

0392

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

ACC

10000/120/1566

SARD

Open

Feb

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

10000/120/1566

SARD/230 Personal - Lt. Col. Kesmen

opened Feb. 29, 1944 - Closed Sept. 17, 1944

Feb. - Sept. 1944

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

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
APO 534

C-1

300.4

17 September

1944

SUBJECT: Letter Orders.

TO :

Lt. Col., JEROME KESSNER, O-215036, AGC/AGC

1. Having received orders from competent authority, the above listed personnel will proceed on or about 1944 to American and return 17 September 1944 ROME, Italy 1944. Travel by military aircraft or/and surface trans completion of duty XXXX CNT TDN 99-66 P 432-02 1 A 0425-24.

By command of Brigadier General WEBSTER:



CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY:

Paul M. Hauble
PAUL M. HAUBLE
CWO., U.S.A.
Adjutant General

4557

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL Equals BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
OUTGOING MESSAGE FORM

ANNEX NO 2

To Memo 05-1

Msg Center No _____ (do not use) Date 26 SEPTEMBER 1944

Headquarters of Origin ARMY SUB COMMISSION CMA AGC

Precedence PRIORITY Security Classification CONFIDENTIAL

TO: MUTA PAREN FIVE AREA PAREN

From: AGC SARDINIA SIGNED SUMMONS Col. Sullivan's Reference Number AGS YONE

REFERENCE YOUR CABLE ABLE QUEEN ZERO ZERO TWO DATED TWO FOUR SEPTEMBER
PD KESSLER DEFINITELY REPORTED BY AIR TRANSPORT AUTHORITIES AS PASSENGER
ON AIRPLANE LOST IN STORM ONE NINE SEPTEMBER PD FURTHER DETAILS WILL
FOLLOW WHEN AVAILABLE

0326

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

4556

From: AGC SARDINIA SIGNED SIMONS AGS YOKE
Reference Number

REFERENCE YOUR CABLE ABLE QUEEN ZERO ZERO TWO DATED TWO FOUR SEPTEMBER
PD KESNER DEFINITELY REPORTED BY AIR TRANSPORT AUTHORITIES AS PASSENGER
ON AIRPLANE LOST IN STORM ONE NINE SEPTEMBER PD FURTHER DETAILS WILL
FOLLOW WHEN AVAILABLE

Prepared by	<u>F. L. SIMONS</u>	<u>COLONEL</u>	<u>INFANTRY</u>
	(name)	(rank)	(org)
Authenticated by	<u>F. L. SIMONS</u>	<u>COLONEL</u>	<u>INFANTRY</u>
	(name)	(rank)	(org)

File: Col result

10 3 9 7

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CBL SD 1455 OF 18 SEPT (FILED "
TROOPS TO MAINLAND") REFERS TO
COL KESSNER

1/.

10 3 9 8
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

URGENT CONFIDENTIAL 251140 A

FROM ROME ALLIED AREA COMMAND

TO FOR ACTION AGC SARDINIA

CITE ROME AREA 8379

REFERENCE YOUR UNNUMBERED CABLE OF 24 SEPTEMBER 44, CITE AGS Y 90,
COLONEL KESSNER UNKNOWN AT THIS HEADQUARTERS

RESRIPT 26 SEPTEMBER 1944 /rrc

(S)

4555

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL Equals BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
OUTGOING MESSAGE FORM

ANNEX NO 2

To Memo 65-1

Msg Center No _____
(do not use)

Date 24 SEPTEMBER 1944

Headquarters of Origin ARMY SUB COMMISSION CMA ACC

Precedence URGENT Security Classification CONFIDENTIAL

TO: INIA PAREN ROME AREA PAREN INFO PEN BASE FOR INIA LO

From: ACC SARDINIA SIGNED SIMONE

Reference Number AGS YORK

90

REQUEST IMMEDIATE INFORMATION ON MOVEMENT COLONEL KESSNER CMA DUE TO RETURN
HERE ONE NINE SEPTEMBER PD REASON TO BELIEVE HE MAY HAVE BEEN IN AIRPLANE
LOST AT SEA NEAR COAST OF SARDINIA PD TIME AND PLACE OF DEPARTURE IMPORTANT
IN TRACING DETAILS OF POSSIBLE ACCIDENT

0480

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

From: AGO SARDINIA SIGNED SIMMONS 90
Reference Number: AGS YORK

REQUEST IMMEDIATE INFORMATION ON MOVEMENT COLONEL KESSER CMA DUE TO RETURN
HERE ONE NINE SEPTEMBER PD REASON TO BELIEVE HE MAY HAVE BEEN IN AIRPLANE
LOST AT SEA NEAR COAST OF SARDINIA PD TIME AND PLACE OF DEPARTURE IMPORTANT
IN TRACING DETAILS OF POSSIBLE ACCIDENT

4554

Prepared by P. L. SIMMONS COLONEL INFANTRY
Authenticated by P. L. SIMMONS COLONEL (rank) INFANTRY (org)
(name) (rank) (org)

File: Col. Kessner

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL Equals BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
OUTGOING MESSAGE FORM

ANNEX NO 2

To Memo 65-1

Msg Center No 171205
(do not use)

Date 17 SEPTEMBER 1944

Headquarters of Origin ARMY SUB COMMISSION CMA ACC

Precedence OPERATIONAL PRIORITY Security Classification CONFIDENTIAL

TO: MMIA PAREN HOME AREA PAREN

From: ACC SARDINIA SIGNED SIMMONS

Originator's

Reference Number ACC YORK 615

REFERENCE YOUR CABLE ABLE QUEEN ONE NINE ZERO TWO DATED ONE SIX SEPTEMBER CMA
KESSNER NEW ENROUTE TO HOME FOR CONFERENCE PD CAN BE RELEASED WITHOUT REPLACEMENT
PD NEW SUBJECT PD REQUEST MAIL FOR MAIL REPEAT MAIL AND DRIVER BE FORWARDED HERE
BY KESSNER

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

0402

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

TO: MIA PAREN ROME AREA PAREN

From: ACC SARDINIA SIGNED SIMMONS Originator's Reference Number AGS YOM 615

REFERENCE YOUR CABLE ABLE QUEEN ONE NINE ZERO TWO DATED ONE SIX SEPTEMBER CLM
KESNER NOW ENROUTE TO ROME FOR CONFERENCE PD CAN BE RELEASED WITHOUT REPLACEMENT
PD NEW SUBJECT PD REQUEST MAIL FOR HALL REPEAT HALL AND DRIVER BE FORWARDED HERE
BY KESNER

4553

Prepared by	<u>F. L. SIMMONS</u>	COLONEL	INFANTRY
	(name)	(rank)	(org)
Authenticated by	<u>F. L. SIMMONS</u>	COLONEL	INFANTRY
	(name)	(rank)	(org)

File. Col. Kesner

10403

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

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY 161736B CONFIDENTIAL

FROM MMIA THROUGH ROME AREA
TO AGC SARDINIA FOR SIMMONS
CITE AQ 1902

PLEASE REPEAT TO 3 DISTRICT ALL SIGNALS WITH REFERENCE SHIPMENT
OF PERSONNEL TO MAINLAND.

NEW SUBJECT. REFERENCE CONVERSATION WITH ROSE. CAN YOU RELEASE
KESSNER FOR DUTIES HERE ? NO REPLACEMENT WILL BE AVAILABLE.
IF YOU CAN RELEASE ADVISE HIS ETA ROME

RESRIPT/gc 17 SEPT 1944

Copy to Lt Col Kessner

(5)

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0404

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Y FIS/jt

Headquarters A.A.I.
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 534, U.S. Army

16 September 1944

SUBJECT: Assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Jerome Kessner, Infantry
TO : Colonel Clayton P. Kerr

1. During my last trip to your headquarters Major Rose discussed with me the possibility of assigning Colonel Kessner to A.F.H.Q. in a liaison capacity. Nothing further has been learned of that prospect and, since the group here in Sardinia doubtless will be reduced in strength as the completion of the evacuation approaches, it seems appropriate to consider the various possibilities involved.

2. Colonel Kessner has requested permission to discuss the matter of his assignment with you and it has my unqualified approval. Of course I have no knowledge of any of the details to which matters of this nature must be subjected. However, in this period of what might be called one of reorganization in this Theatre, it would seem desirable that, in any shuffle, the readjustment should improve the appropriate nature of assignments.

3. If the present rate of shipping continues, which contemplates a movement of over 15,000 troops to the mainland by 30 September 1944, this office should be able to carry on with three officers exclusive of Major Fossett and Lieutenant De Stefano who will be working on supply. Please advise if there is any specific information needed in connection with this matter.

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Senior Liaison Officer

4551

File: Col Kessner

16403

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy Copy

7518

1 AUG 1944

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
CONFIDENTIAL FROM
PRIORITY

AGE FOR SIBBEN SARDINIA

FROM KESNER TO RICHARDS PD UNABLE TO OBTAIN TRANSPORTATION FROM
DUKE MONDAY PD PARSH TO AIRL GEORGE SUGAR FOR SIBBEN FROM
PES MIA LIAISON OFFICER PARSH HIA SARDINIA TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY
ON FIRST AVAILABLE TRANSPORT

K. ROBERT NELSON
MKA,

*Rec'd
1000
5 Aug 44*

*4550
Mr. [unclear]*

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

CONFIDENTIAL PRIORITY 011045 B

FROM KESNER

TO SIMMONS

TO AGS FOR SIMMONS FROM PES MMIA 1.)

UNABLE TO OBTAIN TRANSPORTATION FROM DUKO MONDAY. ETA SARDINIA
TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY ON FIRST AVAILABLE TRANSPORT

NOTE: THIS MESSAGE WAS SERVICED CAUSING DELAY IN DELIVERY

RESCRIPT VJT 3 AUGUST 1944

(5)

3/8

4549

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Col. Simon

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
APO 534

C-1

300.4

8 July 1944

SUBJECT: Letter Orders.

TO : Lt Col., JEROME KESSNER, Inf, O-215035, ACC/ASC

1. Having received orders from competent authority, the above listed American personnel will proceed on or about 8 July 1944 1944 to Ajaccio Corsica. and return to their proper station on 10 July 1944. Travel by military aircraft or/and surface transportation is authorized. TCNT TDN 99-66 P 432-02 1 A 0425-24.

By command of Brigadier General WEBSTER:

AUGUSTUS P. VITALI
Major, Field Artillery
Adjutant General.



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

ACC/ASC

ALLIED GARRISON OF SANDINIA
APO 834

G-5

3 July 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Communication Center Officer.

1. Lt. Colonel JEROME KESSNER, O-215035, Inf., of the ACC/ASC is authorized to authenticate messages with precedence up to and including "Priority."

By command of Brigadier General WEBSTER:

AUGUSTUS P. VITALI
Major, Field Artillery
Actg Adjutant General

OK
File
(5)
B-417

4547

File: Kessner

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

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
APO 534

C-1

~~13~~ 1944
~~13 JUNE 1944~~

SUBJECT: Letter Orders.

TO : LIEUT COL. JEROME KESNER, O-215035, INFANTRY ASC/ACC

1. Having received orders from competent authority, the above listed ~~U.S. ARMY~~ personnel will proceed on or about station on ~~ALGERIA~~ and return to the ~~13 JUNE 1944~~ authorized. ~~23 JUNE 1944~~ P 432-02 1 A 0425-24.

By command of Brigadier General W. B. STEPH:



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ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
APO 534

7 June 1944

Date

SUBJECT: Letter Orders.
Lieut Colonel JEROME KESSNER, O-216036, Inf, ASC/ACC.
TO :

⁸
Algers You are hereby placed on DS for a period of () days in
command. Upon completion of this duty you will return to your proper
station. Travel by military aircraft is authorized. TCNT TDN 1-5600
P 432-02 1 A 0425-24.

By command of Brigadier General WEBSTER:

AUGUSTUS P. VITALI
Capt., Field Artillery
Actg, Adjutant General

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ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
APO 534

4 June 1944

Date

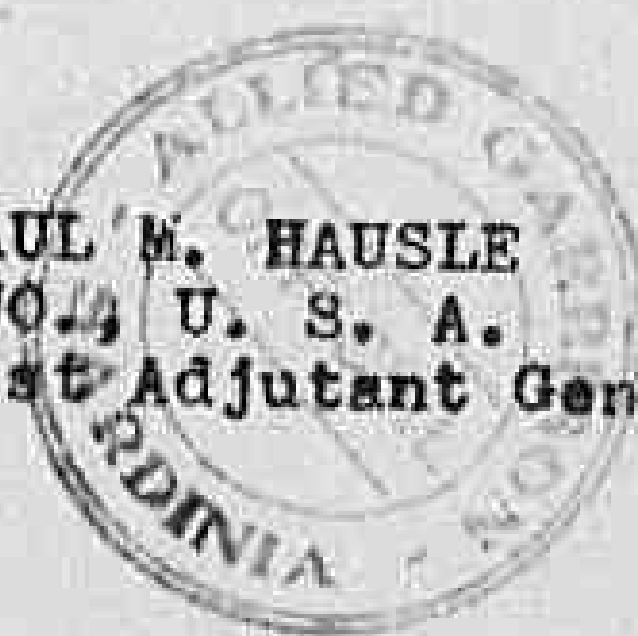
SUBJECT: Letter Orders.

TO : Lt. Col JEROME KESSNER, O-215035, INF, ASC/ACC

1. You are hereby placed on DS for a period of (4) days in AJACCIO, Corsica. on matters pertaining to this command. Upon completion of this duty you will return to your proper station. Travel by military aircraft is authorized. TCNT TDN 99-66 P 432-02 1 A 0425-24.

By command of Brigadier General WEBSTER:

PAUL W. HAUSLE
CW04, U. S. A.
Asst Adjutant General.



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Y JV t

Allied Force Headquarters
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub Commission
A.P.O. 500, U.S. Army

21 May 1944

SUBJECT: Shipment of Italian Troops from Corsica to Sardinia

TO : Commanding General, Italian Forces in Sardinia

1. The following is an extract of the report of Lieut Colonel Kessner, requested by Lieut Colonel Costantino in his conference with Colonel Simmons yesterday.

"On 16 May I conferred with General Lazzarini. He is very anxious to return to Sardinia but before leaving there are several problems to be settled.

a. French authorities now claim some or all of the trucks which were originally agreed on as belonging to Italians and marked TX. General Lazzarini claims that the French have no right to these trucks (about 30) and that some individuals were only asserting the claim to make trouble.

b. There are still outstanding claims against the Italians for damages sustained by French civilians. General Lazzarini states that on basis of previously allowed claims, the average settlement was 35% of the amount claimed. He is willing to pay 40% and withdraw the Italian officers from the claim commission because of possible violence.

c. Italian civilian and military personnel are being held by the French authorities without justification. They are badly treated. In many cases he cannot learn the names of the people or charges on which they are held.

d. At request of the AAO, General Lazzarini will leave a small staff in Corsica, consisting of a Lieut Colonel, Doctor, Chaplain, Administrator, some additional officers and enlisted men. These people are to administer to the Jugo-Slavs and windup affairs. The general has requested that some American personnel be quartered at Italian headquarters to avoid possible incidents.

4543

Col Kessner
Hq. 6th Army Group

10413

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e. He, General Lazzarini, is retaining approximately 40 automobile drivers and mechanics in Corsica until the matter of the trucks is cleared up.

f. Thru other sources I was informed that there are approximately 300 Italian troops still on the island. The exact number is unknown. Some men have married French women and want to stay. Some men are in the interior and their exact locations could not be ascertained. Some men, particularly auto drivers are desired by the French. Exact numbers of men shipped and retained were not available."

JEROME KISSNER
Lieut Colonel, Infantry

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TRANSLATION rro 21 MAY 1944

MILITARY HEADQUARTERS OF SARDINIA
CHIEF OF STAFF OPERATIONS OFFICE

APC 50, 20 May 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Units Coming from Corsica.

TO : Allied Garrison of Sardinia
(Colonel Simmons' Office) ELMAS

1. As of the signals given to your office, the following units arrived between May 13-15:

	OFFICERS	EM
491st Field Hospital	9	91
1st Garrison Bn	10	312
1st Autogroup (recently organized)	14	588
510th Bn T.M.	39	454
511th Bn T.M.	20	481
7th Mixed Motor Transport Sec	3	194

2. Afterward the 7th Army Corps stated that 18 officers and 18 EM, reported as part of the 510th Bn T.M. and 7 officers and 7 EM reported as part of the 511th Bn T.M. were instead personnel destined for the Yugo-Slav Labor Companies, which were returning to Sardinia as ordered.

3. At the same time the same Hq signaled the arrival, in addition, of 67 other servicemen from various units.

Per the signals received from General Lazzarini, the following is the strength as communicated to you with the amendments of para 2 above.

	OFFICERS	EM
491st Field Hospital	9	91
1st Garrison Bn	10	312
1st Autogroup	15	584
510th Bn T.M.	21	439
511th Bn T.M.	21	516
7th Mixed Motor Transport Section	3	220
Personnel for Labor Companies	25	5457

4. Considering:
-that the organic strength of the units doesn't agree with that of the specified strength.
-that the units coming from Corsica have in their strength many servicemen; whom, either

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Receives

File: Reports from Corsica

of embarkation, were attached to these units and consequently, have nothing in common with them.

-that it is necessary to arrange the identification of many of those attached servicemen.

-that many are assigned to Hq units and larger units still in Sardinia.

-that it is advisable to send to the Continent organic units and, as much as possible homogeneous.

I suggest that it is advisable to reorganize in Sardinia the units coming from Corsica and not to send them to the Continent in their present disorganized forms.

5. I add that although the same units, reaching Cagliari organized and with the same strength as that with they left Corsica, if your Hq deem it necessary to ship them immediately, it can be done without delay.

6. As an example I state:

a. In the strength of the 491st Field Hospital are included:
-2 officers, in the hospital, 2 medical officers sent to Corsica on special mission as requested by your Hq, 37 medical EM given of necessity to a Field Hospital operating in Corsica.

b. In the strength of the 1st Autogrup recently organized, when sent from Sardinia, were 46 servicemen belonging to Infantry and Artillery units of the Friuli Division now in Sardinia, and 30 other servicemen, automobile specialists, also belonging to units which are part of the VII Army Corps.

Temporary Commander
/t/ Gen Guido Boselli
/s/ Boselli

4540

Y JK/rro

Allied Force Headquarters
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Army Sub-Commission
A.P.O. 809, U.S. Army

20 May 1944

MEMO TO: Colonel Simmons

RE : Shipment of 158 Foreign Origin Italian Troops to Corsica
Shipment of Italian Troops in Corsica to Mainland thru
Sardinia

1. a. On 16 May I conferred with Lieut Col James, G-3 NORBS,
and arranged to have him pick up the 158 troops on 16 May 1000-1050
hours at Benifacio, Corsica.

b. If possible he will send their clothing to Sardinia for
salvage.

c. He requests additional 600.

d. He has no knowledge of when General Lassarini will leave
Corsica.

2. a. On 17 May I inspected unit. There were 158 men on lists
held by the officer in charge but actually only 154 Jugo-Slavs were
present. Of the additional men to complete the list of 158-one was in
the hospital, two were retained by their original organizations for
Courts-Martial and one was found to be not of Jugo-Slav origin and
therefore excluded. One additional man was expected to rejoin his
company which had previously been sent to Corsica. I informed the
officer in charge that this last man was to be counted in the quota
of 158 and that three additional men should be procured before sail-
ing, which he promised to do. It is interesting to note that the
men included in the lists but not sent were all unavailable at the
time the organizations were instructed to form the group.

f. On 18 May I checked with Captain Cowall who informed me
that the group had left Sardinia as scheduled. Numbers were not
available.

3. On 18 May I conferred with General Lassarini. He is ⁴⁵³⁹
anxious to return to Sardinia but before leaving, there are several
problems to be settled.

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a. French authorities now claim some or all of the trucks which were originally agreed on as belonging to Italians and marked TX. General Lassarini claims that the French have no right to these trucks (about 30) and that some individuals were only asserting the claim to make trouble.

b. There are still outstanding claims against the Italians for damages sustained by French civilians. General Lassarini states that on basis of previously allowed claims, the average settlement was 35% of the amount claimed. He is willing to pay 40% and withdraw the Italian officers from the claim commission because of possible violence.

c. Italian civilian and military personnel are being held by the French authorities without justification. They are badly treated. In many cases he cannot learn the names of the people or charges on which they are held.

d. At request of the AAO, General Lassarini will leave a small staff in Corsica, consisting of a Lieut Colonel, Doctor, Chaplain, Administrator, some additional officers and enlisted men. These people are to administer to the Jugo-Slavs and windup affairs. The general has requested that some American personnel be quartered at Italian headquarters to avoid possible incidents.

e. He, General Lassarini, is retaining approximately 40 automobile drivers and mechanics in Corsica until the matter of the trucks is cleared up.

f. General Lassarini hopes to be able to get to Sardinia on 20 May and then assume command of the 226 Division at Tempio.

3. On 16 May I conferred with Lieut Col McGuire, the AAO.

a. He appears to be well cognizant of the Italian situation.

b. Contemplates a conference with French authorities re trucks. French claim is based on sabotage of vehicles originally turned over to French by Italians in presence of their officers. French claim about 17 Italian trucks to make good the damage. Col McGuire believes he can settle the matter by transfer of 5 or 6 trucks but will try to have all the trucks released to Italians.

c. Col McGuire states AFHQ has ordered that no money now held by General Lassarini for settlement of claims is to be taken out of Corsica by General Lassarini. Claims amount to approximately 80,000,000 francs, and the General has a fund of approximately 40,000,000 francs. (I believe the General wants to salvage what he can of this fund)

d. AFHQ has been informed of the prisoners. There are many delicate problems to be solved. General Lassarini has no responsibility toward civilian prisoners. The whole matter must be

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decided by AFHQ and there is nothing General Lazzarini can do about the matter.

e. Col McGuire believes it to be a good idea to have a small Italian administrative force remain. There have been many complications which may take months to windup. He will arrange to quarter some American personnel at Italian Headquarters to minimize the possibility of incidents.

f. Col McGuire believes there are approximately 300 Italian troops still on the island. The exact number is unknown because the Italians themselves do not know who they have on the island. Some men have married French women and want to stay. Some men are in the interior and their exact locations could not be ascertained. Some men, particularly auto drivers are desired by the French. Some men were not recommended by him for removal and he claims not intended for removal by AFHQ. Exact numbers of men shipped and retained were not available. Col McGuire will try to get the Italians off the island but believes some will be required to stay at the instance of French authorities.

g. Col McGuire believes General Lazzarini is anxious to get away from Corsica, but has no knowledge when he will be able to go.

JEROME KESNER
Lieut Col, Infantry

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1st Ind.

Office of the Provost Marshal General, Allied Garrison of Sardinia, APO 650,
12 May 1944.

TO: Army Sub-Commission, c/o Allied Garrison of Sardinia.

1. Attention is invited to the provisions of AR 860 - 15, MATOUSA Circulars 100 and 185, 1943. Also to the provisions of par. 2, Sec II, Memo 70 - 1, Allied Garrison of Sardinia, 26 March 1944, as amended, and Memo 70 - 5, Allied Garrison of Sardinia, 5 May 1944.

2. Request necessary action be taken in this matter, and that this office be furnished the required information.

3. The original Italian communications and all but one copy of the translations may be removed from this communication for the use of the Investigating Officer.

For the Provost Marshal General:

WILLIAM B. HINOTE,
Captain, CMP.
Ass't Provost Marshal.

2nd Ind.

Army Sub-Commission, Allied Control Commission, APO 509. 12 May 1944

TO: Provost Marshal General, Allied Garrison of Sardinia, APO 650.

1. Returned for transmittal to proper organization indicated in attached certificate of Lieut Colonel Kessner.

2. No personnel connected with this office was involved in the occurrence except as stated in certificate.

For the Commanding Officer:

1 Inclosure Added:
Certificate of Lieut Col Kessner

JEROME KESSNER
Lieut Colonel, Infantry
Army Sub-Commission, ACC

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FILE: PERS. KESSNER

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JA/rro

CERTIFICATE

12 May 1944

I certify that on or about April 26, 1944, shortly after 10 A.M. I was proceeding South from Sanluri, Sardinia in a 1/4 ton C & R truck driven by Sgt Francesco Loiero. Accompanying us was an Italian liaison officer, name not now recalled but believed to be Captain Nicola Cruciani, Rembo Division. It was raining and the road was wet.

As we approached a point about one mile South of Sanluri, I noticed several trucks parked. It was apparent that an accident had occurred. Neither I nor any of the occupants of my vehicle saw the accident. I instructed my driver to stop, which he did.

An American enlisted man approached me, said he had just had an accident in which a woman was injured and indicated the woman to me. Observing that the condition of the woman required immediate medical treatment, I had her placed in my vehicle accompanied by a man identified as Mussino Meloni, a friend of the injured woman. I instructed the driver of the vehicle involved in the accident to follow. Our vehicle then proceeded to the Military Hospital at Sanluri where the injured person received medical and surgical treatment. While the injured party was being treated, I questioned the driver and Mussino Meloni. As soon as I had obtained some information as to what had occurred, I sent two American enlisted men to the scene of the accident to try to locate the drivers of the Italian vehicles who were parked on the road. They later reported these drivers could not be found.

I obtained a signed statement in Italian from Mussino Meloni which statement was turned over to the driver of the vehicle involved, Roland R. Melvin, ASN 38691519, 1993 Engineers, Cagliari (unit Commander Lieut Middleton). He had been driving Ford Crash Truck # 503578. The statement was witnessed by Captain Cruciani who certified thereon that the statement was acknowledged as voluntarily given by witness.

I then inspected the above vehicle for any indication of point of impact, but was unable to determine from any visible sign the exact point. The right front fender had a dent at the side. There was a rusted scratch in the dent which supported driver's statement that the dent had been there prior to the accident.

I instructed Melvin to report immediately to his Commanding Officer and submit a complete accident report form. I submitted my name and address to Melvin and to the hospital authorities. The statement of the Carabinieri that I had been a passenger on the truck involved is in error.

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The road where the accident occurred is hard surfaced, about 24 feet wide including approximately 2-3 feet soft shoulder. The Ford truck was stopped facing North on the extreme left (West) of the road with its left wheels on the shoulder. To the best of my recollection the rear of the Ford truck was approximately 25-35 feet North of two Italian trucks which were parked, facing North on the East side of the road.

JEROME KESSNER
ASN O-215035
Lieut Colonel, Infantry

4534

10 4 2 2

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JK/rre

Italian Troops to be Transported from Corsica to Mainland
Through Sardinia

Conference Ajaccio 11 May 1944

Lieut Colonel James	- G-5, MORBS
Lieut Colonel McGuire	- AAO
Captain Grimes	- From Water Transportation Office (Corsica)
Lieut Colonel Kessner	- Col Simmons' Office

Colonels James and McGuire state that:

1. There are approximately 2350 Italian troops on Corsica to be shipped. (List of units attached shows 2416)
2. AAO is extremely desirous of removing them from the island because of clashes between French and Italian troops. Fearful that many deaths may occur. Also claims operational necessity makes it advisable to have troops moved at once. Emphasizes urgency. No elaboration on operational necessity.
3. Claimed agreement with General Lazzarini whereby the latter has assumed full responsibility for movement of troops from Bonifacio to Cagliari by using Italian LCT from Bonifacio to San Theresa or Palau if possible.
4. Have set up schedule for removal of troops - 500 per day commencing 15 May 1944.
5. Had not gone into details with General Lazzarini regarding shipping of material or vehicles. Claim troops are equipped to take care of selves in field - 3 days rations. Believed to have 30 vehs.
6. Consider necessity so great that AAO has assumed responsibility for shipment without directive from AFHQ (Latest signal from AFHQ asks for opinion as to feasibility).
7. Have arranged for Control and customs commencing 12 May.
8. Inadvisable, if not impossible, to ship from Porto Vecchio because of friction.
9. Do not know General Lazzarini's plans but admit possibility that Gen Lazzarini may not have approved plans ~~after~~ removing troops from Corsica
F&K

I informed them that:

1. We were prepared to receive troops at rate of approximately 700 per day starting 17 May.

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2. That I would have to check with Gen Lazzarini as to arrangements made.

3. That question of whether Colonel Simmons would assume authority to accept troops on basis of last signal from AFHQ was open.

4. Would notify them 12 May if arrangements could be made to accept troops earlier than 17 May.

Conferred With General Lazzarini

1. Claims he had not accepted responsibility for moving troops from Bonifacio to Cagliari. Intended to send officer to Gen Magli 12 May to arrange plans. Believes he can obtain use of Italian LCT.

2. Personally prefers to move his troops to Bonifacio so he can get them all together and start shipment 17 May.

3. But will start his movement to Bonifacio on 12 May on basis of directive from Allied authorities. (AAO?)

4. Can assume full responsibility for maintaining order at Bonifacio.

5. Inadvisable to ship from Porto Vecchio.

6. No vehicles to be taken. Approximately 9-10 tons materials to be shipped. 3 days rations - troops are equipped to maintain selves in field.

7. His officer will contact ASC after seeing Gen Magli

Phoned McGuire

1. Notified him of Gen Lazzarini position.

2. He urges necessity of having troops removed and that we do everything possible to facilitate. Advises against massing of Italian troops.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

If Italian authorities can stage troops in vicinity of Palau until 17 May or such other date when shipping is available, agreeable, and priority established, that this plan be adopted, provided that it is decided that authority to accept them can be assumed without further directive from AFHQ

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UNITS FOR SHIPMENT

510 Infantry	430
511 Infantry	497
7th Truck Group	364
1st Truck Group	*800
Hq Ajaccio	50 ±
Hq Bonifacio	50 ±
481 Hospital	*100 ±
106 Tel and Tel Company	*325 ±

* In Porto Vecchio

Troops in Porto Vecchio move to Bonifacio 12 May
 510, 511th Infantry move to Bonifacio 13 May
 7th Telephone & Telegraph Company Last

10 4 2 8

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ALLIE GARRISON OF CARDINIA
APO 520

(S) (A) (C) (S)

MESSAGE (Incoming)

(944977F)

DATE 11 MAY 44

ROUTINE 1023003 CONFIDENTIAL

LOVE ONE NINE FIVE EIGHT SIX FROM HQ SOS KATUSA SIGNED LAMIN
FOR ACTION TENDARK FOR INFO PALCOE CITE SSCMC RPT SSCMC DASH ONE FIVE
TWO NINE SSGIS

REFERENCE IS SP7AA RPT SP7AA TWO TWO SIX GEORGE EAST CMA DATED FIVE MAY
ONE NINE FOUR FOUR PD BAGGAGE WAS SHIPPED FROM CAMP BEALE RPT BEALE CMA
CALIF RPT CALIF TO TENDARK APPROXIMATELY THIRTY DECEMBER PD ONE MEDICAL
AND TWO BAGS COMPRISED BAGGAGE PD PROPERTY OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL JEROME
KEESER DASH NOT RPT NOT WRASHER IS BAGGAGE REFERRED TO IN SSCMC RPT
SSCMC DASH ONE THREE THREE EIGHT CMA CITE LOVE DASH ONE EIGHT ONE THREE
SIX CMA DATED TWO MAY ONE NINE FOUR FOUR PD

W/C NO. 53

above cable sent to G-1

m.c. 275

REFERENCE IS SPTAA RPT SPTAA TWO TWO SIX THREE EASY CMA DATED FIVE MAY ONE NINE FOUR FOUR PD BAGGAGE WAS SHIPPED FROM CAMP BEALE RPT BEALE CMA CALIF RPT CALIF TO PINEBARK APPROXIMATELY THIRTY DECEMBER PD ONE REGROLL AND TWO BAGS CONTAINED BAGGAGE PD PROPERTY OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL JEROME KESSELER DASH NOT RPT NOT BRASSER IS BAGGAGE REFERRED TO IN SSERC RPT SSERC DASH ONE THREE THREE EIGHT CMA SITE LOVE DASH ONE EIGHT ONE THREE SIX CMA DATED TWO MAY ONE NINE FOUR FOUR PD

M/C NO. 55

above cable sent to G-1

*M.C. 275
sent 3 May 1944
WLE*

4531

ACTION COPY TO ADM. A.C.S.

INFORMATION COPIES TO 0-4 AND 4-1-3

THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED IN SECRET CODE. THE MAKING OF AN UNAC COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN. ONLY SUCH EXTRACTS AS ARE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY WILL BE MADE AND MARKED SECRET, EQUALS BRITISH SECRET. THIS COPY WILL BE SAFEGUARDED WITH THE GREATEST CARE AND WILL BE RETURNED TO THE COMMUNICATION CENTER WITHOUT DELAY.

c/c

0427

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

ROUTINE CONFIDENTIAL 301315 B

FOR COL SIMMONS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION LAND FORCE SUB-COMMISSION, CAGLIARI
FROM LIEUT COL KESSNER MAISON BLANCHE FLD

MY FACE IS RED, TOOK WRONG PLANE

RESRIPT 1 May 1944 RRC

(9)

MAC

4530

FILE 1 PERS. KESSNER

0428
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020 -

ROUTINE CONFIDENTIAL 021623 B

A PARAPHRASE BY CRYPTO MBS OF L-18136
FOR ACTION TO PEMBARK FOR INFO TO FALCON
FROM CG SOS NATOUA SIGNED LARKIN
CITE SSQMC-1338, SSGDS

ON 27 MARCH 1944 BAGGAGE OF COLONEL T. SUTTON, O-11166, SHIPPED
TO PEMBARK FOR TRANSHIPMENT THIS THEATRE FROM QM AT LEAVENWORTH.
REQUEST STATUS.

NEW SUBJECT: APPROXIMATELY 30 DECEMBER 1943 BAGGAGE OF LIEUT COL
JEROME KESSNER, O-215035 WAS SHIPPED TO PEMBARK FOR TRANSHIPMENT TO
THIS THEATER. REQUEST STATUS

RESRIPT 3 MAY 1944 /rrc

10 4 2 9

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

TRANSLATION VJT

MILITARY HEADQUARTERS OF SARDINIA
(XIII Army Corps)
Office of Chief of Staff

No. 207

A.P.O 50, 21 March 1944

Subject: Lieut Col Jerome Kessner

The American Lieut Col, Jerome Kessner, member of Col Simmons' staff, is on detached service with Headquarters VII Army Corps for the purpose of liaison and collaboration with Italian Headquarters and Italian units in Northern Sardinia.

He is, therefore, authorized to visit and inspect headquarters, units and services located on the island. Commanding officers and officers of every rank are kindly requested to give to the above mentioned officer every possible assistance

Colonel, Chief of Staff,
/t/ - G. Ledda -
/s/ Ledda

4528

FILE : PERSONAL : KESSNER

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

COPY 17 March 1944

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
APO 334

14 March 1944
Date

SUBJECT: Letter Orders.

TO : Lt. Col. JEROME KESSNER, INF, O-215035.
Sgt. Francesco A. Loiero, 31164577

1. You are hereby placed on DS for a period of (7) days in AJACCIO, CORSICA, on matters pertaining to this command. Upon completion of this duty you will return to your proper station. Travel by military aircraft is authorized. TOWT TOW 1-5500 P 432-C2 1 A 0125-21.

By command of Brigadier General WEBSTER:

AUGUSTUS P. VITALE
Capt., Field Artillery
Actg, Adjutant General

4527

FILE: KESSNER

10
-5 MARCH 1944

MEMO : TO COLONEL SIMMONS

SUBJECT : AMMUNITION PER FUCILE AUTOMATICO " BERETTA " CAL. 9

Colonel Capello has personally seen the above type ammunition in a warehouse at Corte - Corsica -. He estimates that there is not more than one (2 ton) truckload. He believes the Italian Authorities can take care of the matter of transporting the ammunition with out a request by us for " a certain number of motor vehicles ".

Colonel Capello believes that the office initiating the request should not have made the request at all.

For your information :

- 1- This type ammunition is packed in a box approximately 40 cm. per 30 per 20 - 2000 cartridge in a box - weight 22 Kg. each box.
- 2- Colonel Capello has received a letter of inquiry from a higher Headquarters to the effect that inquiry had been made an Allied Headquarters (which one was not apparent) about 12,000,000 rounds of the above type ammunition. (The exact figure according to the files in your office is 12,423,000 as of 20 December 1943).

The person who sent the figure apparently did not notice that it was listed under a heading of " requirements " and that actually leaving 4,000,000 odd on hand. The exact amount on hand in Sardinia as of 20 February 1944 is 4,529,301, which is slightly more than the balance indicate on the report in your files as of 20 December.

The difference was gained from troops coming to Sardinia from Corsica.

- 3- The Italians have been experimenting with the ammunition used in the British Sten gun. Marking on cartridge WRA 9 mm. They claim this ammunition performs satisfactorily in their Beretta rifle and is a possible source for future supply. (See par 209 J Handbook on Italian Military Forces)

Jerome Kessner
Lt. Colonel, Infantry
3 March 1944

0432

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

ALLIED GARRISON OF SARDINIA
APO 534

C-6

1 March 1944

SUBJECT: Letter Orders.

TO : Lt. Col. JEROME KESSNER, O-215035, Inf., AGCIPSC.
Sgt. Francesco A. Iniero, 31164577, AGCIPSC.

1. You are hereby placed on TD in Sassari, Sardinia, on matters pertaining to the AGCIPSC. Upon completion of this duty you will return to your proper station. Military M/T and/or rail transportation is authorized. TCMT TDM 1-5600 P 432-02 1 A 0425-24.

By command of Brigadier General WEN TAY:

Augustus P. Vitali
AUGUSTUS P. VITALI
Capt., Field Artillery
Actg. Adjutant General

(5)

4525
File: Kessner

0433

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

U. S. RESTRICTED
Equals British RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
A. P. O. 464, U. S. Army

29 February 1944

SPECIAL ORDERS)
50 60 }

1. The following named Off are reld fr asgmt and by with orgn indicated, are asgd to 2675th Regt AUC (USC) (Prov). No travel involved. Auth: Hq NATOUSA Radio No. 57754, 28 Feb. 1944

Rank	Name	ASN	Br	Reid fr
LT COL	JEROME KESSNER	0215035	Inf	34th Inf Div
.....				
.....				

By Command of Lieutenant General CLARK:

A. M. GRUNTHIER,
Major General, G. S. C.,
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

/s/ M. F. Grant
M. F. GRANT,
Colonel, A. G. D.,
Adjutant General.

A TRUE COPY:

Robert J. Connelly
ROBERT J. CONNELLY,
1st Lt. Inf.
Provincial Officer.

4524

*Personal
J. Kessner*

0434

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

Y FIS/vjt

Allied Force Headquarters
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Land Forces Sub-commission
A.P.O. 509, U.S. Army

24 February 1944

Memorandum to A.G., A.G.S.

1. It is requested that A.G.S. identification cards be issued for the use of the officers whose names are listed below:

Lieut. Colonel	Kessner, Jerome	O-215035	Inf. (A)
Major	Martin, Stephen D.	O-303542	C.M.F. (A)
Captain	Owen, Howard	147426	C.M.F. (B)
1st. Lieut.	Zegarelli, Augustine B.	O-1306040	Inf. (A)

F. L. SIMMONS
Colonel, Infantry
Representative in
Sardinia

4523

file: officers

10435

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

RESC 21 FEB. 44

URGENT 210945A

TO FALCON FOR SIMMONS

FROM FATIMA SIGNED MACFARLANE

FOLLOWING IS PARAPHRASE OF MIA SIGNAL SD/249 OF 18 FEB:

NOW FLYING DIRECT TO ELMAS FROM LECCE MONDAY 21 FEB ARRIVING 1230 HOURS
BY SAVOIA POSTAL O/PLANE IS LT COL ~~MESSNER~~. CANCEL ANY OTHER TRANSPORT
ARRANGEMENTS MADE PLEASE. FLEMING MAJOR FOR SHORT VISIT ONLY, IS
ACCOMPANYING HIM.

File. Keasner

4522

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL Equals BRITISH CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED AIRBORNE C. S. T. 12
CUSTODIAN OF DOCUMENTS

ANNEXING 2

To Memo 05-1

Msg C 100

(do not use)

Date 20 FEBRUARY 1944

Headquarters of Cdr in LAND FORCE SUB-COMMISSION - ACC

Precedence PRIORITY Security Classification CONFIDENTIAL SECRET

TO: PATNA FOR JOHN SMITH RPT DIA CMA PARCO CITE RAYBONE

Originator's
Reference Number AGS YOKR - 43

From: SIMMONS AT FABLE

REFERENCE YOUR CASES EIGHTEEN FEBRUARY CDM DIRECT KASSNE AND FLEETING REPORT NIKS
ABLE TARE SUGAR CMA CASFO DI CHIMO AIRBORNE CMA AT ONE THREE ZERO ZERO HOURS
TUESDAY TWO TWO FEBRUARY PD PILOT OF SPECIAL CHARLIE FOUR SEVEN PLANE WILL MEET
AND PROVIDE TRANSPORT FOR THEM AND ALL BAGGAGE PD SECOND SUBJECT CDM NO WORD YAT
CONCERNING RADLY NEEDED CLERK.

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

0433

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

From: SIMONS AT PABLE Originator's
Reference Number 43
103 YOKL - 43

REFERENCE YOUR CABLE EIGHTEEN FEBRUARY CLN DIRECT KENNEDY AND FLEMING REPORT MIKE
ABLE PABLE SUGAR CMA CAMFO DI CHIMO AIRBORNE CMA AT ONE THREE ZERO ZERO HOURS
TUESDAY TWO TWO FEBRUARY PD PILOT OF SPECIAL CHARLIE FOUR SEVEN PLANE WILL MEET
AND PROVIDE TRANSPORT FOR THEM AND ALL BAGGAGE PD SECOND SUBJECT CLN NO WORD YET
CONCERNING BADLY NEEDED CLERK.

4521

Planned to be completed by 11/1/54

Prepared by F. L. SIMONS (0293)
Authenticated by F. L. SIMONS (0100)
File Reviewer

0438

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 78502C

FEB 20 1944 12 44

CODE ROOM 42ND WING

INCOMING MESSAGE

TIME RECEIVED
IN CODE ROOM

TIME SENT
CODE ROOM

1140 1744
RECORDED BY *W.C.* N.C. NR. 54

FALCON FOR SIMMONS FROM FATIVA FROM GUINSHITH SIGNED MACFARLANE

ROUTINE 16184/4

CAN YOU ARRANGE DIRECT AIR PASSAGE RPT PASSAGE FOR COLONEL KESSNER AND
MAJOR FLEWING FROM NAPLES TO CAGLIARI RPT CAGLIARI ON TUESDAY FAILING

THIS WEDNESDAY

(5)

ESC

CAN YOU ARRANGE DIRECT AIR PASSAGE RPT PASSAGE FOR COLONEL KESSNER AND
MAJOR FLEWING FROM NAPLES TO CAGLIARI RPT CAGLIARI ON TUESDAY FOLLING

THIS WEDNESDAY

(5)

Qcto LFSC
Inf Cdy A63

45-0

RED

1400

20 February

2339

THIS MESSAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED IN SEGMENT CODE. THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF
THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN. ONLY SUCH EDITIONS AS ARE NECESSARY WILL BE
MADE AND THESE EDITIONS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE WITH THE ORIGINAL
TEXT.

File: Kessner

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

REC-29 FEBRUARY 1944

ROUTINE 191925A

TO FALCON FOR SIMMONS
FROM FATIMA SIGNED MACFARLANE

FOLLOWING IS PARAPHRASE OF MELA SIGNAL. TO FAROO RPTD FATIMA,
FALCON FOR SIMMONS VIA FATIMA. BEING ASSIGNED TO ASSIST
SIMMONS IN SARDINIA IS KESSNER IN NORTH OF ISLAND HE OPENS NEW
HQ. ONLY ONE VEHICLE HAS SIMMONS THERE WHICH HE MUST HAVE FOR
HIS USE FOR REMOVED FROM SIMMONS WILL BE KESSNER. HE HAS
URGENT NEED OF 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ TON JEEP WITH DRIVER, ITALIAN SPEAKING,
FOR NEW HQ. WHEN CAN DRIVER AND JEEP BE FURNISHED?

SECRET

SECRET

*Col Simmons
Col Kessner
Maj Martin
Maj Bodley
Capt Cerutti
Capt Owen
Lt Zeparelli*

45.9

File: Personal - Col. KESSNER
JEEP

0 4 4 1