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ITALIAN MILITARY MISSION "CEFALONIA"

4235
4276

may 1945 - July 1946

COVER I

SUBJECT: Officers and men of "Acqui" Division
fallen or dispersed in GREECE.

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C. (MELA)

(489084 Ext. 400)

6/12

19 Jul 46

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Reference your 225584/II dated 25 Nov 45.

Copies of recent correspondence between Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Allied Commission are forwarded to you for information.

MMH/jw

M. W. Kop
Bgs
Major General,
M. H. I. A.

Attached: Copy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs letter of 9 July 46 ref 6/2683/1060.
" " A.C. letter 8252/EC dated 19 July 46.

4275

COPY

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Ref: 6/2683/1060.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Officers and men of "Acqui" Division fallen or dispersed in Greece.

1. Reference is made to previous correspondence and to this Ministry's memorandum 6/812/350 dated March 20 1945.
2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs beg to call the attention of the Allied Commission upon the enclosed copy of a Verbal Note dated May 15 1945, by which the Greek Delegation, Advisory Council for Italy, advised the Executive Commissioner of the Allied Commission that it reserved itself to make known in due time the results of the measures taken by the Greek authorities for the identification and burial of the bodies of the men of the "Acqui" Division slaughtered by the Germans in Cefalonia in September 1943.
3. As till now no communication on the matter has been received, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs would be grateful to the Allied Commission if they could kindly request the Greek Delegation to forward the promised information.

Rome, July 9th, 1945.

ENCLOSURE

427

0903

COPY

Ref: 8252/EC

19 July 1946

SUBJECT: Officers and men of "Acqui" Division fallen or dispersed in Greece.
TO : ITALIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Reference your memorandum 6/2683/1060 of 9 Jul 46.

Since diplomatic relations have been resumed between Italy and Greece, it is suggested that the a/m matter should be taken up directly with the Greek Delegation.

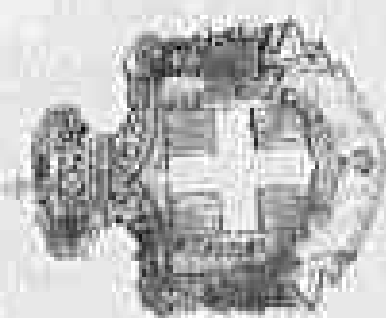
FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

P. H. TURNER

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

Copy Land Forces Sub Commission.

427



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

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Rome, July 9th, 1945.

ENCL.



BGS
GSO 1 (SD)
JUN 11 1945

RECEIVED 2215 JUL 1945

0905

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Rome, July 9th, 1945.

ENCL.



RECEIVED 7795 JUL 1946

MINIA - 'G'

FILM. B. 12

DATE R/16/7

BGS	
GSO I (SD)	
Dep G II	
GSO (SD)	
GSO (I)	
GSO (II)	
GSO (III)	
G II (C)	

161730

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of War

TO: M.M.I.A.

REF: 225584/11

DATE: 23.11.45

SUBJECT: Military Mission to Cefalonia

In reply to your G/6 of 10.11.45.

I have taken action with regard to the contents of the above quoted letter referring to the decisions made by the Mediterranean Allied High Command in respect of the suspension of the departure of the Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia.

I have already issued instructions for the disbandment of the said Mission.

I am fully aware of the difficulties of a political nature which have made it impossible to put into effect what was already granted by your Mission regarding the preparation and dispatch to Cefalonia of the Italian Military Mission.

I feel obliged, however, to place in evidence the particular, delicate situation which will arise from this decision and the repercussions which it will cause in public opinion, which is already aware of the dispatch of the Mission to the Island. In fact, numerous families awaited, with understandable anxiety, information - from the results of the work of the said Mission - as to the fate of the end of their loved ones, lost or murdered



G. 11
G. 2 (W-)
G. 2 (U)
G. 3 (SO)
G. 3 (OBR)
G. 3 (U)

Send a copy to M.C. (Ex. 600)
for information

Seen
Ed. H. H. H.

G. 11
G. 2 (W-)
G. 2 (U)
G. 3 (SO)
G. 3 (OBR)
G. 3 (U)

REF: 225584/11

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28
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which
With trust in the understanding of your Mission has always shown in all questions - both of a physical and spiritual and morale nature - which affect the Italian Army, I am sure that as soon as new circumstances permit of its re-examination, the matter will be tackled and resolved in the most favourable manner,

C. Danin Cpl.

Sgd. JACINI War Minister.

Translation

From: of W.

To Sec List

for info. M.M.I.A.

GSO 2 (SD)

GSO 2 (WA)

GSO 2 (I)

GSO 2 (A)

GSO 2 (A)

GSO 2 (A)

Ref. 225581/II

Date 27/II/45

Subject Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia.

Further to letter 221900 dated 10/10/45 (for units to which this letter has been sent).

1) - The Subcommittee for the Allied Land Forces Commission (L.F.S.C. M.M.I.A.), in accordance with instructions received from Supreme Mediterranean Allied HQ (A.F.H.Q.), has informed us that for the moment it is not possible to carry out, as planned, the dispatch of the Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia. It is therefore necessary to put the departure off to another date.

2) - On such understanding, the Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia is to be disbanded by the 25/II/45.

3) - In order to carry out this disbandment, in accordance with the instructions already issued in tele. 225580/II dated 21/II/45; we order:

- a) - Personnel must be returned to their own HQs, corps or units, this must be completely carried out by the 25/II/45.
- Doc. Fabiani, of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, must return to his own department by the 20/II/45. The administrative settlement of sums due to him from the I2 to the 20 Nov. will be made by the Foreign Affairs Ministry, as per verbal agreement laid down by the department, on the basis and in accordance with the regulations in force at the aforesaid Ministry. The reimbursement of the sums paid by the unit will afterwards be made by us. Military Personnel Admin Office - to whom the Foreign Affairs Department will have to forward the normal request.

FILE: 27/6
DATE: 27/6

- 1) - The Subcommittee for the Allied Forces in the Mediterranean (M.M.I.A.), in accordance with instructions received from Supreme M.M.I.A.), has informed us that for the moment it is not possible to carry out, as planned, the dispatch of the Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia. It is therefore necessary to put the departure off to another date.
- 2) - On such understanding, the Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia is to be disbanded by the 25/II/45.
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4263

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- Doc. Fabiani, of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, must return to his own department by the 20/II/45. The administrative settlement of sums due to him from the 12 to the 20 Nov. will be made by the Foreign Affairs Ministry, as per verbal agreement laid down by the department, on the basis and in accordance with the regulations in force at the aforesaid Ministry. The reimbursement of the sums paid by the unit will afterwards be made by us. Military Personnel Admin Office - to whom the Foreign Affairs Department will have to forward the normal request.

- b) - Materials All the materials withdrawn by the Mission (including possible items of clothing for personnel) will be returned, by the Mission itself, to the units who issued it.
- The timber for the construction of coffins and crosses and the metal tags to be fastened to the crosses will be handed over to the Eng. HQ of the Terr. Mil. HQ of Bari for further preservation of such material orders will be given by the

Eng. Gen. Dir.

The stationary allotment will be handed in to the Terr. Mil.

P.T.O.

FILE:	6/6
DATE:	27/11

stationary office of the S.M.R.E. - Operations and Training Office.

c) - Administrative Management and Funds.

- All administrative matter will have to be settled and closed, after agreement between Terr. Mil. HQ. and the Mission, by the 25/II/45.
- Possible remaining funds will have to be handed in to Terr. Mil HQ of Bari, along with the Mission accounts.
- The funds in foreign currency allotted to the Mission for its own working in Greek territory will have to be returned to the Mil. Per. Admin Office of the Ministry of War, who will arrange any further matters concerning them with the Treasury Min. - Gen. Dir. of Currency.

Acknowledge.

DAK

(XXXXXXXXXXXX)

illegible.

C. su.

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

- Gabinetto -

9

n° 225581/II di prot.

Roma-P.M.3800, 22 Nov. 1945

Q U E T I O : Missione militare italiana a Cefalonia.-

AL MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI - D.G.A.P. - Uff. IV - ROMA
AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI BARI
AL COLONNELLO W I E L - Capo della Missione militare
italiana e Cefalonia - presso il Com/do mil. terr/le di
ALL'UFFICIO DI AMMINISTRAZIONE PERS. MILITARI VARI DEL M.C. BARI
SERIE

e, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO DELLA MARINA - Gabinetto - ROMA
ALLO STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
- Ufficio del Capo di S.M. SERIE
- Ufficio Operazioni e Addestramento SERIE
- Ufficio Ordinamento e Mobilitazione SERIE
- Ufficio Servizi SERIE
- Ufficio Segreteria e Personale SERIE
- Ufficio Informazioni SERIE
AL CO. ANCO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI ROMA SERIE
AL CO. ANCO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI SERIE
ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LE FORZE TERRESTRI DELLA COMIS- SERIE
SIONE ALLIATA (L.F.S.C. - M.M.I.A. - A.C.) SERIE
(risp. fe n. G/5 del 10 nov. o.a.) SERIE
ALLA SEGRETERIA PARTICOLARE DEL SOTTOSEGRETARIO ON. COLA- SERIE
JANNI SERIE
ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE PERSONALI CIVILI E AFFARI GENERALI SERIE
- Economo Cancelleria - SERIE
ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DEI SERVIZI DI COM/TO ED AMM/VI SERIE
- Div. vesti. - equip. - caserm. e comb. SERIE
- Div. amministrazione corpi SERIE
- Div. tratt. econon. vers. mob.; prig. e patrioti SERIE
ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DI SANITA' MILITARE - Div. 3° - SERIE
ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DI AMIGLIERIA E NOTORIZZAZIONE SERIE
- Div. armi e muniz. e chimica - SERIE
ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL GENIO - Div. materiali - SERIE
ALL'UFFICIO DELL'ORDINARIO MILITARE ROMA
AL CO. ANCO DEL REPARTO AUTONCO MINISTERIALE ROMA

1945
27/11

.....

e, per conoscenza:

AL MINISTERO DELLA MARINA - Gabinetto -
 ALLO STATO MAGGIORE REGIO ESERCITO
 - Ufficio del Capo di S.M.
 - Ufficio Operazioni e Addestramento
 - Ufficio Ordinamento e Mobilitazione
 - Ufficio Servizi
 - Ufficio Segreteria e Personale
 - Ufficio Informazioni

AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI ROMA

AL COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI

ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE PER LE FORZE TERRESTRI DELLA COMMISSIONE ALLIATA (L.F.S.C. - M.M.I.A. - A.C.)

(ris. n. 6/6 del 10 nov. c.a.)

ALLA SEGRETERIA PARTICOLARE DEL SOTTOSEGRETARIO ON. COLAJANNI

ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE PERSONALI CIVILI E AFFARI GENERALI

- Economo Cancellaria -

ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DEI SERVIZI DI COM/TO ED ADM/VI

- Div. vesti. - equip. - caserm. e comb.

- Div. amministrazione corpi

- Div. tratt. econom. pers. mob., prig. e patrioti

ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DI SANITA' MILITARE - Div. 3^a -

ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DI AMMIGLIERIA E NOTORIZZAZIONE

- Div. armi e muniz. e chimica -

ALLA DIREZIONE GENERALE DEL GENIO - Div. materiali -

ALL'UFFICIO DELL'ORDINARIO MILITARE

AL COMANDO DEL REPARTO AUTONOMO MINISTERIALE

.....

Seguito foglio n. 221900/II del 10 ottobre u.s. (per gli enti cui va
 le foglio era stato inviato).--

1°)- La Sottocommissione per le Forze Terrestri della Commissione Alleata (L.F.S.C. - M.M.I.A.), in seguito a disposizioni ricevute dal C2 manda ingenero Alleato del Mediterraneo (A.F.H.Q.), ha comunicato che, per il momento, non è possibile effettuare, come previsto, l'invio della Missione militare italiana a Cefalonia. 3^a pertanto necessario rinviare ad altra data la partenza della Missione stessa.--

...//..

ROMA

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P.M. 1300

NAPOLI

ROMA

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ROMA

ROMA

20)- In tale attesa, la Missione militare italiana a Cefalonia deve sciogliersi sotto la data del 25 novembre p.v.-

30)- Per attuare tale scioglimento, a conferma delle disposizioni telegrafiche già impartite con telegramma n. 225580/II in data 21 corr., si dispone:

a)- personale: deve essere fatto rientrare ai Comandi, corpi o reparti di provenienza, soddisfatto di ogni sua competenza a tutto il giorno 25 novembre p.v.-
Il console dott. Fabiani, del Ministero degli Affari Esteri, deve essere fatto rientrare al proprio dicastero sotto la data del 20 novembre o.a.- La liquidazione amministrativa delle competenze spettantegli dal giorno 12 al giorno 20 novembre verrà fatta dal Ministero Affari Esteri, come da accordi verbali concordati con quel dicastero, sulla base e nella misura delle norme in vigore presso il predetto Ministero.- Il rimborso a tale ente delle somme pagate sarà successivamente fatto a cura di questo Ministero - Ufficio Amministrazione Personali Militari Vari -, al quale il dicastero degli Affari Esteri vorrà cortesemente inoltrare la regolare richiesta;

b)- materiali: tutti i materiali prelevati dalla Missione (compresi eventuali capi di corredo per il personale) saranno restituiti, a cura della Missione stessa, agli enti che li hanno a suo tempo ceduti.-

Il legname per la confezione di bare e croci e le targhette metalliche da applicare sulle croci saranno passate in consegna al Comando genio del Comando militare territoriale di Bari.- Per la ulteriore conservazione di tale materiale darà ordini la Direzione Generale del Genio.-

Le dotazioni cartografiche saranno versate alla cartoteca dello S.M.R.E. - Ufficio Operazioni e Addestramento;

c)- Missione amministrativa e fondi:

- tutte le pratiche amministrative dovranno essere liquidate e chiuse, prevvi accordi tra il Comando militare territoriale di Bari e la Missione, sotto la data del 25 novembre p.v.;
- eventuali rimanenze fondi dovranno essere versate al Comando militare territoriale di Bari, insieme alla contabilità della missione;
- i fondi in valuta estera assegnati alla Missione per il proprio funzionamento in territorio greco dovranno essere restituiti all'Ufficio amministrazione personale militari vari del Ministero della Guerra, che provvederà agli ulteriori incombenti di propria competenza con il Ministero del Tesoro - Direzione Generale delle

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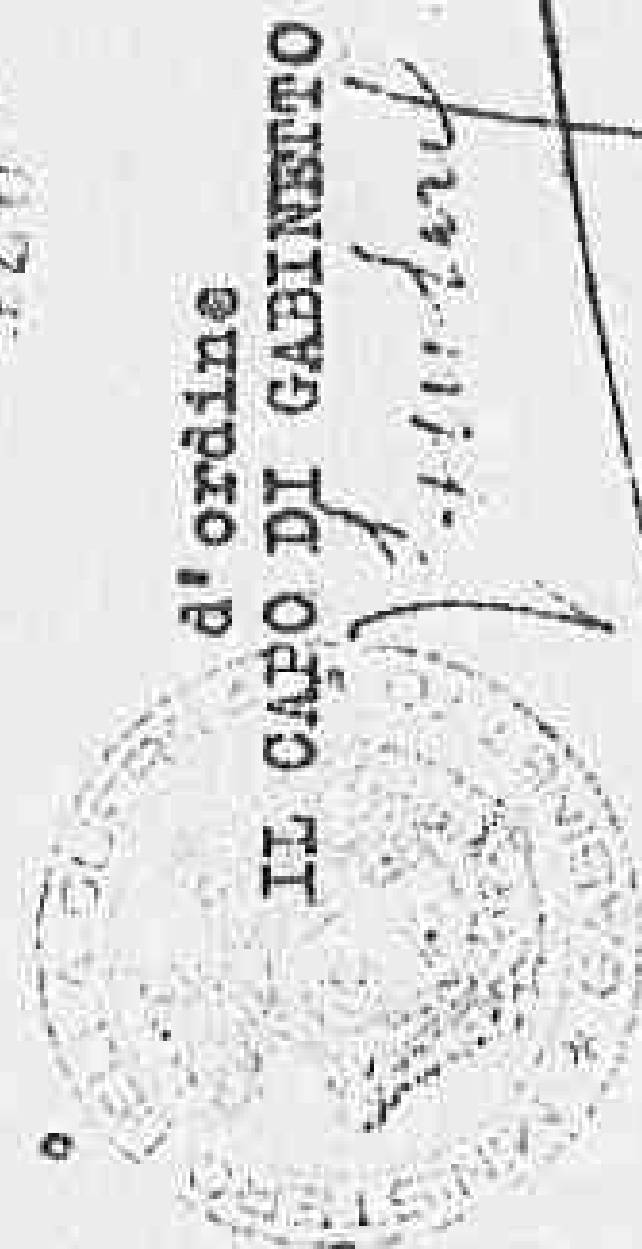
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c)- Gestione amministrativa e fondi:

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Assicurare.-



HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Executive Commissioner
LIAISON DIVISION
APO 394

Ref: 820/30(L)

10 November 1945

SUBJECT: Recovery and burial of Italians dead in Cephalonia and Corfu

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission

See folio 59 (lower 4)

1. According to our records, the complete file on this subject, formerly with Political Section, on 21 March 1945 was passed to you for further action.
2. In view of above, we enclose herewith copy of a further memorandum, no. 5519 of 5 November, from the Greek Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy; a copy of which has already been forwarded to you by the Greek Delegation.
3. Request reply to this memorandum be made directly to the Greek Delegation.

erfs *by* *lastre*

by Officer-in-Charge
Liaison Division

426 *ADMS*

6-11-45

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6-30-45

MMI - G

6/6

13/11

6/627

Ref : 224430/11

210.9/1

Dtd : 8 Nov 45

Subject : Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia.

Further to letter No. 219926/11 dtd 15 Sep 45.

The "Italian Military Mission to Cefalonia"-all necessary preparations for its readiness having been completed- is concentrated at Bari, at the Military Territorial H.Q.; with effect from the 12 Nov instant, it is ready to embark and to leave for the Island of Cefalonia.

I beg the MMIA kindly to issue the necessary instructions for embarkation and departure.

B.S. Vignani

GRO 1 X

GRO 2 (Gps)

GRO 2 (S-)

GRO 2 (+/-)

GRO 2)

GRO 3

GRO 9 (C-)

GRO 8 A

The Minister,
sgd. Jacini.

4265

6/6
7/11

5639

Most urgent

Ref. No. 5519

Rome, November 5, 1945

Subject: Recovery and burial of Italian dead
in Cephalonia and Corfu.To : Office of the Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission.Copy to: Land Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission.

1. The Greek Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy has the honour to inform you that in the edition of the 22nd October 1945 of the newspaper "Libera Italia" of Milan an article was published under the title "Per il riavvicinamento fra l'Italia e la Grecia" speaking, among other things, of the Italian Mission which was soon to proceed to Cephalonia, charged with recovering and giving adequate burial to the bodies of soldiers of the Agui division.

2. The above matter was dealt with in a Memorandum No. P/820.43 of the 20 Feb. 1945 of the Political Section of the A.C. to which the Greek Delegation had replied by its Note Verbale No. 1730 of May 15, 1945, Copy herewith attached, exposing the reasons for which the Greek Ministry of War consider it advisable to postpone the despatch of this mission.

3. As a result of the above article and following instructions received from the Greek Government, this Delegation desires to inform the Allied Commission that the same reasons for which the Greek Government did not consider possible the sending of this mission to Cephalonia still continue to exist.

It is otherwise well known to you that the Greek Military Authorities have taken all measures for the rescue and recovery of bodies of Italian soldiers, and the ascertaining of their activity.

4. Consequently the despatch to Cephalonia and Corfu of the above mentioned Italian Mission is not of an urgent character and should be avoided. The Italian newspaper itself recognises as understandable the actual popular grudge against the Italians due to Fascist activities in the Islands. Moreover the population cannot forget the Italian intention to annex the Ionian Islands.

5. The

To : Office of the Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission.

Copy to: Land Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission.

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2. The above matter was dealt with in a Memorandum No. P/220.43 of the 20 Feb. 1945 of the Political Section of the A.C. to which the Greek Delegation had replied by its Note Verbale No. 1730 of May 15, 1945. Copy herewith attached, exposing the reasons for which the Greek Ministry of War consider it advisable to postpone the despatch of this mission.

3. As a result of the above article and following instructions received from the Greek Government, this Delegation desires to inform the Allied Commission that the same reasons for which the Greek Government did not consider possible the sending of this mission to Cephalonia still continue to exist.

It is otherwise well known to you that the Greek Military Authorities have taken all measures for the research and recovery of bodies of Italian soldiers, and the ascertaining of their activity.

4. Consequently the despatch to Cephalonia and Corfu of the above mentioned Italian Mission is not of an urgent character and should be avoided. The Italian newspaper itself recognises as understandable the actual popular grudge against the Italians due to Fascist activities in the Islands. Moreover the population cannot forget the Italian intention to annex the Ionian Islands.

5. The

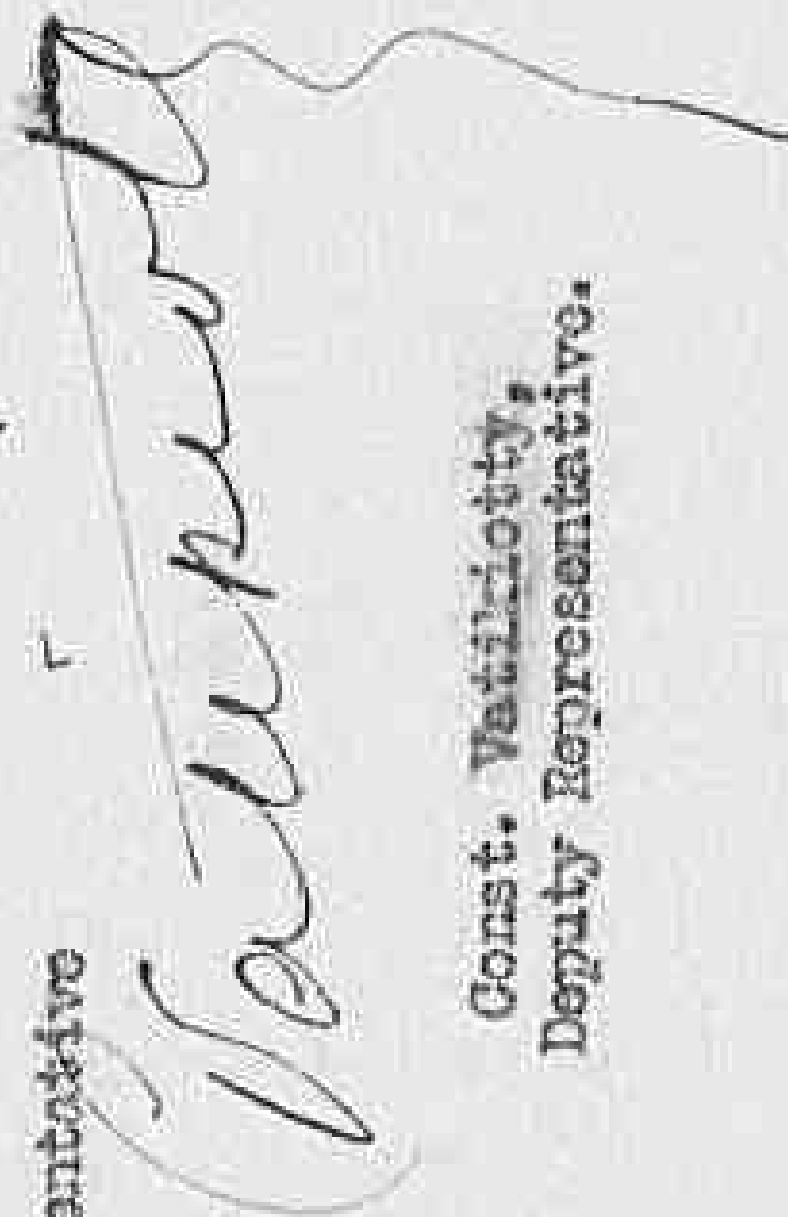


67 4620

- 2 -

5. The arrival today of the Italian Mission in the islands will undoubtedly give rise to and incidents which the Greek Government desire to prevent at all costs for the well being of the members of the Mission and the smooth development of Greek-Italian relations.

For the Greek Representative
on the A.C. I.



Const. Vasilakiotis,
Deputy Representative.

4262

Copy

Ref. No. 1730

Note Verbal

The Greek Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy present their compliments to the office of the Executive Commissioner of the Allied Commission and have the honour to transmit them below the views of the Greek Ministry of War regarding the wish of the Italian Ministry of War to send to the Islands of Cephalonia and Corfu, an Italian Mission charged with recovering and giving adequate burial to the bodies of the "Aqui" division, which matter was dealt with in Memorandum No. P/220.43 of the 20th February 1945 of the Political Section of the A. C.

The Greek Ministry of War understands thoroughly the humanitarian grounds of the above request of the Italian Ministry of War and would like to be in a position to comply with it. However, they regret to be obliged to state that they consider it opportune to postpone, at least for the time being, the sending of the referred Italian Mission, because, unfortunately, owing to the outbreak of the Italian occupation forces, which, as known, committed frightful atrocities against the Greek population of these Islands, and owing to the mass executions of innocent people and to the destructions of entire villages, they fear that the arrival of an Italian Mission in these Islands would give rise to unpleasant incidents which the Greek Ministry of War wish by all means to avoid. Such demonstrations of the inhabitants of the Islands in question, bound as they are to occur, given that the inhabitants are still under the vivid remembrance of the unbelievable hardships which were inflicted upon them by the Italian forces of occupation, would certainly properly unpleasant rescues which, by all means, the Greek Ministry of War want to avoid.

With regard to the gist of the matter, the Greek Ministry of War states that, upon establishment of the National Guards in Cephalonia, the Greek Military Authorities immediately took the initiative to order, on the one hand, the searching and collecting of bodies of Italian military personnel in order to have them buried, and on the other hand, the ascertaining as far as possible, of their identities. The result of this action will be, in due time, communicated by the Greek War Ministry.

Finally, with regard to Italian Military personnel who took refuge with, or joined the Greek partisans, the Greek Ministry of War state that all the members of foreign forces were taken prisoners, following the laying down by the partisans of their arms, and were handed over,

according

To the Office

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according

To the Office
of the Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission,

R o m e

- 2 -

according to the regulations in force, to the British authorities as prisoners of war.

The Greek Delegation trust that the office of the Executive Commissioner of the A.C. will no doubt understand the above reasons of the Greek Ministry of War for the postponement, at least for the time being, of the sending of the referred mission.

The Greek Delegation to the A.C.I. beg to request the office of the Executive Commissioner of the A.C. to kindly bring to the notice of the Italian Ministry of War the result of the measures taken by the sole initiative of the Greek Military Authorities for the burial of Italian Military Personnel and for the discovery of their identities in order to relieve the anxiety of their families in Italy.

The Greek Delegation will not fail to inform the office of the Executive Commissioner of all the future results of the above referred action of the Greek Military authorities which have been already ordered to report on this connection to the Greek War Ministry.

Rome, 15th May 1945.

4260

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

RE/ALB/ER

G-5: 000.5-1

25 October 1945

SUBJECT: Italian War Crimes Mission to Cefalonia.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your letter of 23 October (4/29.2/CA).
2. The Mission to Cefalonia was directed by the CCS in TAM 413 of 3 January 1945 subject to the approval of the Greek Government.
3. By letter of 3 September, and by signal of 6 October GREEKMAIL was requested to advise concerning the consent of the Greek Government. No reply has been received.
4. A further request to GREEKMAIL will be sent forthwith. Until a reply is received the Mission cannot proceed.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

RB
R. BARRATT
Lt. Colonel

X *File* X
G-5 () _____
G-5 () _____
G-5 () _____
G-5 () _____
G-5 () _____
G-5 () _____
G-5 () _____

4253
G/6
R/30/10.

1308

0923

785020

23

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

4/29.2/CA

23 Oct 45

SUBJECT : Italian Military Mission to CEFALONIA.

TO : AFHQ, G-5 Section.

E/6
SD.
Sec folio 26024

Reference the attached Signal MOV 24711 of 29 Sept 45 from GREENHILL to AFHQ, para 2 of this Signal is not understood. Para 2 of your letter of 30 March stated that the Mission to CEFALONIA was ordered on the instruction of the CCS. Will you please say whether the Mission, which is at present at BARI waiting to embark, may now proceed, or is to be detained.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

4721
G-5 (CA) *
G-5 (CA)
G-5 (CA)
G-5 (CA)
G-5 (CA)
G-5 (CA)
G-5 (CA)

M. CARR, Brig,
VP CA Section.

Copy to: NMIA

E/6
R/2.7/10 4253
DATE

24-10-45

2803

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of War

TO : ADJUTANTS AND MMIA

Ref: 221900/II

Date: 10 Oct 45

SUBJECT: Italian Military Mission to CEFALONIA

1. MMIA has authorized the sending to CEFALONIA of a Mission, with the task of "investigating the war crimes committed" on the island by the German forces against the soldiers of the Acqui Division in September 1943, and in addition, to carry out identification and gathering of the remains of the said soldiers, fallen in combat or murdered.

2. This Mission:-

- Assumes the title "Italian Military Mission to CEFALONIA"

- Will be commanded by Artillery Colonel Giovanni WIEL

- Will be, for the entire period of its existence (estimated about two months), under the direct command of this Cabinet

- Will, for its formation and subsequent disbandment be controlled by the Military Territorial HQ of BARI

- Will have as controlling units:-

In Italy - MMIA

In CEFALONIA - Land Forces Greece

- Will concentrate at BARI on the 20th Oct 45 and be ready for departure on the 25th Oct 45, thereupon standing-by for orders from MMIA for transport to CEFALONIA.

3. Personnel: The Mission is made up, in its entirety, of 25 persons, who are:-

(a) Officers

- Artillery Colonel Giovanni WIEL - Chief of Mission;
- Artillery Captain Renzo APOLLONIO, when the SMRE - Information Office - will kindly free from present duty on the 12th Oct 45, W.o.f. that date this officer is at the disposal - in Rome - of the Chief of Mission, Col. WIEL;

- Lieutenant Chaplain (Army), Father Romualdo FERRATO - The Chief Chaplain's Department will kindly arrange for him to be freed from present duty on 12 Oct 45. W.o.f. that date this officer is at the disposal - in Rome - of the Chief of Mission, Col. WIEL;

- Lieutenant Chaplain (Navy), Father Luigi CHILARDINI - The Ministry of Marine, as agreed verbally, will kindly arrange for him to be freed from his present duty with the 12 Torpedo Boat Flotilla, as soon as possible, and to report to the Military Territorial HQ BARI not later than 20 Oct 45.

- Engineer Captain Aldo FRIGERIO (Interpreter in the English language) - Personnel and Secretaries Office - will kindly arrange for this

2. Assumes the title "Italian Military Mission to CEFALONIA"

- Will be commanded by Artillery Colonel Giovanni WIEL

- Will be, for the entire period of its existence (estimated about two months), under the direct command of this Cabinet

2321

2322 (004)

2323 (000)

2324 (000)

2325 (000)

2326 (000)

2327 (000)

2328 (000)

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In Italy - MMIA

In CEFALONIA - Land Forces Greece

- Will concentrate at BARI on the 20th Oct 45 and be ready for departure on the 25th Oct 45, thereupon standing-by for orders from MMIA for transport to CEFALONIA.

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- Lieutenant Chaplain (Army), Father Remaldo FUMATO - The Chief Chaplain's

Department will kindly arrange for him to be freed from present duty on

12 Oct 45. W.e.f. that date this officer is at the disposal - in Rome -

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- Lieutenant Chaplain (Navy), Father Luigi CHILARDINI - The Ministry of Marine,

as agreed verbally, will kindly arrange for him to be freed from his present

duty with the 12 Torpedo Boat Flotilla, as soon as possible, and to report

to the Military Territorial HQ BARI not later than 20 Oct 45.

- Engineer Captain Aldo FRIGERIO (Interpreter in the English language) -

The SMRE - Personnel and Secretaries Office - will kindly arrange for this

officer to report on 12 Oct 45 to the Chief of Mission, Col. WIEL, at this

Cabinet.

- Lieutenant (Medical Officer) Giuseppe MUSCETTOLA (Interpreter in the Greek

language), at present on sick leave in MMIMS - No. 15 Via Vetreria a Chiaia,

The Military Territorial HQ BARI, as confirmed in telephone conversation,

will kindly arrange for this officer - who has already expressed his willingness

to be recalled to duty and to proceed to BARI, where he will report to

the Military Territorial HQ for orders, not later than 20 Oct 45.

9/6
R/19/10
DATE

- 2 -

(b) NGOs and men

- 1 Senior NCO
- 1 Junior NCO or private
- 1st Class shorthand typist
- 2 Junior NCOs or privates
- Medical Orderlies
- 2 Junior NCOs or privates
- Truck and Car Drivers
- 1 Private soldier
- Dispatch Rider
- 10 Private soldiers for general duties (among whom, 1 cook, 1 Kitchen orderly, 2 batmen)

-) These will be supplied by the Military Territorial HQ BARI, who will draw same from personnel made available through the disbandment, in progress, of the units of the Deputy Command of the 227 Div.
-) These personnel must be of classes not junior to 1932, in perfect physical condition, and must be concentrated at BARI - at the disposal of the Chief of Mission, Col. WILM, on 20 Oct 45.

- 1 Photographer and cinema cameraman (either senior or junior NCO or private) - He will be supplied by the press office of the Cabinet, which will provide:-

For issuing the necessary orders to the E.A.M. (Independent unit of the Ministry of War) so that the said soldier may proceed to the Military Territorial HQ BARI, arriving by 20 Oct 45;

For issuing to the said soldier a camera, a cinematograph camera and a suitable amount of photographic material for the taking of photographs and the making of films.

(c) Civilians

Dott. Oreste FALIANI, Consul of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, whose expenses for the duration of the Mission - as already communicated - will be paid by this Ministry (Ministry of War). The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will kindly arrange for the said official to make direct contact - not later than 12 Oct 45 - with the Chief of Mission, Col. WILM, in order to define details of the functions which will be accorded him, and the procedure for departure.

All the above mentioned personnel, will, upon disbandment of the Mission, be returned, through the offices of the Military Territorial HQ BARI, to their respective units of origin.

Uniform for all ranks: Winter uniform (with jacket and overcoat), of Italian or Allied make, according to the type of clothing and equipment issued.

Individual weapons (for all members of the Mission): Pistols.

Materials:

4.

These will be supplied by the above addressed units concerned, to the scale indicated on the enclosures, and under the care of the same, will be assembled at the Military Territorial HQ BARI by 20 Oct 45. The Chief of Mission, Col. WILM, will make direct arrangements with the said Military Territorial HQ for their storing

- Disaster
- 10 private soldiers for
General duties (among whom,
1 cook, 1 Kitchen orderly,
2 batmen)
- 1 Photographer and cinema cameraman (either senior or junior NCO
or private) - He will be supplied by the press office of the Cabl-
net, which will provide:-
For issuing the necessary orders to the R.A.M. (Independent
unit of the Ministry of War) so that the said soldier may proceed
to the Military Territorial HQ BARI, arriving by 20 Oct 45;
For issuing to the said soldier a camera, a cinematograph
camera and a suitable amount of photographic material for the
taking of photographs and the making of films.
- (c) Civilians
Dott. Oberto FALIANI, Consul of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
whose expenses for the duration of the Mission - as already communicated -
will be paid by this Ministry (Ministry of War). The Ministry of Foreign
Affairs will kindly arrange for the said official to make direct contact -
not later than 12 Oct 45 - with the Chief of Mission, Col. WIML, in order
to define details of the functions which will be accorded him, and the
procedure for departure.
- All the above mentioned personnel, will, upon disembarkment of the Mission,
be returned, through the offices of the Military Territorial HQ BARI, to their
respective units of origin.
- Uniform for all ranks: Winter uniform (with jacket and overcoat), of
Italian or Allied make, according to the type of clothing and equipment issued.
- Individual weapons (for all members of the Mission): Pistols.
4. Materials:
These will be supplied by the above addressed units concerned, to the
scale indicated on the enclosures, and under the care of the same, will be assembled
at the Military Territorial HQ BARI by 20 Oct 45. The Chief of Mission, Col. WIML,
will make direct arrangements with the said Military Territorial HQ for their storing
and administration until the moment of embarkation.
5. Rations
Rations for the personnel of the Mission will be drawn, during its stay
in Italy and w.e.f. 21 Oct, inclusive, through the Military Territorial HQ BARI.
6. Administration
Separate orders issued.

- 3 -

7. Transport from BARI to CEFALONIA

Will be carried out under the care of the MIA, who will kindly communicate, through the LO of the MIA concerned, the necessary orders directly to the Military Territorial HQ BARI, informing also this Ministry's Cabinet.

By order of CHIEF OF CABINET:

/s/ LOMBARDI

Translated by:

Typed by : wss 19 Oct 45

Internal: File: C/S

Q
MOV

4253

0933

785020

Info : Italian Mission to investigate Air Crimes in GEFALANIA.

Nov. 26/7

The following details are sent to you for information.

W.A.A. Evans.

Capt. R.E.
(W.A.A. Evans)
Movements Liaison Officer

1 Oct 45

FROM : NEW CRETEND.

DATE/TIME 220000

TO : AMO NEW

INFO : IMIA

REF. : NOV. 24741

SECRET

YOUR PX 45049 OF 24 SEPT (.)

ONE (.) NO MEANS THE VEHICLES ~~XXX~~ PATHS TO GEFALANIA UNTIL NOT
ARRIVES (.) NEXT UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTY TO BE HELD PIRANUS WAITING
ONWARD MOVEMENT (.) FURTHER SIGNAL WILL BE MADE WHEN ONWARD MOVEMENT
CAN BE UNDERTAKEN (.)

TWO (.) POLITICAL ISSUE OF PRINCIPLE INVOLVED IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
PROPOSAL HAS HOWEVER ALREADY BEEN REFERRED TO FOREIGN OFFICE AND
PENDING THEIR REPLY NO APPROACH GREEK GOVERNMENT UNTIL LATER
HAVE CONSIDERED (.)

425

THREE (.) ARMED FORCE

Copy to : 'A'
Float.

101
150-1

(Your G/6 dated 19 Sept refers).

GSO 2 (G/6)

GSO 2 (G/6)

GSO 2 (G/6)

GSO 2 (G/6)

GSO 3 (G/6)

GSO 3 (G/6)

GSO 3 (G/6)

G/6
R/2/10
DATE

Italian Mission to CEFALONIA

Folio 108 21 Jul. Resume of correspondence to date.

Folio 125 31 Sep. AFHQ instruct that M of W proposals for a mission to investigate war crimes in CEFALONIA are acceptable, but that maximum number of persons will be 25.

Folio 126 11 Sep. MMIA to M of W conveying instructions as above.

Folio 128 15 Sep. M of W to MMIA acknowledging 126 above.

Folio 129 19 Sep. MMIA to ALCOM notifying progress.

Folio 131 21 Sep. Mov MMIA to Mov AFHQ requesting that transport arrangements be made for move of CEFALONIA party.

Folio 132 25 Sep. AFHQ to Greekmil asking for transport.

1 Oct 45

4253

0933

SUBJECT :- Italian Mission to investigate war Crimes in Cefalonia.

G261/6
25 sep 45

The following details are passed to you for information :

FROM A P H Q CITE FROM 241851 A

TO HQV GREENHILL

INFO HQV I A

EX 154419

RESTRICTED (.) CAN YOU ACCEPT ITALIAN WAR CRIMES COMMISSION PARTY STRENGTH
25 PERSONS GIVE 3 TON BARRY ONE CAR AND ONE MOTOR CYCLE AT PIRAEUS FOR
ONWARD MOVEMENT UNDER YOUR ARRANGEMENTS TO CEFALONIA (.) REQUEST IS HAVE
NO VESSELS OR CRAFT TO LEFT DIRECT TO CEFALONIA (.) PARTY WILL BE AVAILABLE
TO SHIP FROM THERE ABOUT 15 OCT.

COPY TO :- 'A'

'J'

'G' - You G/6 dated 19 Sep refers

S.M.R.S. (Ufficio Trasporti).

G30 1

G30 2 (Ops)

G30 2 (SD)

G30 2 (W-)

G30 2 (L)

G30 3 (SD)

G30 3 (Orbary)

G30 3 (P)

425

Capt. RS.

(W.A.A. EVANS).

Movements Liaison Officer.

Subject: Italian Mission to Investigate War Crimes in GERMANY.

Land Forces Sub-Commission, G. (MIA)
Tel.: 2008 470206
Ref.: Nov. 9/26/5
21 September 45

To: G-4 War & Tr.,
A. F. S. D.

1. Reference AFHQ letter dated 3 September 45, relative to the above, copy of which is attached for easy reference.
2. A Mission of 25 persons, one three ton lorry, one car, and one motor-cycle has been ordered to assemble at GERM with a target date of 15th October.
3. Movement to GERM/ITALIA therefore is required, and it is requested that possibilities subsequent to the above date be investigated.

G/b.

W.

4250

W. J. Westbury (MIA)
(The Lord Westbury)
Investigative Liaison Officer.

/enc

Copy to: G-4 (20) MIA.

MMI - 'G'
FILE: 8/6
DATE: R/22/5

GSO 1
GSO 2 (Ops)
GSO 2 (SO)
GSO 2 (W-1)
GSO 2 (L)
GSO 3 (20)
GSO 3 (Ops)
GSO 3 (L)

TRANSLATION

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

Date: 15/9/45
Ref: 219926/II
216-9-1

Subject: Italian Mission for investigations on war criminals at Cefalonia

Answer to letter G/6 dated 11/ /45

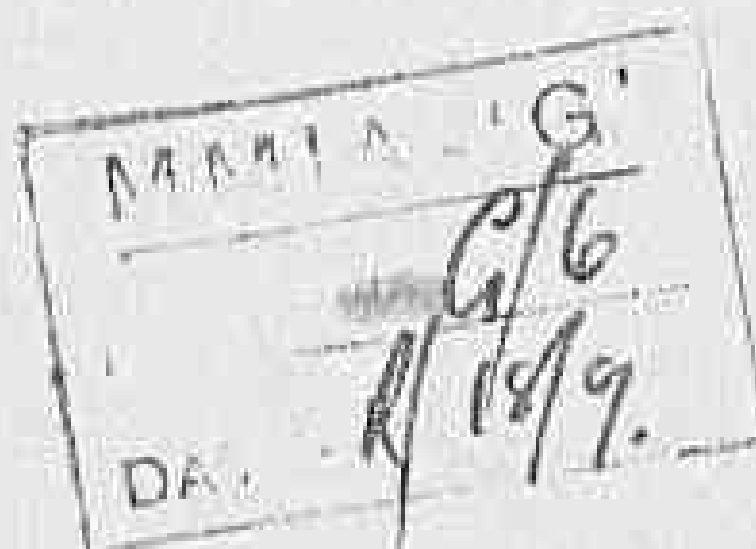
We acknowledge receipt of letter G/6 dated 11/9/45, and we confirm the conditions for the journey of the mission to Cefalonia.

For the necessary your guidance; it is pointed out that:

- this Ministry intends - always if possible and provided there are no reasons at present unknown against it - to fix the date of departure of said mission as the 15th of October.-
 - the transport that the Mission will have to take with them, is the one indicated in the plan attached to letter M.G.-Cabinet N.215405/II dated 13/7/45.-
 - The vehicle laid down in said plan, must be considered as being reduced to a total of 3 (1 lorry (3 tonner) 1 car- 1 motorcycle).-
- Further detailed informations will be forwarded in time.

R. ERRERA. Col

(Sgd) Col. Lombardi



OSO 1

GSO 2 (OPR)

GSO 2 (GD)

GSO 2 (WE)

GSO 2 (H)

GSO 2 (S)

GSO 2 (G)

GSO 2 (M)

4243

SUBJECT: Italian Mission to Investigate
War Crimes in CEFALONIA

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.O. (MMIA)

C/S

11 Sep 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

302912/GA

Ref your 313-1-10 of 20 Oct 44, MMIA letter S/i/121 of 10 Nov 44, MMIA letter G/6 of 16 June 45 and your subsequent proposed Project for the formation and program of work for the subject Mission.

1. Your proposals for the formation and program of a Mission to investigate War Crimes in CEFALONIA are acceptable except for the number of persons required. It is suggested that 25 persons will be adequate.
2. Provided the reduction of personnel suggested above is acceptable to you and acceptance is confirmed to MMIA, the formation of the Mission may proceed on the basis of your proposals as follows:-

- (a) Place of assembly: BARI. Rations will be drawn through Territorial HQ, BARI, while in ITALY.
- (b) Supervisory agency in ITALY: MMIA.
- (c) Supervisory agency in CEFALONIA: Land Forces (GREECE) 22.
- (d) Equipment will be furnished from Italian Army Stocks.

3. On your request, which will be as soon as practicable, arrangements will be made for transport of Mission to CEFALONIA.

Copy to: HQ ALLIED COMMISSION (Attn C.A. Sec)
AFHQ

Internal: 3
Q

Handwritten: d/B / Mr. C. J. / - Capt
for Major General
MMIA

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

302912/CA

Ref your 313-1-10 of 20 Oct 44, MMIA letter S/I/121 of 10 Nov 44, MMIA letter G/6 of 16 June 45 and your subsequent proposed Project for the formation and program of work for the subject Mission.

1. Your proposals for the formation and program of a Mission to investigate War Crimes in CEFALONIA are acceptable except for the number of persons required. It is suggested that 25 persons will be adequate.

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(a) Place of assembly: BARI. Rations will be drawn through Territorial HQ, BARI, while in ITALY.

(b) Supervisory agency in ITALY: MMIA.

(c) Supervisory agency in CEFALONIA: Land Forces (GREECE), 424.

(d) Equipment will be furnished from Italian Army Stocks.

3. On your request, which will be as soon as practicable, arrangements will be made for transport of Mission to CEFALONIA.

Copy to: HQ ALLIED COMMISSION (Attn C.A. Sec.)
AFHQ

Internal: A

Q

G

MOV

INT/121

WS

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Chief of Staff

3 September 1945

- 7 SEP 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Mission to Investigate War Crimes
in Cefalonia.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, AFO 394.

1. Reference is made to your 1/29.A/GA of 27 July enclosing proposals of the Italian Government to investigate war crimes in Cefalonia.

2. It is felt that the proposals of the Italian Government are acceptable except for the number of persons sought to be included in the mission. You will indicate to the Italian Government that a maximum number of 25 persons is considered adequate. If this suggestion is acceptable to the Italian Government you may advise the Government that their mission will be attached to MMIA while in Italy in accordance with their suggestion.

3. The supervision of the mission in Cefalonia will be the responsibility of Land Forces (Greece). A copy of this Headquarters letter to Land Forces (Greece) is enclosed for your information.

By Command of Field Marshal ALEXANDER:

W. D. MORRAN
Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff

1 Incl:
As above dated
3 September 45.

Copy to: MMIA
Land Forces, (Greece)

FILE: *6/6*
DATE: *9/11/45*

GSO 1 ☒ *9-1*
GSO 2 (GTS) ☒
GSO 2 (SD) ☐
GSO 2 (W-) ☐
GSO 2 (L) ☐
GSO 3 (SD) ☐
GSO 3 (C-54) ☐
GSO 2 (L) ☐

4247

3380

SECRET

Subject:- Mission for Investigation of War Crimes
against Italian Nationals in CEFALONIA

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MITA)

G/6

23

July 45.

Ministry of War

Reference your 215405/11 dated 13 July 1945.
232-1-4

The proposals for function, organisation etc. of a mission to investigate the crimes alleged to have been perpetrated against Italian Nationals in CEFALONIA have been forwarded to HQ Allied Commission for consideration. On receipt of a decision you will be informed.

bd

R/24/7

Major General 4246
MITA

G.O.C.

thru C.O.C.

Italian Mission to CEFALONIA

30 March

- G-5 AFHQ passed on to ALCOM CCS authority for Greek and Yugoslav Governments to send missions to Italy and for the Italian Government to send a mission to CEFALONIA; these missions to investigate war crimes and to work throughout under the guidance of Allied Military Authorities. ALCOM were instructed to obtain and forward to AFHQ detailed proposals for these missions.

16 June

- IMIA inform Minister of War that Italian Government may send a mission to CEFALONIA, and request detailed proposals regarding function of mission, etc.

13 July

- Ministry of War forward to IMIA detailed plans as requested.

21 July

- IMIA pass copy of Ministry of War proposals to ALCOM so that they may transmit these to AFHQ as requested by G-5.

FILES

IMIA File C/6, folios 105, 107A.

ALCOM CA Sec File 4/29A/CA, folios 13A, 25A.

C (SD)

21 July 45

Lt. Col.
CS.

4245

0941

SECRET

SUBJECT: Investigation of War Crimes against
Italian Nationals in CEFALONIA

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MMIA)

C/G

21 July 45

TO : HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

Ref AFHQ G-5 letter dated 30 March 45 subject War Crimes
addressed HQ Allied Commission, and our G/C dated 16 June 45 to Italian
Ministry of War.

1. Attached herewith is a copy of translated proposals of Italian
Ministry of War for function, organization etc. of a mission to investi-
gate crimes alleged to have been perpetrated against Italian Nationals
in CEFALONIA.

See (105)

for Major General
MMIA

Copy to: CIVIL AFFAIRS SEC., A.C.

Internal: INT/121

WS

TRANSMISSION

SUBJECT: Project for the formation, and programs of work for the Italian Military Mission to CEMALOMIA

A) Task

Reconnaissance of all battlefields on the island.

Gathering on a large scale of the evidence of the slaughter and atrocities committed on the island by the German Armed Forces against Italian Military personnel after the 8 Sept 43, and the seeking and definition of the individuals most responsible for the said slaughter and atrocities.

Gathering of the mortal remains of Italian Military personnel, wherever they may be, with the help, also of information which will be found on the spot;

with the aim of establishing a possible identification, exhumation of remains already buried through private effort;

the placing of all mortal remains in one place (locality of "Casa Rossa" and its environs, where the shooting of numerous officers took place - or otherwise the S. Teodoro Area - to be decided upon on the spot);

The acquisition, in the name of the Italian State, of the area where the cemetery and crypt will be situated;

The recovery, from civilians who may be in possession of them, of personal objects belonging to the fallen Italian soldiers, for their subsequent despatch to their families, together with all the information obtainable about the soldiers, hitherto considered as "missing".

B) ORGANIZATION

Complete number of the Mission's components :-

49 Military personnel (Chief of Mission - 1 Colonel)
1 Civilian (Official of the M. of Foreign Affairs)

The 49 Military personnel are classified as follows 4240

7 Officers, - 2 N.O.O., - 2 typists, - 2 photographers, -
8 medical orderlies, - 14 privates for Gen. duty, -
5 drivers - ;

Necessary Equipment:

2 lorries 3 tons (eventually reinforced by local vehicles);

Gathering on a large scale of the evidence of the slaughter and atrocities committed on the island by the German Armed Forces against Italian Military personnel after the 8 Sept 43, and the seeking and definition of the individuals most responsible for the said slaughter and atrocities.

Gathering of the mortal remains of Italian Military personnel, wherever they may be, with the help, also of information which will be found on the spot;

With the aim of establishing a possible identification, exhumation of remains already buried through private effort;

The placing of all mortal remains in one place (locality of "Casa Rosca" and its environs, where the shooting of numerous officers took place - or otherwise the S. Tedore Area - to be decided upon on the spot);

The acquisition, in the name of the Italian State, of the area where the cemetery and crypt will be situated;

The recovery, from civilians who may be in possession of them, of personal objects belonging to the fallen Italian soldiers, for their subsequent despatch to their families, together with all the information obtainable about the soldiers, hitherto considered as "missing".

B) ORGANIZATION

Complete number of the Mission's components :-

- 43 Military personnel (Chief of Mission - 1 Colonel)
- 1 Civilian (Official of the M. of Foreign Affairs)

The 43 Military personnel are classified as follows **42/17**

- 7 Officers, - 1 M.C.C., - 2 typists, - 2 photographers, -
- 3 medical orderlies, - 24 privates for Gen. duty, -
- 3 drivers - ;

Necessary Equipment:

- 2 Lorries 3 tons (eventually reinforced by local vehicles).

- 2 cars
- 1 Motor-cycle
- 2 Typewriters

Stationery for the Mission's Office (reduced) :

- 3 Diving suits (1)
- 3 Individual masks (1)
- 2 Pairs of Rubber Gloves
- 3 Pairs of Rubber Boots
- 4 Stretchers
- 4 Lengths of Manila Rope
- 15 Picks
- 15 Shovels
- 4 Saws
- 400 Mts of Nails (2)

...../.....

-2-

wood for the construction of 3,000 coffins of reduced size (2) and 200 coffins of standard size (3) for the use of the Mission.

Interpreters will be provided by the Mission itself - four of the officers speak fluent Greek.

Footnote to above table :-

- (1) Required for the reconstruction of districts, from 18 to 20 million dollars, in which have been thrown numerous corpses.
- (2) On the island of Cephalonia, neither wood nor nails are to be found.

3) R. 2. OF THE MISSION - SUMMARY

Missioning :- The Mission will be dependent on the Military Territorial Command of Bari, which will function as the "assembly and dispersed point" in Italy. On the island, however, the Mission will depend on a local British Command, which will be established, either by the British or "Land Forces, Greece".

Nations :- The necessary nations will have to be issued (on orders of the Military) by the unit on which the Mission will depend during its stay upon the island. For the period during which the Mission is concentrated at Bari, the necessary nations must be supplied by the Military Territorial Command of that area.

Funds and Administration :- A fund will be issued to the Mission, in local currency, to an amount corresponding to the value of Lire 1,000,000., for which arrangements are being made with the Treasury.

Future necessities which may arise, will come under review and be resolved according to the degree of urgency.

The Mission will establish its own administration for which it will render account to the Military Territorial Command of Bari.

D) PROCEDURE RELATIVE TO THE INVESTIGATION OF CRIMES AND SIGNATURE OF RECORDS

In all districts, will be posted, under the supervision of the Mission, a manifesto in Greek, asking all those capable of giving information about the slaughter of Italian soldiers, to present themselves to the E.C. at Argostoli.

The members of the Mission will interrogate - at the places at which it has been verified that slaughters have occurred - any of the Greek population who might have been witnesses, and who come forward voluntarily to give information.

Footnote to above scale :-

- (1) Required for the reconnaissance of cisterns, from 15 to 20 metres deep, in which have been thrown numerous corpses.
- (2) On the island of Cephalonia, neither wood nor sails are to be found.

C) H.M. OF THE MISSION - ADMINISTRATIVE

Budgeting :- The Mission will be dependent on the Military Territorial Command of Bari, which will function as the "assembly and dispersal point" in Italy. On the island, however, the Mission will depend on a local British Command, which will be detailed, either by MIA or "Land Forces, Greece".

Rations :- The necessary rations will have to be issued (on orders of the MIA) by the unit on which the Mission will depend during its stay upon the island. For the period during which the Mission is concentrated at Bari, the necessary rations must be supplied by the Military Territorial Command of that area.

Funds and administration :- A fund will be issued to the Mission, in local currency, to an amount corresponding to the value of Lire 1,000,000., for which arrangements are being made with the Treasury.

Future necessities which may arise, will come under review and be resolved according to the degree of urgency.

The Mission will establish its own administration for which it will render account to the Military Territorial Command of Bari.

D) PROCEDURE RELATIVE TO THE INVESTIGATIONS: GATHERING OF EVIDENCE AND SIGNATURE OF REPORTS

In all districts, will be posed, under the supervision of the Mission, a manifesto in Greek, asking all those capable of giving information about the slaughter of Italian soldiers, to present themselves to the H.Q. at Argostoli.

The members of the Mission will interrogate - at the places at which it has been verified that slaughters have occurred - any of the Greek population who might have been witnesses, and who come forward voluntarily to give information.

The reports will be drawn up as statements of individual persons. The witness will narrate how much he knows or has seen, and then will sign a text written by a clerk, under the dictation of a member of the Mission. Every report must be signed by at least two members of the Mission.

E) APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CASES OF SLAUGHTER WHICH MUST BE INVESTIGATED AND VERIFIED AND LOCALITIES IN WHICH THE INVESTIGATIONS MUST BE CONDUCTED :-

About a hundred cases at the following localities :-

Troianata, Frangata, Gago Munte, Lakitra, Focota, San Gerassimo, Sant'Eufemia, San Teodoro, Cardakata, Pares, Davgata, Gursklati, Loma del Fillaro, Divarata, Dighimata, Seraklata, Procopata, Lixuri, Iudata, Passo Colani, Loma del Drapano.

- 3 -

F) DEVELOPMENT OF THE INVESTIGATION :-

In subsequent order, area by area.

G) DURATION OF THE INVESTIGATION AND A FIRST STEP TOWARDS ESTABLISHING A CRYPTIC AND ORYX.

Cannot be stated at present, as it depends upon too many elements unknown until the mission will have reached the island and have initiated its programme of work. As indicative data, and always subject to change, a period of from 60 to 90 days could be hazarded.

H) ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING UP OF THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION:

On a basis of information received, and from the proposed documentation by the mission, the whole question will be referred to the suitable unit for further development of the matter.

1777

SECRET

Ref. : 21352/11
Date : June 25, 1945

6/10

121 to 109

(Sgd) Illegible

Handwritten signature/initials.

MMIA - 'C'
FILE: 8/6
27/6

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4233

SECRET

SUBJECT: War Crimes Mission

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MILIA)

O/S

16 June 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Further to your 302912/C.A. of 20 Oct 44 and MILIA letter 313-1-10

S/I/121 of 10 Nov 44.

2. The Italian Government may send a Mission to CEFALONIA to investigate crimes of Germans against Italians.

3. The Mission will be permitted to carry out their investigation themselves but under Allied Control. The Allied Agency who will supervise the Mission in CEFALONIA will be Land Forces GREECE.

4. You are requested to submit to this HQ detailed proposals regarding:-

(a) Function of Mission.

(b) Organization of Mission, viz:

(i) Total numbers and whether civilian or military.

(ii) Provisions for transport, Office Equipment, etc.

(iii) Whether or not interpreters will be provided by the Mission.

(c) Location of HQ of the Mission and organization to which attached for quarters, rations, finance and general administration.

(d) Procedure for investigation of suspects, collection of evidence and form of record.

(e) Estimate of number of cases to be investigated and approximate areas where investigations are to be conducted.

(f) Whether or not investigations in different areas will be conducted at the same time.

(g) Duration of period during which investigations will continue.

...to result of the investigation.

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Assignment, etc

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TRANSLATION

G/6

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FROM: Ministry of War

REF : 211721/II

TO : MMIA

210-9-1

1/6/45.

SUBJECT: Italian Mission at CORFU and CEFALONIA.

In reply to letter n° G/6 dated 22/5/45.

1. I have taken action on the note forwarded by the Greek Delegation to the Consultive Committee for Italy, regarding the request for the sending of a Mission to CORFU and CEFALONIA, to recover the bodies of over 4.500 Italian Military killed by the Germans.

2. Regarding the "horrible atrocities" which, according to the Greek Delegation to the Consultive Committee, have been committed by Italian occupation troops against the Greek population of the island of CEFALONIA, the following is pointed out:-

- = It is necessary to duly ascertain the veracity of such accusations.
- = This Ministry is completing a collection of documents relative to the crimes and illegalities committed against us by the Greeks, both in Greece and in Italy after the 8th of September 1943.

/sg/ CASATI

Translated by:
G/D

Typed by: jv

4 June 45.

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|------------|
| MMIA - 'G' |
| FILE: G/6 |
| DATE: 5/6 |

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SUBJECT: Italian Missions for
CEPALONIA and CORTU

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MMIA)

0/8 ←

May 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Further to this HQ letter S/I/121 dated 10 Nov 44.

Please find attached copy of NOTE VERBALE No. 1730 of
15 May from Greek Delegation to Advisory Council of Italy, which
is self explanatory.

Copy to: Executive Commissioner, A.C.
(less enclosure)

[Signature]
Colonel
Major General
MMIA

wa

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Tel: 289

18 May 1945.

Ref: 8252/108/EC.

SUBJECT: Italian Missions for CEFALONIA and CORFU.

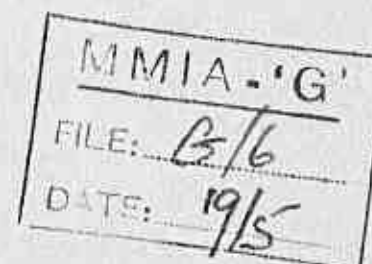
TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA)

1. Attached is Note Verbale No. 1730 dated 15 May 45 from the Greek Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy, on above subject.
2. Will you please communicate the decision of the Greek Ministry of War to the Italian Ministry of War.
3. File P/82045 referred to in para 1 of enclosed letter was transferred to Land Forces Sub-Commission by the Liaison Division on abolition of the Political Section.

W. Starns
 Chief Staff Officer,
 To Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
 as above

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