
fin dai primi giorni, sia soddisfatto di ogni assegno arretrato

./.

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

ad esso spettante.

Inoltre occorrerà che tutti gli arrivandi siano edotti di quanto stabilito a loro favore e delle disposizioni che li riguardano, in modo da metterli in condizione di conoscere tempestivamente le spettanze e relativi obblighi.

Raccomando che tutta l'organizzazione sia accuratamente predisposta d'accordo con gli enti allestti.

In modo del tutto particolare è indispensabile che il ricevimento a questi valorosi reduci dalla Balcania, che hanno più di tutti sofferto, sia caldo e cordiale e così pure per tutti gli scaglioni che dovranno arrivare.

Nel quadro delle provvidenze assistenziali si rende necessario che all'arrivo dei militari in questione sia stata promossa l'assistenza civile a mezzo patronesse per raccogliere oggetti di biancheria ed indumenti presso le famiglie abbienti locali.

Codesto Comando, in stretto collegamento col Comando 1° e 3° District e 52ª Area, mi tenga informato di tutte le difficoltà che potrebbero sorgere e per le quali occorresse l'intervento di questo Ministero.

Gradirò comunque essere informato (per telefono o telegrafo) del regolare svolgimento delle operazioni.

1401

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
(G. Ossola)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787020

ta le spettanze e [illegible]

Raccomando che tutta l'organizzazione sia accuratamente predisposta d'accordo con gli enti alleati.

In modo del tutto particolare è indispensabile che il ricevimento a questi valorosi reduci dalla Balcania, che hanno più di tutti sofferto, sia caldo e cordiale e così pure per tutti gli scaglioni che dovranno arrivare.

Nel quadro delle provvidenze assistenziali si rende necessario che all'arrivo dei militari in questione sia stata promossa l'assistenza civile a mezzo patronesse per raccogliere oggetti di biancheria ed indumenti presso le famiglie abbienti locali.

Codesto Comando, in stretto collegamento col Comando 1° e 3° District e 92° Area, mi tenga informato di tutte le difficoltà che potrebbero sorgere e per le quali occorresse l'intervento di questo Ministero.

Gradirò comunque essere informato (per telefono o telegrafo) del regolare svolgimento delle operazioni.

1401

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
(G. Grilla)

0878

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

Translation

Ref.no 15871/OP

Date 7 Nov. 44

From S.A.C.

to AFHQ.

76

Italian Soldiers in the Balkans.

I Refer to letter TS/G/31 dated 2 Nov 44 from AFHQ.

The arrival in the near future of 3/700 troops from Greece. is a step of major and Dynamic importance towards the solution of the problem of Military personnel recently in the BALKANS, and it gives a very good demonstration of the solicitude and Interest taken by the allied Authorities about such a difficult problem.

Please accept my deepest Gratitude and my many thanks for your precious communication.

MESSE.

Richmansfield =

1[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

48 48

STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

Ufficio Operazioni

P.M. 151, 7 Novembre 1944

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
- Sottocommissione per l'Esercito - M.M.I.A.-

TS/G/31 10 11

N° 15871 /Op. di prot.

O G G E T T O: Soldati italiani nelle regioni balcaniche.-

Italiani Balcani n. Balcani

76

Mi riferisco al foglio n. TS/G/31 in data 2 novembre di codesta Sottocommissione.

L'imminente arrivo in Patria dalla Grecia di 3.700 militari italiani, costituisce un decisivo passo verso la integrale soluzione dell'importante problema del ricupero dei militari italiani dai Balcani e dà la più chiara dimostrazione dell'alto interessamento e della sollecitudine posti dalle Autorità Alleate nel difficile compito.

Prego accogliere i sentimenti della mia gratitudine ed il mio vivo ringraziamento per la cortese comunicazione.

1394

76

Mi riferisco al foglio n. TS/G/31 in data 2 novembre di codesta Sottocommissione.

L'imminente arrivo in Patria dalla Grecia di 3.700 militari italiani, costituisce un decisivo passo verso la integrale soluzione dell'importante problema del ricupero dei militari italiani dai Balcani e dà la più chiara dimostrazione dell'alto interessamento e della sollecitudine posti dalle Autorità Alleate nel difficile compito.

Prego accogliere i sentimenti della mia gratitudine ed il mio vivo ringraziamento per la cortese comunicazione.

1393

IL MARESCIALLO D'ITALIA
CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE
(Giovanni Messe)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

0881

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

SECRET

TS/6/31 47
DMG/dfe

A/CC 091.711 8/11 7 November 1944

Subject: Proposals for Alleviating the Situation of Italian Forces in Yugoslavia

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512

Reference is made to memorandum, this Hq, dated 17 September 1944, reference A/CC 091.711, which was in compliance with your signal F-82845 of 11 August. It will be appreciated if an early reply can be given to this memorandum in order that details of the Italian Army mission to Yugoslavia, when approved, may be finalized as soon as possible.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

J. A. MAYLE
Major, R. A.
Staff Officer to A/CC

cc: Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA)
Political Section

1398

SECRET

0887

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

46

SUBJECT: GARIBALDI Division in MONTENEGRO.

Land Forces Sub-Commission A.F.
(M.M.I.A.)
TS/O/31
7 Nov 44

TO : AFHQ.

Copy to: Office of Chief of Staff
HQ Allied Commission.
Political Section, Allied Commission.

M. G. Allied Commission have instructed this Sub-Commission to refer to you the matter dealt with in attached letters, which are forwarded to you for such action as you consider necessary.

J.M.G. Lt-Col

Major General
M.M.I.A.

Enclosure (all addressees):
Report on the situation of GARIBALDI Division.
Italian War Ministry letter 6000 undated.
Land Forces Sub-Commission letter TS/O/31 of 1 Nov 44.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

SUBJECT: GARIBALDI Division in MONTENEGRO

Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.
(MMIA)
TS/G/31
7 Nov 44

Acting Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

Reference attached :-

1. H.E. Count CASATI (Minister of War) and MARIO PALERMO (Under-Secretary for War) have spoken to me of the pitiful condition of the soldiers of the GARIBALDI Division still fighting the Germans in MONTENEGRO. The rations are good but the clothing, blankets, tentage, etc is apparently bad.

2. (a) I explained to them that it is not within the powers or Charter of Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (MMIA) to deal with the matter of these soldiers.

(b) As you know, we are not permitted to provide them with rations, clothing etc. In fact, we have not enough clothing, tentage etc for the officially authorised Italian Army as it is.

3. Nevertheless, I sympathise with the Italian Ministry of War feelings, even though these soldiers should never have gone to MONTENEGRO. Moreover, politically, you will agree, there are advantages to the Allies from the post-war aspect in helping these unfortunates now, particularly as the M of W are so worried over the whole business.

4. As M.M.I.A. cannot supply the clothing, blankets and tentage asked for, perhaps these could be taken out of the allotment for GREECE or elsewhere.

5. I would suggest that you raise this matter at the Wednesday meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander to see what can be done.

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5. I would suggest that you raise this matter at the Wednesday meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander to see what can be done.

1396

I Browning
Major General

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

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

C O P Y

TRANSLATION

FROM: H. E. PALERMO

TO : Gen. BROWNING

Ref: 6000

Date: ?

Dear General:

Further to our conversation, I have the pleasure to enclose herewith report regarding the situation of the "GARIBALDI" Division and the measures which urgently need to be taken.

As I had occasion to inform you personally, the Italian Government cannot possibly remain indifferent to the fate of these brave men and is therefore determined to solve the problem somehow or other.

I will be very grateful if you will let me know as soon as you have any news on the subject and remain, with kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(s/d) MARIO PALERMO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

COPY

TRANSLATION

REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF THE "GARIBALDI" DIV

On the 8th of Sept 1943, at the time of the armistice, the "Venezia" and "Tourinense" divisions stationed in Montenegro, rather than yield to the German intimation, at once contacted the partisans under Marshall TITO, whom they joined a few days later in the war against the Germans.

Subsequently the two divisions were merged so as better to adapt themselves to the requirements of partisan warfare, thus creating the "Garibaldi" Div., under one HQ and comprising a number of brigades, two engineer bns. and one arty unit. The personnel surplus to this establishment went to form pioneer bns and to supply every type of specialist to the partisan units.

The two divisions, at first, and later the "Garibaldi" Div. and the pioneer bns acted and still act today in Montenegro under control of the Ital. Partisan Corps.

Officers and men returning from Montenegro during the past months have repeatedly reported on the very bad conditions prevailing among the units of the Div., particularly as regards clothing and equipment, and on the urgent need of taking steps to remedy the situation. In order to ascertain the truth I decided to go there myself and what I have seen is infinitely more serious than reports led one to expect.

From the day in which the units joined the partisans, all sea communication with Italy have been cut, and they have only received occasional supplies by air, when weather conditions and operational requirements permitted.

This scarcity of supplies has reduced the men to a state in which they cannot possibly survive the hardships of climate and operations.

In proof of this we have the losses suffered by the Div: The strength of 18,000 men at the time when the two divs. merged has been reduced to about 5,000 men. Of the remainder, excluding those killed in action and the few that have been repatriated, nearly all died of exposure and disease, specially typhus which, during last winter, alone carried off thousands of victims.

Today most of the men of the "Garibaldi" Div. have no blankets, no overcoat, no bivouac tents or ground sheets to protect them from the cold; they are nearly all in rags and with torn boots, lacking every means of replacing these things. All this I have personally checked having carried out a detailed inspection of all the units.

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Today most of the men of the "Garibaldi" Div. have no blankets, no overcoat, no bivouac tents or ground sheets to protect them from the cold; they are nearly all in rags and with torn boots, lacking every means of replacing these things. All this I have personally checked having carried out a detailed inspection of all the units.

If it is not to be that also the majority of these 5,000 survivors who even in this state continue to wage war against the Germans - shall perish from cold and disease during the winter which is now upon us adequate supplies of clothing and equipment must be sent urgently - as follows:

5,000 Complete sets of clothing	)	
5,000 Blankets	)	80 tons in total
5,000 Shelter halves	)	

These figures represent the essential minimum to clothe all the men of the Div. and make it possible for them to face the winter.

At NIKSIC I got into touch with Maj HIBD (?), head of the British mission to II Corps, who is only too well aware of the tragic situation of the Italian soldiers and of their needs. This officer mentioned the possibility of using Allied Naval Shipping for supplying the Garibaldi Div. and promised to do what he could. At the same time he laid stress on my making known on my return in Italy the urgent need for supplies in Montenegro.

139.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 781120

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

SECRET

TS/G/50
31
R 13
11

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

E-389.306/80-D Adv. 7 November 1944.

SUBJECT: GEORGE 70.

TO : G-2 (C.I.) Section, AFHQ. (2 copies).
S.I.L.O.
C.S.D.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).
G.S.I(b), S[illegible]. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.
O.C., 207 P.W. Cage.

12/14

1. Persons listed below were cleared through Security Control Bari on 7 Nov 44. They were brought from CORFU on L.C.T. 359.

a. 1 German deserter to #207 P.W.Cage.
b. 1 Greek (Partisan?) " " " "
c. 33 Italian Military " " " "
d. 92 Italian civilians (male) to 207 P.W.Cage.
e. 6 Italian Refugees to #1 Transit Camp.

2. Particulars of categories (a) (b) and (c) are supplied below.

HAENKER Ernst Ge. born VOSLAU 24.7.00
Was interpreter in German Armed Forces in CORFU. Deserted some time before landing of Allies.

IOTAKIS	Spiros	Gr.	born CORFU	17.10.25
PIRAINI	Angelo	It.	born CORFU	5.9.89
PIRAINI	Giuseppe	"	" "	13.7.30
INFANTE	Carlo	"	" "	27.9.90
INFANTE	Nicola	"	" "	23.6.32
ARLOTTI	Stefano	"	" "	15.4.92
ARLOTTI	Maria	"	" "	12.12.33

3. It is believed that the Greek IOTAKIS is a Partisan who has been sent over for medical treatment. 139

for S. S. HILL-DILLON,
Colonel, General Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

SECRET

0889

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

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

B-589.506/80-D Adv. 7 November 1944.

SUBJECT: GEORGE 70.

TO : Comando S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.
S.I.L.O.
#207 P.W. Cage.
C.S.D.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).

1. Thirty-three Italian Military and ninety-two Italian male civilians from CORFU have been delivered to #207 P.W. Cage on 7 Nov 44.

2. The Italian Military will be processed by the SIM/CSDIC Commission. SILO has agreed to screen the civilians who should be released, after SILO clearance has been obtained, to the Italian Ente Nazionale d'Assistenza at LECCE.

for S. S. HILL-DILLON,
Colonel, General Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

SECRET

0890

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

45

SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel: No. 478730

Ref: G262/23/G03

6 November 1944

SUBJECT: Removal of Italian Troops from Greece.

TS/G/71

TO : Allied Force Headquarters
APO 512

NT

7 11

1. I refer to your letter AG 091.711/065 GEG-O of 1 November 1944. With reference to paragraph 11, the operation is being handled by the Land Forces Sub-Commission of this Headquarters.

2. Two Staff Officers of the Land Forces Sub-Commission are responsible for the operation - Lt Colonel Ingleby for 'G' matters and Lt Colonel Hoakes for 'A' and 'Q' matters.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

DISTRIBUTION:

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5 - Q (Maint)
2 - Q (AE)
2 - Med (Br)
2 - III Corps
3 - No. 3 District
2 - CO Ship (thru M & Tn)
2 - AG Records
1 - AG M & D

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1 - Land Forces Sub Com.
1 - PW & DD Sub Com.
1 - Disper & Repat.
1 - Adj
1 - File

Ar SNO

1391

0891

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

4

18/5/31

MESSAGE FORM

FROM: HAIA

TO (FOR ACTION): S2 AREA

TO (FOR INFORMATION): DISTRIBUTE AS T, PROVIDE

REF. NO. AQ 2152

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION): SECRET

DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN
07

FOR HAIA LO (.) QUANTITY ARRIVING LIKELY TO BE ADDITIONAL 2000 (.)
ITAS PROVIDING HAVE MINIMUM SCALE ACCOMODATION STORES BUT DOCKYARD
IF CAN MANAGE ONE BLANKET PER PERSON (.) FOR PRISONS GROUPS FIVE (.)
REQU IF EARLIEST CONFIRMATION OF FIGS TOTAL ARRIVING

INTERNAL:
MEDICAL
S2
O

AUTHENTICATION:

1391

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

0892

SECRET

Reg 8/11

49

mor/S

C/267

NOVEIT, SEIA I.O. TARANTO, NOV TARANTO, DISTHREE, DISTHREE KATT, ALLIED COMMISSION

5/08

AFHQ SIGNED BACKED

22/8

IMMEDIATE

NOV 071820

CITE FHQ

SD

8 u

SECRET.

Advised by 3 Corps that they have despatched following Italians. (A) 250 in DAMFAITHFUL leaving RIBAMUS November 7th (B) 300 from KATAKOLON in 101 Sta TARANTO P.M. 8th or A.M. 9th November

NOTE. Reference number received corrupt. Check has been requested.

original Bror

AC DIST

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

SECRET.

Advised by 5 Corps that they have despatched following Italians. (A) 250 in SANFAITHFUL leaving MIRABUS November 7th (B) 500 from KATAKOLON in 101 Ata TARANTO P.M. 8th or A.M. 9th November

NOTE. Reference number received corrupt. Check has been requested.

original Bros

AC DIST

ACTION 1389 C (2)
INFO S/CC
CoS
C A SEC
DISPER & REF
PUB HEALTH
LAND FORCES TO
FILE

SECRET

NOV 080830

0896

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

SECRET

47

SUBJECT: Italian Forces in the BALKANS.

Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
AS/G/31
3 Nov 44

TO : Dq AC.

It would be appreciated if an early reply could be given to your A/C Sec.711 of 17 Sep 44 in order that details of the Italian army mission to YUGOSLAVIA, when approved, may be finalized as soon as possible.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

1385

0895

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

SECRET

D3140 83

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

B-389.306/SC-D Adv. 1 November 1944.

T4/C/31 D. 1

SUBJECT: GEORGE 85.

TO : G-2 (C.I.) Section, AFHQ. (2 copies).
S.I.L.O.
C.S.D.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).
G.H.I(b), SO(M).
S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.L.O.

37 Italian Military listed below were evacuated from Greece and arrived at BRINDISI on 30 Oct 44. They were all delivered to Campo Contumaccia Costa.

LETTIZIA	Nunzio
BENEDETTI	Alberto
PAVASOLI	Giuseppe
MOLARENI	Pasquale
BUSSOLINO	Rinaldo
TANZI	Nazzareno
MAZZONI	Giovanni
GENTILI	Giovanni
MORO	Gaspere
ORFICI	Pietro
PERTTI	Vitto
LORZI	Oswaldo
FRANZOST	Giovanni
PALLA	Augustino
SARTORE	Francesco
PETRELANA	Giglio
RAMIOLO	Vito
THEODORE	Elia
PELLEGRINI	Luigi
VILLA	Egidio
SPAGNOLO	Pasquale
DEL BARBA	Antonio
RILLO	Claudio
IVAN	Antonio
FAVATO	Domenico
CESELLINI	Pietro
CARONTE	Domenico
BELLUCCI	Angelo
MORONE	Domenico
CALAGIORI	Angelo
PONZO	Giuseppe
FIORENZATO	Romeo
MANDRO	Dino
GIANNARELLI	Rosario
ROSSI	Pio
PIRAS	Pietro
STACHO	Angelo

1387

for S. B. HILL-DILLON,
Colonel, General Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

SECRET

0896

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

SECRET

D3/400 83

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. G. of S., G-2
A.F.H.Q.

P-38V.306/80-D Adv. 1 November 1944.

SUBJECT: GREECE 62.

TO : G-2 (C.I.) Section, AFHQ. (2 copies).
S.I.L.O.
C.S.D.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).
G.S.I(b), SO(M).
S.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.I.O.

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BENEDETTI	Alberto
FAVAGOLI	Giuseppe
MOLAFERRI	Pasquale
BUSSOLINO	Rinaldo
TANZI	Razzareno
MAZZONI	Giovanni
CRETILI	Giovanni
BORO	Gaspere
GREFICI	Pietro
PRETTI	Vitto
LORZI	Oswaldo
FRANZOSI	Giovanni
PALLA	Augustino
PANTORE	Francesco
PETRELIANA	Giglio
BARIOLO	Vito
THEODORE	Elio
PELLEGRINI	Luigi
VILLA	Egidio
SPAGNOLO	Pasquale
DEL BANDA	Antonio
RILLO	Claudio
IVAN	Antonio
FAVATO	Domenico
GESELLINI	Pietro
CARONTE	Domenico
BELLUCCI	Angelo
MORONE	Domenico
CALLOTORI	Angelo
FORZO	Giuseppe
FIORENZATO	Romeo
BARDINO	Dino
GIANGANELLI	Rosario
ROSSI	Pio
PIRAS	Pietro
STAGNO	Angelo

1387

for S. S. HILL-DILLON,
Colonel, General Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

SECRET

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

Translation.

15/6/31

Left - 3 Days Leave
Later - 3rd Pers. etc.

78

From - War Office
To - Admiralty for information.

Subject - Italian Troops in Greece.

We are informed that all Personnel & Vessels of Italian Troops returned from Greek territory during forthcoming evacuation.

It is anticipated that the majority of these will be required to proceed to Italy for leave & refit, & that they will require accommodation for 20,000 men & 200 officers.

The Italian Consulate in Piraeus has received instructions to arrange for the reception of the above numbers, & has been asked to supply 200 tons of food a day obtained from the R.N. Stores.

In the food situation as it is at present, it is extremely unlikely that the Italians will be able to supply the whole of this food, & we look to the Admiralty to arrange for the replacement of the amount

Lieut. G.B. Edwards

Left Piraeus.

(1)

138.

No action - AFHQ informed
Ack position & we are repeating
as fast as we can.

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

BO

77

MINISTERO DELLA GVERRA

Gabinetto

Ufficio Reduci Erigionia Guerra

Prot. N° 400022/RFG Allegati

Roma, 3 novembre ~~Ottobre~~ 1944

Risposta al f. del

Div. Sez. N°

OGGETTO: Militari italiani in Grecia.-

759/31

4 11

Al " DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION"

= B A R I =

e, p.c.

All'"ALLIED COMMISSION" = R O M A =

ALLA M.M. I.A. = R O M A =

ALL'UFFICIO ALTO COMMISSARIO P.G. = R O M A =

****

Viene segnalato che a Patrasso stanno affluendo numerosi militari italiani datisi alla macchia durante il periodo di occupazione tedesca.-

Detti militari, di cui sinora solo 400 sono stati censiti ma che sembra ammontino a circa 1200, sono in deplorevoli condizioni in quanto vestono abiti ridotti a brandelli, sono pressochè senza scarpe, non dispongono di denaro e moltissimi sono affetti da malaria.-

Il reggente del R° consolato d'Italia a Patrasso si sta occupando dell'assistenza di detti militari ai quali è riuscito ad assicurare, sinora, l'alloggio in un locale di fortuna, un rancio caldo una volta al giorno ed una razione giornaliera di 200 gr. di pane concessa dal locale Comitato della Croce Rossa.

11 " DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION"

= B A R I =

e, p.c.

All'"ALLIED COMMISSION" = R O M A =
→ Alla R.M. I.A. = R O M A =

ALL'UFFICIO ALTO COMMISSARIO P.G. = R O M A =

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Poichè però la situazione alimentare del posto si va facendo sempre più grave la Croce Rossa Internazionale non è in grado di provvedere al sostentamento di tali militari, prego vivamente d'interessare le competenti autorità alleate perchè provvedano al rimpatrio dei militari in questione.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

G. Stefani

138

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

76

TOP SECRET

SUBJECT: Italian Soldiers in the BALKAN Regions

R 3/11

LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. T3/G/31
2 Nov 44

TO : H.E. THE MARSHAL OF ITALY
G. MESSE
STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

Ref your 15648 of 21 Oct 44.

I am instructed to state on behalf of the Allied Commission that the subject of the repatriation of Italian soldiers from the Balkans is being actively pursued by the Allies and to state that so far the following arrangements have been made.

(a) The S/S "ALKANTARA" containing the undermentioned

2 Allied Officers

4 Italian Medical Officers

10 Italian personnel for disenfestation

2 Italian interpreters

1 American interpreter

10 Italian Red Cross Nurses

departs from TARANTO 5 - 8 November for Greece to bring back 3,700 Italian personnel.

(b) The ship will contain medical supplies for 400 sick and 60 seriously ill.

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4 Italian Medical Officers

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10 Italian Red Cross Nurses

departs from TARANTO 5 - 8 November for Greece to bring back 3,700 Italian personnel.

(b) The ship will contain medical supplies for 400 sick and 80 seriously ill.

(c) The exact E.T.A. of this ship cannot be given but a probable date is 11 November.

(d) A temporary covered camp near TARANTO has been arranged and 3 District will provide lifting transportation from key-side to camp.

(e) While in the camp food will be supplied from local DID (scale 3C rations). A quantity of salvage clothing and Class IV boots will also be available.

(f) Personnel will remain in the camp for 21 days or such less period as the medical authorities shall advise.

1382

Major General
M. M. I. A.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

73

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT:- Repatriation of 900 Italians from CEFALLONIA

Military Mission Italian Army
R O M E
TS/C/31

31 Oct 44

MMIA LC 54 Area (2)

1. SMRE has been informed that the above 900 men are about to be repatriated. It is reported that these men formed part of the AC UI Division and fought against the Germans and alongside the Allies in the recapture of CEFALLONIA. They were allowed by the Allies to retain their arms temporarily. These arms will be taken off the men before they disembark at BARI, and will be returned to them after screening by SIM and Allied Int.

2. Please visit Comd 54 Area and inform him personally of the above facts, and ask him for a special effort on the Allies behalf in the way of reception arrangements for these tps. H£ Gen CAILLA, Under Sec of State for War, will be present at the keyside on behalf of the Italian Army and it is suggested that if Comd 54 Area would represent the Allies by meeting H£ Gen CAILLA and saying a few words of welcome to these tps, it would be more than appropriate.

In addition, anything that he can arrange in the way of hot meals, transportation from the dock to reception camp etc, will be much appreciated.

HC

Lieutenant Colonel,
General Staff.

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ABC

Lieutenant Colonel,
General Staff.

1393

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

72

SUBJECT: GARIBALDI Division in MONTENEGRO.

Land Forces Sub Commission, A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) TS/C/31
/ November 1944.

Reg'd

Acting Chief Commissioner,
Allied Commission.

Reference attached: -

1. H.E. Count CASATI (Minister of War) and MARIO PALERMO (Under-secretary for War) have spoken to me of the pitiful condition of the soldiers of the GARIBALDI Division still fighting the Germans in MONTENEGRO. The rations are good but the clothing, blankets, tentage, etc is apparently bad.

2. (a) I explained to them that it is not within the powers or Charter of Land Forces Sub Commission A.C.(MMIA) to deal with the matter of these soldiers.

(b) As you know, we are not permitted to provide them with rations, clothing etc. In fact, we have not enough clothing, tentage etc for the officially authorised Italian Army as it is.

3. Nevertheless, I sympathise with the Italian Ministry of War feelings, even though these soldiers should never have gone to MONTENEGRO. Moreover, politically, you will agree, there are advantages to the Allies from the post-war aspect in helping these unfortunates now, particularly as the M of W are so worried over the whole business.

4. As M.M.I.A. cannot supply the clothing, blankets and tentage asked for, perhaps these could be taken out of the allotment for GREECE or elsewhere.

5. I would suggest that you raise this matter at the Wednesday meeting of the Supreme Allied Commander to see what can be done.

136

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

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1382

L Browning

Major General.

tvs.LB.

NB. 2 copies sent to Acc, Ac

[illegible]

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

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

71

TRANSLATION

FROM: H.E. PALERMO Ref: 6000

TO : Gen. BROWNING Date: ?

Dear General:

Further to our conversation, I have the pleasure to enclose herewith report regarding the situation of the "GARIBALDI" Division and the measures which urgently need to be taken.

As I had occasion to inform you personally, the Italian Government cannot possibly remain indifferent to the fate of these brave men and is therefore determined to solve the problem somehow or other.

I will be very grateful if you will let me know as soon as you have any news on the subject and remain, with kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) MARIO PALERMO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

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TRANSLATION

REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF THE "GARIBALDI" DIV.

On the 8th of Sept ~~1943~~ 1943, at the time of the Armistice, the "Venezia" and "Taurinense" division, stationed in Montenegro, rather than yield to the German intimation, at once contacted the partisans under Marshall TITO, whom they joined a few days later in the war against the Germans.

Subsequently the two divisions were merged so as better to adapt themselves to the requirements of partisan warfare, thus creating the "Garibaldi" Div., under one HQ and comprising a number of brigades, two engineer Bns. and one Arty unit. The personnel surplus to this establishment went to form Pioneer Bns and to supply every type of specialist to the Partisan units.

The two divisions, at first, and later the "Garibaldi" Div. and the Pioneer Bns acted and still act today in Montenegro under control of the Ind. Partisan Corps.

Officers and men returning from Montenegro during the past months have repeatedly reported on the very bad conditions prevailing among the units of the Div., particularly as regards clothing and equipment, and on the urgent need of taking steps to remedy the situation. In order to ascertain the truth I decided to go there myself and what I have seen is infinitely more serious than reports led one to expect.

From the day in which the units joined the partisans, all sea communication with Italy have been cut, and they have only received occasional supplies by air, when weather conditions and operational requirements permitted.

This scarcity of supplies has reduced the men to a state in which they cannot possibly survive the hardships of climate and operations.

In proof of this we have the losses suffered by the Div: The strength of 18,000 men at the time when the two divs. merged has been reduced to about 5,000 men. Of the remainder, excluding those killed in action and the few that have been repatriated, nearly all died of exposure and disease, specially typhus which, during last winter, alone carried off thousands of victims.

Today most of the men of the "Garibaldi" Div. have no blankets, no overcoat, no ~~hamac~~ tents or ground sheets to protect them from the cold; they are nearly all in rags and with torn boots, lacking every means of replacing

more serious than reports had led us to expect.

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This scarcity of supplies has reduced the men to a state in which they cannot possibly survive the hardships of climate and operations.

In proof of this we have the losses suffered by the Div: The strength of 12,000 men at the time when the two divs. merged has been reduced to about 5,000 men. Of the remainder, excluding those killed in action and the few that have been repatriated, nearly all died of exposure and disease, specially typhus which, during last winter, alone carried off thousands of victims.

Today most of the men of the "Garibaldi" Div. have no blankets, no overcoat, no bivouac tents or ground sheets to protect them from the cold; they are nearly all in rags and with torn boots, lacking every means of replacing these things. All this I have personally checked having carried out a detailed inspection of all the units.

If it is not to be that also the majority of these 5,000 survivors - who even in this state continue to wage war against the Germans - shall perish from cold and disease during the winter which is now upon us adequate supplies of clothing and equipment must be sent urgently - as follows:

5,000 Complete sets of clothing	)	
5,000 Blankets	)	30 tons in total.
5,000 Shelter halves	)	

These figures represent the essential minimum to clothe all the men of the Div. and make it possible for them to face the winter.

At NIKSIC I got into touch with Maj RILEY (?), head of the British mission to II Corps, who is only too well aware of the tragic situation of the Italian soldiers and of their needs. This officer mentioned the possibility of using Allied Naval Shipping for supplying the Garibaldi Div. and promised to do what he could. At the same time he laid stress on my making known on my return in Italy the urgent need for supplies in Montenegro.

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

BO/t

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO PER LA GUERRA

N° 6000 di prot. P.M.151, ottobre 1944

Caro Generale,

facendo seguito al nostro colloquio le invio l'unito promemoria relativo alla situazione della divisione "Garibaldi" e ai provvedimenti che è urgente prendere. Mi riservo di inviarle, fra breve numerose fotografie che documentano eloquentemente la realtà.

Come già ebbi occasione di dirle a voce, il Governo Italiano non può assolutamente disinteressarsi della sorte di questi eroici soldati, ed è perciò deciso a risolvere il problema in qualsiasi modo.

Le sarò grato se mi farà avere appena possibile qualche notizia in merito e la prego di gradire l'espressione del mio più cordiale saluto

Mario Palermo

Al Signor Generale
B R O W N I N G
Capo della Sottocommissione Esercito
della Commissione Alleata
S E D E

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

BO/t

A Niksić ho preso contatto anche col maggiore RIED - capo della missione inglese di collegamento col II Korpus - il quale, perfettamente al corrente della situazione tragica dei soldati italiani e delle loro necessità, mi ha prospettato la possibilità di servirsi, per i rifornimenti alla "Garibaldi", anche di mezzi navali alleati e mi ha assicurato il suo interessamento, raccomandandomi anche di far presenti in Italia le urgenti necessità di rifornimenti per il Montenegro.-

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BO/t

RAPPORTO SULLA SITUAZIONE DELLA DIVISIONE "GARIBALDI"

L'8 settembre 1943, all'atto dell'armistizio le divisioni "Venezia" e "Taurinense" dislocate in Montenegro, anzichè cedere alle intimazioni tedesche presero subito contatto con i partigiani del maresciallo TITO, ai quali dopo pochi giorni di affiancavano nella lotta contro i tedeschi.

Successivamente le due divisioni, per meglio adeguare le proprie formazioni organiche alla necessità della guerra partigiana, si fusero dando vita alla divisione "Garibaldi", costituita su un comando, un numero vario di brigate, due battaglioni genio e un reparto artiglieria. Il personale esuberante a tali formazioni venne impiegato per la costituzione di battaglioni lavoratori e per fornire specializzati di ogni genere alle unità partigiane.

Le due divisioni prima, e successivamente la divisione "Garibaldi" ed i battaglioni lavoratori, agirono ed agiscono tuttora in Montenegro alle dipendenze del II Korpus partigiano.

- - - - - - - -

Ripetutamente in passato ufficiali e soldati rientrati dal Montenegro avevano segnalato le pessime condizioni in cui si trovavano i reparti della divisione, specialmente dal punto di vista del vestiario ed equipaggiamento e la necessità di urgenti provve-

Successivamente le due divisioni, per meglio adeguare le proprie formazioni organiche alla necessità della guerra partigiana, si fusero dando vita alla divisione "Garibaldi", costituita su un comando, un numero vario di brigate, due battaglioni genio e un reparto artiglieria. Il personale esuberante a tali formazioni venne impiegato per la costituzione di battaglioni lavoratori e per fornire specializzati di ogni genere alle unità partigiane.

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- - - - - - - -

Ripetutamente in passato ufficiali e soldati rientrati dal Montenegro avevano segnalato le pessime condizioni in cui si trovavano i reparti della divisione, specialmente dal punto di vista del vestiario ed equipaggiamento e la necessità di urgenti provvedimenti al riguardo. Appunto per accertare la reale situazione ho voluto recarmi sul posto e ciò che ho constatato è assai più grave di quanto si può desumere dalle relazioni dei reduci.

Dal giorno in cui i reparti si affiancarono ai partigiani, interrotte tutte le comunicazioni via mare con l'Italia, essi non ricevettero altro che saltuari rifornimenti via aerea, quando le condizioni meteorologiche e la situazione operativa lo consentiro-

./.

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no.

Questa scarsezza di rifornimenti ha portato perciò i soldati in condizioni di non poter assolutamente sostenere i disagi dovuti al clima ed alle operazioni.

A dimostrazione di ciò sta il numero delle perdite che la divisione ha sopportato: da una forza di circa 18.000 uomini all'atto della fusione della "Venezia" con la "Taurinense" si è scesi ora ad una forza di circa 5.000 uomini. Dei rimanenti detratti i morti in combattimento ed una piccola aliquota di rimpatriati, la maggior parte è morta di consunzione e di malattie, specialmente di tifo petecchiale che nell'inverno scorso ha, da solo, mietuto migliaia di vittime.

Oggi la maggior parte dei soldati della "Garibaldi" non ha coperta, non ha pastrano, non ha telo da tenda con cui ripararsi dal freddo; quasi tutti sono laceri all'uniforme e con le scarpe rotte e senza alcuna possibilità di provvedere. Tutto ciò io ho constatato personalmente in una visita minuziosa a tutti i reparti della divisione.

Se non si vuole che la maggior parte anche di questi 5.000 superstiti - che pure in tali condizioni continuano a combattere contro i tedeschi - perisca di freddo e di malattia nell'inverno che è ormai alle porte, è urgente inviare adeguati rifornimenti di oggetti di vestiario ed equipaggiamento e precisamente:

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Se non si vuole che la maggior parte anche di questi 5.000 superstiti - che pure in tali condizioni continuano a combattere contro i tedeschi - perisca di freddo e di malattia nell'inverno che è ormai alle porte, è urgente inviare adeguati rifornimenti di oggetti di vestiario ed equipaggiamento e precisamente:

- 5.000 corredi completi
- 5.000 coperte
- 3.000 teli da tenda

} per un completto di 50 tonnellate.

1376

Queste cifre rappresentano il minimo indispensabile per vestire tutti i soldati della divisione e metterli in condizione di affrontare l'inverno.-

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0915

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

62

SUBJECT: Supplies to "GARIBALDI" Division

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
ROME
T3/G/31
Oct 44

TO : Hq Force 393, through G-3, A.F.H.Q.

1. Attached is a letter of appreciation from the Italian General Staff, Marshal G. MESSE, for the fine work you have been doing in getting supplies to the "GARIBALDI" Division.

2. This Hq is pleased to forward the letter of appreciation and also wishes to add its commendation for a difficult task being successfully accomplished.

For Major General
M.M.I.A.

1370

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RESTRICTED

SUBJECT:- Repatriation of Italian Military from ROUMANIA.

Military Mission
Italian Army
R O M E
TS/C/31
24 Oct 44.

To : War Ministry.

Ref your letter 302383/C.A. of 10 Oct 44.

1. This H.Q. is informed that the question of evacuation of various categories of personnel from ROUMANIA was discussed at a meeting of the Political Committee at AFHQ on 11 Oct 44. The Supreme Allied Commander approved in principle a procedure for such evacuation, involving submission of request by or on behalf of the applicant to the Allied Control Commision in BUCHAREST.

2. In accordance therewith, it is requested that you inform the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Italian Minister in BUCHAREST should make a formal request to the Allied Control Commission, ROUMANIA, for the repatriation of the 500 Italian soldiers.

Maj_or General,
M. M. I. A.

0917

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Cl

Ref. att.

1. Have Prof. [illegible] talk to [illegible] would be [illegible] know all [illegible] brought back [illegible] CANNOT [illegible] Cabs that [illegible] would be [illegible] of Army [illegible] Subcommittee [illegible] write Ch [illegible] support [illegible] of Chiefs & [illegible] agree [illegible] Cl

2. [illegible] quite agree.

Use draft on low priority

30 Oct.

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

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMO

Tel. 735

From: Office of Chief of Staff.

FILE No. 998/COS

SUBJECT: Supplies to "Garibaldi" Division

26 Oct 1944

TO: Army Sub-Commission.

1. Letter 15649/OP dated 21 Oct 44 from Operation Office, General Staff, is forwarded herewith.

2. Will you please convey the message of thanks from Marshal Messe to Force 399 through G-5 AFHQ.

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

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

G(ID) AKMM 761 SC

TRANSLATION

(From Liaison Section to A/CC)

T5/4131
Reg 23/10.

GENERAL STAFF
Operation Office

October 21st, 1944

To ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

File No. 15649/OP

SUBJECT: Supplies to "Garibaldi" Division

Through the periodical informations received from the Army Staff, I see with great satisfaction that all requests for food, arms and material which are forwarded from the Base HQ in Lecce in order to meet the needs of the "Garibaldi" Division, are always and quickly filled out by Force 399.

I beg the Allied Control Commission to transmit my grateful feelings to the aforesaid Force for its effective help in behalf of the Italian soldiers fighting in Yugoslavia.

THE GENERAL CHIEF OF STAFF
(Marshal F. Messe)

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5660

P.M. 151, 21 ottobre 1944

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE

Ufficio Operazioni

N. 15620 /OP. di prot.-

O G G E T T O : Rifornimenti alla Divisione "GARIBALDI".-

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

Dalle periodiche segnalazioni che mi pervengono dallo S.M.R.Esercito ho potuto con vivo compiacimento rilevare che le richieste di viveri, armi e materiali vari inoltrate dal Comando Base di Lecce per le necessità della Divisione "GARIBALDI", sono sempre e prontamente soddisfatte dal Force 399.

Prego codesta Commissione Alleata di volersi rendere interprete della gratitudine mia presso il suddetto Ente per l'opera fattiva che svolge in favore dei soldati italiani in terra jugoslava.-

IL MARESCIALLO D'ITALIA
CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE
(Giovanni Messe)

Dalle periodiche segnalazioni che mi pervengono dallo S.M.R.Esercito ho potuto con vivo compiacimento rilevare che le richieste di viveri, armi e materiali vari inoltrate dal Comando Base di Lecce per le necessità della Divisione "GARIBALDI", sono sempre e prontamente soddisfatte dal Force 399.

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IL MARESCIALLO D'ITALIA
CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE
(Giovanni Messe)

G. Messe

13[illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

0922

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

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S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
CMF
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref :

28 October 1944

SUBJECT : Italian Soldiers in the Balkan Region

TO : The Marshall of Italy
Chief of General Staff

Your letter No. 15648 of the 21 October 1944 is acknowledged and the contents noted. The whole question is under consideration and this HQ will get into touch with you again as soon as possible.

J.R. UTJOHN Brigadier
V.P. C.A. Sec
Dep. C. o. S.

JSR/tr

1369

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TOP SECRET

33

FLOAT

4.37/CA.

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10924

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMO

TOP SECRET

From: Office of the Chief of Staff.

Tel: 735

FILE No. 996/COS

26 Oct 1944.

SUBJECT: Transfer of File 8257/COS.

TO: DCOS, Civil Affairs Section.

1. Attached file 8257/COS subject "Repatriation of Italian Soldiers from Greece" is transferred to you in accordance with instructions of Chief of Staff at minute 25.

2. May it be noted please that action is required at folio 30.

1367

Chief Staff Officer,
to the Chief of Staff.

0925

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SECRET

TS/G/31

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

B-389.306/G0-2 Adv. 26 October 1944.

SUBJECT: JOHNNY 155.

TO : G-2 (C.I.) Section, AFHQ.
S.I.L.O.
C.S.E.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).
G.S.I(b), GG(M).
Rear HQ, 'A' Military Mission (2 copies).
Comando G.I.M. (2 copies).
M.M.I.A.

1. The following Italian Military personnel of Garibaldi Division were evacuated from Jugoslavia 25 Oct 44 and were screened and despatched to Campo Concentramento Bagni for processing by Commission.

a. 25 Italian officers.
b. 76 " other ranks.
c. 1 " civilian (military employee).

2. Nominal rolls are enclosed with this letter.

for S. S. HILL-DIXON,
Colonel, General Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

Encl.

SECRET

0926

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*)

List of Arrivals - Jonny 135.

A. ITALIAN OFFICERS (Garabaldi Division)

ACCORSINI	Alberto	2/Lt.	born	S.BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO	8.4.19
BARATTI	Enrico	Capt.	"	PESCHE	14.12.10
BARRA	Giacinto	"	"	MARGHERITA DI SAVOIA	11.9.09
BOCCARIA	Mario	Col.	"	TORINO	30.8.92
BODONI	Angelomillo	2/Lt.	"	FIRENZE	9.10.20
BIANCHI	Mario	Lt.	"	BUSANO(VENEZIA)	10.4.09
BONATI	Bruno	2/Lt.	"	GALLARATE	4.10.15
BOZZOLA	Ottorino	"	"	LUGNAGO (VERONA)	18.1.21
CARDAZZO	Lorenzo	Capt.	"	SACILE (UDINE)	17.11.03
CASTELLI	Antonio	2/Lt.	"	MONTEMILETTO (AVELLINO)	28.10.17
CASTELLI	Luigi	Lt.	"	PAVIA	10.8.15
DEGATO	Davide	---	"	VERZUOLO	10.4.22
FERRARO	Valentino	2/Lt.	"	ZIANELLA (VERONA)	29.8.05
FRANCHIFANE-DI-RECHLEONO	Angelo	Capt.	"	VICENZA	24.5.15
LEALI	Dario	"	"	VESTONE (BRESCIA)	7.6.12
LUCATTI	Oriano	2/Lt.	"	CROCETTO	5.3.21
MARIGO	Walter	Lt.	"	PADOVA	10.7.15
MARINO	Francesco	"	"	CIANCIANA (AGRIGENTO)	13.3.06
MENOCCI	Luciano	2/Lt.	"	FIRENZE	19.6.14
MASO	Vincenzo	"	"	TRAPANI	5.4.15
ROMEO	Vitaliano	Lt.	"	FIRENZE	7.8.15
ROSSI	Vittorio	"	"	FIRENZE	17.9.17
RUSSI	Annibale	2/Lt.	"	FAGANO (FRIULI)	7.4.13
SCUAZZINI	Giuseppe	Capt.	"	S.PIETRO MOSEZZO (NOVARA)	16.11.11
TORCHIO	Angelo	"	"	ROMA	31.7.09

The s/s 55 were sent to Campo Contumaccia Costa.

B. ITALIAN OFF. (Garabaldi Division)

ACCORNERO	Celmo	Pvt.	born	ASTI	21.9.11
ARRAIDO	Brelli	"	"	VERRUA	2.12.11
ARDITI	Giovanni	"	"	MACHIO	29.8.21
BACCHIORRI	Ugo	"	"	PERUGIA	1.6.11
BARBIERI	Luigi	"	"	PIANELLO V.T. (PIACENZA)	9.12.15
BARLATTI	Vincenzo	"	"	NOVENNO (NOVARA)	6.7.14
BERGAMINI	Pietro	"	"	BERGAMO	30.10.22
BESSON	Bartolomeo	"	"	ARGRADNA(TORINO)	17.8.07
BOCCELLA	Luigi	"	"	SALSA-IRPINA (AVELLINO)	16.8.14

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List of Arrivals - Johnny 155 Continued.

E. ITALIAN ORS. (Garibaldi Division) Cont'd.

NOSCOMPAGNI	Grade	Cpl.Maj.	born		
				CASTIGLION-FIORENTINO	15.8.10
FONTEZI	Luigi	Pvt.	"	UDINE(UDINE)	4.10.22
FUDINO	Renato	Cpl.	"	TORINO	22.10.21
FOSCOLO	Giuseppe	Pvt.	"	VENEZIA	1913
FRUGARII	Enrico	Cpl.	"	ARIENZO	1910
GALVETTO	Pasquale	Pvt.	"	PADERNO	9.4.17
GALVI	Leonardo	"	"	ANDRIA (BARI)	9.6.13
GAMARZI	Pietro	"	"	GUSSELINO(SAVENA)	20.12.11
GAMISASSA	Cesare	"	"	CARAGAGNA(GENOVA)	1.2.14
GAMPANELLI	Francesco	"	"	FIRENZE	1.7.20
GARLINI	Giovanni	"	"	RAMO ARIPOLI FIRENZE	28.3.13
GAUDULLO	Antonino	Cpl.	"	CATANIA	24.7.05
GHALLERI	Battista	"	"	USSEAUX	6.7.20
GINI	Bruno	Cpl.Maj.	"	FIRENZE CITTA	18.7.07
GIUFFRIDI	Fernando	Pvt.	"	CALVI (PERUGIA)	23.1.11
GLERICUZIO	Francesco	"	"	ARIANO-IRPINO	6.1.24
GOSENZA	Giuseppe	"	"	RAMO TORINESE (COSENZA)	28.10.19
GROLIMPO	Agostino	"	"	AVERO	2.2.19
D'AMICI	Giuseppe	"	"	SCIVENO	1906
LEONARDO	Pietro	"	"	PERUGIA	12.3.07
LEVIVO	Nicola	"	"	CASTIGLIONE	10.10.14
XXXXX					
LOLLINI	Silvio	Sgt.	"	BELLUNO	12.5.20
FALERONI	Oscar	Cpl.Maj.	"	FIRENZE SANTEZZE	20.4.14
FANETTI	Cesare	Sgt.	"	ROMA	30.4.15
FIORI	Giovanni	Pvt.	"	PIACENZA	5.12.10
FIORENTINI	Giovanni	"	"	TRADONZIO	9.8.12
FRANCHINI	Francesco	"	"	SCILZEBERTO	15.3.15
GALBERONI	Sergio	Cpl.	"	S.PIETRO IN CASALE	1.4.14
GARRONE	Dante	Pvt.	"	CHIAVARI	22.7.15
GARUSSIA	Carmelo	"	"	CATANIA	5.10.17
GIOGLI	Angelo	"	"	PERUGIA	24.6.21
GIANI	Costantino	"	"	CIELAGO	2.1.15
GUERRETTA	Dante	"	"	S.EUGENIO CALATA	1913
GRIFOLI	Vittorio	Cpl.	"	PIACENZA	14.6.12
LAURIA	Rocco	Pvt.	"	FONTANALLA (POTENZA)	25.5.23
			"	MILANO	26.8.18
LENZI	Aurlo	Sgt.	"	PESCARA	25.2.16
LONGARDI	Valentino	"	"	S.GIOVANNI D'ASSO (SIENA)	14.11.[illegible]
MACHETTI	Arturo	---	"	GUARDISTALLO(PISA)	26.8.12
			"	FIRENZE	13.11.20
MANETTI	Teobaldo	Sgt.	"	R.CALIA	23.7.07
MARTELLI	Garibaldo	Pvt.			
MARRUCCI	Giacomo	Cpl.			

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List of Arrivals - Johnny 135 Continued.

B. ITALIAN CREW. (Garibaldi Division) Cont'd.

MAZZEO	Luciano	Cpl.Maj.	born	S.AGATA DI PUGLIA	21.8.15
MERSI	Bartolomeo	Pvt.	"	POLLONE(VERCELLI)	2.11.21
MONTI	Albino	"	"	CAVIRATE VARESE	15.8.15
MORCONI	Bartolomeo	"	"	FARINI D'OLMO (PIACENZA)	16.8.11
PACCHIOTTI	Aldo	"	"	AVIGLIANA TORINO	24.2.15
PAPERO	Giuseppe	"	"	DRUENTA	25.8.20
PESCHIERA	Giovanni	"	"	PIACENZA	29.4.18
PELLEGRINO	Consolato	Sgt.	"	REGGIO CAL.	28.6.19
PIOVESAN	Andrea	Pvt.	"	MESTRE	17.12.21
PROCACCINI	Vincenzo	"	"	CAIANO(BENEVENTO)	9.5.13
PUNTA	Pietro	"	"	CRETALUPO LIGURE	13.6.14
RENATO	Remi	---	"	S.MINIATO (PISA)	27.4.01
RIZZI	Giuseppe	Sgt.	"	REGGIO CALABRIA	28.1.20
ROBERTO	Antonio	Pvt.	"	ROCCHETTA	5.3.23
ROSCIO	Pietro	"	"	CERESOLE REALE (AOSTA)	28.2.19
ROSELLINI	Lionello	Cpl.Maj.	"	CASTELLARE DI PESCIA (PISTOIA)	27.12.12
ROLLI	Guido	Sgt.Maj.	"	SCARA (NOVARA)	15.6.16
SILEO	Rocco	Cpl.	"	POTENZA	14.11.12
SIMONE	Vito	Pvt.	"	BISCEGLIE (BARI)	14.11.14
STAGI	Pietro	Sgt.	"	MONTE VARCHI	6.8.14
TERRIOLIO	Saggiore	Pvt.	"	SIENA	16.3.13
TORTORELLA	Sabino	"	"	GERACOLA	12.7.17
UBIARO	Angelo	"	"	OSTUNI (BRINDISI)	19.3.13
VANNUCCI	Giovanni	Cpl.	"	PORTOLE	18.4.04
VIGHI	Francesco	Pvt.	"	S.PIOMA GROLLETO	30.6.12
VITALE	Salvatore	Seaman.	"	CALATABIANO (CATANIA)	20.2.22

The aforementioned 76 were sent to Campo Contumacia Costa.

C. ITALIAN CIVILIAN (Attached to Garibaldi Division)

CANOVA	Giovanni	Civ.	"	TRECATE (NOVARA)	9.4.03

Sent to Campo Contumacia Costa.

1360

0929

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

TRANSLATION

Ref: 21527

Date: 25.10.44

FROM: MINISTRY OF WAR

TO : General BROWNING, GOC MMIA

SUBJECT: Clothing and equipment for "Garibaldi" Div.

The under-Secretary of State for War, H.E. PALERMO has informed me, on his return from an inspection tour of the "Garibaldi" Div. in the Balkans, that the troops of said Div. are in a pitiful state as regards clothing and equipment.

The men lack the most essential items while, on the other hand, their action in war subjects them to every hardship and discomfort and the approach of the winter season will make these conditions still more severe. They cannot rely on any help in this direction from the Yugoslav Patriots HQ since they also lack the necessary material.

As the Ministry cannot ignore the requirements of such troops whose action so greatly contributes to the National cause and to the Allied aims, I would request you to kindly examine with all good will the possibility of placing 5,000 complete kits and 3,000 shelter halves at the disposal of the Division. It would be advisable to supply British uniforms dyed green in order to be able to tell the troops of the division from the local inhabitants who are mostly dressed in Italian grey green uniforms obtained from stocks existing in the Italian clothing depots at the time of the Armistice.

I will be extremely grateful if you can grant my request and thank you in anticipation for your reply.

The Minister

(Sgd) A. CASATI

130

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

Ministero della Guerra
DIREZIONE GENERALE
DEI SERVIZI DI COMMISSARIATO MILITARE

Divis. Vest. Equipagg.
N. di Prot. 21527 di Sped.
Allegati

Roma, 31, 25 ottobre 1944 64

Al Signor Generale BROWNIG
Capo della M.M.I.A.
ROMA

Risposta al Foglio N.°
del

OGGETTO Oggetti di v.e. per militari della Divisione Garibaldi.

Il Sottosegretario alla Guerra S.E.Palermo, ritornato recentemente da una visita ispettiva alla Divisione Garibaldi in Balcania, mi ha riferito circa le misere condizioni in cui si trovano le truppe della Divisione stessa per la mancanza di oggetti di vestiario ed equipaggiamento.

Trattasi di uomini sprovvisti dei più indispensabili indumenti, mentre, per contro, la loro attività di guerra richiede da essi disagi e fatiche di ogni genere, destinati per giunta ad aggravarsi con l'imminente stagione invernale. Nè possono appoggiarsi in alcun modo ai Comandi dei patrioti Jugoslavi con i quali collaborano, in quanto questi sono privi del necessario materiale.

Non potendo il Ministero della Guerra restare insensibile di fronte alle necessità di tali truppe, la cui opera tanto giova alla Causa Nazionale ed a quella generale promossa dagli Alleati, rivolgo preghiera alla S.V. affinchè voglia esaminare con ogni

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Non potendo il Ministero della Guerra restare insensibile di fronte alle necessità di tali truppe, la cui opera tanto giova alla Causa Nazionale ed a quella generale promossa dagli Alleati, rivolgo preghiera alla S.V. affinchè voglia esaminare con ogni benevolenza la possibilità di mettere a disposizione per la sud= detta Divisione n.5.000 serie complete di vestiario-equipaggia= mento e n.3.000 teli da tenda. Le serie c.s. preferibilmente dovrebbero essere costituite da indumenti di provenienza inglese tinti in verde, al fine di poter distinguere le truppe della Divisione dagli abitanti della zona, i quali indossano, per la maggior parte, le divise di panno g.v. provenienti dai magazzini

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789120

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

italiani esistenti in posto all'atto dell'armistizio.

Sarò molto grato alla S.V. se vorrà aderire alla richiesta, fornendomi un cortese cenno di risposta.

IL MINISTRO

Alessandro Casati

0933

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

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF

Office of the Chief of Staff

24 October 1944.

Ref/8257/24/CCS.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Soldiers from Greece.

TO : G - 5 Section, A.C.H.Q.

1. I have had no reply to my 8257/8/CCS of October 7th but on 12th October received a signal from Force 140 asking me in conjunction with the Italian Army to receive 1000 Troops ex Kefallinia and Zante. Arrangements have been made to do this by my Displaced Persons Sub-Commission. I have since been told verbally that these and other soldiers from Greece and Albania are to be regarded as Displaced Persons and that arrangements must be made by that Sub-Commission to receive them.

2. I should like confirmation of this ruling. I understand that you will arrange for Allied Troops with transport to help.

3. You will have seen from my letter of October 15th the concern felt by the Italian Army over the fate of these men and I trust that while technically they may have to be regarded as Displaced Persons or Refugees everything will be done to enable the Italian Army to play its proper part in helping their more unfortunate comrades.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner.

M.S. Lush

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Copy to : Army Sub-Commission
Civil Affairs Section.

0934

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

655

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CELH/RP-S/jjjr

G-5: 014.33-S

22 October 1944

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military from Roumania.

TO : Military Mission, Italian Army, Rome

1. Reference your TS/G/31 of 13 Oct 44 enclosing a copy of translation of Italian War Ministry letter 302383/C.A. dated 10 Oct. 44.

2. The question of evacuation of various categories of personnel from Roumania was discussed at the meeting of the Political Committee at this Headquarters on 11 October 1944. The Supreme Allied Commander approved in principle a procedure for such evacuation, involving submission of request by or on behalf of the applicant to the Allied Control Commission in Bucharest.

3. In accordance therewith, it is therefore appropriate that you inform the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Italian Minister in Bucharest should make a formal request to the Allied Control Commission, Roumania, for the evacuation of the Italian soldiers.

C. E. Lewin-Harris

C. E. LEWIN-HARRIS
Colonel
Deputy Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5

13[illegible]

0935

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

SECRET

54

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Forward Counter Intelligence
Office of the A. C. of S., G-2
C.M.F.

F2/G/31
24/10

B-369.506/80 Adv. 22 October 1944. Reg 26/10.

SUBJECT: Screening of Italian Military.

TO : G-2 C.I. (iii) Section, AFHQ.
HQ, #3 District.
S.I.L.O.
C.S.L.I.C. (Sub-Centre East).
M.M.I.A., CMF.

1. Further to recent discussions on the establishment of screening panels to interrogate and dispose of Italian Military evacuated from the Balkans.

2. Arrangements have now been made with the Italian Authorities at Campo Contumaccia Costa for the accomodation of the smaller bodies of Italians arriving in the Controls. Capacity of the camp is a maximim of 1500 per month allowing for the 15 day quarantine period. Physical protection of the camp seems quite adequate and extra guards are being provided.

3. Commission #1 started operations at #207 P.W. Cage on 20 Oct 44 and carried out 101 Interrogations all of which were judged non-collaborationist.

4. Preliminary figures indicate that approximately 7500 subjects per month can be dealt with but this figure may be increased if large numbers of Allied co-operators are received.

for S. S. HILL-DILLON,
Colonel, General Staff,
G-2 (C.I.) Section.

1378

SECRET

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

TS 6/31 Rev 11

~~29~~

T R A N S L A T I O N

(from Liaison Section to A/CC)

Seen by GI

GENERAL STAFF
Operation Office

October 21st, 1944

To ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

File No. 15648

SUBJECT: Italian soldiers in the Balkan region

Reference to note No. 15536/Op dated October 12th.

Col. Palmer, Chief of the British Mission to the Albanian Partisan General Staff, has authorized Capt. Capeccioni, P.A. of General Piccini, to come back to Italy to report on the situation of Italian military personnel in that country.

The coastal points held by the Allies can be reached only after a 10 and even a 15 days walk; this is a serious difficulty hindering the afflux of our soldiers to those points, as during such period they cannot supply themselves on the road with the necessary food.

I do not believe it is possible to form, within a short time, some supply posts at intermediate points on the routes.

However I believe that the above mentioned difficulty might be overcome with the intervention of the Allied Authorities in Albania, to obtain that Partisan HQ should issue to C.O. of military formations and town chiefs dispositions to the effect:

1 - Italian soldiers, wherever they are, should as soon as possible be gathered and sent to the embarkation points;

2 - Albanians, even civilians, should supply said soldiers with sufficient food, either when leaving or along the road.

All food supplies could eventually be repaid by the Allied Authorities, either with rations or indemnity, similarly to what has been effected in Greece.

I hope that the present proposals, only aiming to bring [illegible] to the solution of the important problem of

1357

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2 - Albanians, even civilians, should supply said soldiers with sufficient food, either when leaving or along the road.

All food supplies could eventually be repaid by the Allied Authorities, either with rations or indemnity, similarly to what has been effected in Greece.

I hope that the present proposals, only aiming to give my contribution to the solution of the important problem of repatriation of Italian soldiers from the Balkan area - a problem met by the Allies with so great attention - will be taken into account by you.

THE CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF

(Marshal G. Messe)

1352

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 781120

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

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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787020

Ministero delle Corporazioni

N. _____

Risposta alla lettera

del _____

Div. _____ *Sez.* _____ *N.* _____

OGGETTO

Roma, _____

Allegati N. _____

Riprodurre il _____

0941

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

Allegati N.

Riprodurre il

Indirizzo

Minutata da

copiata da

Poligrafica - Ord. 806 (250.000) 1941 - XX - 806

0942

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

TS/9/31 59
BALKANS
R 9 23/10. 53

MESSAGE FORM

Date-Time of Origin
21 A

FROM (A) MMIA

TO (FOR ACTION) 54 AREA

(REF. No.) AQ 2054

RESTRICTED

58

FOR MMIA LO (.) PAREN ROMK AREA _____ PAREN (.)
REFER FS18/171000 (.) PARAS THREE AND FOUR NOT UNDERSTOOD (.)
WHICH P W IN CAMPO SOSPA DRAW ITI MILITARY RATIONS QUERY (.)
SECRET CASES IN PARA FOUR ARE NOT ITI MILITARY COMMITMENT
FOR RATIONS AND CLOTHING

PRECEDENCE _____

AUTHENTICATION E T Norman LO

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

RAAC MESSAGE FORM

TS/0/51

Regd 10.

5

From MMIA LO 54 Area 171000A

To MMIA DISTHREE DISTHREE EAST 54 AREA 52 AREA
MMIA LO 52 AREA PBS FOR MMIA LO FWD CI CSDIC FOTALI
FREEDOM

Ref FS/18 SECRET

Confirming procedure to be adopted with all Italian military arriving mainland ex BALKANS

1. Arrivals BARI. Large batches GRUMO POW cage small batches to CAMPO SOSTA CONTUMACE. Arrivals TARANTO POW cage TARANTO.

2. All rpt all to be treated as POW on arrival unitl cleared by ITALIAN ARMY Commission consisting of 1 Colonel 6 Lieut Colonels various junior ranks and necessary staff chosen by SIM (?OIM?) with approval forward CI. Commission will operate all camps.

3. Rations in POW camps ex BRITISH sources at CAMPO SOSTA ex ITALIAN military or civilian sources.

4. After screening by commission secret cases pass to Italian Mil authorities. Volunteers for GRUPPI clothed and fed Italian Mil rations.

NDP 27/10

1354

0940

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF
Office of the Chief of Staff
++++++++++++++++++++++++++

Ref: 8257/20/008. 16 October 1944.

SUBJECT: Italian Soldiers in the Balkans.

TO : The Marshal of Italy,
Chief of General Staff.

1. I have received your letter of 12 October 1944, reference No.15536.

2. This question is being very carefully considered and I will be writing to you again at an early date.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner.

(Sgd) H.S.Lush.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

0943

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CMF
Office of the Chief of Staff

16th October, 1944

Ref 8257/21/COS.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Soldiers.

TO : G-5 Section, A.F.H.Q.

I inclose a copy of a letter from General Messe for your consideration in connection with my 8257/8/COS of the 7th of October.

For Acting Chief Commissioner.

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

Incl. 1

Copy to: ARMY SUB-COMMISSION, ACC.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

Mr.

50

GENERAL STAFF

II Reparto - UFF. Operazioni

P.M. 151, 12 Oct. 1944

N. 15556

TO THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Italian soldiers in the Balkans

The Allied Commission knows that the problems relative to Italian soldiers in the Balkans have always been a subject of constant concern for my General Staff, and its depending Staffs.

The news which continually reach the General Staff confirm that the situation of the Italians in these regions, especially in Greece and Albania, is more critical and more serious than ever.

The lack of foodstuffs and medicines, the insufficient clothing, the hard work that these men have to do, the inhuman way in which they are generally treated by the population and by the local military commands themselves, cannot but bring about worse living conditions during the forthcoming winter, and above all new victims.

The situation of Italian soldiers in the Balkans can be summed up as follows:

Yugoslavia: The 'Garibaldi' Division is the sole organically constituted unit, grouping the greatest number of our soldiers and representing at the present moment the center of attraction for the numerous disbanded soldiers that are now to be found in Yugoslavia.

In the assistance field, a step forward has been made; the common efforts and the difficulties already overcome in order to make it possible for the supplies to reach Montenegro have brought about an improvement in the material conditions of the division. The transport to Italy of a conspicuous part of the personnel including wounded and sick has considerably contributed to improve the logistic situation and above all the movement possibilities of the Division. News of recent fighting sustained by the units of the 'Garibaldi' Division show that their behaviour has been excellent under all aspects.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789120

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Thousands of soldiers employed in fighting or in labour are still dispersed among the various partisan units; others are working with civilians. All of them and especially the latter have had to endure, unfortunately, ill treatments and acts of violence, which have reached their climax with a summary execution of some of our officers, among whom Lt. Colonel Stuparelli, former Chief of Staff of 'Venezia' Division.

Furthermore Italian soldiers escaping from German concentration camps are being collected by partisan Headquarters in imprisonment camps (one of them is on the island of Visevo) and the treatment they have to bear is extremely hard and inhuman.

I deem it my duty to denounce the above serious events, and demand the high intervention of A.C.C. in order to prevent partisan organization from committing actions contrary to the rules of right and civil conduct.

I beg to ask that as winter approaches, the repatriation by sea or by air of Italian troops from Yugoslavia should be intensified as much as possible; and that Italian officers should be allowed to reach Marshal Tito's H.Q. without delay, as this is indispensable for the further improvement in the situationof our troops in Yugoslavia.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

Greece- Albania: Several parties are operating with communists (E.A.M. - E.L.A.S.) and nationalist bands. The majority of these, previously disarmed by the partisans, is working with peasants families and has to put up with the humblest works. For these,soldiers, in particular, the situation is extremely painful, owing to the bad way they are treated. The native peasants consider them as cattle, and this in spite of the well known allotments made by the British Authorities to the peasants for the keeping of these Italians.

Insufficient food, lack of clothing and medicines are likely to leave them very few hopes to survive through the winter.

I understand that at present over twenty five thousand Italian military are living in those countries. A large group of roughly seven thousand five hundred men, mostly from 'Pinerolo' division is located in Thessaly, (Karditsa); a few thousand are dispersed in Morea.

The number of repatriations has been fixed by the Allied Authorities at 500 men each month.

For reasons depending from the operations, and also because of the difficulties of the surroundings, and the opposition manifested by the partisans about the repatriation of Italian soldiers, it has not been possible to increase the number of the repatriation missions.

The important Anglo-American landing operations which are now taking place in Albania and Greece have entirely modified the situation of these regions. Today, the Allies have the possibility of helping these courageous Italian soldiers, and rewarding by a well deserved repatriation the heavy sacrifices they made to be true to their oath.

I think that this is the only effective way of saving the life of the Italian soldiers in the Balkans.

I trust that the following proposals meaning to solve without delay the important problem of repatriation, will be supported by the Allied Commission:

12-9

- Collect through the Allied Missions which are on the spot the Italian soldiers disbanded in Greece, Albania, Yugoslavia, concentrating them in determined embarking ports;

- Authorize Italian officers to be sent to the said ports and attached to the Allied Missions to facilitate the work of the said Missions;

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- Authorize Italian officers to be sent to the said ports and attached to the Allied Missions to facilitate the work of the said Missions;

- Authorize if possible the use of the naval means of the Italian R. Navy;

- Give precise instructions to the Heads of the Allied Missions in the Balkans to make the most of every means directed to an Italian port for the transportation of Italian soldiers;

- Let the partisan Authorities know - through the Allied Missions - that the Italian Government will appreciate everything they will be able to do for the repatriation of its sons;

- Authorize officially General Piccini, ex-commander of the 'Firenze' Division and highest ranking Italian officer now in Albania, to negotiate with the Allied Missions in this region, the questions concerning those of our soldiers who are still there.

If this authorization is granted it ought to be brought to the knowledge of the local Authorities.

THE MARSHAL OF ITALY
CHIEF OF STAFF
(Giovanni Messe)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

0950

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

Army Form C2139
(Paul: of 100.)

MESSAGE FORM

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS		No. of Groups	Serial No. / Office Date St.
	IN	GR.	
	OUT	T&/G	2148 Aug 17 To.

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO MMIA Info. FOTALI 52 AREA THREEDISTRICT LOT

FROM MMIA LO 54 AREA | Originator's Number FS 172 | Date 16 | In Reply to Number

SECRET ⊙	52 AREA	MOVE	1000	ITIS	ex
BALKAN	to	BARI	has	been	cancelled
by	C.in.C				

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means (CRYPT / WIRELESS).

This message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands.

Originator's instructions. Degree of priority: IMPORTANT

Time of Origin 1125 16/8

(BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

T.H.I.

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender

13 D.O.R.

* Originator may delete "Secret" and insert "Including."

(GV148) Wt. 8378/604 300M Pads. 5/42. B. & S. Ltd

0951

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

SECRET

8148

USAR MACRIS RPTD BALKAN AIR FORCE LBA AAI MIDEAST SOMTO ACC DISTWO

AFHQ SIGNED SACSEU

FX 39089

OUT 15/1FT

ROUTINE

CITE: FHOT

SECRET. Ref our FX 24565 of 13th September and rear MACRIS CO/460 of 12th Oct not to all. W.E. for BRITISH military mission to YUGO SLAV army national liberation NA/318/1 designate mission as "B" military mission. Our FX 24565 is therefore rescinded and mission will until further notice be known as "B" military mission

ACC DIST

INFO-ACTION : PR ER (2)

INFO : CAS SEC
MMIA
DISPER & RSP SEC
CA SEC
A/CC
RCON SEC
FILE

SECRET

OCTOBER 16/0950

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

0953

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

1336

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

OF SECRET

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Soldiers from GREECE

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
File No. 75/0/31
15 Oct 44

Reg 29/10.

TO : MMIA TO 54 AREA

Copy to: AFB
ARI
3 DISTRICT
EASTERN Det. 3 Dist.
DISPLACED PERSONS SUB-COMMISSION ACC
WAR MINISTRY

1. This confirms phone conversation BAUMANN/MURCELL of today.

2. On arrival in ITALY, all personnel repatriated from the BALKANS will be considered as civilians.

3. The arrangements made in respect of the 1,000 men arriving BARI within the next few days are as follows:

(a) They will be met at the Rockside by reps of Italian Army (orders already given by War Ministry to H. P. & L.)

(b) They will be transported from port to No. 1 Transit Camp (Refugee) BARI in vehs to be provided by 54 Area (This to be arranged by you)

(c) No. 1 Transit Camp operated by Dis Per Sub-Com will disinfect, inoculate and feed while the men are being passed through the camp. This operation will take 24 - 28 hours.

(d) Concurrently (as the men are passed to the "Clean" part of the camp) a screening and med. det provided by H. P. & L. (already ordered by War Ministry) will sort the men into three categories:

(i) Men fit and willing to fight.

(ii) Men not fit or willing to fight, but well enough to go home.

1315

(a) They will be met at the dockside by reps of Italian Army (orders already given by War Ministry to HQ P & L)

(b) They will be transported from port to No. 1 Transit Camp (Refugee) [illegible] in vehs to be provided by 54 Area (This to be arranged by you)

(c) No. 1 Transit Camp operated by [illegible] Per Sub-Com will disinfect, inoculate and feed while the men are being passed through the camp. This operation will take 24 - 30 hours.

(d) Concurrently (as the men are passed to the "Clean" part of the camp) a screening and med. det provided by HQ P & L (already ordered by War Ministry) will sort the men into three categories:

1315

(i) Men fit and willing to fight.

(ii) Men not fit or willing to fight, but well enough to go home.

(iii) Hospital cases.

(e) Men in (d) (i) will be enrolled forthwith in the Italian Army in ITALY, (BR-ITI category) issued with one set clothing (minimum scale) and are entitled to army rations until they go on leave.

Men in (d) (ii) & (iii) will NOT receive army clothing or rations.

(f) Men in (d) (i) will be sent on leave with instructions to report direct to Rft Regt [illegible] on expiration of their leave. A nominal roll will be taken of all personnel issued with clothing, and a copy sent to this [illegible] for onward transmission to [illegible] Div.

(g) Accomodation for men in (d) (ii) & (iii) has been reserved by the War Ministry, either in former Army barracks or in former Army Hospitals. Their tpt from No. 1 Transit Camp to respective destination is the responsibility of 54 Area (This to be arranged by you). These men will not be issued Army rations.

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(h) The above details refer to the first batch of 1,000 - further arrangements will have to be made for subsequent repatriations.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

Internal: A/G
Spec Sec
ST

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

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

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13 OCT Recd

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13.5

Cffolkgill

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

SUBJECT: Evacuation of General PICCINI Gino

File D

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
C/26
11 Oct 44

Force 399

Ref your signal B8/TAC/HM/657 of 4 Oct 44.

Herewith, as requested, two copies of Italian War Ministry's instructions for Gen PICCINI to return to ITALY.

Maj Gen
M M I A

0960

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

BU/ac

MMIA File copy

MINISTERO GUERRA - Gabinetto	010
FORCE 399	
e.p.c. M.M.I.A. (ASC)	

RUBRICABINETTO NR. 02307 C.A. (.) SEGRETO (.) PER GENERALE PICCINI (.) VOSSIGNORIA EST AUTORIZZATA AD RIENTRIO (.) PER VIAGGIO PRENDERA' ACCORDI-CON MISSIONE ALLEATA (.) SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO GENERALE OXILIA

IN CHIARO	IN CIFRA	GRADO DI URGENZA IL PONTANTE
IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO (GEN. G.B. OXILIA)		

From War Ministry
To Force 399

For General PICCINI ① you are authorised to repatriate ① travelling arrangements to be made with Allied mission ① Undersecretary of State General OXILIA.

13

DJ

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

VE/vc

N.° 302368/C.A.

Ministero della Guerra

GABINETTO

File 6/26

P.M. 151, 10 ottobre 944

OGGETTO: Telegramma da inviare al Generale Piccini.

Al Maggiore BAUMAN - M. M. I. A. ROMA

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

Come da accordi verbali con S.E. OXILIA, si rimette in triplice copia il testo del telegramma N. 302367/ C.A. da inviare al Generale Piccini.

Si ringrazia.

IL CAPO UFFICIO
(Ten.Col.S.M. Millefiorini)

13'0

Al Maggiore BAUMAN - M. M. I. A. ROMA

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

Come da accordi verbali con S.E. OXILIA, si rimette in triplice copia il testo del telegramma N. 302367/ C.A. da inviare al Generale Piccini.

Si ringrazia.

IL CAPO UFFICIO
(Ten.Col.S.M. Millefiorini)

13.0

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

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

46

Translation

From: M of W.
To: M.M. 1A.

Ref: 302383/GA.
Date: 10.10.44.

Subject: Repatriation of It. Mil from Roumania

The Italian Minister in Bucarest reports that it is urgently necessary to repatriate about 500 faithful Italian Military who are still in Roumania, suggesting repatriation should be carried out by air.

On the other hand the American Mission in Bucarest has made a similar suggestion to AAI and it appears that the Italian Foreign Office has also approached the Sub-Commission concerned with a similar object in view.

I earnestly request you to kindly approach AAI in order that a satisfactory [illegible] may be arrived at.

On the other hand the American Mission in Bucarest has made a similar suggestion to AAI and it appears that the Italian Foreign Office has also approached the Sub Commission concerned with a similar object in view.

I earnestly request you to kindly approach AAI in order that a satisfactory solution, as above, may be arrived at.

(Sgd) Jen OXILIA. 1359

6 I Sir, Is it worth starting a yule on this pl?

ABC 12/10

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

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

N. 46

TU/ba.

Ministero della Guerra

GABINETTO

TS/G/31

11 10

N. 302383 /C.A.
318 II-2

P.M. 151, 10 ottobre 1944

OGGETTO: Rimpatrio militari italiani dalla Romania -

Repatriated Italian Military from Rumania

ALLA M.M.I.A

ROMA

R 94
10.

Il R.Ministro italiano a Bucarest segnala la necessità dell'urgente rimpatrio di circa 500 militari italiani fedeli dislocati in Romania indicando che il ritorno in Patria potrebbe essere effettuato per via aerea.

Per suo conto la missione americana a Bucarest ha interessato della questione il Comando A.A.I. e risulta che analoga richiesta è stata rivolta dal Ministero degli Esteri alla sottocommissione alleata interessata.

Prego vivamente codesta M.M.I.A. di voler interessare il Comando A.A.I. al fine di una soluzione della questione nel senso sopra prospettato.

1398

ALLA M.M.I.A

R O M A

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Prego vivamente codesta M.M.I.A. di voler interessare il Comando A.A.I. al fine di una soluzione della questione nel senso sopra prospettato.

1383

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO ALLA GUERRA
(Gen.C.A. G.Utili)

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

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

IMMEDIATE 60'H Cenney S/C

E 108

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : N100/11
Classification : TOP SECRET
Precedence : "OP"
From : AFHQ SIGNED WILSON
To : BAF info FOTALI 52 SUB AREA
FORCE 140 DISTRICT 3
MMIA

Date Time Rec'd : Too
Date Time Sent : 111300A
Reference NR : EX37193
Cite : FHGAB

MAAT ST/G
FILE REF 374/G/31
Dest Index 12 to 1

TOP SECRET© reference BAF 334 dated 8th Oct and 52 AREA 23002 dated 10th OCT© ITALIAN ARMY have agreed to accept in combat group personnel of GARIBALDI DIVISION EX BALKAN islands but screening is necessary before release© for present group DISTRICT 3 should make arrangements with ITALIAN COUNTER INTELLIGENCE (SIM) to screen© those who do do not (NOT) pass screening will be treated as P.O.W.© DISTRICT 3 see MMIA ST374/G/31 dated 6th Oct to AFHQ and to

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11 2023

0968

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

≡ 108

MSG Center No :
Classification :
Precedence :
From :
To :

Date | Time Rec'd :
Date | Time Sent :
Reference NR :
Cite :

— 2 —

for information procedure for release to

ITALIAN ARMY

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

47

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
DISPLACED PERSONS AND REPATRIATION SUB-COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

10 October, 1944.

SUBJECT: Arrival of Italians from Greece and the Balkans.

TO: No. 1. Transit Camp, Bari.

1. There is a liklihood of a certain number of Italians (possibly ex soldiers) arriving from Greece and the Balkans. Unless other authorities have arranged to deal with them, you will accept up to a maximum capacity (? 1,000 for each batch) in your camp, screen, feed ration scale 36, disinfest, vaccinate, innoculate for anti-typhus etc.

2. You should arrange with 54 Area or A.C.C. Bari, for an Italian Military Representative to identify and deal if possible with any Military personnel, otherwise they should be treated as refugees and handed over to the Italian Authorities for dispersal. The eventual number may reach 8,000.

3. It is essential that each batch should be cleared from your camp within 24 hours, or at the latest 48 hours.

C.B. FINELLY,
Colonel,
Director.

Copies to: No. 1. Sub Section Lecce.
A.C.C. Bari
54 Sub Area, C.M.F.
~~A.Cp. A. M.G. Section A.C.C.~~ (att. ~~Brigadier Lush~~)
Civil Affairs Section, A.C.C. - please pass to C. of S.

M.M.I.A.

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

TS/G/31 45

RR 10/10.

FROM (A) MMIA

TO (FOR ACTION) FREEDOM rptd DISTHREE EAST -

MMIA LO 54 AREA - MMIA LO 52 AREA

2000 Date-Time 10-10 25/ Origin A

(REF. NO.) AQ

(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION) CONFIDENTIAL

REFER FX36035 CITE FHGDQ DATED 8 OCTOBER (.) PAREN ROME AREA _____ PAREN (.) THIS PERSONNEL NOT YET EFFECTIVE MEMBERS OF ITALIAN ARMY UNTIL PROPERLY ENROLLED AND SO NOT COVERED BY AG 400/105 D-O OF 22 SEPTEMBER (.) WILL FEED FROM ITI-ITI DEPOTS AS UNDERSTAND QUANTITIES ISSUED WILL BE ADJUSTED FREEDOM ST, & MMIA

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATION

INTERNAL

"G"
ST
LABOUR

13

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

TRANSLATION

FROM: MINISTRY OF WAR — REF : 302110/C.A.

TO : MMIA — DATE: 7/10/44

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military from Greece and Albania.

1. As you are no doubt aware, after the events of Sept. 1943, about 10,000 Italian Troops, the majority belonging to the "PINEROLA" Div., refusing all further collaboration with the Germans in Greece, took to guerilla warfare against the invader in cooperation with the Greek forces.

2. These are men who have been faithful to their oath to keep in the Allied Cause by drawing off considerable enemy forces in the Balkan Theatre. They have well earned the return to their country. They obeyed their Commander's call and refused to lay down their arms at the time of the Armistice, choosing a hard and dangerous life, resisting violence and every form of pressure from the Germans. Far from Italy in particularly difficult times, after having exhausted their ammunition and having been drawn into the whirlpool of the civil war they lived precariously, suffering risks, hunger, cold, every form of hardship and even humiliations. Their conditions of life and their state of health are well described in the letter sent by the British H.Q. in Greece to the Inter Allied H.Q. at Caserta (apprx 1.). They are men who are naked and who will be, under present conditions, unable to survive another winter.

Another 10,000 Italian Troops are said to be at present under similar conditions in Albanian territory.

3. The present political and military conditions prevailing in Greek and Albanian territory urge me to suggest to you the need, confirmed by the British H.Q. in Greece, of repatriating these men in order to save them as soon as possible from forthcoming operations and the Civil War.

This would also be in accordance with the "PACT for the cooperation of Italian Armed Forces in Greece" (see folios 30 & 31) according to para 6 of which Inter Allied H.Q. undertook to send to Italy, as soon as the Military situation permitted, all Officers and OR's who wished to return.

I beg to call your attention to the moral and material

their ammunition and having been drawn into the whirlpool of the civil war they lived precariously, suffering risks, hunger, cold, every form of hardship and even humiliations. Their conditions of life and their state of health are well described in the letter sent by the British H.Q. in Greece to the Inter Allied H.Q. at Caserta (apprx 1.). They are men who are naked and who will be, under present conditions, unable to survive another winter.

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This would also be in accordance with the "PACT for the co-operation of Italian Armed Forces in Greece" (see folios 30 & 31) according to para 6 of which Inter Allied H.Q. undertook to send to Italy, as soon as the Military situation permitted, all Officers and OR's who wished to return.

4. I beg to call your attention to the morale and material value of such a measure and I feel confident that you will take an immediate decision. I would request that sufficient warning be given to us to organize all the machinery required to take care of the reception of these men in Italy.

The Minister

/S/ A. CASATI

Translation of Appx 2 + 3 to this letter are at Folios 30 + 31.

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

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

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DPR/18/GII (IT)

FREEDOM

ACC HQ
4679
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SECRET
IMMEDIATE
CA SECTION
10 12 OCT Recd

SECRET PD REFERENCE MESSAGE G PAREN O PAREN ONE FOUR SEVEN OF TWO OCT FROM FORCE ONE FOUR ZERO ADDRESSED MMIA COPY TO YOU PD DISPLACED PERSONS SUB COMMISSION CAN ASSIST RECEPTION PROVIDED SHIPPING ARRIVES BARI PD THEY HAVE NO FACILITIES FOR DEALING AT TARANTO OR BRINDISI AND IF THEY ARRIVE THERE CANNOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY PD ESSENTIAL THAT ALL BE FREE FROM INFECTION AND NUMBERS REQUIRING HOSPITALIZATION BE SIGNALLED PD THIS IS A TEMPORARY MEASURE AND I DO NOT WITHDRAW FROM POSITION TAKEN UP IN LETTER EIGHT TWO FIVE SEVEN SLANT EIGHT SLANT COS DATED ONE ZERO OCT PD NO MORE BEYOND THE ABOVE ONE ZERO ZERO ZERO CAN BE ACCEPTED BY DISPER PD MMIA WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY IN PRINCIPLE IF THEIR CHARTER IS EXTENDED TO PERMIT OF THEIR HANDLING THESE PD INSIST THAT AMPLE NOTICE OF ETA BE GIVEN IN ALL CASES PD PAREN TO FREEDOM FROM ACC HQ FOR CA SECTION CITE FOUR SIX SEVEN NINE PAREN

[illegible] AND I DO NOT WITHDRAW FROM POSITION TAKEN UP IN LETTER EIGHT TWO FIVE SEVEN SLANT EIGHT SLANT COS DATED ONE ZERO OCT PD NO MORE BEYOND THE ABOVE ONE ZERO ZERO ZERO CAN BE ACCEPTED BY [illegible] PD MNIA WILL ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY IN PRINCIPLE IF THEIR CHARTER IS EXTENDED TO PERMIT OF THEIR HANDLING THESE PD INSIST THAT AMPLE NOTICE OF ETA BE GIVEN IN ALL CASES PD PAREN TO FREEDOM FROM ACC RQ FOR CA SECTION CITE FOUR SIX SEVEN NINE PAREN

13[illegible]

Rep Greeto

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

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

M.M.I.A. SA
FILE REF. 12/G/31
Date Recd 7/10

TT/bm.

Ministero della Guerra

GABINETTO

N. 302110/C.A.
316-II-10

P.M. 1[illegible], 7 ottobre 1944

OGGETTO: Rimpatrio militari italiani dalla Grecia e dall'Albania-

All.2

ALLA M.M.I.A. ROMA

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

1°)- Come noto in seguito agli avvenimenti del settembre 1943 circa 10.000 militari italiani, in prevalenza della divisione "Pinerolo", rifiutando la ulteriore collaborazione coi tedeschi, si dettero, in Grecia, alla guerriglia contro l'occupante cooperando con le forze greche.

2°)- Si tratta di militari che hanno tenuto fede al loro giuramento per contribuire alla causa alleata e tenere impegnate notevoli forze avversarie nello scacchiere balcanico. Essi hanno ben meritato dalla Patria. Ubbidito all'appello del loro comandante rifiutarono di cedere le armi all'atto dell'armistizio, optando per una vita dura e rischiosa, resistendo a violenze ed a pressioni di ogni genere da parte dei tedeschi. Lontani dall'Italia in un periodo particolarmente difficile, dopo aver esaurito tutte le munizioni ed essere stati travolti dalla guerra civile, vissero in precarie condizioni di esistenza, sopportando pericoli, fame, freddo, stenti di ogni genere ed anche malattie. Le loro condizioni di vita e di salute sono ben tratteggiate nella lettera che il comando inglese in territorio greco ha fatto pervenire al comando in capo interalleato in Caserta (v. allegato 1). Si tratta di uomini sani che non saranno in grado, nelle attuali condizioni, di superare il prossimo inverno.

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

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

TOP SECRET.

HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
APO 394.

Office of the Chief of Staff

Ref: G.57/3/Gen

7th October, 1944.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Soldiers from Greece.

TO : G-5 Section, A.C.C.

1. In his letter of September 26th, Commanding General, XV Force 140 asks that arrangements should be made to assist him in the repatriation of some 8,500 Italian soldiers from GREECE. In your letter G5/409/G1(Br) of October 4th you have forwarded the request to MAI in order to enable the Italian Government to make the necessary provisions for the care of these personnel. You have suggested provision of medical and other staff from released prisoners of war sources and you clearly assume that such arrangements will be made by the Ministry of War and MAI.

2. In a memorandum attached, Commanding General MAI states that MAI is not in a position to take on this proposition. He states that from the point of view of the Italian Army these soldiers are civilians and suggests that their disposal should be handled by the Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub-Commission, the Italian Red Cross and UNRRA.

3. As regards the maintenance of these men in GREECE and their transportation to this country neither the Italian Government nor the ACC can assume any responsibility. That is a matter for XV 140 Force to arrange with UNRRA or other relief agencies in GREECE and the Naval authorities.

4. From the point of view of the Italian Government, however, it would seem essential that the Ministry of War should take charge of these men immediately they are repatriated to this country. I cannot believe that it would be right for the Italian Government to take the line that they must be considered as civilians. Public opinion would rightly resent this attitude.

5. The present charter of the MAI forbids the provision of food, hospitalisation or transport from MAI for these men because they cannot be regarded as effectives.

6. I would suggest, therefore, that in order to deal with these unfortunate troops some relaxation should be permitted from the rigid enforcement of the orders of the ACC. It would seem natural and indeed humane that a military organisation such as is suggested in para 3 of the G-1 letter referred to should be set up under the aegis of MAI and that the repatriated soldiers should be fed and hospitalised

0979

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

7

for a period say of two months after repatriation and until they can be demobilised and returned, again under MMA arrangements, to their homes.

7. I am aware that this brings up an important question of principle as to the use of MMA but I think we should not avoid the issue because of its importance from the point of view of the Italian Government.

8. The same difficulty is being experienced with the return of Italian prisoners of war from other theatres who on arrival are regarded purely as civilians and are fed, transported and hospitalised as civilians, under the care of the Italian Red Cross. They can take on no more than their present commitments.

9. If it is impossible for the above to be arranged then I would suggest that the whole problem be placed in the hands of UNRRA both in Greece and in this country. The Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission would find it impossible to provide staff and extremely difficult to organise the repatriation and hospitalisation which will be necessary for the majority of these men.

M. S. [illegible]

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff,
for Acting Chief Commissioner.

MSL/JG.

Copy to: MMA
DCRO, GA Sec (2)

See also 21

1[illegible]

0980

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

SIGNAL MESSAGE

DATE TIME

07 1615 A

From: MEDIA

To: DISTWO - MEDALO DISTWO (.) MEDIA LO 52 AREA (.) FREEDOM QAE (.)

FREEDOM GEORGE FOUR ABLE

- -

CONFIDENTIAL

AQ 1982

SUBJECT IS ONE THOUSAND ITALIAN MILITARY ARRIVING TARANTO FROM BALKANS (.)

PARA ROME AREA _____ PARA (.) FIRST (.) PERSONNEL ARE

BRITISH COMMITMENT FOR INCLUSION IN COMBAT GROUPS (.) THEY WILL NOT RPT NOT

RECEIVE RATIONS PROVIDED FROM US SOURCES AND NOW IN ITALIAN ARMY DEPOTS (.)

THEY WILL BE FULLY CLOTHED AND EQUIPPED UNDER GRUPPI ARRANGEMENTS WHEN THEY

REPORT GRUPPI RPTS UNIT AND BECOME RESERVES ITALIAN ARMY (.) ITALIAN ARMY

CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT WILL NOT BE ISSUED (.) ITERIM ESSENTIAL CLOTHING

EARMARKED FOR BRITISH IS IN BARI DEPOT AND AVAILABLE FOR ISSUE IF FREEDOM QAE

RELEASE (.) SECOND (.) FOR FREEDOM QAE (.) REQUEST YOU SIGNAL RELEASE OF

CLOTHING (.) THIRD (.) FOR DISTWO MEDALO (.) REFER YOUR SIGNAL PC 98/061630 (.)

YOU WILL NOT REPEAT NOT ISSUE ITALIAN EQUIPMENT OR RATIONS NOW IN ITALIAN DEPOTS(.)

QUOTE HQ P AND L UNQUOTE HAVE NOT AUTHORITY TO ISSUE ORDERS TO ITALIAN

INSTALLATIONS WHICH ARE NOT UNDER THEIR COMMAND

Internal Dist:

Copy - G - SF - Labour

PRECEDENCE Immediate

AUTHENTICATED

0981

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

43

SUBJECT: Italian Troops in Yugoslavia.

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
10/9/31
6 Oct 44

TO : AFHQ.

Copy to: AGO (further to MMIA letter 10/9/31 of 4 Oct)
2 Dist MMIA to 2 Dist
2 Dist Ministry of War

Ref Force 140 signed G(G) 14/ of 2 Oct not to all.

1. This HQ will accept back into the Italian Army such members of the Garabaldi Div ex Dalkan Islands as are considered suitable.

2. Will you please authorize 3 Dist to arrange with Italian Mil HQ Apulia and Lucania (Bari) that after being registered and the necessary leave period completed these personnel report to Italian Combat Force Rft Depot 3 miles west of Altie (M2404) for enrollment into the Italian Combat Force.

3. Will the Italian Ministry of War please report the accepted to the Italian Combat Force Rft Depot, copy to this HQ.

J.M. Engledow Lt-Col
Adj Gen
M M I A

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Copys- 2 1/0
AG
Spec Sec

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

6996

LINE V LANE NR 28 QUR 1

FROM FORCE 359 MAJOR WATROUS 040050 GMT

TO MMIA VIA ACC

RPTD HQ 90(M)

QQY ET

BS/TAC/IM/657

GENERAL PUCCININ ALBANIS HAS RECEIVED YOUR PERMISSION FOR HIM EVACUATION TO ITALY BUT NOW REQUESTS THAT THE ITALIAN WAR MINISTRY ISSUE HIM WITH ORDERS. WE SUGGEST THAT THE ORDER FOR HIS EVACUATION SHOULD BE GIVEN. THIS CAN BE SENT TO FORCE 359 FOR RETRANSMISSION TO THE GENERAL

THX 041320A

SENT NR 28 042106A BS E

RECD NR 28 042106 A AAA AR K

A1164

G/26

M.M.I.A.	
FILE REF	1
Declass'd	5/10

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041245

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

TG/G 31 42
9 10

CONFIDENTIAL - Reg

SUBJECT: Locations

HQ 'Z' Military
Mission, CMF

G/21/1

5 Oct 44

Reg 9/10.

Military Mission Italian Army
ROME

Ref your TS/G/31 of 27 Sept.

Present address of HQ Jugoslav Army of National Liberation is; Via PICCINI - VISCONTI SAGGARESCO, BARI.

Lt Col
Comd

/CJE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

46

TOP SECRET

Subject:- Italian Relief

Military Mission Italian Army
ROME

TS/AQ/10
6 Oct 44

Chief of Staff, ACC

1. I forward the attached to you for action, as MMIA is not in a position to take on this proposition, much as I approve of it on ethical and political grounds and would be only too glad to help.

2. The position as regards MMIA is :-

(a) these ex-soldiers are civilians from the Italian Army point of view.

(b) thus no military food, clothing, boots or medical supplies can be made available to them.

(c) in any event, military hospitals in ITALY are full and military medical personnel are short of establishment.

(d) we have not enough M.T. for the Army, as it is.

(e) we have no accomodation or camps to put this returning personnel into, nor is it permitted to use military personnel to form such camps.

(f) we have no control over shipping to transport them.

(g) in fact, we are not authorised to take any part in handling or disposing of these civilians, either in forming a relief camp in GREECE or on their arrival here on the Mainland.

(h) the only way we come into the picture is to record their names for demobilisation records at Italian depots. In view of

(b) thus no military food, clothing, boots or medical supplies can be made available to them.

(c) in any event, military hospitals in ITALY are full and military medical personnel are short of establishment.

(d) we have not enough M.T. for the Army, as it is.

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(f) we have no control over shipping to transport them.

(g) in fact, we are not authorised to take any part in handling or disposing of these civilians, either in forming a relief camp in GREECE or on their arrival here on the Mainland.

(h) the only way we come into the picture is to record their names for demobilisation records at Italian depots. In view of their privations, obviously these men are not suitable subjects for enrolment in the Army.

132

3. Our charter or orders from CCS at WASHINGTON in connection with what I mention in para 2, is very comprehensive and tight. Any alteration would have to be agreed between British and US at AFHQ, and presumably be submitted to the CCS for approval.

4. Unless the Allies will take on this business as a necessary Allied commitment with Allied personnel, on political and ethical grounds, the only solution appears to be :-

(a) a relief camp in GREECE formed from P. of W.

(b) supplies required there and disposal of personnel on arrival in ITALY to be handled by the Refugee and Displaced Persons Sub-Commission, in conjunction with the Italian Government and International Red Cross and U.N.R.R.A.

L Browning

Major General
M M I A

c

(Copy to DAG. G.1(Br)AFHQ ref CR/409/G1(Br)
dated 4 Oct 44).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785920

0984

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

TOP SECRET

B 5

Classified as
TOP SECRET
by authority of
SACMED
Init. ACA
Date 6 Oct 44
Copy No. 1

SUBJECT:- Italian Relief.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

CR/409/G1(Br).

4 Oct 44.

M.M.I.A.

1. Further to the conversation held between Lt.Col. HIGGINS, G.1.(Br). and Brigadier General DAPINO on 30 Sep 44.

2. The attached papers are forwarded to enable the Italian Government to make the necessary provisions for the care of these personnel.

3. If it is desired to provide medical staff from released prisoner of war sources, attention is drawn to this Headquarters letter CR/3822/G1(Br) of 2 Oct 44, copy to Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, stating that a small number are already at 209 Prisoner of War Camp, AFRAGOLA, awaiting disposal instructions, and to this Headquarters letter CR/3025/G1(Br) of 28 Sep 44 authorising release of some 1,500 held in NORTH AFRICA.

4. The latter party is due to be disembarked at NAPLES on 10 Oct 44.

A.S. BARSDORF, Lt. Col., A.A.G.,
for Major General,
DAG, G.1.(Br).

Encls.

TOP SECRET

10937

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

Lt Col

41

SUBJECT: Italian Troops in YUGOSLAVIA.

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
TS/G/31
4 Oct 44

Reg'd 10.

TO : A.C.C.

1. Force 140 has reported that Balkan Air Force is arranging to evacuate approx 1000 Italian tps ex ALBANIA and GREECE who wish to fight the Hun. Comd is ADRIATIC. Radio states that port will be notified later but it will probably be Taranto or Brindisi approx 15 Oct.

2. Will you please accept action on para 1 above as these personnel do NOT belong to Italian Army in Liberated Italy. M.M.I.A. will however accept into the Army such personnel as are considered suitable and it is suggested that you move to the East Coast one of the three rearward screening agencies which are under your control and at present working for the Patriot Branch.

3. Will you please inform this HQ of Nos of personnel found suitable together with loca when tpt arrangements will be made this end with a view to incorporating these volunteers into one of the Gruppo di Combattimento.

Lt-Col
Maj Gen
M M I A

Copy to: A 1/C
A/
Spec Sec

B/F 10 Oct.

FA2-

1382

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

Deciphered 030545A-JV [illegible] Re. 0/10 1447 - [illegible] 40

ROME AREA ALLIED COMMAND

INCOMING MESSAGE

T/6/31

FROM : [illegible] CLASSIFICATION

REFERENCE No. : [illegible]/147 [illegible]

DATE TIME RECEIVED : Rec 4/10.

DATE TIME GROUP : [illegible] SD PRECEDENCE

TO:

ACTION : [illegible] 3/10

INFO : [illegible]

[illegible] arranging evacuate approx 1000 ITALIAN troops ex [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] fight [illegible]. Commanded by [illegible]. Probably port of arrival [illegible] 15th [illegible]. Please make necessary arrangements ITALIAN Army. Estimated time of arrival and port later

CIPHER

SECRET

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

DATE TIME GROUP

ROUTINE

310

TO:

ACTION: [illegible]

INFO: [illegible]

RAF arranging evacuate approx 1000 ITALIAN troops ex Kefallinia KEFALLINIA and ZANTE nightly flight [illegible]. Commanded by [illegible]. Probably port of arrival BRINDISI [illegible] TARANTO. Please make necessary arrangements ITALIAN Army. Estimated time of arrival and port later

CIPHER

SECRET

G.

Copy [illegible] 13 [illegible]

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

ANNEX 1

Translation

FROM : The High Commission for P.O.W. Ref: 1210/Pol/021.

TO : Ministry of War. Date: 1 10 44

SUBJECT: Italian Military in Greece.

The Allied C in C at Caserta on the 20th of Sept last allowed General DAPINO of this office to read a letter from the British HQ in Greece arrived that same day.

The letter states :-

"There are at present in Greece about 8,000 Italians including ex military internees who were in German hands and military who joined the Guerillas. These men have been robbed of everything by the Greeks and are therefore naked. Many of them are in a pitiable state of health and infested with parasites.

They would be unable to survive another winter in their present condition.

British H.Q. in Greece will endeavor to remuster them and help them as far as possible, but bearing in mind lack of necessary means (clothing, medical supplies and food) they cannot do much.

As soon as possible they will endeavor to concentrate them in certain ports whence they can be shipped to Italy by the fastest means available.

It is advisable that medical supplies, clothing, etc be held in readiness at ports of arrival for these unfortunate people."

C in C Mediterranean will inform the Italian Authorities concerned of all the above via AMMA.

The above information is sent to you as an advanced warning for any arrangements you may deem opportune.

(Sgd) Gen P. [illegible]

1309

0991

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lità che verranno indicate dal Comando delle Forze Greche in Messaglia e sotto la protezione delle Forze Greche.

2°)- I reparti italiani non appena si riuniranno, assumeranno, con le minori unità (compagnie) agli ordini dei loro comandanti, un servizio di sicurezza della zona, insieme alle formazioni greche, i Comandi italiani superiori a quelli di compagnia eserciteranno la loro azione di Comando in cooperazione con quello degli equivalenti Comandi greci.

Tutti gli ufficiali e gli uomini che desiderano battersi contro la Germania conserveranno le armi.

3°)- Tutto l'equipaggiamento che non può essere trasportato fuori dai Presidi in zona di sicurezza, e le esuberanze saranno impiegati dalle forze greche secondo gli art.30 e 31 dell'Ordine del Comando Interalleato in Grecia in data 10/9/43.

4°)- Quegli italiani che non desiderassero battersi, cederanno le loro armi e tutto l'equipaggiamento ad eccezione del vestiario e stivali che conserveranno per proprio uso. Detto equipaggiamento verrà impiegato da forze greche secondo gli art.30 e 31, sopra citati.

5°)- La missione britannica si impegna di assicurare il mantenimento delle Forze Armate italiane, sulla stessa base finanziaria delle Forze Armate greche (1 sterlina oro al mese e a testa). 1318

I corrispondenti servizi stabiliranno i particolari.

6°)- Il Comando Interalleato si impegna non appena la situazione militare lo consentirà, di inviare in Italia tutti gli ufficiali ed uomini che lo desiderino.

7°)- Quando i reparti italiani si saranno assuefatti, allo speciale tipo di guerriglia, che si svolge in Grecia e la situazione militare lo consentirà, un settore separato di azione potrà essere affidato alle Unità Italiane in Grecia.

F.to Colonn. RAPTOPULOS (E.D.E.S.)

F.to Colonn. CHRISS (Miss.Mil. Inglese)

F.° Gen. SARAFIS (E.L.A.S.)

F° Gen. Infante (Capo FF.AA. Italiane)

P.C.C.

IL CAPO UFF. C.A.
(Ten.Col.S.M.Luigi Millefiorini)

[signature]

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COPIA

Appx 3

ARTICOLO 30 DELL'ORDINE DEL COMANDANTE IN CAPO LE FORZE ALLEATE DEL MEDIO ORIENTE IN DATA 10 SETT. 1943

Il Comando Interalleato in Grecia, in considerazione del messaggio inviato dal Comando in Capo del Medio Oriente e in ottemperanza agli ordini dei suoi rappresentati qui, secondo i quali tutte le forze italiane vengono messe ai suoi ordini e combatteranno come alleati contro la Germania, decide:

1) - Invitare tutte le Forze Armate Italiane in Grecia, che desiderino lottare con gli Alleati contro la Germania, di mettersi agli ordini del Comando Interalleato che rappresenta il Comandante in Capo Generale Maitland Wilson in Grecia e di eseguire tutti gli ordini che loro venissero dati, sia direttamente, sia indirettamente attraverso comandi locali.

2) - Le armi ed equipaggiamento degli italiani che desiderano combattere contro i tedeschi, verranno lasciate e saranno da loro usate in cooperazione con le forze greche.

3) - Qualora le forze italiane rifiutassero di battersi contro i tedeschi e non volessero cedere le loro armi, verranno considerati come nemici degli Alleati e come tali attaccati.

ARTICOLO 31 DELL'ORDINE DEL COMANDANTE IN CAPO LE FORZE ALLEATE DEL MEDIO ORIENTE IN DATA 10 SETT. 1943

In considerazione degli accordi presi nell'art.30, a modifica di essi, alcune armi ed alcuni materiali possono essere lasciati agli Andartes. Lo Stato Maggiore decide che i seguenti materiali siano ceduti alle seguenti condizioni:

1) - che il materiale ceduto dagli italiani deve essere considerato dagli Andartes nella stessa condizione del materiale che arriva con gli [illegible] divisa in parti uguali fra le diverse

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0997

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CONFIDENTIAL

39

SUBJECT: Locations

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
TS/S/31
27 Sept 44

"F" Military Mission CMF

R 0997
9

Copy to: Legal Sub Commission ACC (Mour 4019/L of 25 Sep refers)

Will you please inform us of the present address of the Italian Headquarters of the Yugo-Slav Army of occupation.

FTS/cgl.

W R Selby Jr Capt
for Maj Gen
M M I A

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

TOP SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
G-1 DIVISION

G-1 Log: A448A 69A 4

FILE:

Date: 28 September 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Relief

69B

No.	From	To	Date	
1	G-1(A)	G-1(B)	28 Sept	1. Sent to this office in error. For and in the absence of the A.C. of S.,G-1: D. D. ZINK, Colonel,GSC, Executive. 1 Incl: Ltr to G-1 AFHQ, sub "Italian Relief" dtd 26 Sep 44.

1315

TOP SECRET

SUBJECT: ITALIAN [illegible]ief.

MANNA TOP SECRET.

HQ Force 140
CMF
46A
26 Sep 44.

G-1, AFHQ.

Copy to: G
ML HQ (GREECE)
SFU

1. There are in GREECE in the NEOIHRON - FEATHERBED area some 8,500 Italians. These are remnants of Italian fmns who tried to surrender to ELAS with a view to fighting the Germans, at the time of the Italian surrender in Sep 43.

They were disarmed and stripped of most of their clothes by ELAS and were taken over in a destitute state by BLOs of Force 133. They have since then led a precarious existence maintained at starvation scale by BLOs efforts and the expenditure of much gold.

Many are almost naked, verminous, riddled with every sort of disease and unlikely to survive another winter. A full report was sent to A/G of S, G-2, AFHQ under Force 133 letter No. G83 of 11 Aug 44. A later short report is attached.

2. As my occupation of Greece spreads, these unfortunate wretches will come under my aegis and will have to be dealt with. With any order of battle at present envisaged I shall not have the medical and other resources necessary to cope with them. Yet they must be dealt with quickly as soon as they are accessible.

3. It will be necessary to establish a relief camp at or near a convenient port for their collection and evacuation.

Food, Clothing and boots will be required, also medical teams and hygiene units for delousing them, and shipping to evacuate them.

It seems to me that the Italian authorities might well be called upon to prepare these facilities and hold them ready to be called forward. Also that Italian Naval vessels might be used for their evacuation, in which case the well known speed of such vessels would be an asset.

[illegible] to what arrangements can be made to

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

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It seems to me that the Italian authorities might well be called upon to prepare these facilities and hold them ready to be called forward. Also that Italian Naval vessels might be used for their evacuation, in which case the well known speed of such vessels would be an asset.

May I be informed please as to what arrangements can be made to assist me.

1314

Ronald M. Scobie

Lt-Gen,
Comd.

RD

G-1 (DRITISH).
CENTRAL REGISTRY.
Date 24/9
File 409
Last Number 41

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

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

SUBJECT:- Italian Forces in the BALKANS

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
T3/C/31

23 Sep 44

WAR MINISTRY

In reply to your 764/OX of 22 Sep.

The matter has been recommended by ACC to AFHQ, strongly supported by this HQ, and as soon as a reply is received you will be notified.

ABC

Major General
M M I A

F.36 36
TS/6/31
D

Translation

From MMIA Ref 764/ose
to MMIA Date 22 sept 44

Italian Forces in the Balkans

Ref my letter 435/ose 23 dated 2 sept

We would be very gratefull to MMIA if they could let the Ministry know what determination they have taken about the sending to Marshall Tito's headquaters the mission referred to in Para 3 of the A/m Letter.

This because when the liberation of Yugoslavia takes place there must be an Italian Mission to organise temporarly the regrouping and control of the Italian Military personnel dispersed in this country

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Osilia 13/1

R Mansfield

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1003

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

36

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

Ufficio del Sottosegretario di Stato - Gen. G. B. Oxilia -

~~GABINETTO~~

Prot. N. P64/OX Allegati — Roma, 22 settembre 1944

Risposta al f.o del — Div. — Sez. — N.°

OGGETTO: Forze italiane in Balcania.-

TS/G/31 D

Al L'ARMY SUB COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.) — = R O M A =

21

Riferimento mio foglio 436/OX in data 2 c.m.-

Sarò grato a codesta A.S.C. se vorrà portare a conoscenza di questo Ministero le determinazioni prese circa l'invio presso il Quartier Generale del Maresciallo Tito, della missione di cui al capo 3° della lettera a riferimento.-

Ciò in quanto, la liberazione del territorio jugoslavo dovrebbe trovare già in sito detta missione per provvedere tempestivamente ad organizzare la raccolta dei militari italiani ivi dispersi.-

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
- Gen. G. B. Oxilia -

Riferimento mio foglio 435/CX in data 9 c.m.-

Sarò grato a codesta A.S.J. se vorrà portare a conoscenza di questo Ministero le determinazioni prese circa l'invio presso il Quartier Generale del Maresciallo Tito, della missione di cui al capo 3° della lettera a riferimento.-

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IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO
- Gen. G. T. Ordlia -

131-

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

COPY.

SECRET

2

Subject: ITALIANS IN GREECE.

H.Q., Force 133,
M.E.F.

GCA/105

21 Sep 44.

S.F. Unit
H.Q. Force 140
C.M.F.

Copy to: LO. E.Med Gp. Force 399

Ref your signal No. 40 of 19 Sep 44.

1. Attached are two copies (Nos. 40 and 41) of Major WORRALL's report as requested.

2. Relief for the Italians is paid at the rate of 1 sov per month for each officer, and half-sov per month for each OR. The money is paid to the householder, with whom the Italian is living, for his upkeep.

3. The Italians we maintain are in three areas on the mainland. MAUDIE, GEOFFREY and BOODLE. According to the August figures, the latest we have received from the Field, the Italians now number:

AREA	STRENGTH		PAYMENT IN SOVS	
			JUL	AUG
MAUDIE	Offrs:	339		
	ORs:	5,382	2347	2353
GEOFFREY		150 approx	80	80
BOODLE		2,600 "	1300	1300
TOTAL, say		8,500		

4. Maj. WORRALL did not deal with the Italians in BOODLE area as they were outside his province. The bulk of the Italians in the BOODLE area are living in camps, with a few hundred in civilian employ. In the recent GERMAN drives the majority of the Italians just dispersed, but they have now nearly all come back.

5. It is estimated that about 100 Italians are employed by ZERVAS, but the numbers of those employed by ELAS Andartes are not known.

6. In addition there are said to be between 1000 and 2000 Italians employed

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5. It is estimated that about 100 Italians are employed by ZERVAS, but the numbers of those employed by ELAS Andartes are not known.

6. In addition there are said to be between 1000 and 2000 Italians employed as farm labourers or on civilian work in general in the PELOPONNESS. None are employed by the Mission, and it is not known whether ELAS employ any. We do not provide any money for the relief or other expenses of these Italians in the PELOPONNESE;

7. The following is a list of Italians who have been evacuated from the Field to Italy:-

OPERATION		TOTAL EVACUATED	DATE 1310
FROM THE MAINLAND			
GLASSHOUSE	I	2	15/16 MAR 44
GLASSHOUSE	II	2	24 APR 44
BRACING	I	1 (wounded)	18 JUN 44
BRACING	III	4 (3 wounded)	16/17 JUL 44
BRACING	VI	24 (1 wounded)	26 AUG 44

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FEATHER	II	29	17/18 AUG 44
FEATHER	III	3	29/30 AUG 44
FEATHER	101	23	6/7 SEP 44
BRACING	IX	3	9/10 SEP 44
FEATHER		31	21/22 SEP 44

FROM THE PELOPONNESE.

VOUCHSAFE	V	25	19/20 MAR 44
VOUCHSAFE	VI	1	3/4 APR 44
BUTTERDROP	I	15	24 APR 44
BUTTERDROP	II	14	24 APR 44
BUTTERDROP	III	11	21 JUN 44
BUTTERDROP	IV	57	20 JUL 44
BUTTERDROP	V	65 (2 wounded)	26 AUG 44
		310	

8. As you know, Maj WORRALL came out from the Field for medical reasons. As he had to wait some weeks before he underwent his operation, he went to ITALY on 27 Aug 44 to look into the question of the Italians at the suggestion of Col WOODHOUSE. We are writing by even post to the LO. E.Med Gp. Force 399 asking him to inform us what Maj WORRALL has been able to do in this regard. We will ask the LO to send you a copy of any correspondence, or reports.

9. If there is any more detailed information you require, please let us know and we will enquire of the Field.

(Signed) W.G. ANNIS.

Maj. for Lt. Col. GS.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

of Col WOODHOUSE. We are writing by [illegible] post to the LO. [illegible] 399 asking him to inform us what Maj WORRALL has been able to do in this regard. We will ask the LO to send you a copy of any correspondence, or reports.

9. If there is any more detailed information you require, please let us know and we will enquire of the Field.

(Signed) W.G. ANHUS.

Maj. for Lt. Col. GS.

1309

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

SUBJECT: Italian Troops in GREECE.

SECRET

34

Military Mission Italian Army.
BASE.

T.S./G/3B
18 Sept 44.

Rec 18/9.

Dear

Ref your 117/S-61 dated 12 Sep in connection with the above.

1. A.C.C. have all this matter in hand and I am passing your letter on to them for action as necessary with higher authority.

2. I will of course do all I can to help. But I know that you realise that I am bound by a Charter as to what I can or cannot do in respect of hospitals, reception camps etc. However, as I say, I will do everything I can to help. Let us hope that the Germans will be swiftly driven out of GREECE and the BALKANS and that the Italian soldiers there will be able to return to Italy as soon as possible thereafter.

Yours

L.B.

Major General.

Ref your 117/S-61 dated 12 Sep in connection with the above.

1. A.C.C. have all this matter in hand and I am passing your letter on to them for action as necessary with higher authority.

2. I will of course do all I can to help. But I know that you realise that I am bound by a Charter as to what I can or cannot do in respect of hospitals, reception camps etc. However, as I say, I will do everything I can to help. Let us hope that the Germans will be swiftly driven out of GREECE and the BALKANS and that the Italian soldiers there will be able to return to Italy as soon as possible thereafter.

Yours

A. P.

Major General.

General ADJUTO INFANTE
Capo FF.AA

13

copy to: HQ A.C.C. - ref your A/CC 091.711 dated 28 Aug 1335
and in continuation of my T.S./S/31
dated 9 Sep.44.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

TRANSLATION.

From: General ADOLFO INFANTE. Ref: 117/S-61. 33

To: Maj-Gen. BROWNING. Date 12.9.44.

Dear General BROWNING,

I have had sent to me, for information, a copy of the signal dated August 24th. last signed by Maj. M. CULME SEYMOUR of Force 133, containing a message from some Italian Military still stationed in GREECE.

Probably, as suggested by the message, they are personnel belonging to the "PINEROLO" Div., which was under my command at the time of the Armistice.

In this respect I would like to point out to you that:-

1. The "PINEROLO" Div. did not "Surrender" last autumn as stated in the signal.

It is a known fact that in accordance with negotiations conducted personally by me with Col. "CHRIS" Commander of the British Military Mission in GREECE and with the Chiefs of the various GREEK Rebel Parties a "Pact of co-operation of the Italian Armed Forces Fighting in GREECE" (see copy attached) was definitely arrived at, according to which the units of the "PINEROLO" DIv. together with GREEK Rebel Formations should have continued the war against GERMANY.

Said Pact, signed on Sept. 11th., was satisfied by CAIRO and LONDON and photographic copies of same were sent to the State Dept and to the Italian Supreme Command.

Para 6 of the attached copy shows that "The Inter-Allied Command undertakes, as soon as the Military situation permits, to send to ITALY all officers or O.Rs who may wish to return."

2. During an interview which took place on August 23rd. last, with the G.O.C. Allied Forces in the Mediterranean, when H.R.H. The Prince Regent and

negotiations conducted [illegible]
"CHRIS" Commander of the British Military Mission in GREECE and with the Chiefs of the various GREEK Rebel Parties a "Pact of co-operation of the Italian Armed Forces Fighting in GREECE" (see copy attached) was definitely arrived at, according to which the units of the "PINEROLO" DIv. together with GREEK Rebel Formations should have continued the war against GERMANY.

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2. During an interview which took place on August 23rd. last, with the G.O.C. Allied Forces in the Mediterranean, when H.R.H. The Prince Regent and ~~AXIMME~~ Prime Minister CHURCHILL met, General Sir Henry WILSON very kindly dealt with the subject of the Italians in GREECE and ALBANIA and of the events which had thus taken place and which he had closely followed as Commander of the Middle East. Having explained to him that I believed there were still about 10 to 12,000 Italians in GREECE and a similar number in ALBANIA all of them in a most difficult situation, General WILSON stated that as soon as there were signs of a definite withdrawal of the German troops from GREECE and ALBANIA it was his intention to organise transport in order to repatriate those Italians as soon as possible.

3. As you are probably aware, as a result of the recent visit to Italy of Maj. WARRELL, a system of moral and material aid to the Italians still in GREECE (Mail service, newspapers, food and medical supplies) has been organised with the joint support of the Ministry of War and the Italian and International Red Crosses.

4. I now take the liberty to beg of you, dear General BROWNING, to use all your influence to facilitate and if possible to hasten the repatriatio of these Italian military. My request is due n only to moral and humane reason but, also and ab all, due to a deep sense of justice.

In effect these Italians, answering my cal refusing to hand over their arms to the Germa

1337

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the time of the Armistice have contributed to deploying important enemy forces in the BALKANS.

Choosing for themselves the hard and risky life of the guerilla, they have, during months and months, resisted the violence or flattery of the Germans, continually refusing pressing invitations to collaborate, to work, or even to end up as prisoners.

Overcoming hunger, cold and endless hardships, after having exhausted their ammunition, after having been overwhelmed by the civil war, without ever having received supplies from this Country, sometimes helped by the civilian population sometimes taken advantage of or robbed, these Italians have kept faithful to their oath, have maintained their military honour and have thus proved themselves to be among the best, even through the tragic circumstances in which they have found themselves.

They deserve to be taken into consideration for an urgent transport to Italy.

I feel sure, dear General BROWNING, that you will understand and will help me to overcome every obstacle, either Allied or eventually of our Government(owing to the difficulty of organising hospitals and reception camps) in order to make possible this deed of humanity and justice.

With kindest regards,

s/d Gen. ADOLFO INFANTE.

3.c.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

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

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With kindest regards,

s/a Gen. ADOLFO INFANTE.

3.c.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

Translation.

PACT FOR THE CO-OPERATION OF THE ITALIAN ARMED FORCES.

Today Sept. 11th. 1943, after the signing of the Armistice between the United Nations and the Italian Government and in agreement with orders issued by the C in C. Middle East - General Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, - regarding co-operation with the Italian Forces who wish to fight against GERMANY beside the Allies, the Inter-Allied Command of the Greek forces and the General Commanding the "PINEROLO" Div. have agreed on the following points:-

(1) All Italian Forces belonging to the said Division will endeavour to withdraw from the usual stations in order to reouster at the locations to be named by HQ Greek Forces in TESSAGLIA under the protection of the Greek Forces.

(2) Italian units, as soon as remustered, will take over the security services of the area by Coys under their Commanders together with Greek Formations. Italian Commands higher than Coy HQs will exercise their control activities in co-operation with equivalent Greek HQs.

All officers and men who wish to fight against GERMANY will retain their arms.

(3) All equipment which cannot be transported away from the stations or garrisons to a safety zone and the excess material will be used by the Greek Forces in accordance with Art. 30 and 31 of the Inter-Allied Command in GREECE order dated 10.9.43.

(4) Those Italians who do not wish to fight will hand their arms and all their equipment with the exception of clothing and boots which they will retain for personal use. Said arms and equipment will be used by Greek Forces in accordance with the above mentioned Art. 30 and 31.

(5) The British Mission undertakes to ensure upkeep of the Italian Armed Forces on the same financial basis as the Greek Armed Forces (11 gold per month per head).

Services concerned will stipulate details.

(6) Inter-Allied Command undertakes to send to ITALY all officers and men who wish to return as soon as the Military situation permits.

(7) As soon as the Italian units have become efficient in the particular [illegible] Forces developed in GREECE and the Military situation so

garrisons to a safety zone and the troops [illegible] Greek Forces in accordance with Art. 30 and 31 of the Inter-Allied Command in GREECE order dated 10.9.43.

(4) Those Italians who do not wish to fight will hand their arms and all their equipment with the exception of clothing and boots which they will retain for personal use. Said arms and equipment will be used by Greek Forces in accordance with the above mentioned Art. 30 and 31.

(5) The British Mission undertakes to ensure upkeep of the Italian Armed Forces on the same financial basis as the Greek Armed Forces (£1 gold per month per head).

Services concerned will stipulate details.

(6) Inter-Allied Command undertakes to send to ITALY all officers and men who wish to return as soon as the Military situation permits.

(7) As soon as the Italian units have become efficient in the particular type of Guerilla Warfare developed in GREECE and the Military situation so permits, a separate operational sector will be entrusted to the Italian units in GREECE.

(Sgd) Col. RAPTOPULOS (E.D.E.S.). (Sgd) Col. CHRISS. (B.M.M.).

(Sgd) Gen. SARAFIS. (E.L.A.S.). (Sgd) Gen. INFANTE. (C in C Italian Forces)

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TRANSLATION.

Article 30 of ORDER issued by the C in C Allied Forces, Middle East, dated 10. 9. 43.

The Inter-Allied Command in GREECE, in view of the message sent by the C in C Middle East and in accordance with orders issued by his representatives here according to which all Italian Forces are placed under his command and will fight as Allies against the Germans, decide: -

1. To invite all Italian Armed Forces in GREECE, who wish to fight, together with the Allies against Germany, to place themselves under the orders of the inter-Allied Command in GREECE who represent the C in C, General Maitland WILSON, in GREECE and to follow all orders they may receive therefrom either directly or indirectly through local H.Qs.

2. Arms and equipment of Italians who wish to fight against the Germans will be retained by them and will be used by them in cooperation with the Greek Forces.

3. Should the Italian Forces refuse to fight against the Germans and also refuse to hand over their arms they will be considered as enemies of the Allies and, as such, attacked.

Article 31 of order issued by the C in C Allied Forces Middle East dated 10. 9. 43.

In accordance with agreements arrived at under Art. 30 and in amendment of same, some of the arms and equipment may be left to the "ANDARTES". The Chief of Staff decides that the following material be ceded under the following conditions: -

1. Material ceded by the Italians will be to the "ANDARTES" to be under the same conditions as the material arriving by British planes and should be divided equally between the different units.

2. All arms and material existing, before this decision, regardless of how held, either bought or taken from the Greeks, are considered as the property of the Organisation and those holding it must be members of the Organisation and must prove that they have either bought or obtained them from the Organisation

and, as such, attached.

Article 31 of order issued by the C in C Allied Forces Middle East dated 10. 9. 43.

In accordance with agreements arrived at under Art. 30 and in amendment of same, some of the arms and equipment may be left to the "ANDARTES". The Chief of Staff decides that the following material be ceded under the following conditions: -

1. Material ceded by the Italians will be to the"ANDARTES" to be under the same conditions as the material arriving by British planes and should be divided equally between the different units.

2. All arms and material existing, before this decision, regardless of how held, either bought or taken from the Greeks, are considered as the property of the Organisation and those holding it must be members of the Organisation and must prove that they have either bought or obtained them from the Organisation.

3. Should there be any great disproportion in arms and material between the different stations of the Greek Forces, after the Armistice of the Italian Forces, the Chief of Staff will even out distribution, in the same proportion as that made by the British Forces , by means of a control.

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N° 117/S-61

Roma, 12 settembre 1944

Caro Generale Browning,

mi è stato trasme$$a, per conoscenza, copia del dispac=cio inviato dalla Force 133, in data 24 agosto u.s., firmato Maggiore M.Culme Seymour, contenente un messaggio di alcuni militari italiani ancora dislocati in Grecia.

Si tratta probabilmente, come accenna lo stesso messag=gio, di soldati della Divisione "Pinerolo", che era ai miei ordini in Tessaglia, all'atto dell'armistizio.

Desidero in proposito farLe presente:

1) - La Divisione "Pinerolo" non si è ""arresa"" nell'autunno scorso, come viene affermato dal dispaccio.

Come ben noto, secondo le trattative da me condotte per=sonalmente colCol."CHRIS" capo della missione militare ingle=se in Grecia, e con i Capi dei vari partiti dei Ribelli greci, è stato definito il "Patto di Cooperazione delle Forze Armate italiane combattenti in Grecia" (vedi copia allegata), in ba=se al quale i reparti della Divisione "Pinerolo" avrebbero, insieme alle formazioni di ribelli greci, continuato la guer=ra contro la Germania.

Tale patto, firmato l'11 settembre, è stato ratificato dal Cairo e da Londra e copia fotografica di esso è stata in=viata allo State Department ed al Comando Supremo italiano.

Come risulta dalla copia allegata, al punto 6 viene pre=cisato che "Il Comando interalleato si impegna, non appena la situazione militare lo consentirà, di inviare in Italia tutti

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gli ufficiali ed uomini di truppa che lo desiderino".

2) - In un colloquio avuto il giorno 23 agosto u.s. con il co= mandante in capo delle Forze Alleate nel Mediterraneo, in occa= sione dell'incontro di S.A.R.il Luogotenente Generale con il Primo Ministro Churchill, il Generale Sir Henry Wilson si è gentilmente occupato della situazione degli italiani in Grecia ed Albania e degli avvenimenti colà svoltisi, che egli stesso aveva seguito da vicino quale Comandante del Medio Oriente.

Avendogli accennato che ritenevo vi fossero ancora in Gre= cia da 10 a 12 mila italiani, e che altrettanti almeno ve ne erano in Albania, tutti in condizioni difficilissime di vita, il Generale Wilson mi ha dichiarato che non appena vi sarebbe= ro stati segni concreti del ripiegamento delle forze tedesche dalla Grecia e dall'Albania era sua intenzione organizzare tra= sporti per far rimpatriare al più presto questi italiani.

3) - Come probabilmente Ella sa bene, in seguito alla recente visita in Italia del Maggiore Warrell, per l'interessamento del nostro Ministero della Guerra e della Croce Rossa Italiana ed Internazionale, si è organizzato un piano di assistenza mo= rale e materiale (coll'invio di posta, giornali, viveri e me= dicinali) per gli italiani ancora rimasti in Grecia.

4) - Io mi permetto ora pregarLa vivamente, caro Generale Browning, di esplicare tutta la Sua influenza per facilitare e se possibile accelerare il rimpatrio di questi militari i= taliani. E ciò non solo per ragioni morali ed umane, ma anche, e sopratutto, per un senso di giustizia.

Questi italiani, infatti, obbedendo al mio appello e rifiu

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tandosi di cedere le armi ai tedeschi all'atto dell'armistizio, hanno contribuito a tenere impegnate notevoli forze tedesche nei Balcani.

Scegliendo la dura e rischiosa vita della guerriglia, hanno per mesi e mesi resistito alle violenze ed alle lusinghe tedesche, rifiutando i continui e pressanti inviti a collaborare, od a lavorare od a finire prigionieri.

Superando fame, freddo e stenti infiniti, dopo aver esaurito tutte le munizioni, ed essere stati travolti dalla guerra civile, senza mai poter ricevere un rifornimento dalla Madre Patria, talvolta aiutati dalle popolazioni, talvolta spogliati e sfruttati, questi militari italiani hanno anche nelle tragiche circostanze nelle quali si sono trovati, tenuto fede al loro giuramento, hanno tenuto alto l'onore militare, e si sono dimostrati così fra tutti i migliori.

Essi meritano ora di essere presi in considerazione per il loro urgente trasporto in Italia.

Sono certo, caro Generale Browning, che Ella mi comprenderà e mi aiuterà a superare ogni ostacolo, sia da parte Alleata che, eventualmente, da parte del nostro Governo (per le difficoltà materiali di organizzare gli ospedali e i campi di raccolta) per rendere possibile questa opera di umanità e di giustizia.

1301

Con cordiale amicizia.

(Generale Adolfo Infante)

A. Infante

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ALLEGATO N. 1

PATTO PER LA COOPERAZIONE DELLE FORZE ARMATE ITALIANE

Oggi 11 settembre 1943, dopo la firma dell'Armistizio fra le Nazioni Unite e il Governo Italiano ed in base agli ordini emanati dal Comando in Capo del Medio Oriente - Generale Sir Henry Maitland Wilson, relativi alla cooperazione, con le FF.AA. Italiane che desiderano di lottare con gli Alleati contro la Germania, il Comando Interealleato delle Forze Greche ed il Generale Comandante la Divisione Pinerolo, decidono i seguenti punti:

1°)- Tutte le Forze Italiane della suddetta Divisione cercheranno di ritirarsi dai loro abituali Presidi, per concentrarsi nelle località che verranno indicate dal Comando delle Forze Greche in Tessaglia e sotto la protezione delle Forze Greche.

2°)- I reparti italiani non appena si riuniranno, assumeranno, con le minori unità (compagnie) agli ordini dei loro comandanti, un servizio di sicurezza della zona, insieme alle formazioni greche; i Comandi italiani superiori a quelli di Compagnia eserciteranno la loro azione di Comando in cooperazione con quello degli equivalenti Comandi greci.

Tutti gli ufficiali e gli uomini che desiderano battersi contro la Germania conserveranno le armi.

3°)- Tutto l'equipaggiamento che non può essere trasportato fuori dai Presidi in zona di sicurezza, e le esuberanze saranno impiegati dalle Forze Greche secondo gli art.30 e 31 dell'Ordine del Comando Interalleato in Grecia in data 10/9/43

4°)- Quegli italiani che non desiderassero battersi, cederan-

1°)

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no le loro armi e tutto l'equipaggiamento, ad eccezione del vestiario e stivali che conserveranno per proprio uso. Detto equipaggiamento verrà impiegato da forze greche secondo gli art 30 e 31, sopra citati.

5°) - La Missione Britannica si impegna di assicurare il mantenimento delle Forze Armate Italiane, sulla stessa base finanziaria delle Forze Armate Greche (1 sterlina oro al mese e a testa). -

I corrispondenti servizi stabiliranno i particolari.

6°)- Il Comando Interalleato si impegna non appena la situazione militare lo consentirà, di inviare in Italia tutti gli ufficiali ed uomini che lo desiderino.

7°)- Quando i reparti italiani si saranno assuefatti, allo speciale tipo di guerriglia, che si svolge in Grecia e la situazione militare lo consentirà, un settore separata di azione potrà essere affidato alle Unità Italiane in Grecia.

F/to Colonn.RAPTOPULOS
(E.D.E.S.)

F/to Colonn.CHRISS
(Miss.Mil.Inglese)

F° Gen. SARAFIS
(E.L.A.S.)

F° Generale Infante
(Capo FF.AA.Italiane)

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ARTICOLO 30 DELL'ORDINE DEL COMANDANTE IN CAPO DI FORZE ALLEATE DEL MEDIO ORIENTE IN DATA 10 SETT. 943

Il Comando Interalleato in Grecia, in considerazione del messaggio inviato dal Comando in Capo del Medio Oriente e in ottemperanza agli ordini dei suoi rappresentanti qui, secondo i quali, tutte le forze italiane, venzono messe ai suoi ordini e combatteranno come alleati contro la Germania, decide:

1) - Invitare tutte le Forze Armate Italiane in Grecia, che desiderino lottare con gli Alleati contro la Germania, di mettersi agli ordini del Comando Interalleato che rappresenta il Comandante in Capo Generale Maitland Wilson in Grecia e di eseguire tutti gli ordini che loro verrassero dati, sia direttamente, sia indirettamente attraverso comandi locali.

2) - Le armi ed equipaggiamento degli Italiani che desiderano combattere contro i tedeschi, verranno lasciate a saranno da loro usate in cooperazione con le forze greche.

3) - Qualora le forze Italiane rifiutassero di battersi contro i tedeschi e non volessero cedere le loro armi, verranno considerati come nemici degli Alleati e come tali attaccati.

ARTICOLO 31 DELL'ORDINE DEL COMANDANTE IN CAPO LE FORZE ALLEATE DEL MEDIO ORIENTE IN DATA 10 SETT. 943

In considerazione degli accordi presi nell'art. 30, e modifica di essi, alcune armi ed alcuni materiali possono essere lasciati agli Italiani. Lo Stato Maggiore decide, che i seguenti materiali siano ceduti alle seguenti condizioni:

1) - che il materiale ceduto dagli Italiani deve essere considerato degli Italiani nelle stesse condizione del materiale che arriva con gli aerei Inglesi e deve essere diviso in parti uguali fra le diverse unità;

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2) - tutte le armi ed il materiale catturati, prima di questa decisione, in qualsiasi modo tenuti, sia che fossero stati comperati o presi dai Greci, sono considerati come proprietà dell'Organizzazione; e quelli che li possieggono debbono essere venuti dall'Organizzazione e devono provare di averli comperati o presi dall'Organizzazione;

3) - ne ci fosse qualche grande sproporzione di armi e materiali nelle varie località delle unità greche, dopo l'armistizio delle truppe Italiane, lo Stato Maggiore consulterà con un esperto la distribuzione, in proporzione con quella fatta degli aerei [illegible].

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TOP SECRET

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189

A/CC 091.711

17 September 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512

1. As directed in your signal F-82545 of the 11th August detailed proposals for alleviating the situation of the Italian forces in Yugoslavia have been obtained from the Italian High Command, and these are attached.

2. It will be seen that the principal proposal put forward is that a small Italian mission should be sent, under a colonel, to Marshal Tito's headquarters to arrange for the evacuation, when possible, of Italian forces. From the point of view of the A.C.C. we would support this proposal and Major General Browning, whom I have consulted, has pointed out in particular that large areas in the Balkans may very shortly be freed by the junction of Russian forces with those of Marshal Tito. In this event we would recommend that the whole of the Italian forces in Yugoslavia and in Greece should be evacuated immediately to Italy so as to:

a. Prevent their getting mixed up in any civil war in those localities.

b. Save those unfortunate people (though they never should have been there) from death by starvation or exposure, on the grounds of common humanity.

c. Give an Allied gesture of goodwill after a period when we have been unable to do much to help alleviate the state of affairs there.

3. As regards the terms of reference proposed for the Italian Mission to Tito in paragraph 3, we consider that they are in the main unobjectionable, but that it should be made clear that the mission has no competence to deal with any matters outside those specified.

4. As to other proposals contained in paragraphs 2 and 5 concerning supplies considered to be necessary for these forces while they remain in the Balkans, General Browning states that no clothing whatever can be supplied from the resources available to SHAEF or the Italian Ministry of War.

5. As to paragraph 4, while we concur that the effort of these Italian troops should be considered as cooperation with Allied troops,

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they cannot, of course, be regarded as part of the Italian Army authorised by the Combined Chiefs of Staff. Immediately on their return to Italy they will therefore have to be demobilised and treated as if they had no military status.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: MMIA
Political Section

1296

18 Sept 1945
HQ
SHAEF.

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ROUTINE

HEADQUARTERS
SEP 1944
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WITH EFFECT FROM 15 SEPTEMBER THE BRITISH MILITARY MISSION TO THE YUGOSLAV ARMY OF NATIONAL LIBERATION WILL BE TEMPORARILY DESIGNATED "B" MILITARY MISSION.

NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROACHED WITH RESPECT TO ALLOTMENT OF A NUMERICAL DESIGNATION

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SECRET

SIP1410508

SUBJECT: Italian troops in the BALKANS. SECRET 26

Army Sub Commission, MMIA.
H.Q., A.C.C.

ROME.

T.S./G/31.
9 Sept 44.

H.Q., A.C.C. 13

Ref your A/CC 091.711 dated 28 Aug and in continuation of my T.S./G/31 of same date: -

1. Herewith translation of the proposals of M of W on the above matter.

2. Doubtless you will show to Political Section before forwarding to A.F.H.Q.

3. It seems that shortly the whole of the BALKANS should be freed by the junction of the RUSSIAN and Marshal TITO's forces.

4. In this event, I would recommend that the whole of the Italian forces in the BALKANS and GREECE be evacuated immediately to ITALY so as to : -

(a) Prevent their getting mixed up in any Civil war in those localities.

(b) Give an Allied gesture of good-will after a period when we have been unable to do much to help alleviate the state of affairs there.

(c) Save these unfortunate people (though they never should have been there) from death by starvation or exposure, on the grounds of common humanity.

The effort would not be unduly great and the moral effect on these 120 Italians would be considerable.

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by the junction of the RUSSIAN and Marshal TITO's forces.

4. In this event, I would recommend that the whole of the Italian forces in the BALKANS and GREECE be evacuated immediately to ITALY so as to : -

(a) Prevent their getting mixed up in any Civil war in those localities.

(b) Give an Allied gesture of good-will after a period when we have been unable to do much to help alleviate the state of affairs there.

(c) Save these unfortunate people (though they never should have been there) from death by starvation or exposure, on the grounds of common humanity.

The effort would not be unduly great and the moral effect on the 129 * Italians would be considerable.

J.B.

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

tve.LB.
2.c.

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1031

MINISTRY OF WAR

To: MMIA

Ref. No. 435/OX of 8 Sept 44

Subject: Italian Armed Forces in the Balkans

In reply to your letter ref TS/G/31 dated 29 Aug 44 I beg to inform you that:-

1. The Italian Armed Forces in Yugoslavia come under two categories.

   (a) "Garibaldi" Division, whose original strength has been reduced, under the command of its own Italian officers and which has been fighting since 8 Sept 43 with Tito's partisans against German Units and against local populace supporting them.

   (b) Scattered Units which, at the time of the Armistice did not surrender to the Germans.

In order to ease the situation of the above mentioned forces the first essential is to provide for their repatriation, giving priority to those mentioned in sub para (b) - that is to say scattered and abandoned units.

Actually, the progressive repatriation of the forces mentioned at sub para (b) could be carried out chiefly with airplanes from emergency landing strips at the disposal of Tito's troops in the Croatia, Bosina, Erzegovina areas and eventually in Serbia; or, for those units which are located in the vicinity of the coast, repatriation by sea in ships which will eventually make for ports along the Delmatian Coast.

The troops of the Garibaldi Division, owing to their actual position, can be repatriated only by air. But the emergency landing strips available in Montenegro (particularly Berane and Negobugia) are not available because they have been occupied by the Germans during the last offensive in Montenegro. 1293

As soon as the above mentioned landing strips will be once more controlled by Tito's partisans and by the "Garibaldi" Division repatriation will be carried out according to the means available giving priority to the wounded and the sick.

Should however the trend of operations, by a withdrawal of annihilation of the German Forces in the Balkans lead to the opening up of routes leading to the coast, it would be necessary to ensure an early repatriation of the bulk of the men who would be concentrated along the coast.

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Should however the trend of operations, by a withdrawal of annihilation of the German Forces in the Balkans lead to the opening up of routes leading to the coast, it would be necessary to ensure an early repatriation of the bulk of the men who would be concentrated along the coast.

2. While the scattered units or operating units remain in the Balkans, in order to ease their situation, it is necessary to carry on and intensify the supplies of food, clothing, medical stores, arms and ammunition by air as is actually being done by special forces of the Supreme Allied Command.

Amongst these supplies, boots and uniforms are of particular importance. As is known, this Ministry has no supply of boots which can be sent to Yugo-Slavia for the Italian Armed Forces dispersed there, and for this reason it is for the Allies to decide the degree of assistance to be given to Italian troops in order to enable them to carry on operations. Regarding uniforms, we suggest, subject MMIA approval, sending uniforms in worst condition which could not be issued to the Italian troops in the mainland and the islands.

MMIA is also sufficiently familiar with the ration and food situation in Italy to understand that the Ministry has to rely entirely on the initiative taken by the Supreme Allied authorities for the Italian troops fighting in the Balkans.

3. In order to:-
(a) settle the questions concerning the gradual repatriation of the scattered military personnel and those belonging to the Garibaldi Division.

(b) assemble and forward the scattered military to the emergency landing strips or to the coast at the right time.

(c) acquaint MMIA with the supply requirements for the Italian Forces and control the supply and issue of items which will eventually be sent

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this Ministry agrees with the Allied authorities that it is vitally important to attach a small Italian Mission to Marshal Tito's GHQ.

The Head of this Mission, as requested by MMIA, would be a Colonel who is fully in the picture as regards the local situation as he had been formerly attached to the "Garibaldi" Division and could therefore carry out good liaison with Marshal Tito's HQ. (Strength of Mission 4 - 5 all ranks).

This Ministry will form a small mission which will be sent over to Marshal Tito's HQ when the Allied Authorities give authorization and arrange transport.

4. This Ministry fully understands the matter contained in para (3) of your letter under reference, that is that MMIA does not consider the "Garibaldi" Division as a part of the Italian Army officially authorised by the Allies. This Ministry wishes to point out that the "Garibaldi" Division is the old Italian Regular Division "Venezia" which was a part of the old Italian Army and which, at the time of the Armistice, obeyed the orders issued by H.E. Badoglio, at that time Head of the Government, joined Tito's partisans with all its units to fight the common German enemy and was given a new name on being reinforced with units of another regular Division of the old Italian Army - the "Taurinense" Division - which had already fought the common enemy. Operations have not been carried out by single units but by a higher formation which can be compared with the other higher formations in the mainland.

Therefore the activities of the "Garibaldi" Division in the Balkans in favour of the Allied cause are to be considered as part and parcel of the operation of Italian Units on the mainland alongside Allied Units.

The above is stated in order that the Allies may give it special consideration, so that, while in the Balkans the Division may receive regular supplies, and its effort and sacrifice may be considered as co-operation of Italians with Allied troops.

5. Lastly, regarding Italian soldiers who are in Greece, be they in formed bodies and under the control of a British Mission, be they scattered in other parts of Greece and particularly in Thessaly, verbal agreement has already been reached with Major Werrall in the presence of Major Baumann, MMIA. Briefly Major Worrall has put forward a proposal for this Ministry to send monthly to the Italian troops a maximum of 2 tons of mail, newspapers and magazines, clothing and material for the welfare of the troops.

With regard to clothing sub para 2 should be borne in mind -- that is only clothing in bad repair and not serviceable for Italian troops on the mainland would be sent.

I would be grateful to MMIA if approval could be granted to the proposals as [illegible] and as soon as possible authority for the despatch of the

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higher formations in the mainland.

Therefore the activities of the "Garibaldi" Division in the Balkans in favour of the Allied cause are to be considered as part and parcel of the operation of Italian Units on the mainland alongside Allied Units.

The above is stated in order that the Allies may give it special consideration, so that, while in the Balkans the Division may receive regular supplies, and its effort and sacrifice may be considered as co-operation of Italians with Allied troops.

5. Lastly, regarding Italian soldiers who are in Greece, be they in formed bodies and under the control of a British Mission, be they scattered in other parts of Greece and particularly in Thessaly, verbal agreement has already been reached with Major Werrall in the presence of Major Baumann, MMIA. Briefly Major Worrall has put forward a proposal for this Ministry to send monthly to the Italian troops a maximum of 2 tons of mail, newspapers and magazines, clothing and material for the welfare of the troops.

With regard to clothing sub para 2 should be borne in mind -- that is only clothing in bad repair and not serviceable for Italian troops on the mainland would be sent.

I would be grateful to MMIA if approval could be granted to the proposals as set out in this letter, and as soon as possible authority for the despatch of the Mission to Marshal Tito's HQ to establish the necessary contacts for implementing of the contents of this letter.

THE MINISTER
CASATI

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

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

8 SET. 1944 21

Register

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

TS/G/31

Segreteria Particolare del Sottosegretario di Stato

GABINETTO

Reg 22/9.

N°435/OX di prot.

ALL'ARMY SUB COMMISSION, MMIA

H. Q. A.C.C.

= R O M A =

OGGETTO: Forze italiane nella Balcania.-

14

In risposta al foglio TS/G/31 del 29 agosto 1944 segnalo:

1°)= Le forze italiane in Jugoslavia vanno distinte in 2 nuclei:

a)= Divisione "GARIBALDI", ridotta rispetto alla forza primitiva, regolarmente inquadrata da ufficiali italiani e combattente dall'8 settembre 1943 a fianco dei partigiani di Tito contro le unità tedesche ed elementi locali ad esse affiancati;

b)= elementi dispersi che alla data dell'armistizio non si sono singolarmente arresi alle imposizioni tedesche.-

1291

= R O M A =

OGGETTO: Forze italiane nella Balcania.-

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b)= elementi dispersi che alla data dell'armistizio non si sono singolarmente arresi alle imposizioni tedesche.-

1291

Per alleviare la situazione di tali forze, provvedimento essenziale è quello di provvedere al rimpatrio di esse dando la precedenza a quelle di cui al capoverso b)= elementi dispersi e privi di soccorsi.-

Allo stato attuale, il rimpatrio progressivo delle forze di cui al capoverso b)= può effettuarsi essenzialmente con mezzi aerei nei campi di atterraggio di fortuna a disposizione delle truppe di Tito nella zona della Croazia, Bosnia, Erzegovina, eventualmente Serbia; oppure, per gli elementi che siano dislocati presso la costa, a mezzo naviglio che debba eventualmente attraccare ai porti della costa dalmata.-

Per le truppe della divisione "Garibaldi", nella situazione

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20

attuale, il rimpatrio non può essere attuato che a mezzo aerei.-Per altro i campi di fortuna a disposizione del Montenegro (essenzialmente Berane,Negobugia) non risultano in questo momento disponibili perchè occupati dai tedeschi nell'ultima recente offensiva in Montenegro.-

Appena tali campi d'aviazione siano nuovamente in mano ai partigiani di Tito e della divisione italiana "Garibaldi" si potrà riprendere il rimpatrio con quella cadenza che i mezzi disponibili consentiranno, dando naturalmente la precedenza ai feriti, malati o comunque in peggiori condizioni fisiche.-

Qualora però ,data la situazione attuale delle operazioni belliche, per effetto di un ripiegamento o annientamento delle forze dislocate in Balcania si rendesse possibile la percorribilità delle rotabili che conducono alla costa, si renderebbe necessario un pronto rimpatrio totale della massa di uomini, previo afflusso alla costa.-

2°)= Finchè pertanto parte di elementi dispersi o unità operanti in Balcania restino dislocate nella zona, allo scopo di alleviarne la situazione, si rende necessario continuare ed intensificare il rifornimento a mezzo aerei di viveri, indumenti di vestiario, medicinali,armi e munizioni, come viene attualmente operato da speciali organi del comando supremo alleato.

Particolare importanza in questi rifornimenti acquistano le calzature e le uniformi.- Come è noto, questo Ministero non dispone di calzature da poter inviare in Jugoslavia per le forze italiane colà dislocate e per questo si ricorre

(120)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

che conducono alla costa, si renderebbe necessario un pronto [illegible] totale della massa di uomini, previo afflusso alla costa.-

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Particolare importanza in questi rifornimenti acquistano le calzature e le uniformi.- Come è noto, questo Ministero non dispone di calzature da poter inviare in Jugoslavia per le forze italiane colà dislocate e per queste si rimette a quel criterio di assistenza che ha ripercussione sulle operazioni belliche che vengono colà condotte e che i comandi alleati crederanno di adottare; per quanto riguarda invece le uniformi si prospetta subordinatamente a codesta A.S.C. di poter essere autorizzati ad inviare tra le uniformi di recupero quelle più scadenti e che non potrebbero essere destinate alle truppe italiane in territorio nazionale.-

120)

E' del pari nota a codesta A.S.C. la situazione dei viveri in Italia per comprendere come anche per questi il Ministero della Guerra debba rimettersi a quello che riterranno di fare le autorità supreme alleate nell'interesse in genere dei combattenti in Balcania.-

./.

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3°)= Allo scopo di regolare sul posto le questioni concernenti il progressivo rimpatrio dei militari dispersi e degli appartenenti alla divisione "Garibaldi", di provvedere tempestivamente alla raccolta e all'avviamento dei dispersi presso i campi di aviazione o al momento opportuno alla costa, di rappresentare le necessità di rifornimento delle forze italiane in Jugoslavia e allo scopo di sorvegliare il rifornimento e la distribuzione dei generi che fossero per essere inviati, questo Ministero è pienamente concorde con le autorità alleate nel ritenere quanto mai indispensabile l'invio di una piccola missione italiana presso il Quartier Generale del Maresciallo Tito.-

A capo di tale missione, coma da richiesta di codesta A.S.C., sarebbe posto un colonnello che, per aver fatto parte della Divisione "Garibaldi", è di massima già orientato sulla situazione locale e potrà stabilire facilmente rapporti con il comando del citato Maresciallo Tito.-

Questo Ministero predisporrà la composizione della piccola missione, la quale potrà essere trasportata presso il Quartier Generale del Maresciallo Tito quando le autorità alleate si compiaceranno di volerne dare l'autorizzazione e provvedere al trasporto sul posto.-

4°)= Questo Ministero si rende perfettamente conto di quanto esposto al capoverso n° 3 della lettera alla quale si risponde e che la M.M.I.A. non consideri i combattenti della divisione "Garibaldi" come facenti parte dell'Esercito italiano ufficialmente autorizzato dagli alleati. Esso si permette però di prospettare che la divisione "Garibaldi" altro

1284

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Si tratta quindi di operazioni condotte non da elementi singoli e frazionati, ma da una intera Grande Unità italiana paragonabile in tutto alle altre Grandi Unità rimaste intatte nel territorio nazionale.-

L'opera attiva da essa svolta nel Balcani in favore della causa alleata sembra quindi debba essere considerata nel quadro e nel concorso che unità italiane in Patria hanno dato alle valorose unità alleate.-

Questi elementi si prospettano perchè nella considerazione degli Alleati essa sia trattata con uno speciale riguardo, venga, finchè permarrà in posto, rifornita con regolarità e del suo sforzo e sacrificio sia tenuto conto nel concorso dato dagli italiani alle truppe alleate.-

5°)= Per quanto riguarda infine i soldati italiani che si trovano in Grecia, siano essi o accentrati e controllati da apposita missione inglese o siano dispersi in altre regioni della Grecia e particolarmente della Tessalia, sono stati presi accordi verbali col Maggiore Worral in presenza del Magg. Baumann di codesta A.S.C. - In sintesi, il Maggiore Worral ha di massima previsto il concorso di questo Ministero per l'invio alle truppe italiane, fino ad una massima portata di 2 tonnellate mensili, di posta, giornali e riviste, indumenti e generi di conforto.-

Per quanto riguarda gli indumenti vale la proposta contenuta nel precedente n° 2)= e per effetto del quale verrebbero inviati solo indumenti di scarto, e non impiegabili per le truppe in territorio nazionale, provenienti dal recupero di vecchio materiale usato.-

1288

Sarò grato a codesta A.S.C. se vorrà dare un cenno di approvazio-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

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1288

Sarò grato a codesta A.S.C. se vorrà dare un cenno di approvazione di quanto contenuto nella presente lettera e, appena possibile, autorizzare l'invio della missione presso il Quartier Generale del Maresciallo Tito, allo scopo di stabilire gli ulteriori contatti per ~~l'invio della Missione stessa.~~ l'attuazione di quanto sopra

IL MINISTRO

Alessandro Casati

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

1043

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

SECRET

17

Subject:- Italian Forces in GREECE

Army Sub Commission (MAI)
H.Q., A.C.C.
ROME

T3/G/31
1 Sep 44

Ministry of War

1. In continuation of my T3/G/31 dated 29 Aug, the question has arisen of the position of Italian Forces still in GREECE.

2. The bearer of this letter (Major WORDALL) has just returned from 10 months in GREECE and will be able to give you information and discuss the matter with you.

3. Please forward detailed proposals for alleviating the situation of the Italian Forces in GREECE.

4. The same remarks apply as stated in my T3/G/31 dated 29 Aug. paras 3 and 4.

L. Browning

Maj Gen
Army Sub Comm, CC.

cc/LB

Copy to:- Major WORDALL
Political Section CC

1287

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

General Browning
Army Sub Commission

Major Worrall called to see me yesterday afternoon about the attached papers, which raise the possibility of evacuating Italian troops from Greece or, alternatively, doing something to alleviate their present distressful circumstances.

I fully realise that these units are not strictly part of "the Italian Army". Also that questions of evacuation and relief involve the Naval and Air Forces Sub Commissions. But before going any further I would be grateful for your advice how these questions should be handled. You will see, for instance, the suggestion that Major Worrall should get into touch with General Infante, whom he knew in Greece. I take it that he is now in any case not the proper channel for discussing such matters.

Major Worrall is returning at 5 o'clock today for some advice about how to take up these matters.

H.A. MACCI

Political Section
31.8.44

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

16

PERSONAL & SECRET

HQ SOM
CMF

REF: DO/JGB

29 August 1944

Dear Harold

You will remember that the evacuation of Italians from GREECE has been the subject of correspondence between us, ACC and AFHQ. It has now been proposed by MIDEAST that steps should be taken to provide some relief to these Italians, and also to try to arrange for them to receive mail from their families.

Major WORRALL, who brings this letter, has been 10 months in GREECE in the area where most of the Italians are located, and will explain to you exactly what is proposed.

It is thought that at this stage the effect of even token measures of relief or assistance would have a considerable effect on the pro-British sympathies of these Italians when they return to ITALY, and similarly that if the British do nothing whatever to help the Italians in GREECE, a long-lasting and bitter attitude towards BRITAIN will be likely to be implanted.

Briefly, the proposals are as follows :-

(a) to broadcast or otherwise make known to the families of the Italian soldiers in GREECE, the fact that they can address letters through some centralized office to their relations amongst the Italian soldiers in GREECE, and that these letters will reach them. It is hoped that BAF would agree to making Italian aircraft available from time to time for the delivery of this mail.

(b) Italian aircraft to drop a limited amount of Red Cross supplies. As WORRALL will explain to you, it will in practice be necessary to give at least half or more of these supplies to the Greek ANDARTES before the Greeks will agree to the Italians getting any. The Italians might, however, receive something which would be better than nothing. WORRALL has stated that, in his opinion, the Italians will receive next to nothing in the way of food, clothing etc., when the relief plane is started in GREECE, unless special steps are taken to safeguard their interests. No doubt this matter has already been taken care of by ACC.

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The only way the Italians are kept alive is by the supply of half a gold sovereign per head per month, which we pay to the Greek villagers. They keep the Italians more or less as slaves, and feed them on this money, which at the same time provides them (the Greeks) with an ample profit. Last winter ELAS imposed a tax on all money spent for purchase of food for the Italians, and as a result over 800 died of starvation within three weeks.

J.G. BEEVOR, Lt Col G.S.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 787920

15

25 August 1944

Force 133

Dear Alex,

Herewith Philip Worrall, one time Wop expert. He is returning to Bari at my suggestion for the following reasons :-

(1) To carry out his operation and convalescence at Bari in order to save time in returning to Greece (which I hope he will do by the end of September, whatever course events take).

(2) To look into the following matters :-

(a) What has become of Gen WILSON's order (issued in my hearing at ALGIERS last month) that the Italian Navy should be laid on to evacuate out Italian babies.

(b) Possibility of organising mail delivery and Red Cross comforts to our Italians (assuming (a) fails) if possible by Italian planes.

(c) Italian prospects if (a) fails and we have yet another winter in the field with the Italians on our hands. It must be emphasised that in this case neither Philip nor I believe the Italians have more than 25% chance of survival.

(3) Perhaps to contact Gen INFANTE whose help could presumably be relied on to stir up the Italian authorities.

I hope, in fact I am sure, that you will help Philip to see anyone necessary with your accustomed zeal. I also hope the General's interest can be secured.

Within a week I hope to be with you myself, so sort out the bills for what I owe you.

Yo rs,

MONTY WOODHOUSE

alias Chris

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Yours,

MONTY WOODHOUSE

alias Chris

128

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Tab 14

SUBJECT:- Italian Forces in the BALKANS

Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
R O M E.

TS/G/31
29 Aug 44

Minister of War

D

1. I have been requested by Hq A.C.C. to ask you to put forward detailed proposals for alleviating the situation of the Italian forces in YUGOSLAVIA.

2. The Allied Authorities might be prepared to sanction a small temporary Italian Mission of investigation to Marshal TITO's Hq, provided this Mission was headed by an officer of (say) not above the rank of Colonel.

3. It is to be clearly understood that this letter involves no departure in the attitude of MMIA towards those Italian forces. The latter are considered as civilians as far as MMIA is concerned. They do not form part of the official Italian Army authorised by the Allies and any action which may be taken in connection with them will therefore be on a civilian basis.

4. In view of my remarks in para 3 you may wish to consult other Ministries of the Italian Government and Comando Supremo before forwarding your proposals.

2 B

Major General
Army Sub Commission ACC
M M I A

ABC

Copy to:- Hq A.C.C. (ref A/CC 091.711 dated 28 Aug)

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2 B.

ABC

Major General
Army Sub Commission ACC
M M I A

copy to:- HQ A.C.C. (ref A/CC 091.711 dated 28 Aug)
Political Section A.C.C.

1283

Copy sent
To. 28

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

1051

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

EIS/ajp

A/CC 091.711

28 August 1944

Dear General Browning:

This is in reference to your G/6 of 15 August 44, subject: "Italian Troops in the Balkans", and SACMED message F 82845 of 11 Aug 44 which directs that the Italian High Command be requested to submit detailed proposals for dealing with Italian Forces in Yugoslavia. This message indicated that a request to send Italian officers on a temporary mission of investigation might receive favorable consideration. Please see message.

It would seem that yours is the proper organization to deal with the Italian High Command in this matter. SACMED recognizes these Italian soldiers as "Italian Forces" and I hesitate to hand the matter over to the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission for dealing with the Italian High Command.

In light of the above, would you please reconsider your position and deal with the matter as directed in message F 82845?

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

1282

Major General L. Browning,
Army Sub-Commission (MMIA)
Hq. Allied Control Commission.

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

SH 184

Hq ACC - Sec'y Gen.
DISPATCHED
Date-Time 28 Aug 1600
Via Telegr.
Number 10 RR.

1053

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

SUBJECT: Italian troops in the Balkans.

Army Sub Commission, MMIA.
H.Q., A.C.C.

ROME.

G/6 ✓
Aug 44.

H.Q., ACC.

Copy to: Political Section, ACC.

Ref your SI 800 dated 12 Aug -

1. We have steadfastly refused to get drawn into affairs on the other side of the ADRIATIC and it has always been agreed that FORCE 266 deal with these, without interference by MMIA.

2. These Italian soldiers are NOT officially recognised by us. They are to all intents and purposes civilians. When they arrive in ITALY, we do not feed or hospitalise them even.

3. MMIA, M of W and S.E.A.C.E. have their hands more than full with military matters on hand, and something military would suffer if we imposed this task on them.

4. In fact, the whole business is a civil responsibility (somewhat analogous to the patriots).

5. I therefore consider it would be most unwise to take on this added responsibility, apart from the fact that it is NOT a function of MMIA.

6. I consider that this matter should and could best be handled by a civilian branch of A.C.C. e.g. Displaced Persons Sub Commission.

1281

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

tva.LD.
4.c.

1054

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

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MEMO

From: Acting Chief Commissioner

FILE No. SH 000

SUBJECT:

TO: Army Sub-Commission, Hq ACC

12 August 1944

Reference attached signal, please co-ordinate with Political Section and deal with this.

[redacted]
Captain, USMC
Acting Chief Commissioner

1 Incl:
Incoming message from AFHQ
F-61845, 12 August 1944

cc: Political Section

1280

1055

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

Hq ΔCC · Sec'y Gen.
DISPATCHED
Date · Time 12 Aug 1620
via Msg.
Initials DRK

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

9

TOP SECRET

ACTION: ACC RPT ACC

5/12

AFHQ SIGNED SACMED

F 61845

AUG 111915B

TOP SECRET

PRIORITY

CITE FHQCT

Your message S-297 is reference.

It is directed that you request the Italian High Command to put forward detailed proposals for alleviating the situation of the Italian forces in Yugoslavia. It should be pointed out at the same time that a request to send Italian officers on a temporary mission of investigation to Marshal Tito's headquarters might receive favourable consideration by the Allied authorities and would be examined together with their detailed proposals.

ACC DIST:
ACTION - Secy Gen (3)
INFO - File (Skeleton)

1279

TOP SECRET

AUG 120730B

TOP SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785120

TOP SECRET

7

MESSAGE FORM

To :- AFHQ PRIORITY

From:- HQ ADC Office of:- Acting Chief Commissioner

Ref :- S-257

Date :- 22 Jul

Comando Supremo have informed Army Sub Commission that, according to their information, the following Italian Forces are at present operating with partisan units in YUGOSLAVIA :

GARIBALDI Division under Second Corps
GARIBALDI Battalion under First Proletarian Brigade
MATTEOTI Battalion under Third Proletarian Brigade

In addition there are various dispersed groups

Para 2. In order to do what they can for these Italian military personnel Comando Supremo have submitted proposal to send an Italian Military Mission to the Supreme Command of the YUGOSLAV partisan Army. Tasks suggested for Mission are

1278

(a) To examine the needs of the Italian soldiers
(b) To submit these to the Partisan Command for such action as is possible
(c) To suggest means whereby Italian soldiers in YUGOSLAVIA can be kept in touch with Italian authorities as well as their families
(d) To work out with Partisan Command procedure for repatriation of Military personnel who, for reasons of health etc can no longer contribute effectively to the battle.

(e) It is proposed that this Mission should be headed by a Colonel and

GARIBALDI Battalion under First Proletarian Brigade
MATTEOTTI Battalion under Third Proletarian Brigade

In addition there are various dispersed groups

Para 2. In order to do what they can for these Italian military personnel GD Comando Supremo have submitted proposal to send an Italian Military Mission to the Supreme Command of the YUGOSLAV Partisan Army. Tasks suggested for Mission are

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(d) To work out with Partisan Command procedure for repatriation of Military personnel who, for reasons of health etc can no longer contribute effectively to the battle.

Para 3. It is proposed that this Mission should be headed by a Colonel and GD composed of a small number of officers with radio equipment to maintain communication.

Para 4. Above proposal was sent by Army Sub Commission to Force 266 for observations and a meeting on 28 June of the policy Committee decided that there was no military objection to an Italian Military Mission being sent to the Supreme Command of the Partisan Army, but that any communication which the Italians might be authorised to make to General TITO should be addressed to the British Military Mission for onward transmission.

Para 5. Gen BROWNING and I agree that despatch of Mission on lines proposed would have an excellent effect here. Provided that Mission is kept on a low level, for instance, a colonel and two majors, I trust that political consideration would not deter proposal from receiving favourable consideration by Allied authorities.

Para 6. I shall be grateful for instructions

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

1059

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

MESSAGE FORM

6/26 24

1500 D.

TOO 10 3

From MMIA

To FORCE 399
rptd WAR MINISTRY HQ SO(M)

T H I

O 535 (.) SECRET (.) Ref your B 8 Folio 5598 of 5 AUG (.) Evacuation of Gen

PROGIMI ZINO is approved (.) Italian War Ministry agree

May be sent as written except ( ) wireless

Must be sent in Cipher if liable to interception

Degree of Priority

Sgd

Sgd

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

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

CIPHER MESSAGE OUT FOLIO NO.....

TO: M.M.I.A. RPTD HQ.SO(M).

FROM: FORCE 399 B8/ 5th August, 1944.

CENTRAL COUNCIL LNC PARTISAN ALBANIA WISH EVACUATE ITALIAN GENERAL PUCCINI WHO NOW IN SOUTH ALBANIA (.) PUCCINI WILL ONLY AGREE EVACUATION IF ORDERED BY ITALIAN AUTHORITIES CONCERNED (.) WE SEE NO OBJECTION TO HIS EVACUATION AND REQUEST YOU IF YOU AGREE TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY APPROVAL (.)

Originator: Major S.E. Watrous

Major, G.S.
Sec.Head, B8.

T O O hrs GMT
T H I
T O E
T O C

B8/TAC/MEC/94

Copy to B.A.F.

Originator: Major S.E. Watrous

S E Watrous

Major, G.S.
Sec.Head, B8.

T O O 1520 hrs GMT

T H I 051800

T O E

T O C

BGB 10/8

B8/TAC/MEC/94

Copy to B.A.F.

Probably
Gen di Brigata
PICCINI
formerly 2½ Forenge Div
+ lately serving under Gen Azzi
War Ministry
has no objection
to his return

1270

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

1042.

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

SECRET

SUBJECT:- Repatriation of selected Italian Specialists from GREECE & ALBANIA

Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
R O M E.
G/26
25 Jul 44

SMRE

1. AFHQ informed MMIA that it might be possible to evacuate a small number of Italian Army specialists from GREECE and ALBANIA from time to time, and requested details of the specialists required, the number that could be received and to whom they should be handed on their arrival in ITALY.

2. This HQ, after Maj BAUMANN had discussed the matter with SMRE, replied as per attached signal.

3. The above for your information.

ABC

Major General
Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
M.M.I.A.

1065

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

COPY

MESSAGE FORM

T O O 051130b

T H I 05 B

From MMA

To ACC

O 485 (*) SECRET (*) Refer your W 38/27 of 27 June forwarding AFHQ signal FX64796 undated (*) FIRST (*) ITALIAN Army require Medical and Engineer and MT specialists as follows (*) Medical (*) Surgeons and Ear Nose and Throat specialists as opposed to General Duty Officers (*) ORs NOT required (*) Engineers (*) Officers with constructional experience ORs building and metal trades (*) MT (*) All types (*) SECOND (*) Accept up to 200 from FIRST above (*) THRID (*) On arrival ITALY should be handed over to ITALIAN Army

---

May be sent as written except ( ) wireless

To be sent in Cipher if liable to interception

sgnd B.G. BUTTERWORTH
Maj

By D.R.L.S.

1064

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

TOP SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OUTGOING MESSAGE

TO: AFHQ FOR SACMED, BRITISH RESIDENT MINISTER AND U. S. POLITICAL ADVISER — TOP SECRET

FROM: HQ ACC FROM STONE PERSONAL — PRIORITY

REF. NO. S-297 — ACTING CHIEF COMM.

22 JUL

Comando Supremo have informed Army Sub-Commission that, according to their information, the following Italian forces are at present operating with partisan units in Yugoslavia:

Garibaldi Division under II Corps;

Garibaldi Battalion under 1st Proletarian Brigade;

Matteoti Battalion under 3rd Proletarian Brigade.

In addition there are various dispersed groups.

2. In order to do what they can for these Italian military personnel Commando Supremo have submitted proposal to send an Italian Military Mission to the Supreme Command of the Yugoslav Partisan Army. Tasks suggested for mission are:

(a) To examine the needs of the Italian soldiers;

(b) To submit these to the Partisan Command for such action as is possible;

(c) To suggest means whereby Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia can be kept in touch with Italian authorities as well as their families;

(d) To work out with Partisan Command procedure for repatriation of military personnel who, for reasons of health, etc., can no longer contribute effectively to the battle.

3. It is proposed that this mission should be headed by a colonel and composed of a small number of officers with radio equipment to maintain communication.

1274

1065

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

4. Above proposal was sent by Army Sub-Commission to Force 266 for observations and a meeting on 28 June of the Policy Committee decided that there was no military objection to an Italian Military Mission being sent to the Supreme Command of the Partisan Army, but that any communication which the Italians might be authorized to make to General Tito should be addressed to the British Military Mission for onward transmission.

5. General Browning and I agree that despatch of Mission on lines proposed would have an excellent effect here. Provided that Mission is kept on a low level, for instance, a colonel and two majors, I trust that political considera-
tion would not debar proposal from receiving favourable consideration by Allied authorities.

6. I shall be grateful for instructions.

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

1270

DISTRIBUTION:

3 - Political Section
1 - VP Fleet File
1 - Army Sub-Commission

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

SOMTO CMA MIDEAST PAREN ACTION PAREN AFHQ CMA MMIA PAREN INFO PAREN

ACC ADVANCE SECRET

FIVE SIX NINE ROUTINE

ONE SIX JULY ARMY SUB COMMISSION

REFERENCE AFHQ SIGNAL FX SIX FOUR SEVEN NINE SIX RECEIVED TWO SEVEN JUNE PD FIRST PD TYPE OF SPECIALISTS REQUIRED PAREN (A) PAREN SURGEONS AND ENT SPECIALISTS PAREN (B) PAREN ENGINEER OFFICERS WITH CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE ORS BUILDING AND METAL TRADES(PAREN TO SOMTO CMA MIDEAST FOR ACTION AND AFHQ CMA MMIA FOR INFO FROM ACC ADVANCE PAREN)PAREN (M POINT T POINT) ALL TYPES PD SECOND PD WILL ACCEPT IMMEDIATELY UP TO TWO ZERO ZERO PD THIRD PD ADVICE ALL ARRIVALS EARLIEST POSSIBLE TO ENABLE ARRANGEMENT TO BE MADE FOR TAKING OVER BY ITALIAN ARMY

1272

1st Lt. MONTANT

1067

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

Army SC (Locke)

17

~~3256~~ S-5757

6/26

SECRET

AGO RPTD MIDEAST SOMCO AFHQ ADV CF

FREEDOM GHQ SACMED

FX54796

JUN

H38/27

SECRET

ROUTINE

CITE/CMOCT

10 4

PURSUANT TO OUR F58367 OF 10TH JUNE AND OUR F60272 OF 6TH MAY REGARDING REPATRIATION OF SELECTED ITALIAN SPECIALISTS FROM GREECE AND ALBANIA. MIDEAST HIGHEST VIEW OF DE GAULS UNDESIRABLE AND STATE THEY CANNOT AFFORD TO DEPRIVE HIM FROM HIS PRESENT TASKS. IN VIEW OF THIS AND OF THE FACT THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR JOG TO EVACUATE SMALL NUMBER OF SPECIALISTS FROM TIME TO TIME REQUEST YOU INFORM SOMCO AND MIDEAST COPY TO FREEDOM TYPES OF SPECIALISTS REQUIRED NUMBER THAT YOU ARE PREPARED TO RECEIVE THE URGENCY THEIR EVACUATION ART TO WHOM THEY SHOULD BE HANDED OVR OR ARRIVAL IN ITALY

(1) asking
(2)

ACC DIST
ACTION/ ARMY SC REAR HQ
INFO/ SEC GEN
DOC
GA HQ
ARMY SC LIAISON
ARMY LO
FILE
FLOAT 1271

HEADQUARTERS
27 JUN 1944
A. C. C.

SECRET

JUN 27

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

MESSAGE FORM.

Feb 15 6/26 D

Date Time.

From: MMIA

To : HQ ACC SD 1053

(*) Reference A/CC o14.33 of 26 June (*) all correspondence available in MMIA as below available in HQ ACC (*) Letter AFHQ cma MGS 091.711 cma 12 Apr addressed to HQ ACC letter MMIA G/19/5 of 20 Apr cma copy to HQ ACC ACC signal 2684 of 28 Apr cma addressed to FREEDOM FREEDOM signal F 42273 FHGCT of 6 May cma copy to ACC ACC letter Q 8365 of 3 May cma addressed to MGS AFHQ MIDEAST signal N 127/27 of 26 May copy to ACC FREEDOM signal F 58387 date unknown cma copy in MMIA received from ACC cma MMIA letter G/26 of 16 June copy to ACC (*) From the above correspondence it appears that decision was made to repatriate small number of specialists for duty with Italian Army (*) Except for these specialists ample numbers of Italian soldiers available in ITALY (*) Repatriation of 500 men per month from ALBANIA would automatically result in demobilisation of similar number of men now in Army in ITALY

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except _____ wireless.

If liable to interception to be sent in CIPHER

Degree of Priority

Restricted

Sgd _____ Sgd _____

From the above correspondence it appears that decision was made to repatriate small number of specialists for duty with Italian Army (*) Except for these specialists amply numbers of Italian soldiers available in ITALY (*) Repatriation of 500 men per month from ALBANIA would automatically result in demobilisation of similar number of men now in Army in ITALY

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except _____ wireless.	If liable to interception to be sent in CIPHER	Degree of Priority
	L Browning may then	Restricted 127.
Sgd_____	Sgd_____	_____

TOO 28 11 45 B

THI _____

tvsLB.

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

1070

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

ALLIED SUB-COMMISSION
ITALIAN SECTION ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Sick & Wounded - Garibaldi Div. A30/22/27

TO : Poroo/266 29 Jun 44.

1. Further to Army Sub-Commission letter C/6/1 dated 19 Jun 44.

2. I enclose translation of a letter received from Marshal Messe dated 22 June regarding the repatriation of Italian sick and wounded of the Garibaldi Division.

3. With regard to the first two paras. of Marshal Messe's letter I shall be pleased if you will inform all concerned that all Italian sick and wounded will now be accepted in Italy and that the Italian Government will make all arrangements necessary regarding their acceptance.

4. With reference to the suggested Italian Military Liaison with the Yugoslav Partisan Army of Liberation, I shall be pleased if you will let me know if you are in agreement or not with such a proposal.

D. A. Campbell
D. A. CAMPBELL,
Lt. Colonel,
Army Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Army Sub-Commission,
Italian Sec. (ICAIA)
G.H.Q. (ICAIG)

1269

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

Translation

1971 A. 5

Supreme Command.

1st Div. Office of Operations

23 June 1944

TO: ACC

File No. 1317

SUBJECT: Repatriation of sick and wounded of the "Garibaldi" Division

I have been informed by the Garibaldi Division that of six Allied airplanes which landed during the night of the 17th at BERANE, four returned carrying all the wounded partisan troops present, while the other two returned empty even though the sick and wounded Italians, including many seriously ill and mutilated, were ready to be transported and their removal had been requested.

The Allied Commission on the spot declared that the above mentioned sick and wounded Italians could not be taken because in Italy there was not sufficient bed room.

I earnestly request you to intervene in order to prevent a similar incident happening again. I think that if the proposal of this Supreme Comand stated in letter 1552/Op of the 7th instant is accepted, i.e. the institution of an Italian Military Mission with the Supreme Comand of the Yugoslav Partisan Army of Liberation such episodes could be more easily prevented.

I therefore permit myself to insist on the realisation of this proposal.

The Marshal of Italy,
Chief of General Staff

(Giovanni Messe)

1072

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ARMY SC, LECCE
5-5-92
G/26

SECRET)

16

AAI RPTD REDEAOT FOR DALKAID ACC MAIN FORCE 266 REPRESENTATIVE
MG9/27
OF RESIDENT MINISTER BARI
AFHQ 3RD BACKED
FX75053
JUN261900B

SENT
PRIORITY
CITE/PHONE

REIC. FORSTER WALKER COMMANDER ? MILITARY LIAISON (YUGO-
SLAVIA) PROCEEDING BARI ON/ABOUT JULY 15TH ESTABLISH ADVANCED HQ,
WHICH IS AUTHORISED

APO 512

30/6

ADD DEPT

Info - Secy State 1267
Director
C in C
Director, Adv HQ
Army SC Lecce
File
Secret

HEADQUARTERS
28 JUN 1944
A. C. C.

SECRET

JUN26

1078

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

SECRET

14

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

JAQ/cfe

A/CC 014.33

26 June 1944

Dear General Browning,

Reference evacuation of Italians from Albania and Greece.

Force 266 have asked AFHQ for permission to evacuate from Albania some 500 Italian soldiers per month, and AFHQ want ACC's comments on this. From signals in the past it would appear that there has been some consultation on this point between AFHQ, "A" Force, the Resident Minister, and ACC, and that it was decided in May that no large scale evacuation was desireable.

Could you please tell me if yours is the department concerned, refer me to any of your correspondence on the matter, and lastly tell me if your attitude to the project is in any way changed, as both Force 266 and the Comando Supremo are anxious to see this evacuation put into effect.

J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R.A.
PA to A/CC

Major General L. Browning, CB, CBE, MC
Director, Army Sub-Commission
Lequile, Lecce

1200

SECRET

1074

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4

5

+85

SUBJECT:- Italian tps fighting in JUGOSLAVIA

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q.(MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
G/6/1
19 Jun 44

Force 266

Adv HQ Army Sub Comm

1. Att is a translation of a letter received from Marshal MESSE.

2. Would you please state your reaction to his proposal, in order that a reply may be sent.

Brample Lt Col
for Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

ABC

RD 22 June

1266

1075

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

S E C R E T

SUBJECT:- Italians In ALBANIA

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q.(AMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
G/26
16 Jun 44

S M R E

Copy to:- HQ A.C.C.

1. The attached letter addressed to the British Military Mission in ALBANIA by General AZZI, Comd "FIRENZE" Division and "Mountain Troops Command" is passed to you for your information.

2. General AZZI arrived in ITALY on 11 June.

ABC

Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

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

SECRET

6/20

1 16/6 12

Subject: Italians in ALBANIA.

HQ FORCE 266,
C.M.F.

Ref: SF/123/Int7/B8.
13th JUNE, 1944.

TO: Army Sub Commission A.C.C.,
Main HQ (MAIA),
LECCE.

Copy to: Major Lee, Security Intelligence Panel.
" ": GI (b), Adv Gen HQ 5U(M).

1. The attached letter was addressed to the BRITISH MILITARY MISSION in ALBANIA by General AZZI, Comd FIRENZE Division and "Mountain Troops Command", and is passed to you for your information and necessary action.

2. General AZZI arrived in ITALY on 11 JUNE 44.

Major, G.S.

1203

Comando Militare Italiano
Truppe della Montagna

11

29 Febbraio 1944

A Monsieur le Commandant la Mission Militaire du Grand Bretagne

Saravecka

En réponse à votre très gentile communication du 27 courant, je porte à votre connaissance que je retien mon précis devoir moral de rester en Albanie pour suivre la sorte des douzemille officiers et soldats que le 9 septembre 1943, d'ordre du Gouvernement Italien, j'ai conduit à la montagne où resteront comme ils sont maintenant, oubliés de Dieux et des hommes.

Je vous prie de transmettre mon ~~[illegible]~~ opinion au Gouvernement Italien.

En vous saluant très cordialement je vous remercie beaucoup.

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

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Je vous prie de transmettre mon ~~[illegible]~~ opinion au Gouvernement Italien.

En vous saluant très cordialement je vous remercie beaucoup.

Le General de Division Commandant,

– Arnaldo Azzi –

12[illegible]

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1029

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

SECRET

S-4968
Army Lecce
10
1457
6/26

ACTION MIDEAST FOR FORD 133 INFO ACC CAIRO

FROM DIGEST SECRET CITE PRIOT

F 58367

ROUTINE

NNNN

A2D
15/6

8

REFERENCE TO OUR F42279 OF 6TH MAY SUBJECT IS REPATRIATION OF SELECTED ITALIAN SPECIALIST PERSONNEL FROM GREECE AND ALBANIA. PLEASE ARRANGE MAJOR DE CALL ON ARRIVAL ITALY TO CONTACT LT COL KENNETH ADEY AND COMMISSION ADV IN ACC WHO WILL ARRANG LIAISON WITH ITALIAN SUPREME COMMAND

ACC DEPT
INFO SECY GEN
DEP CC
CA EM
ARMY SC (LtCC.)
ARMY SC (ITALIANO)
ARMY LO
FILE
FLOAT

One lesson to Lt Col Campbell.
No action required
- Noted
15/6

1263

JUN 13/

SECRET

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

ARMY SUB-COMMISSION
HEAD Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.

To: Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C. Main H.Q. (MAIA), Lequile, (Lecce).

Subject: Garibaldi Division and Italian soldiers fighting in Jugoslavia with Partisan Units.

ASC/22/27.
14 June 1944.

1/. The attached letter from Marshal Messe, together with translation is forwarded.

J.A. CAMPBELL,
Lieut.-Colonel,
Army Sub-Commission.

1262

TRANSLATION No. 677 - BONNANNI

COMANDO SUPREMO
Unit; Operations Office

7 June 44

File No. 13528/Op

TO: - A.C.C.

SUBJECT:- Garibaldi Division and Italian soldiers fighting in Jugoslavia with Partisan Units.

This Comand Supremo has been able to ascertain that the following Italian forces are atpresent operating side by side with partisan Units of the Army of Liberation:

- The Baribaldi Division - under the IICorps
- The GaribaldiBattalion - under the I Proletarian Brigade
- The Matteoti Battalion - under the III Proletarian Brigade
- Numerous groups of military distributed among the various partisan units
- Numerous miltiary isolated and dispersed, who have found refuge with various private individuals as workers.

The A.C.C. knows very well the difficult conditions to which Italian officers and soldiers at present in the Balkans are subjected because of the deficiency in food, clothing, equipment medicine, etc.

The heavy losses suffered in battle and the acute suferings endured have influenced the physical status and morale of these men who, having given their oath, follow their Commander's orders, refusing to surrender to the Germans.

I believe it is absolutely necessary to provide in some way for these brave soldiers whose efforts, though of an individual character make up the contribution of the Italian armed forces to the Allied cause againts the common enemy. It is indispensable that they hear the voice and the aid of the fatherland, sothat they remain unswerving in that faith which they have chosen voluntarily from the very beginning.

I am of the opinion that a good beginning forthe solution of the problem would be to send an Italian Military Mission to the Supreme Command of the JugoSalv Partisan Army of Liberation (Marshal Tito)

The tasks of the Mission could, ingeneral, be the folbowing:-
- Examine the needs of our soldiers
- Submit to and obtain from the Supreme Command of the J.P.A. (Partisan Army) all those measures of a material and moral nature which could be executed within the Partisan Army itself and in the interest of the individual soldeier.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

- The Baribaldi Division - under the IICorps
- The GaribaldiBattalion - under the I Proletarian Brigade
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The tasks of the Mission could, ingeneral, be the following:-

- Examine the needs of our soldiers
- Submit to and obtain from the Supreme Command of the J.P.A. (Partisan Army) all those measures of a material and moral nature which could be executed within the Partisan Army itself and in the interest of the individual soldeier.
- Suggest to the Italian Comando Supremo those measures which are apt to inform our soldiers that the Italian authorities follow their tidings, their life, appreciate their sacrifices add look after their material and spiritual needs.
- concretize, in accord with the Supreme Command of the Partisan Army, the procedure for the repatriation of those military needing madical care and rest, and who can no longer contribute effectively to the fight.

The Military Mission, headed by a Colonel, would be composed of 4 or 5 officers and various mixed personnel for liaison services, and furnished with radion equipment to establish communications

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

with the units deployed with the Partisans, and with the Italian Supreme Comando.

I trust that the above proposal, submitted with the purpose of increasing to the maximum the Italian contribution to the fight against the Germans and of meeting the requirements, of a military and above all, a spiritual nature of the many Italian soldiers scattered throughout Jugoslavia, will find in the Commission the support necessary to surmount those difficulties which could come in the way of its practical application.

THE MARSHAL OF ITALY
CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF
(Giovanni MESSE)
/s/ G. Messe/

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783120

Translation #6-77

6743 Army

P.M.135, 7 giugno 1944

18/5

COMANDO SUPREMO

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

I Reparto - Uff.Operazioni

N° 15528 /OP. di prot.-

O G G E T T O : Divisione "Garibaldi" e militari italiani combattenti in Jugoslavia con unità partigiane.-

Garibaldi Division & Italian military fighting in Jugoslavia with the ~~united~~ Partisans units

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

Questo Comando Supremo ha potuto accertare che attualmente in Jugoslavia operano affiancate ad unità partigiane dell'Esercito Liberatore le seguenti forze italiane:

- Divisione "Garibaldi" - alle dipendenze del II Corpus
- Battaglione "Garibaldi" - alle dipendenze della I Brigata Proletaria
- Battaglione "Matteotti" - alle dipendenze della III Brigata Proletaria
- numerosi gruppi di militari ripartiti in varie unità partigiane
- numerosi militari isolati dispersi e rifugiati presso privati come lavoratori.

Sono ben note a codesta Commissione Alleata di Controllo le difficili condizioni di vita alle quali sono sottoposti gli ufficiali e soldati italiani attualmente in Balcania a causa della insufficien=

12.9

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

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- numerosi militari isolati dispersi e rifugiati presso privati come lavoratori.

Sono ben note a codesta Commissione Alleata di Controllo le difficili condizioni di vita alle quali sono sottoposti gli ufficiali e soldati italiani attualmente in Balcania a causa della insufficienza di viveri, vestiario, equipaggiamento, medicinali etc.

Le forti perdite subite in combattimento e le gravi fatiche e sofferenze sopportate, hanno influito sul fisico e sul morale di questi uomini che fedeli al giuramento prestato hanno seguito gli ordini dei propri comandanti rifiutando la resa al tedesco.

Ritengo sia assolutamente necessario provvedere in qualche modo a questi bravi soldati i cui sforzi, anche singoli, si assommano al contributo che le forze armate italiane prestano alla causa allea=

./.

8 June 44
Fee 22

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

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

RECEIVED
JUN 8 1944
FBI - U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ta contro il comune nemico. E' indispensabile che essi sentano la vo= ce e l'aiuto della Patria anche perchè la lontananza, l'assenza di ap= poggio, le varie propagande non li allontanino da quella via di fedel= tà che hanno volontariamente scelto sin dal primo momento.

Sarei del parere che un buon avviamento alla soluzione del problema potrebbe essere quello di ottenere l'invio presso il Comando Supremo dell'Esercito Partigiano Liberatore Jugoslavo (Maresciallo Ti= to) di una missione militare Italiana.

I compiti di tale missione potrebbero essere, in linea di mas= sima, i seguenti:

- sentire i bisogni dei nostri soldati;
- prospettare e ottenere dal Comando Supremo E.P.L.J. tutti quei prov= vedimenti di indole materiale e morale che siano attuabili nell'in= terno dell'E.P.L.J. stesso, a vantaggio dei singoli;
- prospettare al Comando Supremo italiano quei provvedimenti atti a dare ai nostri soldati la sensazione che le autorità italiane seguo= no le loro vicende, la loro vita, ne apprezzano i sacrifici e vanno incontro ai loro bisogni materiali e spirituali;
- concretare in accordo con il Comando Supremo dell'E.P.L.J. le moda= lità per il rimpatrio di quei militari abbisognevoli di cure e ri= poso e che non possono più dare un valido contributo alla lotta.

La missione militare, con a capo un colonnello, potrebbe es= sere costituita da 4 - 5 ufficiali e personale di truppa vario per i

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

- prospettare e ottenere dal Comando Supremo E.P.L.J. tutti quei provvedimenti di indole materiale e morale che siano attuabili nell'interno dell'E.P.L.J. stesso, a vantaggio dei singoli;

- prospettare al Comando Supremo italiano quei provvedimenti atti a dare ai nostri soldati la sensazione che le autorità italiane seguono le loro vicende, la loro vita, ne apprezzano i sacrifici e vanno incontro ai loro bisogni materiali e spirituali;

- concretare in accordo con il Comando Supremo dell'E.P.L.J. le modalità per il rimpatrio di quei militari abbisognevoli di cure e riposo e che non possono più dare un valido contributo alla lotta.

La missione militare, con a capo un colonnello, potrebbe essere costituita da 4 - 5 ufficiali e personale di truppa vario per i servizi di collegamento ed essere dotata di mezzi radio per il collegamento con i reparti dislocati presso le unità partigiane e col Comando Supremo italiano.

Confido che la proposta di cui sopra, volta allo scopo essenziale di incrementare al massimo il contributo italiano alla lotta contro il tedesco e di andare incontro alle esigenze di ordine materiale e sopratutto morale dei numerosi soldati italiani sparsi ovunque

./.

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in terra jugoslava, troverà in codesta Commissione l'appoggio neces= sario per superare quelle difficoltà che potrebbero frapporsi alla loro pratica realizzazione.-

IL MARESCIALLO D'ITALIA
CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE GENERALE
(Giovanni Messe)

COMANDO SUPREMO

G. Messe

1257

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1090

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5-4239

ARMY SC (LECCE) 9

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS 30 MAY 1944 A.C.C.

FREEDOM

8

H127/27

MIDEAST

SECRET

0/05535

ROUTINE

MAY261920

CITE/PHGCT

YOUR F/42273 OF 6 MAY. 1. WE HAD HOPED IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO DEVISE SOME ARRANGEMENTS WHICH WOULD MATERIALLY RELIEVE FORCE 133 OF COMMITMENT WHICH IS NOT PROPERLY THEIRS AND WHICH SERIOUSLY EMBARASSES THEIR LEGITIMATE ACTIVITIES. INVIEW CONCLUSIONS STATED YOUR SIG UNDER REFERENCE, WE WILL NOW PROCEED IN ACCORDANCE YOUR PARA 1 D AND E. 2. YOUR PARA 1 B. UNDER THEIR PRESENT INSTRUCTIONS A FORCE ARE NOT PERMITTED EVACUATE ITALIAN PERSONNEL. WE HAVE THEREFORE INSTRUCTED THEM REFER MATTER AGAIN TO TROOPERS FOR DECISION AND YOU WILL BE INFORMED RESULT. 3. YOUR PARA 1 C. IT IS NOT PRACTICABLE TO FORM ITALIANS INTO GUERILLA BANDS BECAUSE FLAS DO NOT TRUST THEM AND MERELY SEIZE ANY ARMS WHICH WE GIVE TO THEM. ITALIANS ARE DISPERSED WHEN EMPLOYMENT CAN BE FOUND FOR THEM. OTHERWISE THEY HAVE TO REMAIN CONCENTRATED FOR EASE OF MAINTENANCE. 4. YOUR PARA 3. MAJOR DE SALIS WILL BE ARRIVING AT ACC HQ SHORTLY UNDER ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY FORCE 133.

FOOTNOTE: F-42273 MC OUT 1428 6/5/44 G-3 HAS BEEN RELAYED TO AFHQ

ADV CP

	AFHQ DIST	ACC DIST
ACTION/	G-3	INFO/ SECY GEN
INFO /	SGS	DCC
	G-5	ARMY SC LECCE
	A FORCE	ADV ARMY SC REAR HQ
	G-2	ARMY LO
	IS & PS	FILE
	MR MACMILLAN	FLOAT
	MR MURPHY	
	AG RECORDS	

1256

10

MAAP CINC MED USN

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NEAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
.....

SECRET
QS365

3 May 1944

SUBJECT: Italian soldiers in Albania and Greece.

TO : Military Government Section, A.F.H.Q., APO 512.

Reference your MGS 091.711 of 12 April as stated in the cable of 27 April.

The Italian Supreme Command welcome the suggestion of a conference with Major DE BALIS. They are preparing a list of specialists whose repatriation is desirable. It is pointed out however, that General INFANTE with whom this matter has been discussed is now Deputy Chief of the General Staff, Italian Supreme Command. At the same time there should be no difficulty in arranging liaison to see that the points enumerated in para 2 of your letter are implemented in conjunction with the appropriate Allied authorities.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Lt. Col.

(Sgd) (G. W. QUINSMITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters

Copy to:
Army Sub-Comm., Main HQ.
(AFHQ) LECCE (LECCE).

1253

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789120

339 8999 8
Drang Force

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
9-MAY 1944
A.C.C.

4/07 15/07
SECRET
NONE
FREEDOM SGD SAC
MIDEAST RPTD ACC SCMTO FORCE 266

MAY061100
"
F42273
FHGCT

PARA 1. QUESTION OF ITALIANS IN GREECE AND ALBANIA REFERENCE YOUR MIL/11 OF 17TH MARCH FROM SECRETARY MEDC ENCLOSING APPRECIATION BY FORCE 133, HAS BEEN EXAMINED FULLY IN CONSULTATION WITH ANLE FORCE, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION AND RESIDENT MINISTER. CONCLUSION AS FOLLOWS:- A. ~~NOT~~ NO REPEAT NO LARGE SCALE EVACUATION PRACTICABLE OR DESIRABLE ON GROUNDS OF SECURITY. B. SMALL NUMBER SPECIALISTS COULD HOWEVER BE USEFULLY REPATRIATED FOR DUTY WITH ITALIAN ARMY UNITS. C. AS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPATRIATE LARGE NUMBERS, ITALIANS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED IF POSSIBLE TO FORM THEMSELVES INTO GUERILLA BANDS. FAILING THIS DISPERSAL AND EMPLOYMENT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. D. ITALIANS IN GREECE SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM DRIFTING INTO ALBANIA AS TO DO SO WITHOUT HOPE OF REPATRIATION ADDS MATERIALLY TO DIFFICULTIES THERE. E. ALLIED MISSIONS IN THE FIELD SHOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE FINANCIAL AID WHERE POSSIBLE. PARA. 2. CONSIDERED HERE THAT APPROACH TO GERMAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH NEUTRAL POWER WOULD BE TOO LONG AND TOO CUMBERSOME AND WOULD IN ANY CASE BE UNLIKELY TO LEAD TO ANY PRACTICAL RESULT. PARA. 3. ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND HAS AGREED TO LIAISON VISIT OF MAJOR 1254
DE SALIS WHO SHOULD REPORT TO AGO HEADQUARTERS ON

PARA 1. QUESTION OF ITALIANS IN GREECE AND ALBANIA REFERENCE YOUR MIL/11 OF 17TH MARCH FROM SECRETARY MEDC ENCLOSING APPRECIATION BY FORCE 133, HAS BEEN EXAMINED FULLY IN CONSULTATION WITH ABLE FORCE, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION AND RESIDENT MINISTER. CONCLUSION AS FOLLOWS:- A. ~~XXX~~ NO REPEAT NO LARGE SCALE EVACUATION PRACTICABLE ORDESIRABLE ON GROUNDS OF SECURITY. B. SMALL NUMBER SPECIALISTS COULD HOWEVER BE USEFULLY REPATRIATED FOR DUTY WITH ITALIAN ARMY UNITS. C. AS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPATRIATE LARGE NUMBERS, ITALIANS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED IF POSSIBLE TO FORM THEMSELVES INTO GUERILLA BANDS. FAILING THIS DISPERSAL AND EMPLOYMENT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. D. ITALIANS IN GREECE SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM DRIFTING INTO ALBANIA AS TO DO SO WITHOUT HOPE OF REPATRIATION ADDS MATERIALLY TO DIFFICULTIES THERE. E. ALLIED MISSIONS IN THE FIELD SHOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE FINANCIAL AID WHERE POSSIBLE. PARA. 2. CONSIDERED HERE THAT APPROACH TO GERMAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH NEUTRAL POWER WOULD BE TOO LONG AND TOO CUMBERSOME AND WOULD IN ANY CASE BE UNLIKELY TO LEAD TO ANY PRACTICAL RESULT. PARA. 3. ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND HAS AGREED TO LIAISON VISIT OF MAJOR 1254 DE SALIO. HE SHOULD REPORT TO ACC HEADQUARTERS ON ARRIVAL

ACC DIST

Info - See Gen
DCC
Army Lecce
Salerno
LO

To see. 2 i.c. (L)
G. Gen 13/5

SECRET

File
Float

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

1093

1094

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

Army Form C.2130.

MESSAGE FORM

46

Serial No. 7

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS	IN	No. of Groups. GR.	Office Date Stamp
	OUT		D/66

CIPHER SECRET

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)

TO Freedom ftd MMIA Repyour 6/17/5 — 45.

FROM	Originator's Number	Date	In Reply to Number
ACC rear from QUINSMITH.	2684 4	28	

Restricted ⊙ Ref letter No. MGQ 091 (?) 711 of 12th April ⊙ ITALIAN supreme command concur ⊙ DE SALIS should report to ACC HQ on arrival

Fee [illegible] 28/4

This message may be sent As Written by any means *(except) (.....) Wireless

Signature.....

This message must be sent In Cipher if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands

Signature.....

Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority

Time of Origin 1253

T.H.I. 281200B

* Originator may delete "except" and insert "including"

(Below this Line is for Signals use Only.)

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T.O.R.

2288/PMEAX/100.000 Pads — 1/42

1093

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

SUBJECT: Italian Soldiers in Albania and Greece

SECRET

File 56

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
G/19/5
20 Apr 44

Army Sub Commission (ACC) Adv HQ
SALERNO

Copy to: HQ ACC

1. Attached letter, MGS: 091.711 of 12 Apr 44, from Military Government Section AFHQ, is passed to you for action since it concerns the Supreme Command, and it is possible that all three Italian services are involved.

2. If there is no objection, please cable agreement to AFHQ vide para 5 of attached letter.

3. Since writing above, HQ ACC have informed us that MGS AFHQ have signalled for an urgent cable reply to their letter. Will you therefore take action as quickly as possible.

Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

CGL.

1252

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

5

~~44~~

ACTION SLIP

This slip will NOT be removed

To: G 501

I think attached is a good scheme & I suggest we cable AFHQ agreeing that DE SALIS comes over here.

AFB 19/4

GOC

This is a new subject.
Gen INFANTE is Chief of Staff at COMANDO SUPREMO
I suggest that the matter is passed to QUINSMITH at Adv HQ for discussion with COMANDO SUPREMO, as it may concern Mediterranean & Navy as well, and that he be instructed to cable AFHQ if there is no objection

19/4

G I 1251

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783920

4

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section HP/TBJ/jjr

MGS: 091.711 12 April 1944

Subject:- Italian Soldiers in Albania and Greece.

To :- H.Q., A.C.C.

1. This Section has received from Mid-East an appreciation concerning Italians(soldiers)known to be in Greece and Albania which has been prepared with a view to esploring the practicability of relieving the Allied Military Missions in the field of responsibility for maintaining such Italians which are said to number some 10,100 in Greece and some 20,000 in Albania.

2. The appreciation has been considered by G-3, 'A' For ce and the Ministers here and the following points appear:-

(a) That no large scale evacuation of the soldiers is practicable or from the security point of view desirable nor would the food situation in Italy allow of the present repatriation of large numbers of troops.

(b) That small numbers of specialists, however, from such forces could usefully be repatriated to Italy for duty with the Italian Army units.

(c) That it is necessary that it be impressed on such forces in Greece that they must not drift into Albania, as to do so without hope of repatriation adds materially to the difficulties of the situation there.

(d) That as it is impossible to repatriate large numbers it is the duty of the soldiers to do all they can in the countries in which they at present find themselves to help the war effort in the most expedient manner, e.g., by formation of guerilla bands, and not to concentrate in areas where they cause embarrassment to forces which are fighting on the Allied side.

It is understood that General Infante and four staff

practicable or from the security point of view desirable nor would the food situation in Italy allow of the present repatriation of large numbers of troops.

(b) That small numbers of specialists, however, from such forces could usefully be repatriated to Italy for duty with the Italian Army units.

(c) That it is necessary that it be impressed on such forces in Greece that they must not drift into Albania, as to do so without hope of repatriation adds materially to the difficulties of the situation there.

(d) That as it is impossible to repatriate large numbers it is the duty of the soldiers to do all they can in the countries in which they at present find themselves to help the war effort in the most expedient manner, e.g., by formation of guerilla bands, and not to concentrate in areas where they cause embarrassment to forces which are fighting on the Allied side.

3. It is understood that General Infante and four staff officers who have come out of Greece through Albania are in Italy and that Force 266 are willing to make available Major de Salis for a Liaison visit to the Italian Government. The latter officer is stated to be 'persona grata' with the King of Italy and could with the proper authority and in conjunction with General Infante greatly assist in the necessary organisation for repatriating such as it is practicable to deal with.

4. It appears therefore that the matter should be tackled on the following lines:-

(a) The visit of Major de Salis should be approved.

(b) That General Infante and his staff should stay until after Major de Salis' arrival.

(c) That lists should be prepared forthwith of the specialists whose repatriation could be accepted and arranged and that arrangements for this worked out in conjunction with Major de Salis and General Infante.

(d) That the points made in 2 above be impressed on General Infante and that he go back ultimately to see that they are implimented in conjunction with the appropriate Allied Military authorities.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 789120

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 783020

5. Will you please indicate by cable whether you concur in the above in order that Mideast may be informed and arrangements be made for Major de Salis to come over to you.

Sgd(T.B. JACKMAN Major)

for HENRY PARKMAN, Jr
Lt Colonel, G.S.C.
Acting Chief of Section.

SECRET

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

Army Form C.2130.

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No. 2

CALL AND INSTRUCTIONS			No. of Groups.	Office Date Stamp
	IN	NR 392/19 TRANSCRIPT	GR.	13
	OUT			

(ABOVE THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY)

TO MMIA

FROM FATIMA Sgnd MACFARLANE	Originator's Number 3477	Date	In Reply to Number

RESTRICTED O Subject is Italian soldiers in Albania and Greece O This is paraphrase of message F34106 dated 18 April from MGS AFHQ O Request urgent reply by cable repeat by cable to letter 091.711 dated 12 April this year

This message may be sent As Written by any means *(except) (.....) Wireless	This message must be sent In Cipher if liable to interception or to fall into enemy hands	Originator's Instructions Degree of Priority	Time
Signature.....	Signature.....	1249	

* Originator may delete "except" and insert "including"

(Below this Line is for Signals use Only.)

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OR	19 1400	[illegible]									

2288/PMEAX/100.000 Pads + 1/42