

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No.

785020

ACC

10000/120/1453

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

1120/1453

SARD/113 High Commissioner S.O.F. Refugees

Apr. - May 1945

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

785020

REFUGEE

1988

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army

21 May 1945

SUBJECT: Transfer of Refugees to Mainland.

TO : Commanding Officer, Italian Naval Hq, Cagliari.

1. In reference to par 3 your letter 642 dated 13 May you are informed that in compliance with instructions received from Hq MSHA Rome this date, refugees will not be transported to the mainland as planned.

2. We have been advised by Displaced Persons Sub Commission, AC that the accommodation of refugees from Northern Italy, particularly Genoa Region, will have priority over refugees wishing to return to the mainland from Sardinia.

LESTER R. ALBERT
Lt Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

Copy to:
H.E. High Commissioner, Sardinia

1987

PRIORITY CONFIDENTIAL

16 MAY 1945

TO: MMIA

FROM: MMIA LO SARDINIA SIGNED ALBERT

Y 422

Reference your SD 2657 of 5 May (.). Italian Navy advises there will be
cruisers sailing from Cagliari on 17, 19, 22, 24, and 26 May (.). Schedule
follows by mail (.). We can fill only four with military (.). High -
Commissioner requests to send refugees on last cruiser (.). Recommend
approval providing no rpt no military available and cruiser can be
spared for such

*Telephone conversation 20 May with Major
Stanton's office - no refugees will be
transported from Sardinia. Replaced
Persons Sub Com. has given priority
to refugees wishing to return to So. Italy*

approval providing no rpt no military available and cruiser can be spared for such

Telephone conversation 20 May with Mayor
Stanton's office - no refugees will be
transported from Sadina. Displaced
Persons Sub Com. has given priority
to refugees wishing to return to So. Italy
from northern Regions.

vgj
1986

Authenticated by

Lester R. Albert
LESTER R. ALBERT

LT. COLONEL

INFANTRY

FILED H.C.

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TRANSLATION GC/rmc 11 May 1945

Cagliari, 10 May 1945

OFFICE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER
for Sardinia

M.XXIII Div. - No. 4802

TO Liaison Officer
Land Forces Sub Commission
Allied Commission (MIA)
Sardinia Allied Garrison Commander

INFO TO: Land Forces Sub Commission
Allied Commission (M.F.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Commander

ROME

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to the Mainland.

Reference your letter dated 3 May 1945. The serious difficulties which are hindering the normal operations for the repatriation of refugees have already been verbally straightened out.

The lack of suitable quarters and the deficiency of adequate facilities do not recommend assembling refugees at Cagliari in advance since they could start epidemics. This is the reason for assembling the departing refugees in town only 24 hours prior to their departure. And said collection of refugees is hindered by the insufficiency of communication facilities needed to notify parties concerned and by the shortage of transportation for the movement of refugees.

It must be added to the above that it concerns civilian personnel who are not restricted to any bond of discipline and that we only can cancel them from further shipments when their non departure in the scheduled day cannot be justified satisfactorily.

It is, therefore, impossible to pretend that the shipment of refugees can be carried out as well organized as the organic military units, properly trained and alerted.

And we have to admit that it is not possible to anticipate the number of departing refugees.

Shipment to which letter from your HQ referred, was particularly hard due to delay of departure of cruiser. In fact, we had to call the departing refugees a first time, then to revoke such order later, and to call them a second time, which caused, obviously, disorganization and confusion.

However, in order to furnish you a tentative and, as far as possible, accurate roster of departing refugees, the personnel of the High Commissioner's Office worked continuously all the evening and night of 2 May until 0430 of 3 May. Only at 0900 hours of 3 May this could learn that the refugees numbered only 310 and that shipping space for 40 persons was available.

1985

File in Alpha File
@

The verbal confirmation given by Capt Delogu in regard to the number of departing refugees was based on the fact that all listed refugees were present at Cagliari and we reasonably presumed that they would go.

Anyhow, the number indicated by the Navy is incorrect since it does not include a lot of children. The exact number hasn't yet been communicated, but it is around 290.

The lost shipping space, consequently, does not exceed space for 20. Such result should be deemed satisfactory, furthermore if we consider that not even for the transportation of refugees from Naples to Cagliari the effective number never checked with the planned one.

In regard to the not transmitting of the signal, it was already cleared that it was due to erroneous translation; consequently, the information that we were supposed to signal to the Allied Commission was on the contrary forwarded to your office at 0600 hours of 3 May together with the nominal roster.

And finally, in regard to baggage, this office instructed the dependent Prefettura that the personal baggage had ^{not} to exceed 50 kg. per person.

Unfortunately, they did not comply with such order. When this office requested clarification in this regard, they disclosed some humanitarian reason which discouraged us from sacrificing the few stores left to the refugees who lost all the rest of their meager properties because of the war.

I hope that you will reconsider the matter and convince yourself that this office collaborated as much as possible, and that the refugees problem deserves an attentive reflection, and cannot be compromised by incidents which are not so serious as it appears at first glance, and that they have to be considered also by the human point of view.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
General P. Pinna
/s/ Pinna

1984



Alto Commissariato *per la Sardegna*

Divisione XXIII M. di prov. 4802

Risposta a nota

Oggetto: Imbarco profughi per il continente.

Allegati

Al Vostro foglio del 3 maggio 1945.

1983

Sono state già chiarite verbalmente le gravi difficoltà che ostacolano il regolare svolgimento delle operazioni di rimpatrio dei profughi.

Mancanza di alloggi adatti e deficienza di attrezzatura adeguata sconsigliano di accantonare preventivamente i profughi in Cagliari, ove potrebbero costituire pericolo di epidemie. Da ciò deriva la necessità di radunare i partenti in maniera che giungano in questa città solamente nelle 24 ore precedenti all'imbarco. E questa radunata è ostacolata dall'insufficienza di mezzi telegrafici, da usare per la chiamata e della scarsità dei mezzi di trasporto, dispo- nibili per l'afflusso dei profughi.

A ciò si aggiunga che si tratta di persone civili, non soggetto a vincoli di disciplina, con il quale si può usare soltanto la sanzione di escluderlo da successive partenze quando non giustifi- chi esaurientemente il mancato imbarco nel giorno prefisso.

Non può, pertanto, pretendersi che l'imbarco dei profu- ghi avvenga con la stessa regolarità dei Reparti organici militari, inquadrati e tempestivamente approntati.

E si deve ammettere che non è possibile prevedere anti- cipatamente il numero dei partenti.

L'imbarco cui si riferisce la segnalazione di Odesso Comando è stato particolarmente difficile per il rinvio della partenza dell'incrociatore. Infatti si è dovuto chiamare una nave di

Cagliari, 3 maggio 1945

AL SIG. Ufficiale di collegamento
Sottocommissione forze di terra
della Commissione Alleata (M.I.A.A.)
Comandante Guarnigione Alleata della Sardegna
- C A G L I A R I -
e P.O. Sottocommissione Forze di terra dell'
Comand. Alleata (M.I.A.A.) - Comandante Guarnigione Alleata
R C M A

Cagliari, dove potevano essere rinchiusi, si era fatta la necessità di radunare i partenti in maniera che giungano in questa città solamente nelle 24 ore precedenti all'imbarco. E questa radunata è ostacolata dall'insufficienza di mezzi telefonici, da usare per la chiamata e dalla scarsità dei mezzi di trasporto, disponibili per l'afflusso dei profughi.

A ciò si aggiunge che si tratta di persone civili, non soggetto a vincoli di disciplina, con il quale si può usare soltanto la sanzione di escluderlo da successive partenze quando non giustificano esaurientemente il mancato imbarco nel giorno prefisso.

Non può, pertanto, pretendersi che l'imbarco dei profughi avvenga con la stessa regolarità dei Reparti organici militari, inquadrati e tempestivamente approntati.

E si deve ammettere che non è possibile prevedere anticipatamente il numero dei partenti.

L'imbarco cui si riferisce la segnalazione di Codesto Comando è stato particolarmente difficile per il rinvio della partenza dell'imbarco. Infatti si è dovuto chiamare una prima volta i partenti, poi revocare l'ordine, e, quindi, chiamarli una seconda volta, creando, necessariamente, disorientamento e confusione.

Ad ogni modo, per poter comunicare un elenco di profughi che desse affidamento di effettiva partenza, gli uffici di questo Alto Commissariato hanno lavorato interrottamente tutta la sera e tutta la notte del 2 maggio, sino alle ore 4,30 del mattino del successivo giorno 3. Alle ore 9 del 3 maggio, codesto Ufficio poteva, in tal modo, apprendere che i profughi erano 340 e che restavano disponibili 40 posti.

L'assicurazione verbale, data dal Capitano Delogu, circa il numero dei partenti era fondata sul fatto che tutti gli iscritti erano ormai a Cagliari, e si doveva ragionevolmente presumere che partissero.

Ad ogni modo, il numero indicato dalla Marina non è esatto, perché non comprende numerosi bambini. Il numero effettivo non è stato ancora comunicato, ma si aggira sui 290.

Raccont
10 May 1943

1.1

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Y LRA/rro

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army

7 May 1945

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to Mainland on Cruisers.

TO : His Excellency, High Commissioner of Sardinia.

1. Reference par 2 of our letter subject as above dated 3 May.
2. For your information MEMA Rome approved my recommendation re shipment of no more refugees to mainland on cruisers.

LESTER R. ALBERT
Lt Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

1982

FILE: H.C.

PRIORITY SECRET 052359 B

FROM MMIA

TO MMIA LO SANDINIA

TO MINISTRY OF WAR

INFO PENSOUTH FOR MMIA LO

SD 2657

1. REFERENCE YOUR SIGNAL Y 390 OF 4TH. NO MORE REFUGEES WILL BE SHIPPED ON CRUISER.
2. REFERENCE MMIA LO LOG NO. 58 PARAGRAPH 4 (b) (2). SURPLUS PERSONNEL CALABRIA DIVISION WILL BE SHIPPED MAINLAND BY 15TH MAY. RATION ISSUE WILL BE RESTRICTED TO AUTHORIZED STRENGTH W.M.F. SAME DATE

6 May phone Col. Castaneda re Panabara, Ltr to follow

MESSAGE VJT 6 MAY 1946

COPY TO SAT

1981

CIPHER SECRET
MESSAGE FORM

Register No. 06D 437

Transmission Instructions

Priority

Sel. No.

Call

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM
(A)

Originator.

Date-Time of Origin.

Office Date Stamp

For Action.

LO SARDINIA

MINISTRY OF WAR

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

TEN SOUTH for MMIA LO

Message Instructions.

C R

Originator's No.

SD 2657

SECRET O 10 Ref your signal

Y390 of 14th O No more refugees will be shipped
on Cruise O

20 Ref MMIA LO LOG No 58 para(6) (2) O
Surplus personnel CALABRIA Division will be
shipped mainland by 15th May O Nation issue
will be restricted to authorized strength
w.e.f same date

785020

surplus personnel CIALABRIA Division will be
 shipped mainland by 15th May 0 Nation issue
 to will be restricted to authorized strength
 w.e.f same date

1980

This message may be sent
 AS WRITTEN by any means
 except WIRELESS.

Signed.

If liable to be intercepted or to fall into
 enemy hands this message must be sent IN
 CIPHER.

Signed.

Originator's Instruction
 Degree of Priority

Time System Op

TTH or TOR

860955-6

Time Cleared

861120:21

04 1145 MAY 1945

PRIORITY SECRET

To: MWLA

From: MIA LO GARDINIA SIGNED ALBERT

Y 390

Reference our signal Y 383 of 2 May (-) Only 273 refugees embarked on MONTECUCCOLI (-) In view of High Commissioner not using 350 passages allocated and other reasons stated in ^{our} letter of 3 May to High Commissioner, copy to you, recommend no repeat no more passages on cruiser be made available for refugees

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

785020

1979

INFANTRY

INFANTRY

LT COLONEL

LT COLONEL

Prepared by

LESTER R. ALBERT

Authenticated by

LESTER R. ALBERT

FILE: #.C.

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

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03 1120 MAY 1945

PRIORITY SECRET

TO MILA AND ALCON FOR DISPLACED PERSONS SUB COM

FROM: MM A LO SARDINIA SIGNED ALBERT

Y

383

Further to our signal Y 375 of 1 May (.) 153 men, 95 women and 62
children all refugees ETA NAPLES 4 May

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

785020

1978

Prepared by

Lester E. Albert

LT COLONEL

Authenticated by

LT COLONEL

LESTER E. ALBERT

INFANTRY

INFANTRY

FILE: J-4

Y LHM/rre

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 394, U.S. ARMY

3 May 1945

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to Mainland.

TO: His Excellency, High Commissioner for Sardinia.

1. Your attention is invited to many discrepancies in regards to instructions given for the shipment of refugees to mainland on the cruiser Montebuccoli.

2. In our letter subject Shipment of Refugees to Mainland dated 26 April 1945 you were allotted space to send 350 refugees. This date at noon your Captain Delogu advised us only 310 were available but that the full number would be sent. On inspecting the loading of the cruiser this afternoon only 273 refugees were loaded. Making it too late to alert additional military personnel and therefore a loss of shipping space which is in great demand.

3. You were instructed to signal Displace Personnel ALCEM earliest. Number of men, women and children. This was not done up to 1200 hours this date and this office sent the required signal for you.

4. You were instructed by our letter subject Shipment of Refugees to Mainland dated 27 April to permit refugees to carry hand baggage only. There were several beds, bed springs, mattresses, trunks, large bags and boxes of various articles, large tables, and even one bag of live chickens. The loading of which delayed the sailing of the cruiser.

5. You had advised us previously that there were approx 1000 refugees on the island and 500 of whom were in the vicinity of Cagliari, it would require 2 days to assemble the latter and 3 or 4 to assemble refugees from the outlying districts. You were advised 4 days prior to original scheduled sailing date and had 4 additional days due to delay.

2. In view of the above, am recommending to MMIA that no more authorization be given to send refugees on the cruisers.

LESTER R. ALBERT
Lt Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

Copy to

MMIA (Information)

C.O. Italian Forces in Sardinia (Information)

C.O. Italian Navy in Sardinia (Information)

1976

Y LRA/rre

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army

28 April 1945

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to Mainland

TO : His Excellency, High Commissioner of Sardinia.

1. Confirming telephone conversation Capt Delogu and Sgt Tarantino 27 April. You will send 350 refugees on the Montecuccoli 29 April. The entire 350 must be sent as arrangements have been made to move them from Naples.

2. You are also authorized to send the 47 Public Security Agents and 31 prison guards.

3. Commander Borghi, Italian Navy Cagliari, has advised me that the Montecuccoli will arrive at Cagliari 1 May and sail from Cagliari 3 May.

LESTER R. ALBERT
Lt Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

1975

Y LRA/rro

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army

27 April 1945

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to Mainland.

TO : His Excellency, High Commissioner of Sardinia.

1. Further to our letter subject as above dated 25 April 1945, a roll with name and address of refugees on Mainland must accompany refugees.

2. Confirming verbal conversation between Col Albert and your Captain Delogu this date, you are authorized to ship 250 refugees with hand baggage which should be kept to the minimum.

LESTER R. ALBERT
Lt Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

*27 Apr. Phone Col. Albert and Maj Stanton's assistant
Authorized by M.M.I.A. to use own judgement
re load for refugees - not necessary to have
full 1000 load when shipping refugees 1974
28 Apr. Phone Albert - Stanton. Montecuccoli
delayed to sail from Cagliari 3 May. Confirmed by
Stanton to load 500 Mil + 350 Refugees.
LRA*

Y LRA/rro

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.M.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army

27 April 1945

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to Mainland

TO : His Excellency, High Commissioner of Sardinia

1. Further to our letter subject as above dated 25 April 1945,
a roll with name and address of refugees on Mainland must accompany
refugees.

LESTER R. ALBERT
Lt Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

1973

Y LRA/vjt

SECRET

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (LSCA)
A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army

25 April 1945

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to Mainland

TO : His Excellency High Commissioner of Sardinia

1. Comdr Borghi informed me this date that he has been advised by Iti^{Navy} Naples that the cruiser Montecuccoli will depart from Cagliari for Naples 29 April 1945.

2. You are authorized to send 350 refugees on the above mentioned cruiser.

3. Your attention is invited to par la of our letter subject as above dated 23 April for strict compliance.

LESTER R. ALBRIGHT
Lt. Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

Alb
P. L.
@
1972

SECRET

FILE: ALCOM

Y LRA/rre

CONFIDENTIAL

LIAISON OFFICER
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED COMMISSION (M.H.I.A.)
Allied Garrison Sardinia
A.P.O. 394, U.S. Army

23 April 1945

SUBJECT: Shipment of Refugees to Mainland

TO : His Excellency High Commissioner of Sardinia

1. Confirming verbal conversation 22 April between General Pinna and Colonel Albert reference signal from ALCOM Hq Rome File 5744 dated 20 April 45 regarding shipment of refugees to Mainland on cruiser sailing 27 April.

a. Only refugees for Italian Government Territory can be accepted, must have homes to go to and agriculturists preferred. No hospital cases. Request priority signal to Displace Personnel ALCOM earliest possible stating numbers men, women and children. Nominal roll giving name, sex, date of birth, address to which it is desired to return to to accompany shipment.

2. As I advised you yesterday I had been informed by phone from M.H.I.A. Rome that this cruiser would not make the trip 27 April but am forwarding the instructions in par la above in case of any change of plans of which I will advise you soonest.

See M.H.I.A. 26 H 1794
LESTER H. ALBERT
Lt Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

Albert
1971

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RESTRICTED PRIORITY 20 APRIL 1945

TO MIA LO SARDINIA CAGLIARI, INFO MIA LO PENSOUTH
FROM ALCOM HQ ROME

5774

SUBJECT IS REFUGEES REFERENCE MIA SD 2611 SHIPMENT 27.

ONLY REFUGEES FOR ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TERRITORY CAN BE ACCEPTED MUST
HAVE HOMES TO GO TO AND AGRICULTURISTS PREFERRED. NON HOSPITAL CASES.
REQUEST PRIORITY SIGNAL TO DISPER ALCOM EARLIEST POSSIBLE STATING
NUMBERS MEN WOMEN CHILDREN. NOMINAL ROLL GIVING NAME SEX DATE OF BIRTH
ADDRESS TO WHICH IT IS DESIRED TO RETURN TO ACCOMPANY SHIPMENT

RESRIPT 22 APRIL 1945 /rro

COPY TO MAJOR MARTIN

1970

Info to Gen Pinna at office

File
@

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No.

785020

207 11 742
CASSES: PD REQUEST PRORITY SIGNAL TO DISPER ALCOM
EARLIEST POSSIBLE STAINF NUMBERS: MEN WOMEN CHILDREN PD
NOMINAL ROLL GIVING NAME SEX DATE OF BIRTH ADDRESS TO
WHIT NN TO WHICH IT IS DESIDER TO RETURN TO ACCOMPANY
SHIPMENT PD +

1968

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

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Fatevi correntisti postali.

Pagamenti e riscossioni in tutte le località del Regno. Fra correntisti i pagamenti e le riscossioni mediante postagiro sono eseguiti senza limitazione di somma ed in esenzione da qualsiasi tassa.

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20/4. 18.9
03.000

PROVVISORIA

PAROLA

DATA DELL'ESITO

TELEFONO

Via e indicazioni eventuali d'ufficio

PADA PA PA PA CASLIARI ROMA A . IC . 1742 112.20/4 17/30

REF NR 57741 DATE 20 APRIL 1945 RESTRICTED PD

SUBJECTS REFUGEES: RE MMIA SD TWO SIX ONE ONE

SHIPMENT TWO SEPEN PD PARE TO FOR ACTION MMIA

LOSARDEGNA FOR INFO MMIA LO PERSOUTH FROM ALCOM CITE

(ACDPR PAREN PARA ONE PD ONLY REFUGEES: FOR ITALIAN

GOVERNMENT TERRITORY CAN BE ACCEPTED. MUST HAVE 1903

TO GOTO AND AGRICULTURISTS: PREFERRED PD NON HOSPITAL

0 3 6 3