

0002

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

ACC

10000/120/5015

INT/209

0003

10000/120/5015

INT/209

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS and Cover
Feb. - May 1946

437
445

SUBJECT: Intelligence Reports

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AG (MILIA)

INT/209

23 May 46

TO : HQ
11 P.L.U.

Reference your L/4 of 9 May 46 and our reply
INT/209 of 14 May 46.

1. HQ 3 District inform us that Major Hector never wrote or was requested to write intelligence reports, but merely acted as a post office for forwarding Italian C.S. reports from PALERMO to 3 District as there was no other channel of communications available.

2. Under the circumstances you are authorized to continue the practice of forwarding to HQ 3 District any C.S. reports that may be delivered to you for transmission. If you are in any doubt as to the matter, will you correspond direct with 3 District.

M. W. H. H.

Brigadier,
General Staff.

LWH/ra

SUBJECT: Intelligence Reports

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MMIA)

INT/209

23 May 46

TO : HQ
3 District

Reference your 47/GSI/46 of 17 May 46.

1. There is no record either in this HQ or in the files of 11 B.L.U. of the arrangements under which 11 B.L.U. forwarded C.S. reports to your HQ.

Major Sykes was unable to have a personal take-over from Major Hector owing to the sudden departure of the latter. He wrote to us on 9 May 46:

" It appears from the files of this office that Intelligence reports on the political situation in SICILY have, in the past, been supplied to Distthree by GSO II B.L.U."

2. Now that this HQ knows the actual facts it has no objections to 11 B.L.U. acting as an intermediary between C.S. and your HQ, and instructions have been issued to GSO II, 11 B.L.U., to forward to you any reports that he may receive.

M.W. Hq
Major-General,
MMIA.

MWH/fa

444

SUBJECT: Intelligence Reports

CONFIDENTIAL.

3 District
Baseball, Ext 6
47/GSI/16

Land Forces Sub-Com, AC (MIA)

17 May 46

Reference your letter INT/209 of 14 May 46.

1. There would appear to be some misunderstanding as to the action taken by Major HECTOR GSO II, 11 BLU PALERMO in the matter of forwarding intelligence reports to this HQ.
2. As you are no doubt aware there was at one time an IS section stationed in SICILY that dealt with all intelligence duties in the island and reported direct to GSI this HQ.
3. This work is now undertaken by the Italian CS and in view of the number of disturbances continually taking place in SICILY, GSI, this HQ, was requested by AFHQ to arrange the quickest method of obtaining reports on such matters. This was found to be through the medium and good offices of 11 BLU.

This branch is aware that BLUs have neither the training nor the time to act as intelligence centres but as the only British unit on the island an arrangement was entered into whereby 11 BLU transmitted reports from CS to this HQ.
4. Major HECTOR has never written or been requested to write his own intelligence reports but merely acted as an intermediary between CS and this HQ.
5. This arrangement has proved very valuable to this HQ and AFHQ and it is regretted that Major Sykes has been instructed to discontinue the practice.
6. It would be appreciated if you would reverse the situation in view of the foregoing remarks and give instructions to 11 BLU to continue this very useful service.

EAB/PTG

W Parks
(C.F. PARKS) Col.
for Maj Gen.
Comd.

443

22 MAY 1946

32
CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Intelligence Reports

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MIA)

INT/209

14 May 46

TO : HQ 3 District

1. It is understood that, by a private arrangement, Major HECTOR, GEO IL, 11 ELU PALERMO, used to send periodical intelligence reports on the situation in SICILY to 3 District.

It is normally no part of the duty of ELUs to forward reports of this nature to any headquarters other than MIA, but it is believed that Major Hector had previously worked for 3 District when he belonged to ILID and therefore retained his contacts with your Headquarters. This Headquarters knew of the arrangement and had no objection to its continuing.

2. Major Hector has now left PALERMO and his place has been taken by Major W. STORS.

The latter has asked us if his duties include sending intelligence reports to 3 District and we have informed him that they do not.

3. Should you wish for assistance from MIA in the matter of intelligence reports from SICILY we will of course do all that we can to help you, but we must advise you that ELUs normally have neither the training, time nor opportunity for acting as intelligence centres.

442

M. W. Hope.
B.G.S.

for Major-General,

1. It is understood that, by a private arrangement, Major HECTOR, ORO II, 11 BLU PALMIO, used to send periodical intelligence reports on the situation in SICILY to 3 District.

It is normally no part of the duty of BLUs to forward reports of this nature to any headquarters other than MIA, but it is believed that Major Hector had previously worked for 3 District when he belonged to INLD and therefore retained his contacts with your Headquarters. This Headquarters knew of the arrangement and had no objection to its continuing.

2. Major Hector has now left PALMIO and his place has been taken by Major W. SYRUS.

The latter has asked us if his duties include sending intelligence reports to 3 District and we have informed him that they do not.

3. Should you wish for assistance from MIA in the matter of intelligence reports from SICILY we will of course do all that we can to help you, but we must advise you that BLUs normally have neither the training, time nor opportunity for acting as intelligence centres.

442

M. W. Hope.

B.G.S

for Major-General,
MIA.

MHI/rd

/CONFIDENTIAL/

SUBJECT: Intelligence Reports

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MIA)

INT/209

14 May 46

TO : HQ 11 BLU

Ref your I/L of 9 May 46.

1. It is no part of the duty of BLUs to supply intelligence reports to any headquarters or establishments other than MIA.

2. Major Hector, prior to his appointment to 11 BLU, PALERMO, had been a member of ISLD and as such had been involved in intelligence duties in South Italy and had had contacts with 3 District and other seekers after information.

3. By private arrangement with 3 District, but with the knowledge of MIA, he continued his intelligence activities while at Palermo. The attitude of MIA being that this was a purely voluntary effort on the part of Major Hector and that as long as he did not consider this work a burden or an unfair responsibility he might carry on.

4. I discussed the matter verbally with Lt-Col Gibbon, who appeared in RME at the same time or shortly after his letter, and explained the MIA attitude. 32

5. I attach a copy of a letter that I have now sent to 3 District on the matter as a result of your letter and have spoken to Malcolm of the Embassy so you need concern yourself no further with sending reports except to MIA.

441

M.W.H.

Brigadier,
General Staff.

30A- (in 36)
ref your 1/4 of 9 May 46.

1. It is no part of the duty of HJUs to supply intelligence reports to any headquarters or establishments other than MIA.
2. Major Hector, prior to his appointment to 11 HJ, PALERMO, had been a member of ISID and as such had been involved in intelligence duties in South Italy and had had contacts with 3 District and other seekers after information.
3. By private arrangement with 3 District, but with the knowledge of MIA, he continued his intelligence activities while at Palermo. The attitude of MIA being that this was a purely voluntary effort on the part of Major Hector and that as long as he did not consider this work a burden or an unfair responsibility he might carry on.
4. I discussed the matter verbally with Lt-Col Gibbon, who appeared in Rome at the same time or shortly after his letter, and explained the MIA attitude.
5. I attach a copy of a letter that I have now sent to 3 District on the matter as a result of your letter and have spoken to Malcolm of the Embassy so you need concern yourself no further with sending reports except to MIA.

441

M.W.H.

Brigadier,
General Staff.

MWH/pd

Subject: Intelligence Reports

CONFIDENTIAL

11 British Liaison Unit

Tel. 18372 PALERMO
I/4

To : Land Forces Sub-Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.
(for B.G.S.)

9 May 46.

RECEIVED 6726

It appears from the files of this Office that Intelligence reports on the political situation in Sicily have, in the past, been supplied to Disthree and G2 RAAC by G.S.O.2. 11 B.L.U. and that correspondence on I.B. matters has passed between G.S.O.2 11 B.L.U. and H.B.M. Consul General in Naples.

No H.Q. M.M.I.A. authority for the submission of these reports can be found but, in view of a D.O. letter (copy att) which was sent by Lt/Col A.W. Gibbon OBE to B.G.S. H.Q. M.M.I.A. on Feb 4., I should be grateful for you direction as to my future course of action in these matters.

I would add that no copy of any instruction, issued as a result of Lt/Col Gibbon's letter, appears on our files.

W. Sykes
W. SYKES, Major
G.S.O. II.,
11 B.L.U.

WS/SI

J.S.L.D.

440

131100

3064

Lt. Col. A.W. GIBSON, O.B.E.
c/o 11, BRITISH LIAISON UNIT,
Palermo, Sicily.

CONFIDENTIAL.

PERSONAL.

4. Feb. 46.

Brig. N.W. Hope, DSO,
Land Forces Sub Com. AC.,
(M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

Dear

I arrived in Sicily this morning and I feel that I should make an immediate report on one aspect of the situation here.

There is said to be a good deal of disorder in the island. The CC.RR are called out at least twice a week, and fierce fights between them and bandits, with casualties on both sides, occur frequently. There is some reason to believe that these disturbances are preliminary to a Separatist Coup d'état, which may occur before the end of February.

Hector is in touch with two informers, and is supplying reports to H.Q., 3 District, at their request. He appears to be their principal source of information. He has also acquainted Mr. Malcolm of the British Embassy in Rome with the facts, at his request.

I feel that he is being asked to shoulder a greater responsibility than is implied in the M.M.I.A. Directive. If a serious disturbance should occur it seems to me that either the British Embassy or 3 District, or both, might try to "pass the baby" on to him. I would like to recommend that both the Embassy and 3 District should send responsible officers to Sicily, either permanently, or on frequent visits until the trouble is over. I realize that the Italians are responsible for law and order, but possibly a serious disturbance might be followed by questions in the House, and the G.H.Q. and H.B.M. Embassy would have to provide information for the answers.

I understand that the Acting British Consul, Mr. Watkins, is an ineffective person, and that the only officer of 3 District who has visited Sicily since November is Lt. Jacobs, I.C.(1B), who was very recently commissioned.

I hope that I am not starting a scare. I have not had time to see for myself, but I think that an immediate report is required. I will write again in a few days.

Yours.

H

ALLIED [REDACTED] COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT:

TO : M.E.I.A. Attention: Colonel Fidsley

FILE No.

3rd May 1946

Herewith a copy of a report received during April from
the Public Safety Liaison Officer at Bologna.

M Carr

M. CARR, Brigadier.
VP. CA. Section.

RECEIVED
6714 4 MAY 1946

438

286

1. The following information has been obtained from a source previously found reliable.

2. A number of recruits when presenting themselves at Military District H.Q. in the various provinces in Emilia-Romagna, have stated that, as members of the Communist Party, they have been instructed by their local party leaders to present themselves when "called up" and conduct themselves in an orderly disciplined manner until they have been properly armed and equipped. All should then await and carry out such further orders as they may receive from Party sources.

3. This is believed to be a party of the military organization of the Communist Party in Emilia, in connection with which the following persons are associated:

4. (a) The Sindaco of Pavullo, Modena Province, a former partisan leader, battle name "Armando";
- (b) General Rovada of Parma, former commander of the "Nord-Emilia Partigiani".
- (c) Colonel Marzioli Luigi, Piacenza, a reserve Army officer;
- (d) Major (of Artillery) Giuffrè Carmelo, on duty at Piacenza;
- (e) Captain Bogiainachi, of Piacenza, a pensioned Army officer.
- (f) Captain Cammarosano Andrea, of Piacenza, a reserve Army officer.

0015