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YOUR Q 1611 20 DEC SUBJECT TRAIN CHAIRS (.) ACTION WILL BE
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 EQUIPMENT AS DISCUSSED CONFERENCE 14 DEC (.) LETTER FOLLOWS
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Figure 10-10

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2. It is understood that the Fidelity Group is prepared to provide a loan of \$10 million to the Government of India at 6% per annum.

4. can you please inform this HQ, copies to CIA and DIA, if there is any political objection to publish solitons, either named or unnamed, entering Vietnam for this purpose.

make improvements in the way we provide.

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11/11/11

Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)
Ministry of Supply
Surplus Stores Division
British Embassy
R.O.M.E.
APO-CIT

1st July, 1946.

Reference to S.O. Allied Commission's letter ES.1505/2 of 24 June 1946, minutes of a meeting held on the 24 June at 1000 hours on the subject of guards for ammunition deposits.

Reference is made to para 2 para beginning at line 21. It is regretted that the information contained in this paragraph is inaccurate.

It has been learned since the meeting that one of the biggest British Ammunition depots, which Gen. Perardi, Director of U.I.M.E.R., informed us was already being guarded by Carabinieri, is, in fact, still in British possession and guarded by British military personnel. This is the British Ammunition depot at Litonto near Bari, which will throw up an additional surplus of 100,000 tons of ammunition to be handed over to the Italian Government. (This work is now in progress and will require 750 Italian personnel as guards after the 15 July next when the British Army vacate.)

The question of the provision of these guards has been discussed with Mr. De Marchi of A.R.A.A. who is taking up the matter with the Italian Government authorities concerned, and it is hoped that the problem will be solved without the necessity for a further conference.

J.J.W. Nicholson, Lt. Col.
Disposals Officer,
for Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)

DISTRIBUTION.

1 copy to each of the following:-

Col. Charles W. Walton, Economic Section A.C.
Lt. Col. R.D. Horn, Economic Section A.C.
Col. C.G. Blakeney, G.4, M.F.O.U.S.A.
Col. W.F. Arnold, G.5, AMHQ
Mr. Joseph Keegan, G.5 AMHQ
Col. D.P. Caulkins, O.F.L.O.
Lt. Col. J.J.W. Nicholson, Ministry of Supply
Mr. T.W. Woodall, Ministry of Supply
Prof. Ernesto Rossi, President of A.R.A.A.
Mr. De Marchi, A.R.A.A.
Col. Fausto Monaco, Ministry of War
Luigi Gerbella, Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Salvatore Romano, Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Vittor Giacomo Romano, Ministry of Treasury
Major D.S. Strachan-Audus, C.F.M. Branch

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2 JUL 1946

Reference is made to page 2 para beginning at line 21. It is requested that the information contained in this paragraph is inaccurate.

It has been learned since the meeting that one of the biggest British Ammunition depots, which Gen. Ferardi, Director of U.L.M.E.P., informed us was already being guarded by Carabinieri, is, in fact, still in British possession and guarded by British Military personnel. This is the British Ammunition depot at Bitonto near Bari, which will throw up an additional surplus of 100,000 tons of ammunition to be handed over to the Italian Government. (This work is now in progress and will require 750 Italian personnel as guards after the 15 July next when the British Army vacates.) *to be found on our Disposal Office file*

The question of the provision of these guards has been discussed with Avv. De Marconi of A.R.A.A. who is taking up the matter with the Italian Government authorities concerned, and it is hoped that the problem will be solved without the necessity for a further conference.

Chick

J.J.W. Nicholson, Lt. Col.,
Disposals Officer,
for Chief Disposals Officer (Italy)

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Lt. Col. R. B. Horn, Economic Section A.C.
Col. C. G. Blakeney, G. 4, M.T.O.U.S.A.
Col. W. T. Arnold, G. 5, AFHQ
Mr. Joseph Meegan, G. 5 AFHQ
Col. D. P. Caulkins, O.F.L.C.
Lt. Col. J. J. W. Nicholson, Ministry of Supply
Mr. W. V. Woodall, Ministry of Supply
Prof. Ernesto Rossi, President of A.R.A.A.
Avv. De Marchi, A.R.A.A.
Col. Fausto Monaco, Ministry of War
Luigi Gerbella, Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Salvatore Romano, Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Vittorio Giacomo Romano, Ministry of Treasury
Major D. S. Strachan-Aldas, C.E.M. Branch

Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
Executive Commissioner, Allied Commission
Land Forces Sub-Commission
Air Forces Sub-Commission
Navy Sub-Commission
U.N.R.R.A.

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FILE G/16

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FILE G/16DATE Reg/1/2HEADQUARTERS
AFD 794
ECONOMIC SECTION

Land Forces 12

Ref: ES/15.05/2

G(12) 28 June 1946 WP

Reference is made to minutes of a meeting held 24 June (ES/15.05/2) at 10:00 hours by the Economic Section, Allied Commission, on the subject of supply of guards for ammunition deposits.

The last paragraph on Page 7 of the minutes, stating:

"Colonel Walton, in summarizing, stated that it was agreed the Aversa dump would be taken over on 5 July; that a decision with regard to the disposition of the air force bombs would be made by 5 July, and that immediately following this decision, and not later than 15 July, guards would be provided for the air force bomb depots,"

is modified by the following:

As regards the turning over and guarding of the deposit of airplane bombs, Prof. Rossi declares that it is not possible to accept any obligation until the Italian Government (that is: the Ministers he intends to consult) have taken the decision to accept or not the bombs in question.

This has been communicated by telephone to Colonel Blakeney, G-4, MTOUSA, who agrees that if the Italian Government does not want the air force bombs they will not be expected to furnish the guards. However, he still is of the opinion that assistance from the Italian Government in a disposal program, by dumping or otherwise, will be necessary.

CHARLES W. WALTON
Colonel, A.C.
Acting Vice President

4470

DISTRIBUTION

1 copy to each of the following:

Col. Charles W. Walton, Economic Section, A.C.
Lt. Col. R. E. Horn, Economic Section, A.C.
Col. C. G. Blakeney, G-4, MTOUSA
Col. W. T. Arnold, G-4, AFHQ
Mr. Joseph Moegan, G-5, AFHQ
Col. D. P. Caulkins, O.F.L.C.
Lt. Col. J.J.W. Nicholson, Ministry of Supply
Mr. W. W. Woodall, Ministry of Supply
Prof. Ernesto Rossi, President of A.R.A.R.
Avv. De Marchi, A.R.A.R.
Col. Fausto Monaco, Ministry of War
Luigi Corbella, Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Salvatore Romano, Ministry of Industry & Commerce

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DISTRIBUTION (continued)

Vittor Giacomo Romano, Ministry of Treasury
Major D. S. Strachan-Audas, C.E.M. Branch

Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
Executive Commissioner, Allied Commission
Land Forces Sub-Commission
Air Forces Sub-Commission
Navy Sub-Commission
U.N.R.R.A. (Attn: Mr. Harlan Cleveland)
Mr. Bombasse, Italian Liaison Officer, Allied Commission

4463

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
ECONOMIC SECTION

24 June 1946

E-1505/2
A meeting was held on 24 June at 10:00 hours by the Economic Section, Allied Commission, on the subject of supply of guards for ammunition deposits.

PRESENT:

Economic Section

G-1, MTOUSA

G-5, AFHQ

O.F.L.C.

Ministry of Supply

A.R.A.R.

Ministry of War

Ministry of Industry & Commerce

Ministry of Interior

Ministry of Treasury

C.E.M.

Col. Charles W. Walton

Lt. Col. R. E. Horn

Col. G. G. Blakeney

Col. W. T. Arnold
Mr. Joseph Meegan

Col. D. P. Caulkins

Lt. Col. J. J. W. Nicholson
Mr. W. W. WoodallProf. Ernesto Rossi
Avv. De Marchi

Col. Fausto Monaco

Luigi Gerbella
Salvatore Romano

Roberto Scandaliato

Vittor Giacomo Romano

Major D. S. Strachan-Audas

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FILE *G/16*
DATE *R/28/6*Colonel Walton presided.

Colonel Walton stated, by way of review, that because of redeployment of Allied troops there is an increase in the volume of surplus material to be turned over to the Italian Government through A.R.A.R., which includes ammunition. It is necessary to have a rapid turn-over because, (a) it will be helpful to Italian economy and, (b) because of the reduction in Allied Forces. The meeting today is to be confined to the discussion of the turn-over of ammunition deposits. Some of the questions to be discussed are:

- (a) What deposits remain to be turned over?
(b) How many guards are needed for these deposits?
(c) Can A.R.A.R. assume this responsibility?

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(d) Will the new civil guard corps be able to assume the responsibility, and when?

(e) Are there any other guards available?

Colonel Walton then asked for a statement from the Americans and the British as to what depots (ammunition) remain to be turned over.

Colonel Blakeney, G-4, stated that the Americans have approximately 49,000 tons of air force bombs at Accera, Bari and Manfredonia. In addition there are, roughly, between 6,000 and 7,000 tons of artillery shells, mortar projectiles and other ground force ammunition at Aversa. The present commitment of guards is 75 at Accera, 186 at Bari, 50 at Manfredonia, and 224 at Aversa. The American Forces have made a study of the number of guards required and it is felt that 178 total for the Accera, Bari and Manfredonia dumps would be sufficient. Two hundred would be required at Aversa -- or a total of 378 guards for the American depots to be turned over. Colonel Blakeney asked Prof. Rossi if this ammunition were turned over, say 1 July, how long it would take to de-militarize the ammunition and break it down into usable components.

Prof. Rossi said this would depend on the total ammunition turned over by both the Americans and British.

Colonel Walton then asked for a statement of the British ammunition to be turned over.

It has been learned since the meeting that one of the biggest British Ammunition Depots, which Gen. Berardi, Director of U.L.M.E.R., informed us was already being guarded by Carabinieri, is, in fact, still in British possession and guarded by British Military Personnel. This is the British Ammunition depot at Bitonto near Bari, which will throw up an additional surplus of 100,000 tons of ammunition to be handed over to the Italian Government. (this work is now in progress and will require 750 Italian personnel as guards after the 15 July next when the British Army vacate.)

Major ~~Graciano-Rodriguez~~ reported that some 50,000 tons of British ammunition have been provided. The remainder will be almost negligible.

Colonel Walton summed up the ammunition turn-over to be some 55,000 tons of British ammunition; about the same quantity of American, and an unknown quantity of CEM, or well over 100,000 tons of ammunition in all. He then asked Prof. Rossi, if on the basis of these figures, he would care to answer Col. Blakeney's previous question of how long it would take to de-militarize and break down the ammunition for industrial uses.

Prof. Rossi said that he could not answer that question today because there is the question of whether the air force bombs could be held separately since they are less important to the economy, and whether they will want to take over the air force bombs.

- 2 -

(d) Will the new civil guard corps be able to assume the responsibility, and when?

(e) Are there any other guards available?

Colonel Walton then asked for a statement from the Americans and the British as to what depots (ammunition) remain to be turned over.

Colonel Blakeney, G-4, stated that the Americans have approximately 49,000 tons of air force bombs at Accera, Bari and Manfredonia. In addition there are, roughly, between 6,000 and 7,000 tons of artillery shells, mortar projectiles and other ground force ammunition at Avessa. The present commitment of guards is 75 at Accera, 180 at Bari, 50 at Manfredonia, and 224 at Avessa. The American Forces have made a study of the number of guards required and it is felt that 178 total for the Accera, Bari and Manfredonia dumps would be sufficient. Two hundred would be required at Avessa -- or a total of 378 guards for the American depots to be turned over. Colonel Blakeney asked Prof. Rossi if this ammunition were turned over, say 1 July, how long it would take to de-militarize the ammunition and break it down into usable components.

Prof. Rossi said this would depend on the total ammunition turned over by both the Americans and British.

Colonel Walton then asked for a statement of the British ammunition to be turned over.

Lt. Col. Nicholson, Ministry of Supply, reported that the British have already turned over some 50,000 tons, which is now guarded, while there remains only about 5,000 tons to be turned over. It is planned to hand this in at Accera, furnishing the necessary transport to Ancona. There is already a guard at Ancona, but an extra guard commitment of some 30 to 40 guards may be required.

Colonel Walton asked whether G.E.M. will be making any further turn-overs.

Major Strachen-Audus reported that some 300 small dumps have been turned over in North Italy and guards have been provided. The remainder will be almost negligible.

Colonel Walton summed up the ammunition turn-over to be some 55,000 tons of British ammunition; about the same quantity of American, and an unknown quantity of GEM, or well over 100,000 tons of ammunition in all. He then asked Prof. Rossi, if on the basis of these figures, he would care to answer Col. Blakeney's previous question of how long it would take to de-militarize and break down the ammunition for industrial uses.

Prof. Rossi said that he could not answer that question today because there is the question of whether the air force bombs could be held separately since they are less important to the economy, and whether they will want to take over the air force bombs.

- 3 -

Colonel Walton said he would like to know what the attitude of Italian industry now is with regard to de-militarization of this ammunition. It would seem that in the past few months there is less interest shown.

Prof. Rossi stated that if they can guard this ammunition it could be useful, but it all revolves around the problem of guards.

Colonel Blakeney stated that what he was interested in determining was roughly whether it would take one year, two years, or three years to de-militarize this ammunition.

Mr. Woodall said that the British felt that the rate which ought to be maintained is the rate of break-down achieved in the early days when industry was enthusiastic. In those days a rate of 600 tons per day, per depot was achieved, and it was felt this was a fair rate. On this basis we could figure how long it would take to break down the total.

Prof. Rossi pointed out that this rate was achieved at Nola where there was good equipment and only one type of ammunition involved. Now they have to plan for all different kinds of ammunition, and it may take many months to get the necessary equipment. He asked whether the amounts previously stated were all that would be turned over.

Colonel Blakeney said that as long as it was necessary to maintain forces in Venezia-Giulia there would be no additional ammunition turned over insofar as the United States is concerned. At the conclusion of this commitment in Trieste there will be additional ammunition, but it cannot be stated in what amount.

Prof. Rossi said that he would like a chance to talk with the other interested Ministers, but he felt that he could make the statement for them, that so far as they (A.R.A.R.) are concerned the air force bombs could be dumped into the sea.

Colonel Blakeney asked what help the Italian Government would give in accomplishing this mission.

Prof. Rossi replied that they could give no help; that it would probably be necessary for the Allies to take care of it as they have done at Naples, Bari, and Livorno. 4467

Colonel Blakeney pointed out that circumstances have changed, and that if the Allies did do the dumping the Italians should furnish free use of railroads, free use of ports and the required ships. Colonel Blakeney stressed that these were not commitments, since he was "thinking out loud", but he felt these would be at least part of the requirements.

Prof. Rossi said that as far as its being free of charge the Ministry of Treasury would undoubtedly agree, but to provide the material means would be difficult.

4

Colonel Blakeney said that the Americans might be able to furnish trucks and some personnel, but they had no ships. In attempting to arrive at the number of ships necessary, Colonel Blakeney said that as he remembered in a previous dumping program something like 2,000 tons were dumped using four schooners in about a week. Prof. Rossi indicated that the Italians could not furnish the ships for such an operation.

Mr. Woodall, speaking for the British, stated that so far as they were concerned the air force bombs had already been turned over to the Italians and are being guarded by them. Whatever they decide to do with them is entirely up to the Italian Government and they can expect no help from the British Army authorities. The British Army authorities have already dumped the ammunition they felt necessary and the rest is up to the Italians.

Colonel Walton stated that it would seem the physical means is going to be difficult no matter who undertakes a further dumping program. Whether the Italian Government advises, as they felt before, that these bombs would be useful or not, it is doubtful whether we are getting very far here discussing the matter because guards are required in any case. Suggest letting the question of dumping into the sea or utilizing them rest with the Government.

Prof. Rossi agreed that this is a question for the Council of Ministers.

Colonel Blakeney pointed out that the American Forces have been holding and guarding this air force ammunition for the Italians for more than six months, because the Italians had said they wanted it. It could have been dumped a long time ago.

Avv. De Marchi said that even though the request for such material is much less now, it could be used but there is the big problem of danger to the population.

Prof. Rossi asked if Allied Commission could give any help in organizing and getting the Armed Forces ceilings raised for additional guards.

Colonel Walton stated that in the last meeting General Huxley had said it was useless to talk about that, and his statement should be taken as final.

Avv. De Marchi said that on the basis of the figures presented today, which were much less than expected particularly on the British side, it would seem that the problem is much simpler.

Colonel Walton pointed out that the total guards necessary would appear to be 418, and asked if A.R.A.R. could provide these necessary guards.

Prof. Rossi asked if they could have more information as to the exact location of the air force bomb dumps, and how far they are from the ports.

Colonel Blakeney replied that Accera is about 20 miles from Naples, but Naples cannot be used for dumping. It is about the same distance from the sea for Bari and Manfredonia. There are about 17,000 tons at Accera, 17,000 tons at Bari and the balance at Manfredonia -- about equally divided.

Colonel Walton again asked whether A.R.A.R. thought it could provide necessary guards.

Prof. Rossi said that he thought so -- as far as the guards are concerned in the figures presented. He asked if the Italian Government put the ships at the disposal of the Americans, would the Americans be able to do the actual dumping into the sea?

Colonel Blakeney said that he thought we could probably give some assistance, but he was not sure as to how much. He suggested that Prof. Rossi discuss this matter with him if a decision to dump is reached, but the immediate problem is to get guards on these ammunition depots. If a decision is made to dump the air force bombs it will have to be made quickly because the American Forces are getting smaller and smaller.

Prof. Rossi asked if he could have a list of the types of bombs, and Colonel Caulkins stated they had a breakdown available for A.R.A.R. in his office.

Prof. Rossi asked if the chemical composition was indicated on this breakdown. Colonel Caulkins said the list did not include a chemical breakdown but just the amount of powder, steel, brass, etc. Colonel Caulkins said it probably would be possible to get this from Ordnance if urgent, and Prof. Rossi indicated he would like to have these details as soon as possible so that they could get their experts to work on it.

Colonel Walton asked if we could assume the Italian Government would furnish the guards?

Avv. De Marchi said that they would furnish the guards with the exception of the air force bombs.

Colonel Walton stated that we realized this was only one of A.R.A.R.'s problems, but the matter of guarding the ammunition was an important one, and in order for Colonel Blakeney to go ahead with any program it is necessary to settle the problem of guards.

Prof. Rossi said that from a technical point of view it is a problem ⁴⁴⁶⁶ guards will be provided, but there is the question of whether A.R.A.R. will take over the air force bombs.

Colonel Walton then pointed out that the air force bomb depots were included in the estimated number of guards required.

Prof. Rossi said that as a technical problem it could be solved, but A.R.A.R. doesn't want to provide guards if they decide not to take over the air force bombs.

Avv. De Marchi pointed out that it is a commercial problem as well as a technical one, and it will undoubtedly be decided this coming week.

Colonel Blakeney said there is no question but what the ground force

- 6 -

ammunition at Aversa is desired. Therefore he would like to turn over the depot at Aversa at once, and let the matter of air force bomb depots wait for a week or 10 days until a decision is reached. He pointed out that the Italian Government has asked for the release of certain Italian troops working with the Allies, but it is not possible to release these troops as long as there is such guard duty to be performed.

Prof. Rossi asked how soon the Italian Government would have to take over the Aversa dump.

Colonel Blakeney stated that the Allies were a little disappointed that the carabinieri were not able to take over the depots in Naples on the 15th, but that they are pleased that they will take over on the 27th of June. It is absolutely essential that the Aversa dump be taken over just as soon as possible -- 1 July should be the outside date. We are just going to have to abandon it if the guards aren't there because we just don't have the people.

Prof. Rossi asked if it would be possible to have at least 10 days.

Colonel Blakeney agreed to setting 5 July as the date for taking over the Aversa dump and 5 July for a decision as to what is going to happen to the air force bombs. He asked when it would be possible to set a date for taking over the guard responsibility on the air force bombs.

Prof. Rossi said that in order to make a decision on the air force bombs they need the data on chemical composition.

Colonel Blakeney said he would have an expert in Rome tomorrow with this information.

Avv. De Marchi said 5 July as a date for the Aversa plant and a decision on the air force stuff was O.K., but the question of guards for the bombs is a question which must be considered by the Italian Ministries.

Prof. Rossi asked whether the guards could be armed.

Lt. Col. Horn stated that Public Safety has ruled that no automatic weapons will be allowed. Guards may carry the ordinary carbine, but it is not desirable to arm civilian guards with automatic weapons.

Prof. Rossi asked if the problem of guards could be examined independently of the guards necessary for the ammunition depots.

Colonel Blakeney said he wished to discuss this so far as the United States is concerned.

Colonel Monaco said he was asked to point out that the Ministry of War would like to avoid keeping soldiers away from their ordinary training and schedule on guard duty, and substitute civilians for military guards.

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By Lelio 12
1/1/46

As regards the turning over and guarding of the deposit of airplane bombs, Prof. Rossi declares that it is not possible to accept any obligation until the Italian Government (that is: The Ministers he intends to consult) have taken the decision to accept or not the bombs in question.

446

This has been communicated by telephone to Colonel Blakency, G-4. MTOUSA, who agrees that if the Italian Government does not want the air force bombs they will not be expected to furnish the guards. However, he still is of the opinion that assistance from the Italian Government in a disposal program, by dumping or otherwise, will be necessary.

Colonel Blakeney stated that as long as the U. S. Army has the responsibility it will use Italian military guards. They are now under the control of the U. S. Army and will be used so long as necessary. As for the entire problem as far as the United States Forces are concerned, it is this: The Italian Government has agreed to take over the Naples Ground Force Depot by the 27th of June. There is a depot at Naples containing air technical supplies, that is largely spare parts for airplanes, which will be ready for turn-over on 30 June and will require 56 men. There is an Ordnance Depot at Caserta, presently manned by Air Force personnel, containing trucks, spare parts, and miscellaneous ordnance items. It will be ready for turn-over on 31 July and will require 72 men. There are three depots in Leghorn in which property has been segregated as surplus. One is an engineer's depot, 1 an ordnance vehicle depot, and 1 scrap depot. It is estimated that 75 men will be sufficient and this will be ready for turn-over about 15 July. That is all at the present time. There will be no additional requirements. Not all the material in these depots has been accepted by the Italian Government by signature, but the major part has been.

Colonel Walton stated that the Italian Government has been furnished with a list of the CIM material so far as it is known.

A summary of the necessary guards follows:

Accera, Bari, Manfredonia	176 guards
Aversa	200 "
TOTAL for U.S.	376 "
Ancona	40 "
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FOR BRITISH	416 "

Additional U. S. FORCES DEPOTS

Naples Air Force Technical Depot	56	"	30 June
Air Force Ordnance Depot, Caserta	72	"	31 July
1 Engineer Depot, 1 Ordnance Vehicle Depot, 1 Scrap Depot, Leghorn	75	"	15 July
GRAND TOTAL	621	"	4464

Colonel Blakeney emphasized that these are the United States Army's best estimates both as to turn-over dates and as to number of guards required, and the estimated number of guards is the minimum number.

Colonel Walton, in summarizing, stated that it was agreed the Aversa dump would be taken over on 5 July; that a decision with regard to the disposition of the air force bombs would be made by 5 July, and that immediately following this decision, and not later than 15 July, guards would be provided for the air force bomb depots.

- 8 -

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:45 A.M.

Charles W. Walton
CHARLES W. WALTON
Colonel, A.C.
Acting Vice President

DISTRIBUTION

1 copy to each of the following:

Col. Charles W. Walton, Economic Section, A.C.
Lt. Col. R. E. Horn, Economic Section, A.C.
Col. C. G. Blakeney, G-4, MIDUSA
Col. W. T. Arnold, G-5, AFHQ
Mr. Joseph Moegan, G-5, AFHQ
Col. D. P. Caulkins, G.F.L.C.
Lt. Col. J.J.W. Nicholson, Ministry of Supply
Mr. W. W. Woodall, Ministry of Supply
Prof. Ernesto Rossi, President of A.R.A.R.
Avv. De Marchi, A.R.A.R.
Col. Fausto Monaco, Ministry of War
Luigi Garbella, Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Salvatore Romano, Ministry of Industry & Commerce
Vittor Giacomo Romano, Ministry of Treasury
Major D. S. Strachan-Audax, C.E.M. Branch

Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
Executive Commissioner, Allied Commission
Land Forces Sub-Commission
Air Forces Sub-Commission
Navy Sub-Commission
U.N.R.R.A.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
ECONOMIC SECTION

Ref: ES/15.05/2

18 June 1946

SUBJECT: Inability of Italian Government (A.R.A.R.) to take over
ammunition deposits.

TO : AFHQ, G-5

1. Reference your G-5: 960.51 dated 9 June 46, and the attached letter
1293/42 dated 15 June 46, received by this section from A.R.A.R.

2. It will be seen from this that the Italian Government is in no
position to guard any further ammunition deposits for the time being.

3. A Guard Corps is to be formed but this will take some months.

4. Possible solutions to the problem are, therefore, as follows:

(a) Allied troops to remain on guard till the Italian Guard
Corps is ready to take over.

(b) The Italian Government to be instructed to furnish
Military or Carabinieri Guards. (M.M.I.A. object.)

(c) Dumping of all the ammunition situated near the sea
into the sea. Insist that A.R.A.R. take over the small
quantities inland.

(d) Ammunition be just abandoned without guards.

4463

5. The latter solution (d) is not recommended because of the danger to
security.

6. Dumping, (c), would appear to be the best solution and the one desired
by A.R.A.R.

7. A very early decision is requested as the whole matter is most urgent.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

(Signed)

CHARLES W. WALTON
Colonel, A. C.

Acting Vice President
Colonel, AC
Acting Vice President

M.M.I.A. - 'G'

Copies to:
M.M.I.A.
Executive Commissioner
Ministry of Supply
C.F.L.C.
A.R.A.R.

EGS	
GSD	
Dep	
GSD	
G	
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20 JUN 1946

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

G-5: 960.51

9 June 1946

SUBJECT: Guards on U.S. Surplus Property taken over by Italian Government.

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, APO 794.
(Attention: Economic Section).

1. The information contained in your letter above subject, file ES/1505/2 dated 24 May is appreciated. Since our letter of 9 May, file G-5: 960.51 certain requirements have become more firm in the Naples area. By 15 June the PBS depots will contain only property belonging to the Italian Government, or property whose sale is being negotiated with the Italian Government, at which time the representatives of that government should assume full responsibility for guarding and protection. It is estimated that some 484 persons will be required for this purpose.

2. In addition, surplus property from the Naples Air Force General Depots is becoming the property of the Italian Government as shown.

- a. Ammunition at Acerra, Bari and Manfredonia will require approximately 178 persons.
- b. Depot No. 750 NAFGD, Naples available about 30 June; containing technical supplies will require approximately 56 persons.
- c. Depot No. 7 NAFGD, Naples available about 31 July will require approximately 75 persons.

3. To acquaint the proper officials with the situation, and particularly to secure release of U.S. personnel from depots available 15 June 46, representatives from G-4 and G-5 proceeded to Rome on 6 June. While it is hoped that their visit will iron out many of the questions, it is impracticable to maintain them there. It is feared that unless some agency on the spot retains

4462

- 2 -

pressure in this matter that progress will lag. To meet War Department directives it is mandatory that U.S. personnel be relieved immediately surplus property is sold. It is requested therefore that you maintain an active interest in the subject. Not only is it essential that US personnel shall be relieved at once from guarding property already sold to the Italian Government, but it is most desirable that the Italians assume responsibility for the security of property destined for sale to them, pending the formal transactions. Will you therefore supplement the negotiations already in hand for guarding property, by impressing upon the proper officials the desirability, both from the Italian and the US point of view, of placing Italian guards over all property destined for Italian ownership whether or not purchases have been finalized.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A. L. HAMLEN
Brigadier General, GSC.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

COPY TO:

G-4, MTO
OFLC
CO PBS

TRANSLATION

E.S. file No.....

FROM :Azienda Rilievo Alienazione Residuati
(Surplus Material Disposal Agency)TO :Col. Walton W. Charles
Head of Economic Section
Allied Commission - Rome -THEIR FILE No:

1293/42

15 June 1946

SUBJECT:Guards for ammunition deposits
turned over to this Agency.

With reference to our conference with Col. Horn and the representatives of Captured Enemy Materials Branch on the serious and urgent problem determined by the passage of Allied and captured enemy ammunition over to us, we enclose herewith the list of deposits hitherto taken over, showing the number of guards assigned to each.

As said before, the Government has very scanty resources in this field and is by means in a position to safeguard the deposit from explosion.

At a meeting held yesterday, presided by the Minister of Home Affairs, between the War Minister, the representatives of the Departments concerned and the C. in C. of the Carabinieri the problem was examined and it was decided that Gen. Biglino should be entrusted with the task of organizing as speedily as possible a guard corps capable of carrying on with a minimum of security the service which has until now been organized by the Allied Authorities.

To begin with, however, we must ask you to suspend all further orders to take over deposits until we are in a position to guard them and handle the ammunition efficiently.

Moreover, we take the liberty of asking you to hold a meeting between representatives of all Allied Commands concerned, the Italian Home Office, War Department and this Agency to examine the problem. We feel sure you will understand the importance and gravity of this matter, which concerns not only Italy, and trust the Allied Commission will give us its support.

Ernesto Rossi
sgd.

URGENT: Civil Affairs Office

LAND FORCE HQ-CHINA, AF. (MIA)

(439001 Int 215)

6/15

13 JUN 46

TO : 4 BRITISH PLATOON HQ
2 BRITISH PLATOON UNIT

Copy of Ministry of War 24521/II dated 10 June 46, forwarded
herewith for your information.

1st Col.
SS.

SRX/10

Internal: "a"
6/15/1

TRANSLATION

FROM: Ministry of War. REF: 214841/II
 TO: M.N.I.A. DATE: 10 June 1946

SUBJECT:- Guards ~~for~~ civilian prisons.

In reply to letter G/16 dated 29 May last.

- 1) - The Ministry of Grace and Justice, asks that the Army supplies the external guard for the Belluno prison, owing to the absolute impossibility at the present time of obtaining the necessary number of civilian guards.
- 2) - This Ministry, taking into account the delicate situation which would occur if the prison were deprived of the necessary guard, has decided that men of the "Aquila" battalion continue to do guard duty at the Belluno prison until the Ministry of Grace and Justice are able to provide civilian guards, and anyhow for not more than 60 days from the 21st May last.

sgt. LOMBARDI
 Col.

C.F.

X	EGS	MM	X
X	GSO I (SD)	MM	X
	Dev G III		
X	GSO C (SD)	MM	X
	GSO II (C)		
X	GSO III (SD)	MM	X
	GSO I (FEG)		
X	G II (G)	MM	X

4/53	
M M I A - 'G'	
FILE	G/16
DATE	R/12/6

SUBJECT: Civil Prison Guard Duties

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

— G/16 —

27 May 46

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

1. It has been reported to this HQ that seventy men of AQUILA Bn at BELLINGHO are at present employed on Civil Prison guard duties. It is further reported that HQ 5 Territorial Region have requested the Ministry of War for relief of these guards in order that the men may accompany their own unit to ESSE for Election Duty; but that the Ministry of War have been unable to reach agreement with the Ministry of the Interior as to the provision of proper civilian guards and have therefore refused the request of 5 Territorial Region.

2. In the opinion of this HQ it is not the function of ALPINE Regts to provide guards for civil prison. The AQUILA Bn is moreover below strength and will presumably require these seventy men at ESSE.

3. It is therefore suggested that you should forthwith reopen this question with the Ministry of the Interior and insist on the provision of proper civil guards in time for AQUILA Bn to move complete to ESSE.

Ref 8

4457
Major-General,
M. M. I. A.

ARCE/rr

Copy to: 5 British Liaison Unit (your Sig G/5 dated 24 refers)
Interrel: 'A'

32/13/1
G/32/3

8/29/5

TRANSLATION

C.D.D.S.F.

from M.O.F.W.
To M.M.I.A.

Ref. 213649/II

Date 25/8/1946.

Subject guarding material released by the Allies.

Reply to letter G/16 dated 18 inst.

- 1 - The possibility of entrusting the guarding of materials released by the Allies to armed civilian guards has been known by the A.R.A.R. since the time authority was obtained.
- 2 - The question has been fully dealt with by A.R.A.R. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ representatives and, as reported also to your M.M.I.A. with reference to letter G/14 dated 27 Dec. 1945, civilian guards are already employed for the guarding of some A.R.A.R. stores depots.
- 3 - Presumably the A.R.A.R. had stated it was not in a position to ensure guard service for other stores depots considering that civilian guards do not give a sufficient ^{GUARANTEE} guarantee, specially as far as valuable materials and ammunition are concerned.
- 4 - Employment of new civilian guards will be reported to your M.M.I.A. as laid down in the a/m letter G/14 dated 27 Dec. 1945

DAN

Lombardi.

MMIA - 'G'

FILE C/16

DATE 2/29/5

BGS	X	mm	X
GSO I (SD)	X	mm	X
Dep G II	X	mm	X
GSO I (SD)	X	mm	X
GSO II (I)			
GSO III (SD)			
GSO I (REG)			
G II (L)			

1194

SUBJECT: Security of States handed-over by the Allies.

LAND FORCES THE COM, A.S. (MIL)

0/16

18

May 46

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

C/14 Feb 46

Ref your 205142/II dated 21 Mar 46.

We have been informed that a delay in taking place in the hand-over of large quantities of U.S. military surplus equipment to the ITALIAN Government due to the fact that the ITALIAN receiving agencies (A.S.A.R.) has been unable to make arrangements for the provision of the necessary guards to safeguard this material.

2. Apparently A.S.A.R. are unaware that the War Ministry have been empowered to raise and provide civilian armed guards for this very purpose.

(our C/14 of 27 Dec 45 refers).

3. We have accordingly suggested that A.S.A.R. should get in touch with you and give you full details of the guards required and we are sure that you will do all that is in your power to meet their requirements.

4. As soon as we receive from you the necessary particulars in respect of such guards as you may agree to provide, we will furnish you with the usual confirmation for their employment.

C/14 Feb 46

Exp 10/11/46

M.W. Hope.

Brigadier GS

*Major General,
H. M. I. A.*

for

100/34

445

Copy to: HQ ALLIED COMMISSION (Attn Economic Section)

Internal: "C"

17/10/5

File

SUBJECT: ITALIAN Government Take-over of U.S. Military Properties

→ 5/16/2

LAST MESSAGE: 5/16/2, A.D. (MIL)

5/16

17 MAY 1946

TO : THE ALLIED COMMISSION
(Italian Section)

Ref your ES/5.02 of 16 May 46.

1. It has been the object of this Commission for a considerable period, to assist in reducing the commitments of both the Italian Army and U.S. Army in respect of static guards on dumps, stores and in order to free them for their primary tasks of training and the maintenance of the peace.
2. With this object in view consideration was obtained from the Italian War Ministry to employ Civilian Armed Groups to safeguard stores of military and civil material handed over by the Allies to the Italian Government. This consideration was given in AFM letter of 27/5/46. 191 Civilian Armed Groups to the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission and was passed on by us to the Italian War Ministry in our letter of 27 Dec 45 as enclosed by our 5/16 of 12 Jan 46.
3. All that seems necessary therefore is for A.S.A.B. to contact the Ministry of War and inform them of the details of groups required. In the meanwhile we have informed the Ministry of War of the situation and asked them to cooperate with A.S.A.B. over the provision of these groups. Copy of our letter to War Ministry is attached.

M. W. Hope.
Brigadier GS
Major General,
M. A. L. A.

MM/30

Enclosure: "U"
on 5/16/2

4/10

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794
ECONOMIC SECTION

Ref: ES/5.08

MEMO

SUBJECT: Italian Government Take-Over of U.S. Surplus Property

TO : H.M.I.A.

CWH/an

16 May 1946

1. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter from G-5 Section, AMHQ, reference to the subject of Italian Government Take-Over of U.S. Surplus Property.

2. We would welcome suggestions from your Department as to how this problem may be solved and also to the availability for the use of the Carabinieri or the Italian Army for the guarding of these dumps.

3. Your comments on this subject would be appreciated as soon as possible as this is considered an urgent matter.

Charles W. Walton
CHARLES W. WALTON
Colonel, A.C.
Acting Vice President

1 Attachment: Letter from G-5 Section AMHQ to Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, dated 3 May 1946.

TO	
A/Q	
G	
Q. 1	
Q. 2	
ORD	
REME	

M.M.I.A. - 'G'	
FILE	E/16
DATE	R/12/5-
6 MAY 1946	

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

4453

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
C-5 Section
ALO 512

G-5: 260.52

2 May 1946

Es/5.08

SUBJECT: Italian Government Take-Over of U.S. Surplus Property

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission
ALO 394

1. As you are aware large quantities of U.S. military items are being made available to the Italian Government. Due to the urgent necessity of redeployment, it is mandatory that the Italian Government shall relieve the U.S. authorities of the duty of guarding this property, which duty remains until the Italians can either guard or remove the property to their own areas of control. The Italian agency, ARMI, charged by the Italian authorities with taking over these military surpluses appears to be doing its utmost to meet the needs of the situation. The agency has however apparently been unable to convince the proper Italian Ministries of the magnitude and requirements of the situation, nor to impress them with the urgency thereof.

2. To secure more prompt action a meeting was held on 23 April 1946 among representatives of the U.S. Army, GMRM, FLC and AMAR. The necessity for greater aid by the proper Ministry to ARMI was apparent. It was proposed to call another meeting with Ministerial representation. It is reported that both the U.S. Embassy and the Allied Commission stated that it was outside their respective provinces to assist in securing the necessary ministerial representation. It appears undesirable that the U.S. Army should make direct approach to the Italian Ministers, and emphasize that recourse should have to be made through Washington agencies.

3. The question involved is largely one involving the placing of security guards on property available for take-over. Due to the shortage of U.S. guard personnel there is a considerable loss of property which property the Italians no doubt greatly desire. Further unless some relief is shortly forthcoming the U.S. military authorities will be under compulsion to make recommendations for other means of disposal. In addition, the quicker the property is taken over, the quicker real estate can be derequisitioned, the sooner a portion of the prisoners of war can be removed from Italy and the removal of U.S. military personnel from Italy can be completed.

4. Will you therefore use your good offices either to assure that some Ministry will assume paramount interest in the matter to hasten a solution of the problem, or alternatively will you arrange that Ministerial representatives meet representatives of the interested U.S. agencies. No responsibility for the conduct or the agenda of the meeting will rest with you. Details of the problem are available from the Rome representatives of the U.S. Foreign Liquidation Commission.

4452

See Vol 104

- 2 -

5. In view of the importance of this problem, both to the United States authorities, and to the Italians, may it please be treated as one of urgency.

s/ A.L. HAMBLEN.

A.L. HAMBLEN
Brigadier General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Copy to:
G-1, MTO

4451

1199