

ACC

10000/120/5261

SD/132/1

REP

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10000/120/5261

SD/132/1

REPATRIATION - EX EUROPE

(1482
1521)

MAR. SEPT. 1945

Cover 2

785020

Date	Pass to (Section)	Ref Folio	Remarks

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

147

191900 A

FROM: MAIN 13 CORPS
TO : FREEDOM GIVE FIRST FEELI RESIN
INFO: ALCOM
MIA
REF : I 99

SECRET

IMMEDIATE

REFERENCE ALCOM SD 2958 (.)

See F1449

1 (.) WOULD POINT OUT EMERENTIALLY THAT NO ACTION ADVISABLE BY
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN VENEZIA GIULIA FOR
POLITICAL REASONS (.) NOR CAN HE ALLOW DETACHMENT OF 228 ITALIAN
DIV INTO VENEZIA GIULIA FOR DEMOBILISATION
PURPOSES AS THIS WOULD CONTRAVERSE THE DUNO AGREEMENT (.)
THEREFORE REITERATE OUR SUGGESTION THAT THIS BE DONE IN DISTWO (.)

SEE OUR I 98 DATED 17 SEPTEMBER PARA 4 (.)

2 (.) DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY DIFFICULTY FROM JUGOSLAV SIDE

REGARDING THOSE WILLING TO RETURN TO JUGOSLAV OCCUPIED

146

ZONE (.)

3 (.) AS RETURNING PERSONNEL ARE LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN DEMONSTRATIONS

ETO SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES MAY ARISE IF THEY ARE IN UNIFORM (.) AS

THEY ARE LIKELY TO ARRIVE DESTITUTE WOULD UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE OF

THEIR BEING SET UP IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING BEFORE ARRIVAL

GSO 1

GSO 2 (Ops)

GSO 2 (SD)

GSO 2 (WE)

GSO 2 (L)

GSO 3 (SD)

GSO 3 (Orbat)

See F. 1481521

DIST

INFO-ACTION DESPER
I FORCES SC

INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EE CCM 2
POLAD (A)
POLAD (B)

REFERENCE ALCOM SD 2958 (.)

See F-149

1 (.) WOULD POINT OUT EMPHATICALLY THAT NO ACTION ADVISABLE BY ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IN VENEZIA GIULIA FOR POLITICAL REASONS (.) NOR CAN WE ALLOW DETACHMENT OF 228 ITALIAN DIV INTO VENEZIA GIULIA FOR DEMOBILISATION PURPOSES AS THIS WOULD CONTRAVENE THE DUISNO AGREEMENT (.) THEREFORE REITERATE OUR SUGGESTION THAT THIS BE DONE IN DISTWO (.)

SEE OUR L 98 DATED 17 SEPTEMBER PARA 4 (.)

2 (.) DO NOT ANTICIPATE ANY DIFFICULTY FROM JUGOSLAV SIDE

REGARDING THOSE WILLING TO RETURN TO JUGOSLAV OCCUPIED

ZONE (.)

3 (.) AS RETURNING PERSONNEL ARE LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN DEMONSTRATIONS

ETC SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES MAY ARISE IF THEY ARE IN UNIFORM (.) AS

THEY ARE LIKELY TO ARRIVE DESTITUTE WOULD UNDERLINE IMPORTANCE OF

THEIR BEING SET UP IN CIVILIAN CLOTHING BEFORE ARRIVAL

3501

GSO 2 (Ops)

GSO 2 (SD)

GSO 2 (W&S)

GSO 2 (L)

GSO 3 (SD)

GSO 3 (Orbat)

See F-1481521

DIST

INFO-ACTION DISPER
L FORCES SC

INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EX OCM 2
POLAD (A)
POLAD (B)
CA SEC
IPW SC
TN SD 2
FILE

SD DISTRIBUTION:

Action: SD/132/2
A

Info: 2 (Two)
SD/54

WS 20 Sept 45

See MWA file A-180

OUTGOING SIGNAL

FROM: MILIA

TO : AFHQ

INFO: ALOCM
XIII CORPS

REF : SD 0958

Date Time

17/620

RESTRICTED

REF PX 43503 CITE FHGCT(.) FIRST(.) ITALIAN
WAR MINISTRY AGREEMENT TO RETURN OF PERSONNEL BY RAIL
TO TRIESTE(.) MINISTRY WILL DEMOBILIZE ON
ARRIVAL TRIESTE AND ASKS THAT HQ L28
ITALIAN DIV NOW UNDER COMMAND XIII CORPS FURNISH
DETACHMENT FOR ITALIAN DOCUMENTATION AND DEMOBILIZATION
AND PERMISSION BE GRANTED FOR SENIOR OFFICER FROM
MINISTRY TO PROCEED TO TRIESTE TO TAKE CHARGE
OF DETACHMENT(.) SUGGEST ONE TRAIN EACH TWO DAYS(.)
NECESSARY FACILITIES MUST BE PROVIDED NEAR TRIESTE
STATION FOR FEEDING AND HOUSING MEN DURING PROCESS OF
DEMOBILIZATION WHICH CAN BE COMPLETED IN 48 HOURS(.)
YUGO-SLAV AUTHORITIES SHOULD GRANT NECESSARY
PERMISSION FOR MEN TO RETURN TO HOMES IF EAST OF
MORGAN LINE(.) REQUEST MEN BE RETURNED WITH ONLY
ESSENTIAL CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

1520

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

No. 147
Capt

Internal: File: SD/132/2

(Two)

See 13

See F. 147

REF TX 43503 CITE T H C O T (.) FIRST (.) ITALIAN
 WAR MINISTRY AGREEABLE TO RETURN OF PERSONNEL BY RAIL
 TO T R I E S T E (.) MINISTRY WILL DEMOBILIZE ON
 ARRIVAL T R I E S T E AND ASKS HAT H Q 438
 ITALIAN DIV NOW UNDER COMMAND XIII CORPS FURNISH
 DETACHMENT FOR ITALIAN DOCUMENTATION AND DEMOBILIZATION
 AND PERMISSION BE GRANTED FOR SENIOR OFFICER FROM
 MINISTRY TO PROCEED TO T R I E S T E TO TAKE CHARGE
 OF DETACHMENT (.) SUGGEST ONE TRAIN EACH TWO DAYS (.)
 NECESSARY FACILITIES MUST BE PROVIDED NEAR T R I E S T E
 STATION FOR FEEDING AND HOUSING MEN DURING PROCESS OF
 DEMOBILIZATION WHICH CAN BE COMPLETED IN 48 HOURS (.)
 Y U G O - S L A V AUTHORITIES SHOULD GRANT NECESSARY
 PERMISSION FOR MEN TO RETURN TO HOMES IF EAST OF
 MORGAN LINE (.) REQUEST MEN BE RETURNED WITH ONLY
 ESSENTIAL CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

1520

PRECEDENCE IMPORTANT

AUTHENTICATED

Internal: File: SD/132/2

(2) (Two)

WS 17 Sep 45

See 13

See F. 148

See F. 147

W. C. C. H. H. H.

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: FREEDOM SIGNED SACHS CITE FRCT

TO : ALCON

MILIA

13 CORPS

USFET REAR

INFO:

DELTA BASE

USFET MAIN

TSFET MAIN

TSFET REAR

REF : FX 43503

151113 B

RESTRICTED

IMPORTANT

QSO 2 (WE)
QSO 2 (L)
QSO 3 (SO)
QSO 3 (Orbat)
QSO 8 (U)

U S F E T CABLE EX 85264 DATED 12 SEPTEMBER NOT TO ALL REFERS (*)

PARA 1 (*) THIS HEADQUARTERS RECENTLY APPROVED REPATRIATION 5000

ITALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL (SLAV ORIGIN) FROM DELTA BASE TO

ITALY (*) U S F E T REQUESTS APPROVAL TO REPATRIATE

SUBJECT PERSONNEL BY RAIL FROM ANNEASSE TO TRIESTE

VIA MILAN AND VENICE (*)

PARA 2 (*) DESIRE YOUR COMMENTS SOONEST ON PROPOSED MOVE (*)

PARA 3 (*) FOR 13 CORPS (*) ABOVE PERSONNEL ALL SLOVENES

WHO WERE CONSCRIPTED INTO ITALIAN ARMY PRIOR TO ITALIAN SURRENDER

AND WERE EMPLOYED AS LABOR UNITS IN SUPPORT US LINE OF COMMUNICATIONS

SOUTHERN FRANCE (*) THEIR HOMES ARE ALL LOCATED IN

VENEZIA GIULIA ON BOTH SIDES OF MORGANA GINE (*)

PARA 4 (*) FOR U S F E T REAR (*) ABOVE PERSONNEL WILL NOT

BE REPATRIATED UNTIL ABOVE ADDRESSEES HAVE VOICED OPINION GIVING

DESIRED DESTINATIONS FOR DEOBILIZATION AND ACCEPTANCE RATE THEREAT (*)

NEGINAL ROLLS LISTING LOCATIONS OF HOMES WILL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO

MOVEMENT (*) FINISH

USFET MAIN
TSFET MAIN
TSFET REAR

Geo 2 (L)

Geo 3 (SD)

Geo 3 (Orbit)

Geo 8 (U)

REF : FX 43503

USFET CABLE EX 85264 DATED 12 SEPTEMBER NOT TO ALL REFERS (*)

PARA 1 (*) THIS HEADQUARTERS RECENTLY APPROVED REPATRIATION 5000

ITALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL (SLAV ORIGIN) FROM DELTA BASE TO

ITALY (*) USFET REQUESTS APPROVAL TO REPATRIATE

SUBJECT PERSONNEL BY RAIL FROM ANNEBASSE TO TRIESTE

VIA MILAN AND VENICE (*)

PARA 2 (*) DESIRE YOUR COMMENTS SOONEST ON PROPOSED MOVE (*)

PARA 3 (*) FOR 13 CORPS (*) ABOVE PERSONNEL ALL SLOVENES

WHO WERE CONSRIPTED INTO ITALIAN ARMY PRIOR TO ITALIAN SURRENDER

AND WERE EMPLOYED AS LABOR UNITS IN SUPPORT US LINE OF COMMUNICATIONS

SOUTHERN FRANCE (*) THEIR HOMES ARE ALL LOCATED IN

VENETIA GIULIA ON BOTH SIDES OF MORGARONE (*)

PARA 4 (*) FOR USFET REAR (*) ABOVE PERSONNEL WILL NOT

BE REPATRIATED UNTIL ABOVE ADDRESSEES HAVE VOICED OPINION GIVING

DESIRED DESTINATIONS FOR DEMOBILIZATION AND ACCEPTANCE RATE THEREAT (*)

NO FINAL RILLS LISTING LOCATIONS OF HOMES WILL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO

MOVEMENT (*) FINISH

SD DISTRIBUTION:

Action: SD/132/2

Info : A Q (Two)

jv 17 Sept 45

Action Taken by 2958 of 17.
Col. KER. SD
over regional
slip sheets

See 13

0851

942

FX 43083
SEP 131637B

F/7568
SEP 140930
ROUTINE

SIGNED MC WARNEY CITE MAGCT
USPET REAR INFO DELTA BASE ALCOM ROME USPET M, USPET M, USPET R.

RESTRICTED.

141
Your EX-85264 dated 12 September refers.

Further study being made on destination 5000 army (ITALIAN)
personnel of SLAV origin from DELTA BASE to ITALY.

Desire personnel be retained by you until details of
demobilization can be worked out.

DIST

INFORMATION	IPGW SC
INFO	CHIEF COMMISSIONER
	L FORCES S
	DISPER SC
	FILE 2
	FLOAT

DP 132 / 71518

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: U.S. FORCES EUROPEAN THEATER REAR SIGNED EISENHOWER

TO : MTOUSA

SEP ~~XXXXXXXX~~ 120159 B

INFO: DELTA BASE

RESTRICTED

ALCOM ROME

ROUTINE

USFET MAIN

THEATER SERVICE FORCES EUROPEAN THEATER MAIN

THEATER SERV FORCES ET REAR

REF : EX 85264

NT

YOUR EX 41982 IS REFERENCE (.)

IN VIEW SCARCITY AVAILABLE WATER LIFT DELTA BASE

REQUESTS APPROVAL REPATRIATION YUGOSLAV PERSONNEL BY RAIL

FROM ANNEMASSE, SUGGESTING ROUTING TO TRIESTE

VIA MILAN AND VENICE (.) IF APPROVED BY YOU

REPATRIATION COULD COMMENCE WEEK OF 16 SEPTEMBER

See F. 142. + 144

DIST

ACTION: DISPER

INFO: CHIEF COMMISSIONER

TN SC 2

FILE 2

FLOAT

MMIA NOT ON DISTRIBUTION. THIS
COPY TAKEN FROM DISPER FILE ON
26 SEPT.

ws 26 Sept 45

1517

50/132/1

140

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: SIGNED ALEXANDER CITE FHGCT

161939 B

TO : USFET MAIN G-3

INFO: USFET REAR
AGWAR
MMIA
ALCOM

REF : FX 36115

SECRET

YOUR S-17622 DATED 15 AUGUST NOT TO ALL REFERS (.)
 AGREED THAT WAR DEPARTMENT BE CONSULTED FOR IMMEDIATE
 REPATRIATION ITALIAN SERVICE UNITS TO M T O (.)
 SUBJECT TO WAR DEPARTMENT APPROVAL DESIRE THAT
 INFORMATION BE FORWARDED OF E T A SO NECESSARY
 ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE

SD DISTRIBUTION:

Action: SD/132/1

Info: A
Q (Two)

ws 17 Aug 45

JWS

Noted Title
 Approved for release
 JWS

Capt GR X ASK X

1516

① The above are the 5000 regular Italian Army in S France.

② Ex-Ambassador have notified Alessi that 5000 regular Italian Army will be repatriated between 16-28 Aug.

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

128

FROM : AFHQ SIGNED MCDARNEY
 TO : USFET REAR
 INFO : AGWAR - DELTBASE
 HMIA
 REF : EX 21541

121352B

CONFIDENTIAL

5000 is
 correct figure

DATED 5 JULY YOUR 65318 (NOT TO ALL). POLITICAL ADVISERS
 RECOMMEND THAT FOR POLITICAL REASONS NOT CONSIDERED
 OPPORTUNE AT PRESENT TIME TO RETURN TO ITALIAN MAINLAND
 25000 ITALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL, OF YUGOSLAV ORIGIN PRESENTLY
 EMPLOYED UNDER US COMMAND IN DELTBASE (.) SUGGEST PERSONNEL
 CONTINUE IN PRESENT EMPLOYMENT UNTIL POLITICAL SITUATION
 AND SHIPPING PERMIT MOVEMENT BACK TO ITALY (.)
 SUBJECT WILL BE REVIEWED ON AUGUST 15 TH AND YOU WILL BE
 NOTIFIED (.) TO AGWAR : THIS ANSWERS YOUR WX 30145, 11
 JULY, CURRENT

SD DISTRIBUTION

Action Copy: SD/132/1
 Info: SD/205
 A
 Q(Two)

jc/ 13/7/45

GEO 1

GEO 2

GEO 3 (C)

GEO 4 (C)

GEO 5 (C)

GEO 6 (C)

GEO 7 (C)

GEO 8 (C)

X REP X

1515

0863

124

SUBJECT: Albanian Repatriates.

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AG (MMIA)

SD/132/1

5 July 68

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR.

MMIA has received a copy of a signal from
Advance Albania Aid to SE Area that evacuation of
Italian military from Albania is now complete.

for Greg
Major General,
MMIA.

Copy to: A

Jv.

R/S/7

1514

(122)

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: MAIN 8 ARMY

031030 B

TO : MMIA

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: 13 CORPS

IMPORTANT

REF : I/273

REF SD 2807 OF 30th 5 TERRITORIAL GMD HAS
ARRANGED TO PAY EX-REGULAR SOLDIERS CONSIDER
NO NEED PRESENCE REF FROM MINISTRY OF WAR
REFERRED TO IN YOUR PARA 3

SD DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION: SD/132/1

INFO: A
SD/38/2

jv 4 July 45

GSD 1

GSD 2 (100)

GSD 3 (50) X

GSD 4 (W) X

GSD 5 (S)

GSD 6 (E)

GSD 7 (V)

GSD 8 (F)

1513

GSD (4) informed WGM 4/7

SUBJECT: Repatriates from Albania. -

936/45

121

The following detail - [redacted] - is for information - [redacted]

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : MAIN 8 ARMY
 TO : HQ ALCOM
 INFO : 13 CORPS
 REF : CL/80

30 1815 B
 SECRET
 IMPORTANT

over SD 2807 of 30 refer.

20.

FIRST PARTIES ITALIA DIV ARRIVING
 ALLIED TERRITORY 1 JULY (.) EXPEDITE REPLY
 . OUR I/263 OF 28

118

AC DISTSD DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION : SD/132/1
 INFO : SD/38/2
 A

jw/ 2 July 45.

(K)

ACTION : LAND FORCES 2
 INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 EX COMMISSIONER 2
 CA SEC
 ECON SEC
 PATRIOTS BR
 FILE

GSO 1

GSO 2 (100)

GSO 2 (100)

GSO 2 (100)

GSO 2 (100)

GSO 2 (100)

GSO 3 (100)

GSO 3 (1)

X 7/2 X
 X 12 X

X 13 X

X 14 X

OUTGOING SIGNAL

FROM: MILIA

TO : MAIN EIGHTH ARMY

INFO: 15 CORPS

SD 2807

30 1910

B

SECRET

REF YOUR 1/263 OF 28 (.) ONE (.) MARIO PALERMO
 AVAILABLE FOR CEREMONIAL PARADE 6 JULY BUT IN PRIVATE
 CAPACITY AS HE IS NOW NO LONGER UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
 FOR WAR ALTHOUGH STILL ACTING AS SUCH PENDING ARRIVAL OF
 HIS RELIEF (.) THIS HQ RECOMMENDS PALERMO ATTEND
 CEREMONY (.) TWO (.) ALSO RECOMMEND GENERAL ARZUFFI
 GO O O TERRITORIAL FEUDINE PRESENT (.) THREE (.)
 REP FROM MINISTRY OF WAR WILL BE DETAILED TO PAY APPEARS
 FOR ALL MEMBERS OF GARIBOLDI DIV WHO REGULAR ARMY SOLDIERS
 AT DATE OF APPOINTMENT (.) FOUR (.) ALL MEMBERS OF GARIBOLDI
 DIV VOLUNTEERING TO JOIN ITALIAN ARMY AFTER DISARMMENT OF UNIT
 WILL BE ACCEPTABLE AS INDIVIDUALS UNDER USUAL CONDITIONS (.)
 PLEASE CONFIRM

Yolio 120 refers 122.

PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

AUTENTICATED

COPY TO

ALCOM

ALCOM for PAT BR

INTERNAL

SD (three)

A {two}

SD/132/1

SD/33/2

JWG

R 30/6

2517

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: MAIN 8 ARMY
 TO : HQ ALCOM
 INFO: 13 CORPS
 REF : I/263

28 1635 B

SECRET

ONE (.) BY ARRANGEMENTS WITH YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES

ITALIA GARIBOLDI ASSAULT DIV MOVING INTO ALLIED TERRITORY
 4 JULY FROM UNDER COMD 2 YUGOSLAV ARMY (.) DIV IS BEING MET BY ARMY TPT
 AND MOVED TO CONC AREA WEST OF ISONZO (.) CEREMONIAL FAREWELL
 PARADE HELD BY YUGOSLAVS RECENTLY NEAR ZAGREB (.) TWO (.)
 PROPOSE HOLD PARELLEL CEREMONIAL PARADE ON 6 JULY WITH BRITISH ITALIAN AND
 YUGOSLAV REPS (.) REQUEST PRESENCE AT PARADE OF PALERMO, UNDER
 SEC OF WAR OR ANOTHER GOVT REP (.) PALERMO MOST SUITABLE SINCE HE
 VISITED ITALIAN UNITS IN YUGOSLAVIA LAST YEAR AND ARRANGED REPATRIATION OF
 OXILIA GARIBOLDI DIV (.) IF PALERMO WILLING TO
 COME WE WILL ARRANGE AIRPLANE TO PICK HIM UP IN ROME ON 4 JULY (.)
 THREE (.) WHOLE OF DIV CONSISTS ITALIAN SOLDIERS SERVING IN YUGOSLAVIA
 AT TIME OF ARMISTICE (.) IMMEDIATE DECISION REQUIRED WHETHER THEY ARE TO
 BE GIVEN PARTISAN GRADUITIES OR BACK AS SOLDIER W.E.F. DATE OF LAST PAYMENT (.)
 IF THE LATTER PLEASE ARRANGE THROUGH MMIA FOR LOCAL ITALIAN PAYMASTER
 TO PAY THEM ON OCCASION OF PARADE

DIST

ACTION : LAND FORCES SC 2
 INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 EX COMMISSIONER 2
 CA SEC
 ECON SEC
 PATRIOTS RR

SD DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION : SD/132/1
 INFO : SD/38/2
 ACTION : A (Two)

ONE (.) BY ARRANGEMENTS WITH YUGOSLAV AUTHORITIES
 ITALIA G A R I B A L D I ASSAULT DIV MOVING INTO ALLIED TERRITORY
 4 JULY FROM UNDER COMD 2 YUGOSLAV ARMY (.) DIV IS BEING MET BY ARMY TPT
 AND MOVED TO CONC AREAR WEST OF I S O N Z O (.) CEREMONIAL FAREWELL
 PARADE HELD BY YUGOSLAVS RECENTLY NEAR Z A G R E B (.) TWO (.)
 PROPOSE HOLD PARELLEL CEREMONIAL PARADE ON 6 JULY WITH BRITISH ITALIAN AND
 YUGOSLAV REFS (.) REQUEST PRESENCE AT PARADE OF P A L E R M O, UNDER
 SEC OF WAR OR ANOTHER GOVT REP (.) P A L E R M O MOST SUITABLE SINCE HE
 VISITED ITALIAN UNITS IN YUGOSLAVIA LAST YEAR AND ARRANGED REPATRIATION OF
 O X I L I A G A R I B A L D I DIV (.) IF P A L E R M O WILLING TO
 COME WE WILL ARRANGE AEROPLANE TO PICK HIM UP IN R O M E ON 4 JULY (.)
 THREE (.) WHOLE OF DIV CONSISTS ITALIAN SOLDIERS SERVING IN YUGOSLAVIA
 AT TIME OF ARMISTICE (.) IMMEDIATE DECISION REQUIRED WHETHER ~~THEY~~ ARE TO
 BE GIVEN PARTISAN GRADUITIES OR BACK AS SOLDIER W.E.F. DATE OF LAST PAYMENT (.)
 IF THE LATTER PLEASE ARRANGE THROUGH M M I A FOR LOCAL ITALIAN PAYMASTER
 TO PAY THEM ON OCCASION OF PARADE

See 129/2507

DIST

SD DISTRIBUTION:

ACTION : SD/132/1
 INFO : SD/38/2
 ACTION : A (Two)

Jw / 29 June 45.

ACTION : LAND FORCES SC 2
 INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 EX COMMISSIONER 2
 CA SEC
 ECON SEC
 PATRIOTS BR
 FILE

GSO 1

GSO 2 (1/2)

GSO 3 (1/2)

GSO 2 (1/2)

GSO 2 (1/2)

GSO 3 (1/2)

GSO 3 (1/2)

GSO 3 (1/2)

Ref: 569/17/EG

SD
S/S. 3 May 1945SUBJECT: Islands of Pantelleria, Lampedusa, and Linosa
TO : G-5, AFHQ

Reference your letter G-5: 387.4-2, dated 21 April 1945.

1. The question of military activity on the Islands of Pantelleria, Lampedusa, and Linosa has been investigated by this Headquarters, and Land Forces Subcommission (MMIA) has informed us that such activity, which has now been completed, was entirely confined to the small party cleaning and storing weapons on Pantelleria.

2. Present plans do not contemplate any Italian Army activity at all on the islands of Lampedusa and Linosa. Correspondence returned herewith.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

M. S. Lusk
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.Copy to: Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA)
Navy Sub-Commission.MMIA
FILE: 50/132/1
DATE: 25/5

GSO 1

GSO 2 (Ops) X

GSO 2 (ED) X

GSO 2 (AVE)

GSO 2 (D)

GSO 3 (ED)

GSO 3 (Ops) X

GSO 3 (D)

SECRET

RHF/1ja

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

By Authority of

Initial

Date 13 April 1945

AG 093/155 GCT-0

SUBJECT: PANTELLERIA

TO: President
Allied Commission
FOR: Land Forces Sub Commission (MMIA)

1. Reference is made to MMIA cable SD 2231 dated 3 February 1945.
2. Two (2) copies of a report by CRE BTNA on the subject of PANTELLERIA are attached for your information.
3. It would appear from the report that the one thousand (1000) personnel who you believed available for induction into the Italian Army, were previously PI, and have now been discharged and are no longer available for further military service.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

[Signature]
Captain, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

1 Incl
Reconnaissance Report
30 March 1945 (2 copies)

MMIA - 'G'

FILE: SD/132/1

DATE: R13/4

1508

SECRET

SECRETReconnaissance Report - PANTELLERIA - 30 Mar 45.GENERAL

1. The island is approximately 60 square kilometres in size and has a population of 10,000, of which before the war 6,000 lived in the Port of PANTELLERIA.

It is volcanic in origin and mountainous, the highest peak, M. GRANDE, being 836 metres. The greater portion is infertile, being covered by outcrops of rock, patches of cultivation are contained in small walled fields terraced on the hill sides.

The staple products of the island are wine and raisins. Cattle are fairly plentiful and in meat and milk the island is nearly self-supporting.

The population is Sicilian in character but there is obviously a large admixture of Arab blood.

GOVERNMENT

2. The island is governed by A.M.G.O.T. as represented by Captain Parker M.A. Intelligence Corps, probable age about 55. He speaks Italian and French. He has no British Staff. His offices are at SOAUNI but he intends to move to PANTELLERIA shortly where the SINDACO lives.

3. The police force consists of 1 officer and 22 Carabinieri. There are also 12 officials of the GUARDIA DI FINANZA who control the Port, customs etc.

DEFENCE

4. There is no defence scheme in existence and no garrison as such. LT. MARIANI and 12 men of the Italian Army arrived 2 weeks ago to collect, clean and store arms and ammunition.
5. 1147 ex-prisoners of war consisting of coast and A.A. Artillery Infantry, Medical Services, Navy and Air Arm have been released and discharged. Some have left the island. Of 23 combatant officers only about 8 remain and of 13 medical officers only 3 remain. These latter are necessary to operate the civil hospital and the health services of the island. Lt. SPANINATO of the Italian Air Force has arrived to vet ex-Air Force personnel with a view to the reconstruction of those suitable. No one has yet arrived to do this in the case of ex-army personnel.
6. The Italian fixed defences consisted of 15 A.A. Batteries and 6 Coast Defence Batteries, see Appendix 'A' and attached plan. (Not forwarded)

Generally speaking batteries were not badly damaged during the battle for the island; but they have been unguarded and there has been no maintenance since the island was occupied. All optical instruments and most other removable fittings of any value have been stolen. In some cases guns have been fired by children and to prevent this ammunition has been removed from gun sites.

2007

The population is Sicilian in character but there is obviously a large admixture of Arab blood.

GOVERNMENT.

1. The island is governed by A.M.G.O.T. as represented by Captain Perrier. He speaks Italian and French.
2. Intelligence Corps, probable age about 55. He speaks Italian and French. He has no British Staff. His offices are at SCARFI but he intends to move to MANTERNA shortly where the SINDACO lives.
3. The police force consists of 1 officer and 22 Carabinieri. There are also 12 officials of the GUARDIA DI FINANZA who control the port, customs etc.

DEFENCE.

4. There is no defence scheme in existence and no garrison as such.
5. MANTERNA and 12 men of the Italian Army arrived 2 weeks ago to collect, clean and store arms and ammunition.
6. 1147 ex-prisoners of war consisting of coast and A.A. Artillery Infantry, Medical Services, Navy and Air Arm have been released and discharged. Some have left the island. Of 23 combatant officers only about 8 remain and of 13 medical officers only 3 remain. These latter are necessary to operate the civil hospital and the health services of the island. Lt. SPALPATO of the Italian Air Force has arrived to vet ex-Air Force personnel with a view to the reconstruction of those suitable. No one has yet arrived to do this in the case of ex-army personnel.
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One battery was examined in detail. Almost all moving parts were rusted up and everything of any value had been stolen. One gun had a live round in the breech. Another had a shell projecting from the muzzle. Two small boys on the site were found to be removing cable. A clip of Italian rifle ammunition was found to be "dum dum" having had the bullets reversed in the cartridges.

Large quantities of Italian and some British ammunition exists on the island. The bulk of this is now stored in the underground magazines at the aerodrome.

-2-

DEFENCE (continued)

7. The island was visited about a week ago by a G.III and an Intelligence Officer from SICILY. The question of whether control should come under SICILY or B.T.A.A. was raised. A.M.G.O.T. recommended control from SICILY. At present he is getting all his instructions from A.C. PALERMO.

COMMUNICATIONS.

6. There is a cable to TRAPANI in SICILY.

9. Three schooners, two of 45 tons and one of 7 tons are at A.M.G.O.T. disposal. These run between the island and TRAPANI, making about 3 trips per month if the weather is favourable. Sailings have been frequently interrupted by bad weather.

10. On the island there are limited telephone facilities and a good military road running all the way round, near the coast. Other roads are narrow and rough.

11. A number of captured Italian lorries are controlled by A.M.G.O.T. for food distribution, bus services, discharge of ships etc.

12. A narrow gauge railway ran from the Port to a good limestone quarry at CALA DELL'ALCA. This has been out in a number of places by bombing. Diesel locos and rolling stock appear to be badly rusted up.

13. There is now no regular air service and no wireless station.

PORT FACILITIES.

14. The Port of PANTENIERIA is mainly blocked by sunken shipping - only remaining usable jetty space is marked "Jetty" on plan. Pre-war the harbour would take 1,000 ton ships. It is not known whether a ship of this size could enter now.

15. Passing schooners frequently shelter from bad weather in PORTO DI SCANTU. It would appear possible that this is made an excuse for a certain amount of smuggling.

AIR PORT

16. One runway stated to be in good order by my pilot. The presence of cows on the aerodrome made landing hazardous (A.B. A.M.G.O.T. asked to remove.) Underground hanger and magazine were found to be in good order. A civilian caretaker is employed. No R.A.F. personnel on island.

SUPPLIES

17. FOOD. The island is not self-supporting, supplies are shipped from TRAPANI for the civilian population and from PALERMO for A.M.G.O.T. 66 days grain reserves are available in the island for the present ration scale of 300 grams per head per day (200 grams of bread and 100 of pasta)

The scale is thought to be inadequate for working personnel by A.M.G.O.T. The island is almost self-supporting in meat and some canned stocks exist. Milk supply is just adequate. There are no potatoes, olive

1506

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 10. On the island there are limited telephone facilities and a good military road running all the way round, near the coast. Other roads are narrow and rough.
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 12. A narrow gauge railway ran from the Port to a good limestone quarry at CALA DELL'ALCA. This has been out in a number of places by bombing. Diesel locos and rolling stock appear to be badly rusted up.
 13. There is now no regular air service and no wireless station.
- PORT FACILITIES.
14. The Port of PANTHERIA is mainly blocked by sunken shipping. Only remaining usable jetty space is marked "Jetty" on plan. Pre-war the harbour would take 1,000 ton ships. It is not known whether a ship of this size could enter now.
 15. Passing schooners frequently shelter from bad weather in PORTO DI SCAURI. It would appear possible that this is made an excuse for a certain amount of smuggling.

AIR PORT

16. One runway stated to be in good order by my pilot. The presence of cows on the aerodrome made landing hazardous (N.B. A.M.G.O.T. asked to remove.) Underground hanger and magazine were found to be in good order. A civilian caretaker is employed. No R.A.F. personnel on island.

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The scale is thought to be inadequate for working personnel by A.M.G.O.T. The island is almost self-supporting in meat and some canned stocks exist. Milk supply is just adequate. There are no potatoes, olive oil, sugar or cigarettes. Permission was obtained to fish within 7 mile limit.

1506

-3-

18. CLOTHING. None available.

19. F.O.I. Good stocks of petrol and oil exist but diesel (on which most of the lorries run and also the lighting set) is in short supply. 300 drums of 100 Octane and 200 drums of lubricating oil were taken down to the port for shipment but have never been collected and some theft has occurred.

A.M.G.O.T. proposes moving this stock to Aerodrome where guarding will be easier.

20. M.T. SPARES In very short supply. A.M.G.O.T. would like a clutch assembly and a set of tyres and tubes for his jeep.

21. R.M. STORES Following are required :-

200 yards of flex.
4 dozen 110 volt bulbs
4 dozen Tumbler Switches.
2 rolls of Fly Wire
4 gross of Assorted Screws
4 cwt. of Assorted Nails 1" to 4"
2 cwt. of Nails 6".

SERVICES

22. WATER No pipe supply and only one well on the island at PANTELLERIA. This is not in operation, present supply is entirely by catchment of rain-water. So far this has proved adequate. It is not treated.

23. E.L. Diesel set gives four hours lighting nightly.

24. BUILDING Town of PANTELLERIA is almost entirely destroyed. A little re-building is taking place.

POLICE

25. A.M.G.O.T. considers that a good type regimental sergeant would be invaluable to assist in checking up on civilian officials, and prevention of theft, sabotage etc. I consider one essential.

26. A.M.G.O.T. would like to know policy regarding future of island and whether it is to remain under British control.

27. At present C.O.G.S.M.A. an Italian Government Department, levy charges and exercise some control over all shipping over forty tons. A.M.G.O.T. would like this cancelled in respect of his two schooners.

28. A.M.G.O.T. has undertaken to obtain and submit to you a technical report from LT. MARIANI, who is an Artillery Officer, on present state of all fixed batteries. This is unlikely to be available for two to three weeks. My own opinion is that it is unlikely that any guns could be put into commission without major overhaul and replacement of missing parts.

1569

21. P.A. STORES Following are required :-

200 yards of flex.
4 dozen 110 volt bulbs
4 dozen Tumbler Switches.
2 rolls of Fly Wire
4 gross of Assorted Screws
4 cwt. of Assorted Nails 1" to 4"
2 cwt. of Nails 6".

SERVICES

22. WATER No pipe supply and only one well on the island at PANTALLERIA. This is not in operation, present supply is entirely by catchment of rain-water. So far this has proved adequate. It is not treated.

23. L.I. Diesel set gives four hours lighting nightly.

24. BUILDING Town of PANTALLERIA is almost entirely destroyed. A little re-building is taking place.

POLICE

25. A.M.G.O.T. considers that a good type regimental sergeant would be invaluable to assist in checking up on civilian officials, and prevention of theft, sabotage etc. I consider one essential.

26. A.M.G.O.T. would like to know police regarding future of island and whether it is to remain under British control.

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2 Apr. 45

(signed)

Lieut. Colonel, R.E.

1705

APPENDIX 'A'COASTAL DEFENCE BATTERIES

1. Roncone Salerno	4 guns	152 mm.
2. V. Bellotti	"	"
3. V. Rossi	"	"
4. Monte Croce	"	120mm.
5. Spadillo	"	"
6. Scarsi Basso	"	"

A.A. BATTERIES.

1. Punta Croce	4 guns	76/mm
2. San Leonardo	"	"
3. Spadillo	"	"
4. Tracino	"	"
5. Karuscia	"	"
6. Dietro Isola	"	"
7. Scanzi	"	"
8. Fran	"	"
9. Cuddie Rosse	"	"
10. Gel Kemar	"	"
11. Fossa Del Russo	"	"
12. Gibele	"	"
13. Randazzo	"	"
14. P. Sidere	6 guns	90 mm
15. Karuscia	"	"

150/

72

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL.

FROM : MTOUSA CITE NATPN SIGNED MAGNARNEY
TO : COMZONE ETOUSA
INFO : DETBASE. REHBASE. MIA. ALCON.
REF : FX 54386

031636 B

SECRET

REFERENCE MOVE OF 900 ITALIAN REPATRIATES FROM MARSEILLES
TO LEGHORN (.)

SIGNAL EX 28034 OF 2 APRIL (.)

IT IS AGREED THAT ONLY CRAFT WHICH ARE RETURNING DIRECT TO
LEGHORN ARE TO BE USED (.) CRAFT RETURNING VIA BASTIA NOT
TO BE USED AS 57 BOMB WING PROGRAMME MUST NOT BE INTERFERED
WITH (.)

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT CRAFT ARE LOADED TO CAPACITY WITH
REPATRIATES AS NUMBER RETURNING DIRECT TO LEGHORN MAY BE
LIMITED DURING THE PERIOD REQUESTED (.)

MAY INTENT TO LOAD SIGNALS BE SENT TO ENABLE RECEPTION
ARRANGEMENTS TO BE MADE (.) DLC AGREES

Copy to :- G
Float

SD DISTRIBUTION :-

SD/132/1

6A
A Bank for
working on REP

1503

jv 5 Apr 45

WES

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: BRITISH TROOPS N.AFRICA

02 1215A

TO : AFHQ CITE FHGCT

CONFIDENTIAL

INFO: MMIA

IMPORTANT

REF : A 394/3

YOUR FX 22167 OF 062128A (.) PARA 1 (.) ITALIAN MILITARY
AND QUASI MILITARY ON PANTELLERIA AS FOLLOWS (.) 1 OFFICER
12 OC ARMY COLLECTING STORES AND AMMUNITION (.) 1 AIR FORCE
OFFICER EMPLOYED CONSCRIPTION DUTIES (.) 1 OFFICER 20 OR
CARABINIERI (.) 12 CUSTOMS GUARDS (.) PARA 2 (.) 1147 ALL
ARMS HAVE BEEN DEMOBILIZED AND A NUMBER SINCE LEFT THE
ISLAND (.) PARA 3 (.) ONLY ALLIED REP 1 AC OFFICER (.)
PARA 4 (.) UNDERSTAND 2 BRITISH STAFF OFFICERS FROM SICILY
RECENTLY VISITED ISLAND MAKING SIMILAR ENQUIRIES (.)
PARA 5 (.) DETAILED REPORT FOLLOWS

SD DISTRIBUTION:

SD/132/1

A

Q

Arty Records

am 4 Apr 45

6A
250

1560

TRANSLATION

SECRET 71A

52/132/1
30 March 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of the "Garibaldi" Division.

The steamship carrying the fourth brigade of the "Garibaldi" Division reached the port of Brindisi during the evening of the 7th. inst. At 6730 hrs. on the following day the units started to land, parading in perfect order carrying individual and unit equipment. They thus marched to the field which had been chosen for the ceremony. This was followed by the official speeches of the Mayor of Brindisi, the Bishop, and His Excellency Palermo. General Oxilia addressed short welcome to the men.

At 1210hrs. the convoy left the secondary station for S. Andrea.

One's first impression when talking with these men, who are moved by their return to Italy and by the welcome given to them by the population, is that they are above all imbued with a deep sense of patriotism.

Before landing the Divisional Commander had given exact orders to remove any visible party signs. All units had received orders to affix their stars, flashes, and badges at all costs. During the trip and during the landing, ^{the men} sang patriotic hymns. It was strictly forbidden to sing political hymns (Captain Zabatarro had energetically reprimanded a battalion commander because some of his men had sung to the band which was playing the "Red Flag"). Discipline is heartfelt and rigorous, sense of duty deep-rooted. Commanders have a great influence on their men. It is relevant, in this respect, that a brilliant example was given by a soldier from Grottegli who, though he had not seen his family for four years, got on the train again after having kissed them.

Before embarking at Ragusa, the Divisional Commander, Colonel Ravnich, spoke to the troops saying that they should all feel themselves exclusively Italian and proud of being soldiers, and recommended that they did not express their ambitions, as he himself would be their mouthpiece on his return to Italy.

This explains the great reticence of nearly all the men in all matters except those directly concerning their past as partisan combatants.

The arrival at the S. Andrea camp and the withdrawal of the ammunition caused evident discontent among the men who nevertheless

took the posts allotted to them in the camp in an orderly manner. The unfortunate installation of the S. Andrea ^{Camp} is too well known for it to be necessary to insist on the depressing effect which the ~~enclosures~~ ^{compound} and the two-man desert tents ~~have~~ had and have on the men repatriated, not so much due to the hardship they may entail and to which the men are already inured, as because of the contrast this form of life makes with the official speeches and the first welcome.

The distribution of gifts took place on the following morning gifts which were accepted by all ranks with intense satisfaction. But now they wonder what is going to happen to them. The ambition shared by the majority is first for a period of rest and then to be re-employed in the "Garibaldi" Division as it stands today.

A similar feeling is shared by the men of the First and XX Second Brigades which arrived at S. Andrea on the 12th. at 1800hrs.

The incident "of the flag", which happened at Brindisi, has been bitterly criticised by many of the men who enthusiastically approved the energetic intervention of Col. Ravnich who handed the culprit over to two Alpini gunners.

All the men have signed the cards issued to them asking to be re-employed as combatants. This unanimity has been obtained due to the intervention of the commanders and proves the hold these have on their men.

The last draft came in on the 15th.

POLITICAL BEHAVIOUR: There is no definite or common political view held by the repatriates.

The insistent propaganda ^{carried out} after the 8th. September 1947, ²⁵⁰⁰ has tired most of the men who have been unable to gather a clear idea of the revolutionary programme. The majority wanted to return to Italy and have passively endured Jugo-Slav propaganda.

The Jugo-Slav political commissars were left behind at Ragusa when the Division embarked. The troops bear them no grudge and in fact in many cases they are grateful to them for their sense of justice and for their efforts to solve the daily problem of supplies during the partisan struggle.

The Italian political commissars who worked side by side with the Jugo-Slav ones in each unit and who had been chosen from the ranks in accordance with the communist system, were ordered, while at sea, to re-enter the ranks each one in his proper position according to his military rank.

Thus an extremely difficult situation has arisen in the Division. The political commissars who, independently from their military rank, held a rank which made them the equal of the officers, have now taken up their military rank again. Due to their spirit of discipline, which, as mentioned above, is very deep rooted and owing to the influence of the military commanders on the troops, they have resigned themselves to obeying orders, but it is to be foreseen that they will not remain inactive for long from the political point of view and that they will endeavour to recover their lost functions.

In fact the action of the political commissars, often contrary to that of the officers, tended to attack military commanders using as a special basis the better living conditions of the officers ~~during action intervals~~ ^{while}. In action, on the other hand, this attitude was neutralised by the courageous behaviour of the commanders whom the men fully trust.

This explains why it is, particularly among the officers, that the opposition against the political system introduced by the Jugo-Slavs in the partisan formations, is stronger.

Summing up, Communism as a political idea has not taken root among the majority of the men who at the utmost judge communism by the action and system used by the Jugo-Slav partisans.

Among the repatriates there are some men politically prepared who could influence the men, not so much by means of convincing arguments as by speculating on possibilities of lowering their morale.

It might occur, therefore, that a ~~xxxxxx~~ series of unfavourable measures such as the withdrawal of arms and ammunition, a prolonged stay in the ~~mountains~~ ^{confinement}, the disbandment of the Division, might transform men ready to do their duty into men difficult to control and might awaken in them the spirit of rebellion which up to now has been heroically developed against the Germans.

At the moment the motto is : the Garibaldi must be non-political in order not to be disbanded.

1499

ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE JUGO-SLAVS: It cannot be said that apart from personal feeling there exists any hatred against the Jugo-Slav partisans, among the repatriates. During his address to the troops before embarking at Ragusa, in the presence of representatives of the Jugo-Slav Army of Liberation, the Commander of the Division told the men that they should be grateful to the Jugo-Slavs for their help and assistance to the Italian combatants when they took refuge in the mountains.

During the latter period of the stay of the Garibaldi Division in Jugo-Slavia, either due to the impending repatriation or because of the effective contribution given by its Brigades in the fight against the Germans, Italian units received from the Jugo-Slav partisans a treatment which was appreciably better. These Italian units managed to acquire such a prestige, particularly as regards the civilian population, that they even made them forget the many grudges which they bore for the undoubtedly harsh and often humiliating treatment (looting, theft, insults, degrading labour,) suffered during Italian occupation.

An impression which one often gathers since the arrival of the "Garibaldi" is a sense of freedom from an atmosphere of spying which was particularly oppressive to the officers. In fact one can often observe when talking with a repatriate that before continuing his speech he instinctively looks round as if afraid of being listened to. In any case the sense of dislike of the Jugo-Slavs is more noticeable among the officers than among the men.

With due tact the question of territorial revindication has been approached. As a rule the matter is well known and does not produce great reaction.

On the other hand the Jugo-Slav policy of enticing Italian military to desert and join the ranks of the Jugo-Slav Army of Liberation was not known and has given rise to strong resentment. The article "willing Jugo-Slavs wanted" ("Cosmopolita" number 8) has been widely read with deep interest.

F.M.De J./O.D.

02887

785020

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM : FREEDOM SIGNED SIGNED *cto FHGT* 221923A
TO : DTNA SECRET
INFO : MMIA IMPORTANT.
REF : FX 48076

NT

YOUR A 394/3 OF 8 FEB 45 (*) NOW ASCERTAINED CIVIL AFFAIRS HAVE NO
REPEAT N. JURISDICTION OVER ITALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL ON PANTELLERIA (-)
YOUR STATEMENT NO REPEAT NO COMMUNICATION EXISTS WITH PANTELLERIA NOT
REPEAT NOT UNDERSTOOD SINCE ISLAND YOUR GROUND DEFENCE RESPONSIBILITY -
SEE THIS HQ OPERATION MEMORANDUM 68 OF 6 JAN 45 (*) YOUR EARLIEST REPLY
IS REQUIRED GIVING INFORMATION DESIRED IN PARA 2 (c) HQ CABLE FX 22167
OF 6 FEB

NT

*ad cover
F. 36.*

SD DISTRIBUTION

Action copy: SD/132/1

(K) 24/3

tvs 23 Mar 45.

2 1/c.
we stated this at F 32
dated 3 Feb.
G 3 on F. hasn't got very
far (22/11) has it?
1497
[Signature]
24/11

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

148

FROM : AFHQ SIGNED SACMED CITE PHGOT
 TO : ALCON
 INFO : MMIA 13 CORPS
 REF : FX 4696

201919 A

PRIORITY
 RESTRICTED

144
 OUR FX 43503 DATED 15 SEPTEMBER 1945 , MMIA CABLE SD 2953
 DATED 17 SEPTEMBER 1945 , MAIN 13 CORPS CABLES 198 DATED 17
 SEPTEMBER AND 199 DATED 19 SEPTEMBER REFER (.)
 PARA ONE (.) DESIRE SOONEST YOUR COMMENTS ON PROPOSED MOVE (.)

SD DISTRIBUTION

Action Copy: A

SD/132/2

Info:Q(Two)

SD/34

DISTRIBUTION

Action: Disper

L Forces

Info : Chief Commissioner

IPW SC

Tn SC 2

File 2

Float

GSO 1

GSO 2 (Ops)

GSO 2 (SD)

GSO 2 (W-)

GSO 2 (L)

GSO 3 (SD)

GSO 3 (Orbat)

GSO 2 (I)

Jo/21/9/45

Action to be taken
 by Alcom
 MMIA action taken to
 date F 9, F 12
 JLD

137.

FROM: UNRRA ALBAID
TO : EMM ALBANIA
INFO: UNRRA AFHQ
ALCOM ROME
UNRRA AFHQ 34
REF : F/2742

CONFIDENTIAL
IMPORTANT

YOUR G/301 (.) UNREA MISSION ARRIVING DURAZZO
IN LST DURING NEXT WEEK WITH ORDERS TO ARRANGE FORTHWITH
EMBARK ALL AVAILABLE ITALIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL AWAITING LIFT
TO ITALY TO CAPACITY OF CRAFT

Info-Action: Tn Sc 2
Info: Chief Commissioner
Koon See
IPW SC
Land Forces
UNKRA
File

Action: A
Info: BB/15B/1
Q (Two)
MOV (Two)

WD 06 AUG 45

GEO 1

GEO 2 (2pp)

GSD 2 (50)

doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0142171.g002

11 12 13

GSD 312

663 2 1

200

6503

6

482

100

0100

(46)

21

1495

49

CUTTING SIGNAL

FROM: MEMIA

TO : AFHQ

REF : SD 2604

Date	Time
------	------

17 2100 B

RESTRICTED

FURTHER TO M M I A S D TWO SIX ZERO ONE (.)
YOUR LETTER A G ZERO NINE THREE SLASH ONE FIVE
FIVE G C T DASH O OF ONE THREE APRIL SUBJECT
F A N T E L L E R I A HAS SINCE BEEN RECEIVED

PRECEDENCE	ROUTINE
1. <u>Urgent</u> 2. <u>Priority</u> 3. <u>Normal</u>	1. <u>Urgent</u> 2. <u>Priority</u> 3. <u>Normal</u>

AUTHENTICATED

Internal: File: SD/132/1

520

R 18 4.

19.

COPY INCOMING SIGNAL

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGCT
TO : MMIA
REF : F 61004

161926 B
RESTRICTED

YOUR SD 2601 OF 15. (.)
REPORT WAS SENT ATTACHED MY AG 093/155 GCT=0
DATED 13 APRIL 45

SD DISTRIBUTION:

Action Copy: SD/132/1

jv 17 April 45

149

OUTGOING SIGNAL

FROM: MMIA

TO : AFHQ

REF : SD 2601Date Time
15 1100 ECONFIDENTIAL

REF PARA FIVE OF BRITISH TROOPS N AFRICA SIGNAL
A THREE NINE FOUR SLASH THREE OF ZERO TWO APRIL TO
YOU IN ANSWER TO YOUR F X TWO TWO ONE SIX SEVEN (.)
MAY THIS HQ HE FURNISHED A COPY OF THE DETAILED
REPORT REFERRED TO IN PARA FIVE

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

AUTHENTICATED

Major

Internal: File: SD/132/1

WB

119:

R/15/4

RHF/lja

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512SECRET
By Authority of
Initial *[Signature]*
Date April 1945

AG 093/155 OCT-0

SUBJECT: PANTSERIA

TO: President
Allied Commission
FOR: Land Forces Sub Commission (NMIA)

1. Reference is made to NMIA cable SD 2231 dated 9 February 1945.
2. Two (2) copies of a report by CMC BYRA on the subject of PANTSERIA are attached for your information.
3. It would appear from the report that the one thousand (1000) personnel who you believed available for induction into the Italian Army, were previously PW, and have now been discharged and are no longer available for further military service.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

ALBERT W. KARE
Captain, AGD
Asst Adjutant General1 Incl
Reconnaissance Report
30 March 1945 (2 copies)

1491

SECRET

C O P Y

SECRET

Reconnaissance Report - PANTELLERIA - 30 Mar 45.

GENERAL:

1. The Island is approximately 60 square kilometres in size and has a population of 10,000, of which before the war 6,000 lived in the Port of PANTELLERIA.

It is volcanic in origin and mountainous, the highest peak, M. GRANDE, being 836 metres. The greater portion is infertile, being covered by outcrop of rock, patches of cultivation are contained in small walled fields terraced on the hill sides.

The stable products of the island are wine and raisins. Cattle are fairly plentiful and in meat and milk the island is nearly self-supporting.

The population is Sicilian in character but there is obviously a large admixture of Arab blood.

GOVERNMENT:

2. The Island is governed by A.M.G.O.T. as represented by Captain Parker M.M. Intelligence Corps, probable age about 55. He speaks Italian and French. He has no British staff. His offices are at SCAURI but he intends to move to PANTELLERIA shortly where the SINDACO lives.

3. The police force consists of 1 officer and 22 Carabinieri. There are also 12 officials of the GUARDIA DI FINANZA who control the Port, customs etc.,

DEFENCE:

4. There is no defence scheme in existence and garrison as such. Lt. MARIANI and 12 men of the Italian Army arrives 2 weeks ago to collect, clean and store arms and ammunition.

5. 1147 ex-prisoners of war consisting of coast and A.A. Artillery, Infantry, Medical Services, Navy and Air Arm have been released and discharged. Some have left the Island. of 23 combatant officers only about 8 remain and of 13 medical officers only 3 remain. These latter are necessary to operate the civil hospital and the health services of the island. Lt. SPANTINATO, of the Italian Air Force has arrived to vet ex-Air Force personnel with a view to the reconstruction of these suitable. No one has yet arrived to do this in the case of ex-Army personnel.

6. The Italian fixed defences consisted of 15 A.A. Batteries and 6 Coast Defence Batteries, see Appendix 'A' and attached plan. (Not forwarded)

Generally speaking batteries were not badly damaged during the war, but they have been unguarded and there has been no

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Generally speaking batteries were not badly damaged during the battle for the island, but they have been unguarded and there has been no maintenance since the island was occupied. All optical instruments and most other removable fittings of any value have been stolen. In some cases guns have been fired by children and to prevent this ammunition has been removed from gun sites.

One battery was examined in detail. Almost all moving parts were rusted up and everything of value had been stolen. One gun had a live round in the breech. Another had a shell projecting from the muzzle. Two small boys on the site were found to be removing cable. A clip of Italian rifle ammunition was found to be "dum-dum" having had the bullets reversed in the cartridges.

Large quantities of Italian and some British ammunition exists on the island. The bulk of this is now stored in the underground magazines at the aerodrome.

*****/1

DEFENCE (Continued)

7. The island was visited a week ago by a G.III and an Intelligence Officer from SICILY. The question of whether control should come under SICILY or B.T.N.A. was raised. A.M.G.O.T. recommended control from SICILY. At present he is getting all his instructions from A.C. PALERMO.

COMMUNICATIONS

8. There is a cable to TRAPANI in SICILY.
9. Three schooners, two of 45 tons and one of 7 tons are at A.M.G.O.T. disposal. These run between the island and TRAPANI, making about 3 trips per month if the weather is favourable. Sailings have frequently been interrupted by bad weather.
10. On the island there are limited telephone facilities and a good military road running all the way round, near the coast. Other roads are narrow and rough.
11. A number of captured Italian lorries are controlled by A.M.G.O.T. for food distribution, bus services, discharge of ships, etc.,.
12. A narrow gauge railway ran from the Port to a good limestone quarry at CALA DELL ALCA. This has been cut in a number of places by bombing. Diesel locos and rolling stock appear to be badly rusted up.
13. There is now no regular air service and no wireless station.

PORT FACILITIES

14. The Port of PANTELLERIA is mainly blocked by sunken shipping - only remaining usable jetty is marked "jetty" on plan. Pre-war the harbour would take 1,000 ton ships. It is not known whether a ship of this size could enter now.
15. Passing schooners frequently shelter from bad weather in PORTO DI SCAURI. It would appear possible that this is made an excuse for a certain amount of smuggling.

AIR PORT

16. One runway stated to be in good order by my pilot. The presence of cows on the aerodrome made landing hazardous (N.B. A.M.G.O.T. asked to remove.) Underground hangar and magazine were found to be in good order. A civilian caretaker is employed. No R.A.F. personnel on island.

SUPPLIES

COMMUNICATIONS

8. There is a cable to TRAPANI in SICILY.
9. Three schooners, two of 45 tons and one of 7 tons are at A.M.G.O.T. disposal. These run between the island and TRAPANI, making about 3 trips per month if the weather is favourable. Sailings have frequently been interrupted by bad weather.
10. On the island there are limited telephone facilities and a good military road running all the way round, near the coast. Other roads are narrow and rough.
11. A number of captured Italian lorries are controlled by A.M.G.O.T. for food distribution, bus services, discharge of ships, etc.,.
12. A narrow gauge railway ran from the Port to a good limestone quarry at CALA DELL ALCA. This has been cut in a number of places by bombing. Diesel locos and rolling stock appear to be badly rusted up.
13. There is now no regular air service and no wireless station.

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SUPPLIES

17. FOOD. The island is not self-supporting, supplies are shipped from TRAPANI for the civilian population and from PALERMO for A.M.G.O.T. 66 days grain reserves are available in the island for the present ration scale of 300 grams per head per day (200 grams of bread and 100 of paste).

The scale is thought to be inadequate for working personnel by A.M.G.O.T. The island is almost self-supporting in meat and some canned stocks exist. Milk supply is just adequate. There are no potatoes, olive oil, sugar or cigarettes. Permission was obtained to fish within 7 mile limit.

- 3 -

18. CLOTHING. None available.

19. P.O.L. Good stocks of petrol and oil exist but diesel (on which most of the lorries run and also the lighting set) is in short supply. 300 drums of 100 Octane and 200 drums of lubricating oil were taken down to the port for shipment but have never been collected and some theft has occurred.

A.M.G.O.T. proposes moving this stock to Aerodrome where guarding will be easier.

20. M.T. SPARES. In very short supply. A.M.G.O.T. would like a clutch assembly and a set of tyres and tubes for his jeep.

21. R.E. STORES. Following are required:

200 yards of flex.
4 dozen 110 volt bulbs.
4 doz Tumbler switches.
2 rolls of Fly Wire.
4 gross of Assorted screws.
4 cwt. of Assorted Nails 1" to 4".
2 cwt. of Nails 6"

SERVICES

22. WATER. No pipe supply and only one well on the island at PANTELLERIA. This is not in operation, present supply is entirely by catchment of rain-water. So far this has proved adequate. It is not treated.

23. E.L. Diesel set gives four hours lighting nightly.

24. BUILDING. Town of PANTELLERIA is almost entirely destroyed. A little re-building is taking place.

POLICY

25. A.M.G.O.T. considers that a good typw regimental sergeant would be invaluable ~~in~~ to assist in checking up on civilian officials, and prevention of theft, sabotage, etc.. I consider one essential.

26. A.M.G.O.T. would like to know policy regarding future of island and whether it is to remain under British control.

27. At present C.O.G.E.N.A., an Italian Government Department, levy charges and exercise some control over all shipping over forty tons. A.M.G.O.T. would like this cancelled in respect of his two schooners.

28. A.M.G.O.T. has undertaken to obtain and submit to you a technical report from Lt. MARIANI, who is an Artillery Officer, on present state of all fixed batteries. This is unlikely to be available for two or three weeks.

1504

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28. A.M.G.O.T. has undertaken to obtain and submit to you a technical report from Lt. MARIANI, who is an Artillery Officer, on present state of all fixed batteries. This is unlikely to be available for two or three weeks. My own opinion is that it is unlikely that any guns could be put into commission without major overhaul and replacement of missing parts.

2 Apr 45

/s/ 7777777777
Lieut-Colonel, R.E.

1'34

APPENDIX 'A'COASTAL DEFENCE BATTERIES

1.	Roncane Salerno	4 Guns	152 m/m
2.	V. Bellotti	"	"
3.	V. Rossi	"	"
4.	Monte Croce	"	120 m/m
5.	Spadillo	"	"
6.	Scansi Basso	"	"

A.A. BATTERIES

1.	Punta Croce	4 Guns	76 m/m
2.	San Leonardo	"	"
3.	Spadillo	"	"
4.	Tracino	"	"
5.	Karuscia	"	"
6.	Dietro Isola	"	"
7.	Scanzi	"	"
8.	Fram.	"	"
9.	Cuddie Roase	"	"
10.	Gel Kamar	"	"
11.	Fossa Del Russo	"	"
12.	Gibele	"	"
13.	Randazzo	"	"
14.	P. Sidere	6 Guns	90 m/m
15.	Karuscia	"	"

1487

2.	V. Bellotti	"	"
3.	V. Rossi	"	"
4.	Monte Croce	"	120 m/m
5.	Spadillo	"	"
6.	Scensi Basso	"	"

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5.	Karuscia	"	"
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7.	Scanzi	"	"
8.	Fram.	"	"
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30 marzo 1945.-

O G G E T T O : Rimpatrio Divisione "Garibaldi".--

La sera del 7 corrente giunse nel porto di Brindisi il piroscafo che trasportava la IV Brigata della Divisione "Garibaldi". Alle 7,30 del giorno successive ebbe inizio lo sbarco dei reparti, i quali, sfilando in perfetto ordine con l'armamento individuale e di reparto, si schierarono nel campo stabilito per la cerimonia. Seguirono i discorsi ufficiali del Commissario Prefettizio di Brindisi, del Vescovo e dell'Eccellenza Palermo. Il Generale Oxilia rivolse un breve saluto ai reduci.

Alle 12,10, da uno scalo secondario, la tradotta parti per S.Andrea.

Dai primi contatti coi reduci, commossi per il ritorno in Italia e per l'accoglienza della popolazione, si ha l'impressione che questi soldati siano animati soprattutto da un fiero spirito di Patria.

Prima dell'imbarco, il Comandante della Divisione aveva dato istruzioni precise allo scopo di far accompagnare qualsiasi segno esteriore di partito. Tutti i reparti avevano ricevuto l'ordine di mettere le stellette, fregi e mostrine, a qualunque costo. Allo sbarco e durante il viaggio, i reduci cantarono inni patriottici. Divieto assoluto di cantare inni politici. (Il Capitano Zavattaro riprese energicamente un comandante di battaglione perchè alcuni suoi uomini avevano accompagnate col canto la banda che suonava "Bandiera rossa"). La disciplina è sentita e fortissima, il senso del dovere profondo. I comandanti hanno grande ascendente sulla truppa. E' significativo al riguardo l'esempio dato da quel reuce di Grottaglie, il quale, pur non rivedendo i famigliari da 4 anni, è risalito sul treno dopo averli abbracciati.

Prima dell'imbarco a Ragusa, il Comandante della Divisione, Colonnello RAVNICH, parlò alla truppa precisando che i rimpatriandi dovevano essere animati esclusivamente da sentimenti di italianità e dell'orgoglio di essere soldati e

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Queste premesse spiegano la grande riservatezza di quasi tutti i reduci a parlare di questioni che non siano inerenti al loro passato di combattenti partigiani.

MMIA-C
FILE: SD 132/1
DATE: 229/14

L'arrivo al Campo di S.Andrea ed il ritiro delle munizioni ha destato un visibile malcontento fra i reduci, i quali hanno tuttavia preso disciplinatamente posto nei campi assegnati. E' troppo nota l'infelice sistemazione del Campo di S.Andrea per insistere sulla depressione che i reticolati e le tende desertiche a due posti hanno esercitato ed esercitano sui rimpatriati, non tanto per il disagio, cui sono avvezzi, quanto per il contrasto con i discorsi ufficiali e le prime accoglienze.

Il mattino seguente ebbe luogo la distribuzione di doni, accettati da tutti i reduci con viva soddisfazione. Però essi si chiedono ora che cosa si farà di loro: l'aspirazione più diffusa e prima per un periodo di riposo e di riassentamento e poi per un reimpiego nella Divisione "Garibaldi", tutta unita.

Analoghi sentimenti si riscontrano fra i soldati della I e II Brigata che arrivarono a S.Andrea alle ore 18 del giorno 12.

L'incidente "della Bandiera", successo a Brindisi, è stato aspramente commentato da molti reduci, che hanno approvato con sincero entusiasmo l'energico intervento del colonnello RAVNICH, il quale consegnò il colpevole e due artiglieri alpini.

Tutti i reduci hanno sottoscritto la scheda loro distribuita, chiedendo di essere reimpiegati come combattenti. Tale unanimità è stata raggiunta merce l'azione spiegata dai comandanti e ciò prova l'ascendente che essi hanno sulla truppa.

Il giorno 15 è rientrato l'ultimo scaglione.

ATTEGGIAMENTO POLITICO: Non esiste tra i reduci un comune atteggiamento politico definito.

La propaganda svelta con insistenza dopo l'8 settembre 1943, ha stancato gran parte dei reduci, i quali non sono riusciti ad avere idee chiare circa i programmi rivoluzionari: i più desideravano rientrare in Patria e hanno subito passivamente la propaganda jugoslava.

I commissari politici jugoslavi, all'atto del rimpatrio della Divisione, sono rimasti a Ragusa: verso di loro la truppa non ha rancore, ma anzi, spese

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I commissari politici italiani, che in ogni reparto fiancheggiavano l'opera di quelli jugoslavi e che erano stati eletti dalla truppa secondo il sistema comunista, riceveranno l'ordine, durante la navigazione, di rientrare nei ranghi, ciascuno con le funzioni del proprio grado militare.

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Si è creata così una delle situazioni più sospese e fluide della Divisione. I commissari politici che, indipendentemente dal grado militare, rivestivano un grado che li metteva alla Pari con gli ufficiali, hanno ripreso le rispettive qualifiche militari. Per spirito di disciplina che, come si è detto, è fortemente sentito e per l'ascendente dei comandanti militari sulla truppa, essi si sono rassegnati ad eneguire l'ordine, ma è prevedibile che non resteranno inoperosi dal lato politico e che cercheranno di riacquistare le funzioni perdute.

Risulta infatti che l'opera dei commissari politici, spesso contraria a quella degli ufficiali, mirava ad esautorare i comandanti militari, prendendo lo spunto specialmente delle migliori condizioni di vita degli ufficiali durante le tregue dei combattimenti. In combattimento invece tale opera era neutralizzata dal valeroso comportamento dei comandanti e in cui i soldati hanno piena fiducia.

Si spiega così perché soprattutto presso gli ufficiali ci sia generalmente un'avversione più accentuata verso i sistemi politici introdotti dagli jugoslavi nelle formazioni partigiane.

In conclusione il comunismo come idea politica non ha fatto presa sulla massa dei reduci che identificano per lo più il comunismo con l'azione ed i sistemi usati dai partigiani jugoslavi.

Ci sono tra i reduci alcuni elementi politicamente preparati che sono in grado di influire sull'animo dei soldati, non tanto con argomenti convincenti, quanto speculando sulla possibilità che il loro morale venga depresso.

Puè quindi accadere che un succedersi di provvedimenti sfavorevoli quali il ritiro delle munizioni e delle armi, la sesta tra i reticolati, lo scioglimento della Divisione, trasforma i soldati disposti a fare il loro dovere in elementi difficilmente controllabili e risvegli in loro lo spirito di ribellione che finora era stato eroicamente rivolto solo contro i tedeschi.

Per ora la parola d'ordine è: La "CARIPALDI" per non essere sciolta dove essere apolitica.

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ATTEGLIAMENTO VERSO I JUGOSLAVI: Non si può dire che al di là di risentimenti personali esista nell'animo dei reduci odio verso i partigiani jugoslavi. Nel discorso tenuto alla truppa prima dell'imbarco a Ragusa, alla presenza di rappresentanti dell'esercito di Liberazione Jugoslavo, il Comandante della Divisione avrebbe detto ai soldati che dovevano essere riconoscenti agli jugoslavi per gli aiuti e per l'assistenza prestati ai combattenti italiani mentre si erano rifugiati sulle montagne.

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Negli ultimi tempi della permanenza della Divisione "Garibaldi" in Jugoslavia, sia in vista del prossimo rimpatrio, sia per l'effettivo contributo dato dalle sue Brigate alla lotta contro i tedeschi, i reparti italiani ebbero un trattamento notevolmente migliore dai partigiani jugoslavi. Essi riuscirono a conquistare un tale prestigio, specie di fronte alla popolazione, da farle dimenticare molti rancori per il trattamento indubbiamente duro e spesso umiliante (spoliazioni, furti, insulti, lavori degradanti) subito durante l'occupazione italiana.

Impressione colta frequentemente dopo l'arrivo dei reduci della "Garibaldi": un senso di liberazione dall'atmosfera di delazione che opprimeva specialmente gli ufficiali. Infatti talvolta capita, parlando con un reduce, di vederlo fare istintivamente, prima di proseguire il discorso, un gesto come se temesse di essere ascoltato. Ad ogni modo il senso d'avversione verso gli jugoslavi e più sentito dagli ufficiali che dai soldati.

Con la dovuta cautela è stata abordata la questione delle rivendicazioni territoriali. In genere esse sono note e non suscitano eccessive reazioni.

Invece l'azione jugoslava che tende a far disertare militari italiani per arruolarli nelle formazioni dell'esercito di liberazione jugoslavo non era nota ed ha suscitato un vivo risentimento. L'articolo "Cercanji jugoslavi di buona volontà" (No 8 "Cosmopolita") è stato molto letto e con profondo interesse.

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ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : N25/23
Classification : SECRET
Precedence : PRIORITY
From : FREEDOM signed SACMED
To : BTNA

INFO MMIA ALCOM



Date Time Rec'd : 221923A
Date Time Sent :
Reference NR : FX48076
Cite : FMGCT

IMPORTANT

SECRET ⊙ Your A394B of 8 Feb 45 ⊙

Now ascertained civil affairs have no repeat NO jurisdiction over
ITALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL ON PANTELLERIA ⊙ your statement NO repeat
NO communication exists with PANTELLERIA NOT repeat NOT
understood since island your ground defence responsibility — see
this HQ operation memorandum 68 of 6 JAN 45 ⊙ your earliest
reply is required giving information desired in para 2(c) HQ
cable FX22167 of 6 FEB.



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copy

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CIPU

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