

ACC

10000 | 120 | 5790

NO 22 / IPW / PART I REPATRIATION OF ITALY

Apr 1944 - Jan. 1945

/ PART I REPATRIATION OF ITALIAN SOLDIERS + P.O.W. FROM THE BALKANS

1945

5738
5B43

CONFIDENTIALFX 75600
DEC 281852AC/5719
DEC 282130A
ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACMED CITE FHGEG, FHGDS, FHQAE
TO: ALCOR 5th ARMY, 8th ARMY, LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION (MIA)

CONFIDENTIAL.

Patriots coming thru our lines will be afforded treatment similar to that accorded the Italian Army. Pending receipt of detailed instructions you are authorized to issue rations on scale approved for Italian Army and clothing and equipment thru MIA per individual where required on following scale:

1 pr boots, 2 pr sox, 1 pr trousers wool, 1 shirt wool, 1 jersey pullover or equivalent, 1 gas cape or raincoat or equivalent, 1 mess tin or equivalent.

In addition 1 blanket is authorised within limits of availability.

DIST

ACTION: Patriots Br 2
Land Forces 2
INFO: Chief Commissioner
C.A.Sec
File 2
loot

CONFIDENTIAL

3843

(99)

NOTES ON MEETING WITH GENERAL MANNERINI.

1. Gen. Mannerini handed me a study on the organization for the repatriation of I.P.O.W. The study was forwarded under a letter signed by His Excellency CASAATI.

2. I discussed with Gen. Mannerini all the outstanding questions in connection with Italian soldiers and POW in the Balkans. I agreed that strong representation should be made to higher authorities for the repatriation of all Italian soldiers and POW in countries such as Albania, Bulgaria, parts of Yugoslavia etc.

3. It was agreed that with regard to Italian soldiers who had found their way into Turkey that the Italian Government should take this question up direct and if any further assistance was required in this matter it would again be referred to me.

4. The question of rations for the returning soldiers and POW was discussed. Gen. Mannerini made strong representation for type 30 ration to be made available for the camps at Naples, Bari, Lecce and a 2nd camp at Taranto. Now that Army rations are being supplied to Patriots coming through the lines in the North and Type 30 ration being issued to Italian soldiers and POW returning from the Balkans who arrive at Taranto, it would seem that if at all possible, the type of ration supplied to repatriated Italian soldiers and POW should be a universal one and similar for all parties returning to Italy.

6 JAN. 45.

J. A. C.

5842

MINISTRY OF WAR
Office of War Veterans and Repatriated
POW N. 401451

Rome January 8th 1945

No: The Presidency of the Allied Commission.

Subject: Clothes for War Veterans and Repatriated Italian POW.

Auc 102.

Continuous and pressing requests come to this Ministry from all the Military Commands of the periphery, for the distribution of clothes to be given to the War Veterans and repatriated from France and the Balkans, transiting in the lodging centers and for those who are in hospitals.

The most alarming information is that which refers to the number of the repatriated from the Balkans that do not go to the S. Andrea Center, (where clothes are distributed by the Allied authorities) and those who arrive from France and Tunisia, most of them, as regards clothes, in a deplorable condition.

Considering that in the present situation this Ministry has no possibility of giving the necessary aid to these men and as the Allied Sub-Commission for the Italian Army has informed us that it cannot grant our request, (as the War Veterans are considered civilians until their return to the Army) I send this request to the Presidency of the Allied Commission, for examination and benevolent consideration in the meantime it is to taken to account:

- the rigor of the winter months and the poor physical condition of the repatriated in question.
- that many War Veterans, having been given their destinations to Combat Units and to Groups of workers.
- The grave moral impression that we have verified in consequence of this state of affairs; and this should authorize the immediate consignment of 5,000 series of clothes turned in from the Italian Combat troops procuring their being clothed in uniforms, provided by the Allies.
- With the assurance that if this material be given us it will be issued with prudence and for the most urgent cases,

signed the Minister

of giving the necessary aid to these men and women
Italian Army has informed us that it cannot grant our request, (as the War Veterans
are considered civilians until their return to the Army) I send this request to
the Presidency of the Allied Commission, for examination and benevolent consideration
in the meantime it is to taken to account;

- the rigor of the winter months and the poor physical condition of the repatriated
in question.
- That many War Veterans, having been given their destinations to Combat Units and
to groups of workers.
- The above mentioned persons that we have verified in consequence of this state
of affairs; and this should authorize the immediate consignment of 5,000 series
of cloths turned in from the Italian Combat troops proceeding their being clothed
in uniforms, provided by the Allies.

With the assurance that if this material be given us it will be issued with
prudence and for the most urgent cases,

signed the Minister
CASSANI.

5841

body in file 114. enc.

785020

96

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUB COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMO

IPW/22/88

27 December 1944

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission. ✓
(Att: DA & QMG).

Subject: Italian soldiers and Prisoners of War in Central Europe.

Reference conversation with Col. Noakes this morning.

- 1/. It is understood that all questions in connection with Italian soldiers or Prisoners of War in Central Europe will be handled by you.
- 2/. I attach translations of certain letters recently received from the Italian War Ministry, which require a certain amount of action, and unless I hear from you I shall presume that whatever action is necessary will be taken by you.



J.A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WMD & IPOW Sub-Com.

Encl:

40089RPGR of 18 Dec.
400861/RPGR of 17 Dec.
40066/RPGR of 13 Dec.
400572/RPGR of 12 Dec.
40044/RPGR of 5 Dec.

P.O.W. Sub-Commission.

1. Referred to now. It is understood that these matters will be handled by Land Force Sub-Commission but not yet. The machine has not been set up nor has the subject been W.Ridder
30 Dec 44.

m 2 1d

A C T I O N S L I P

THIS SLIP WILL NOT BE REMOVED

ST/962/7

TO _____

2.i/c.

Ref attached

1. Food Sub Commission advise that the civil ration for prisoners in penal establishments and returning P.W. is as follows:-

Bread	300	gms per day
Dried Veg	100	" " "
Soup	100	" " "
Sugar	8.3	" " "
Bouillon	1	cube per day
Olive Oil	The current normal consumers scale.	

2. It is a meagre ration and I cannot comment on the equity of a felon and a repatriated P.W. receiving the same ration, albeit it is a temporary measure.

3. The disparity between this scale and the scale 30 issued at Taranto is so great as to justify further exploration.

4. It is a 'Q' Staff matter at this stage. Will you initiate further action?

J.L. Venner
Lt. Col.
A.D.S.T.

29 Dec 44.
BLP/dvw

*Enclosed**What is 30 Scale Ration?**(K)*

3833

96 b

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUB COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMO

IPW/22/90

29 December 1944

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission. (MMIA). ✓
Subject: Rations for repatriated Italians from the Balkans.

- 1/. The Autonomous Office for POW of the Italian Ministry of War have requested that the "30 Type" ration similar to that given at S. Andrea Camp, Taranto, the hospitals at Mesagne and Grottaferrata be issued to:
 - (a) Falanga Barracks. Bari Capacity 1200
(Italian ~~Transit~~ Camp)
 - (b) Altamura Hospital Capacity 400
(This is in place of S. Eramo Colle hospital in Bari).
 - (c) Italian Transit Camp Lecce Capacity 1200
- 2/. This would appear to be a fair request as the above-mentioned places are being utilized for exactly the same purposes as the camps and hospitals in the TARANTO area. i.e. to receive, look after and disperse Italian soldiers and POW returning from the Balkans.
- 3/. The Autonomous Office for POW further requests that certain clothing be released to them as a considerable number of the Italians returning from the Balkans are practically without clothes.
- 4/. As the whole question of Italian soldiers in the Balkans is now being handled by the Land Forces Sub-Commission it is requested that you take action with regard to this matter, dealing direct with General Mannerini.

See 98.

⑨ C
5/. It is requested that confirmation of any action taken
be forwarded to this office for reference and filing.

Chastain/Major
J.A. CAMPBELL
f/n Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WMD & IPOW Sub-Com.

5837

Prepared by:
J.A. CAMPBELL

(95)

Lt. Col. HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel: 473733

Ref: 1F/22/95

8 January 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Soldiers and Prisoners of War from the Balkans.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.
(Attention: G-5 Section).

1. The Italian Government have again requested me to take steps to have their soldiers and Prisoners of War repatriated from the following countries in the Balkans:

Albania, Croatia, Bulgaria, Macedonia.

2. General Mannerini who now commands the Autonomous Office for Veteran Soldiers and Repatriated Prisoners of War points out that in these countries there are considerable numbers of Italian soldiers practically starving.

3. Attached are translations of letters on this subject received from the Italian War Ministry.

4. The Italian War Ministry states that if these Italian soldiers are repatriated at the earliest possible moment, a number of them can, after a short period of leave, be used as drafts for the Italian Combat units in Italy, for which reinforcements are now required.

5. In forwarding the requests of the Italian Government with regard to these soldiers and Prisoners of War in the Balkans, it has been noted that recently a small number of Italians have been arriving in Italy from these countries; these arrivals may denote the commencement of the repatriation of all Italian soldiers and Prisoners of War from the Balkan countries.

6. I shall be pleased if you can inform me if there is at present any policy regarding the repatriation of Italian soldiers and Prisoners of War from the Balkans, and if ~~No~~ definite ^{objection} has yet been formulated, if it is possible in any way to meet the requests of the Italian Government in this matter.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Encls.

- 83. 1. 40044/WGR 93. 4. 4008871/PPGM
- 84. 2. 400572/WGR 89. 5. 401092/PPGR
- 86. 3. 400801/PPGR

PTD

Brigadier,
Chief of Staff.

B/F 12/14/45
6/2/45
26/1/45
FILE

(93)

WAR OFFICE

23 December 1944

Autonomous Office for repatr. P.W.
& VeteransTo: P.W. Sub-Commission A.C.
ROME

40088Fi/RFG:R, one enclosure

Subject: Soldiers in the Balkans
to the knowledge of: Land Forces Sub-Comm. (M.M.I.A.) Rome*See 119 -*

I transmit as is my duty a copy of letter N. 127 of 3/December/1944 from the interrogatory Commission for the Soldiers coming back from the Balkans, by which we are informed about the miserable conditions in which live about 3.600 Italian Soldiers in the North West part of Macedonia.

THE GENERAL CHIEF OF THE
AUTONOMOUS OFFICE
A. Lanterini*22:*

5835

785020

ENCLOSURE

(93a)

MILITARY CO. AND OF MULIA & LUCANIA
Interrogatory Commission of Italian Soldiers coming back from the Balkans

Taranto 3 December 1944

N. 127/R. di prot.

Subject: Informations given by the IInd. Lieut. FORTANA Greste.

To: The Military Command of Puglia & Lucania Office Informations

P.M. 57

I transmit few informations given by IInd. Lieut. FORTANA Greste of the 313rd Infantry Regiment (Aja-Larissa) disembarked at Taranto on the 29 November 1944.
In North West Macedonia there is a concentration of about 3600 Italian soldiers subdivided in 4 groups:

1) - Ducecca

- 1 Battalion of the 313 Inf. Regiment, but for I Company
- one Battery of I Autonomous Group of Artillery of 100/17 ("Bremervo")
- one Company of G.A.F., M.G. (located near Volo)
- two platoons Cann. 47/32 of the Company 55th Inf. Regiment
- two platoons of III 14th Inf.
- isolated soldiers from Neraida (about 1000 escaped since November 1944) and from Albania (very few)

2) - Misolouri

- 1 Company I Battalion 313rd Infan. Reg.
- 1 " M.G. of the III Battalion of 3rd C.A.
- Company n.s. 47/50, Division "Pinerolo"
- isolated soldiers from Neraida (few)

3) - Eptacorri

- one Company of G.A.F. - M.G. (located at Tempi)
- Company "Gunners" 47/32 Divs.
- isolated soldiers from the Epiro and from Neraida.

4) - Proveron

- 1 Battalion of the 13th Infantry taken Prisoners by the Germans of March 7th 1945 (commanded by Maj. Perrone)
- Battery acc. of 65/17 of the 13th Infantry
- Moreover there are Italian soldiers working as farm-hands scattered all over that zone and who live in desperate conditions. They are about 800.

The whole of them are taken care of by the Liaison officer with the A 158th Mission and by the Glas (9th Division).

The Chief of the Office was Capt. of the mountainers Zenagioni (here present) up till 6 June 1944.

After him Dr. Capt. (7th Battalion of 13th Infantry) Ederle Alice Maria took over his job.

The Condition of the Camps is disastrous, because clothes and medicines are not available. Food is very scarce. The £ 5 (Pound) which the British pay is not

enough for the big number of sick (more than 1000 who cannot be moved).

Owing to the mountainous region it will be impossible to transport those soldiers to the nearest by port (the nearest is S. Quaranta).

None of those soldiers have been taken to the port yet.

Help is asked urgently and proposed to be dropped by air in order give those unfortunate soldiers a chance to get through the winter.

At 8 hours walk from the central point of this group of Camps there is the airport of Aravena.

One Lieut. Fontana has with him the lists of all the soldiers in the four Camps and also a list of the deceased.

For THE PRESIDENT OF THE Commission

Col. PALMA Marcello

P.C.C.,
Lt. Col.
F. HONDORI

5833

BA/OM



Roma 23 Dicembre 1944

635

Ministero della Guerra
Uff. Auton. Reduci Prigionia
di Guerra e Rimpatriati

TO WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL
AND P.W. SUB COMMISSION
= ROMA =

400887 RPGR Allegato A

Risposte al f. del
P. P. N. V.

OCCERTO — Militari della Balcania.—

e, per conoscenza :
TO LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.)
= ROMA =

" " " " "

Si trasmette, per doverosa informazione, copia
del foglio n.127 in data 3 dicembre c.a. della Com-
missione interrogatrice dei militari provenienti dai
Balcani, col quale vengono segnalate le miserevoli
condizioni in cui si trovano circa 3600 militari i-
taliani nella Macedonia nord-occidentale.—

6832

IL GENERALE

5832
3037

CAPO DELL'UFFICIO AUTONOMO

(A. Mancorini)

(93)

COMANDO MILITARE DELLA PUGLIA E LUCANIA

Commissione Interrogatrice Dei Militari Provénienti Balcani

T A R A N T O

N. 127/R di prot.

Taranto, li 3 dicembre 1944

O G G E Z T O: Notizie fornite dal S.Ten. S.P.E. FONTANA Oreste.-

AL COMANDO MILITARE DELLA PUGLIA E LUCANIA

- Ufficio Informazioni -

P.M. 67

Trasmetto qui di seguito alcune notizie fornitemi dal S.Ten. in s.p.e. FONTANA Oreste, del 313º Rgt. rtr. (Aja - Larissa) sbarcato a Taranto il 29/11/44.

Nella Macedonia nord-occidentale esiste un concentramento di circa 3600 militari italiani suddivisi in quattro raggruppamenti:

1º) - Duccèdò

- 1º Btg. 313º meno 1º Cp.
- una Btr. del I Gr. Auton. Ar. n. 100/17 ("Brennero")
- una Cp.GAF.Mtr. da posiz. (dislocata presso Volo)
- 2 Pl. Cann. 47/32 della Cp. Regg.le 313ºFtr.
- 2 Pl. del III 14º Ftr.
- sbandati provenienti da Neraida (circa 1000 fuggitivi nel Nov. 1943) e dall'Albania (pochissimi).

2º) - Missolungi

- 1º Cp.I Btg.313ºFtr.
- 1º Cp.Mtr. del IIIBtg. del 3º C.A.
- Cp. a.a.47/50, div. "Pinerolo"
- sbandati provenienti da Neraida (pochi).

3º) - Eptacorì

- una Cp. GAF. Mtr. (dislocata a Tempi).
- Cp.cann. 47/32
- sbandati provenienti dall'Epiro e da Neraida.-

4º) - Prossveron

- I Btg. 13º Ftr. preso prigioniero dai Partizani il 7 marzo 1943 (comanda dato dal Maggiore S.P.E. PERINONE).
- Btg. acc. da 65/17 del 13º Ftr.

5831

785020

WAR OFFICE

28/December 1944

(92)

AUTONOMOUS OFFICE FOR REPATRIATED PW.
AND VETERANS

401171/RPGR

Subject: Repatriation Italian Soldiers from Albania

To: the Italian P.W. Sub-Commission

To: The Land Forces Sub-Commission (U.M.I.A.)

(84)

Sequel to letter n. 400572 of 12 December 1944.

See 95

The latest informations received confirm the sad conditions in which live the Italian Soldiers in Albania of whom one group, arrived at Bari on 24/December/1944 consists for nearly 2/3rds of sick of which one died on the journey and one on the arrival in Italy.

The clothes of all of them are in the worst conditions possible.

For that reason I take the liberty to represent once more the urgent necessity to provide to the repatriation of all the Italian soldiers who are still in Albania, extending to them in the meantime Ration "type 30" as was proposed by letter 400268/RPGR of the War-Office (20/December/1944) and distributing to them indissensable clothes just as was done to the veterans from Greece.

(77)

The General
Chief of the Autonomous Office
A. Mannerini

22

582

Ref. 88.

(91)

Original with Land Forces Sub-Com. footnote signed by Col. Pidsley handed to Brig. Lush by Col. Campbell on 29 Dec. 44.

Also 'IN LOG' No. 1831 ref. 40088FI/RPGR dated 23 Dec. 44 from Gen. Mannerini handed to Brig. Lush. (Original Italian letter and translation (3copies.)

5028

785020

90

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUB COMMISSION

INTER OFFICE MEMO

IPW/22/90

29 December 1944

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission. (MINIA).

Subject: Rations for repatriated Italians from the Balkans. 71

- 1/. The autonomous Office for POW of the Italian Ministry of War have requested that the "30 Type" ration similar to that given at S. Andrea Camp, Taranto, the hospitals at Messina and Grottaferrata be issued to:
 - (a) Falanga Barracks, Bari (Italian Transit Camp) Capacity 1200
 - (b) Altamura Hospital (This is in place of S. Eramo Colle hospital in Bari). Capacity 400
 - (c) Italian Transit Camp Lecce Capacity 1200
- 2/. This would appear to be a fair request as the above-mentioned places are being utilized for exactly the same purposes as the camps and hospitals in the TARANTO area, i.e. to receive, look after and dispense Italian soldiers and POW returning from the Balkans.
- 3/. The Autonomous Office for POW further requests that certain clothing be released to them as a considerable number of the Italians returning from the Balkans are practically without clothes.
- 4/. As the whole question of Italian soldiers in the Balkans is now being handled by the Land Forces Sub-Commission it is requested that you take action with regard to this matter, dealing direct with General Mannerini.

FILE

- 1 -

B/K/S 2
15/12/44
e/c

5/. It is requested that confirmation of any action taken
be forwarded to this office for reference and filing.

JAC

J.A.CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WMD & IPOW Sub-Com.

5826

Bor/cb

89

MINISTRY OF WAR

Repatriated PW Office

File No. 401092/RMGR

Rome, December 24th 1944

Subject : Repatriation of Italian soldiers from Ragusa.To : W.M.D & IPW Sub CommissionROME

and for attention of :

LAND FORCES Sub Commission A.C. (I.M.I.A.)

ROME

(63)

See 95

Reference letter no. 400441, dated December 5th 1944.

We have been told by an Italian N.C.O., who escaped from the German concentration Camp near Ragusa (Dalmazia), that since their arrival at Ragusa, in October 1944, the Croatian partisans continued to hold the Italian soldiers in the concentration camp as the Germans did.

Those partisans took everything the Italian soldiers had (rings, watches, fountain pens, money, clothes, etc.) and they made them work under those conditions treating them very badly.

The Italian soldiers beg for their repatriation which would put an end to their terrible conditions, especially now that the bad season is comming.

We, therefore, ask this Sub Commission to examin the possibility of having them repatriated.

22
/s/ A. Sannerini
General

Director Repatriated PW Office

5825

copy has gone to
hand F. de. Gen.

See 95

See 91

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSIONER
APO 394
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUB COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MSG

TEN/22/44

27 December 1944

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission.
(Alt: DA & GPO).

Subject: Italian soldiers and prisoners of war in Central Europe.

See 96.

Reference conversation with Col. Hookes this morning.

- 1/. It is understood that all questions in connection with Italian soldiers or Prisoners of War in Central Europe will be handled by you.
- 2/. I attach translations of certain letters recently received from the Italian War Ministry, which require a certain amount of action, and unless I hear from you I shall presume that whatever action is necessary will be taken by you.

JAC
J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WHD & IPW Sub-Com.

Enclosure:

40008800 of 18 Dec.
400081/RMK of 17 Dec.
400085/RMK of 18 Dec.
400072/RMK of 17 Dec.
400044/RMK of 5 Dec.

{ enclos 63/47

(B/F)

FILE

Copy in file 1101/1
(Enc. 345)

4/1/5824

VAR OFFICE18 December 1944
87Office of Veterans and Repatriated P.W.
400898RGRTo the ALLIED Commission ROME
and to the knowledge of Land Forces
Sub CommissionA C M E

In order to complete the organization in the under mentioned places for the reception of the Veterans and the repatriating P.W., we need actually material for bedding and general service for:

300 places at Gorinto
200 " " Lecce
1200 " " Crotia

It is urgent to complete the organization because the number of repatriating P.W. increases continually and will do more so in the future.

We beg therefore the A.C. to interest the competent Authorities in order to obtain the "unfreezing" of the Italian material necessary for the above-mentioned purpose.

The General
Commanding the Autonomous Office
A. Gannerini

M.M. 1A

IPW | 22
66M | 1st W.M.D | 51
should be taken in IPW/22
(Acton)

5823

BDR/cm

Ministry of War
Office for refugees and repatriated PW
N. 4008CI/ RFGR

Rome, December 17th, 1944

(86)

Subject: Italian Soldiers in Bulgaria.

To: War MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB=COMMISSION
& for informations to: LAND FORCES SUB=COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.)
ROME.

The Royal Italian Military Attaché in Sofia writes the following about the situation of the Italian soldiers, taken prisoners by the Germans and who are now in Bulgaria:

in Sofia N. 1400 (among them 2 officers)
in Hermanli " 750 (among them 3 officers)
in Sedovo " 139 (
in Vidin " 1000 (about)
in Plovdiv " 14

N. 3396 (about)

He also says that he has been informed that 3000 Italian soldiers ex prisoners of the Germans, are in Skoplje (Macedonia).

Considering how poor is the situation of these soldiers, in dire need of clothes, linen and medicines, we beg the A.C. to repatriate them, through Salonika, as soon as possible.

3822

11W/22
The General
Head office.

A. MANNERINI.

BOR/cm

(8)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Repatriated PW Office

file no. 40066/RPGR

Rome, December 13th 1944

Subject: Italian soldiers in TurkeyTo. WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB COMMISSION ROME

and for attention of:

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.N.I.A.)

ROME

The Italian Embassy in Ankara states that on November 17th 1944 a group of Italian soldiers escaped from the Dodecanese Islands and arrived at Kusndasi (Eastern coast of Anatolia).

We inform this sub Commission of this matter and we ask you to do something about the repatriation of those soldiers.

General A. Mannerini
Director of Repatriated PW Office

22:

5821

BOB/cm

24

MINISTRY OF WAR

Repatriated PW Office

file n. 400572/RGR

Rome, December 12th 1944

Subject : Italian Soldiers in Albania

To : WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB COMMISSION ROME
and for attention of:
LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (V.M.I.A.) ROME

(16)

Reference letter N. 400094, dated November 13th 1944.

It has come to our knowledge that the number of Italian soldiers now in Albania is six or seven thousand. It appears that two thousand of them are fighting with the Albanian partisans, whilst all the rest are working with the peasants, who treat them really badly, and have practically no clothing.

When the agricultural work is finished these men will be left alone and will have nothing to eat and no lodgings.

It is urgent, therefore, for those soldiers to be sent towards the coast near the Albanian ports from where they could be repatriated; it would also remove them from an area which has revolutionary tendencies.

Therefore beg this Sub Commission to see if it possible to do something for them and, especially, if they could be repatriated.

The Undersecretary of State for War

General Oxilia

22

See 92

5820

Bor/cb

Ministry of War

Office for repatriated PW & internees

No. 40044/RPGR

Rome, December 5th, 1944

(83)

Subject: request of repatriation of IPW in Ragusa (Croazia)

To: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB=COMMISSION.ROME.

LAND FORCES SUB=COMMISSION A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

A message signed "a group of Italian Prisoners in Dubrovnik" has been sent to us. This group of Italian soldiers is asking to be repatriated, having been taken by the Germans and shut in the fortress of Ragusa (Croazia), as PW.

We beg the Allied Commission to consider the possibility of repatriating the above mentioned soldiers, who, at present, are reformed into labour companies, working for the Yugoslav partisans.

The under Secretary of State

General Oxilia.

we take action
22

see 89

5819

785020

(82)

Zone 3 December 1944

Ministry of War

U.P.E.-MAN. Repatriation of prisoners of war:

To: Land Forces Sub Commission

Subject: accommodations for repatriated PW from the Balkans:

We are transmitting a return complete of Data, to comply with the request of the Allied Commission Sub-Commission. The enclosed sheet is substituting the one transmitted on the 24th of November 1944. n. 400350/R.P.G.Z.

See (80)

The General
(A. Jannuzzi)

See 81.

CO
11
CO
CJ

See 87:

22.

VC/cb

M I N I S T E R O D E L L A G U E R
Ufficio Autonomo Reduci Prigionia di Guerra

ALLOGGIAMENTI PER REDUCI BALCANIA E PRIGIONIA DI GUERRA

L O C A L I T A'	Posti approntati	P
<u>Bari</u> - Casermette Falanga e locali ex tappa n.8 nei pressi Fiera del Levante (locali militari)	1.800	
<u>Lecce</u> - Casermette funzionali in viale Cairoli (locali militari)	1.200	
<u>Lecce</u> - Presso privati	150	
<u>Tricase</u> - Ex campo prigionieri (locali militari)	600	
<u>S.Cesarea</u> - Presso albergo Terme (locali requisiti)	80	
<u>Roccaforzata</u> - Locali del castello (locali requisiti)	400	
<u>Castellana</u> - Locali militari presso il deposito 48°Fant.	400	
<u>Oria</u> - Baraccamenti militari	=	
<u>Francavilla Fontana</u> - locali ex infermeria presidiaria militare .(locali militari)	=	
<u>Corato</u> - Locali del Deposito 14° Artiglieria (locali militari)	=	
	4.630	

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

Ufficio Autonomo Reduci Prigionia di Guerra e Rimpatriati

MENTI PER REDUCI BALCANIA E PRIGIONIA DI GUERRA

	Posti approntati	Posti da approntare	totale posti
ex tappa n.8 nei locali militari	1.800	=	1.800
ne Cairoli (locali militari)	1.200	=	1.200
.	150	=	150
militari)	600	=	600
li requisiti)	80	=	80
locali requisiti)	400	=	400
al deposito 48°Fant.	400	=	400
.	=	1.600	1.600
cmeria presidiaria di militari)	=	300	300
iglieria (locali militari)	=	300	300
	4.630	2.200	6.830

(80)

Ministry of War
Autonomous Office Veterans Prisoners of War repatriated.

File No. 400350/RPGR

ROME 24 November 1944

Subject: Billets for the veterans from the Balkans and the PW.

To : Land Forces Sub-Commission, A.C. (MIA).
War Materials Disposal and Italian PW Sub-Commission.

In order to obtain the billets for the veterans from the Balkans or the PW, all barracks and available places have been prepared in various localities of the Puglia Province. However, they are not as many as are necessary for such a great number of arrivals which are often unexpected or of which only a few hours notice is given.

The Military Command of Puglia and Lucania has informed us a few days ago, that it has been obliged to leave to the Allied Authorities the locations prepared in Trani for 2100 places to be designated as camps for transit.

We just received a communication from the same Command of Puglia and Lucania that the Allied Authorities request also the locations prepared in Lecce, Orta and Francavilla Fontana for a total of 3200 places.

It would be appreciated if the efforts being made by this Ministry for a proper organization to solve, as well as possible, the difficult problem of the veterans from the Balkans and from captivity, would not be frustrated.

Therefore, since the Italian organizations with this new cession, should dispose but of a small number of places, not sufficient at all for the continuous and always increasing number of the repatriating prisoners who are arriving, I strongly beg to consider the necessity to delay the new request.

This is necessary all the more because the problem to lodge the military personnel repatriated from the Balkans and from captivity is very urgent, often unexpected and hard and difficult from its military, moral and political point of view.

5816

See 61

Undersecretary of State
Gen. Orsini

785020

VC/cm

ALLOGGIAMENTI PER REDUCI BALCANIA E P

Località	Posti approntati	Posti da approvvigionare
Bari	1.800 (casermette e baraccamenti)	=
Lecce (3)	1.350 (1) casermette e funzionali	=
Tricase	600 (edificio requisito)	=
S. Cesaria	80 (albergo ")	=
Rocca Forzata(Taranto)	400 (castello)	=
Castellana	400 (edificio requisito)	=
Trani (2)	1.400 (caserme)	700 (edifici)
Oria (3)	=	1600 (baracche)
Francavilla-Fontana(3) rato		300 (locali)
		300 (edifici)
	6.030	2.900

N O T E

- (1) - aumentabili a 2 mila
- (2) - ceduti su richiesta degli alleati per campo riordinamento e tr
- (3) - richiesti dagli A.A.; non ancora ceduti.

•=•=•=•=•=•=•=•=•

ALLOGGIAMENTI PER REDUCI BALCANIA E PRIGIONIA DI GUERRA∞
113

Posti approntati	Posti da approntare	Total posti
(casermette e baraccamenti)	=	1.800
(1) casermette e funzionali)	=	1.350
edificio requisito)	=	600
albergo " "	=	80
castello)	=	400
edificio requisito)	=	400
caserme)	700 (edificio requisito) 1600 (baraccamenti) 300 (locali requisiti) 300 (edificio requisito)	2.100 1.600 300 300
	2.900	8.930

a
degli alleati per campo riordinamento e transito
; non ancora ceduti.

•=.=.=.=.=.=.

rvo/tb

(79)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous office veteran prisoners of War and repatriated

File No. 400430/RPGR

Rome, 30 November 1944

To : WMD & I.P.C. Sub.Commission

See 98, & 140.

Subject : Repatriation of military personnel from the Balkans

Referring to letter No. 500266/RPGR of the 20th last, and to our conversation on the shelter for the returning of Italian soldiers from Greece, I can assure you that the following accommodations have been prepared:

Bari (PALAMMA Barracks)	rooms for 1200
Grottaferrata (Tarento)	" " 400
Lecce	" " 1200

The sick ones will be sheltered in the following hospitals:

The group of Lecce -	Mesagne Hospital
" " " Grottaferrata	Acanfora di Taranto Hospital
" " " Bari	S. Erasmo Colle Hospital, also reserved only for the repatriating P.I.

ALTAVILLA

This way it will be possible to furnish them rations No. 30 for two or three weeks for the ones that don't need any cure and for 30 days for the ones that need care.

THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

s/ G.B. Cril'ia

5814

At the end hospital, up to 6 be admitted
(200 beds).

See 90.

22

Ministry of war
File 400330/ RPCR

Rome 23 November 1944

(78)

To: War Materials Disposal and
Italian P.W. Sub-Com.

and for attention to: Land Forces
Sub-Commission A.C. (A.M.I.A.)

Subject: Camp S. Andrea in Naples

We are actually discussing the problem of receiving the
War veterans and the soldiers who are however out of Italy because
the War events.

For the solution, it is necessary to constitute in the most
important landing countries, great organization where to lodge and
forward the above soldiers.

Particularly, it has been appeared as necessary to prepare
in Taranto territory lodgings for 10.000 totally persons, because
the coming of Italian soldiers from Balkans will continue until all
Italian soldiers will be repatriated and the port of Taranto will
probably be used for the landing of veterans from imprisonment.

Against this positive necessity, are the extremely limited
resources of the territory where there are no disposable lodgings.

I beg the Sub-Commission to dispose that S. Andrea Camp
(Taranto), after the forwarding of the first party of veterans from
Balkans can still be used and given to the Italian Administration,
with all the stores of which it is furnished.

This provision will ~~be~~ a great contribution to the solution
of the problem for reception of veterans from imprisonment and soldiers
now in Balkans.

The Undersecretary of State
G. Oxilia

5813

Deal with
M. M. I. A.

22.

MINISTRY OF WAR
Autonomous office of veterans
and repatriate PW

File No.400268 RPGR

Rome, 20 November 1944

To : WMD & IPW Sub-Com. ROMA

Subject : Repatriation of Italian soldiers from Albania.

See 94

The organization formed by the Military Command in Puglia and Lucania is able to receive the Italian soldiers, who in small groups, by means of planes and ships of low tonnage can be transported from ports south of Valona to Italian territory. These soldiers will find places to shelter themselves (Hospital, lodging center ect) different from those prepared for the PW.

In accordance with what was established for the soldiers coming back from Balkanis, I beg this Sub-Commission to kindly examine the possibility of giving, also to these soldiers, ration type "30" for a period of 30 days after their repatriation.

I will be very grateful of what should be done for these soldiers who, (as is well known) are in very difficult and bad conditions and among whom there are many sick and wounded.

THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE

s/

G.B. Uxilia

5812

{ 79 - Refers
See { 81 Action

LW/tb

22

Ministry of War

76

File N. 400094 /RPG

Subject: Italian soldiers in Albania

TO: War Materials disposal and Italian P.W. Sub Commissin

R O M A

and for attention to:

Land Forces Sub commission A.C. (M.M.T.A.) Rome

A message signed by Cap. TRUSSO Rosario (XIX assault brigade III battalion - Santi Quaranta) has arrived at the Ministry of War to inform us of the existence in Albania of Italian soldiers who, after the Armistice, went to the mountains and fought against Germans with the Albanian partisans, and now request to be repatriated.

As the above message assures, numerous groups of these soldiers many of whom are effected by malaria, rheumatism and underfeeding are now in Vlona territory - Argirocastro -

I heartily beg you to take into consideration the wish of these soldiers.

The Undersecretary of State

5811

A.A. 4/4
d 95

File 22

Deb and by 6e Standard
Major Steans my hand 31 Oct.

JLG

WMD & IPW Sub-Commission.

Return of Italian soldiers
from the Balkans and Greece.
Chief of Staff.

IPW/22/74

31 October 4

1. The subject with which you are conversant, concerning the return to Italy of some 8,000/10,000 Italian soldiers from the Balkans and Greece.

2. Gen Oxilia, the Italian Under Secretary for War, called on me to-day and discussed the position at length. He stated that arrangements were completed for the acceptance of these soldiers provided due notice was given, but that he requested assistance on two points - Rations and Clothing. I explained the question of rations was at present under discussion.

3. Some 2000 men had already arrived in the Bari area practically naked, and clothes were urgently required. For immediate needs he requested the release of 5000 suits he had in store but which were

- 2 -

frozen on instructions from the Army Sub-Commission. These suits were of a different material and colour to any other Italian uniform at present in use, and would or could not be used by the Army. Gen Oxilia requested me to represent his case to Commodore Stone asking the immediate release of these 5000 suits; to clothe the 2000 already arrived, and utilise the balance for others as they arrived. This would at least take care of the first 5000.

4/. He stressed the point that from the Italian standpoint these men were soldiers deserving well of this Government for whom they had fought, and apart from humanitarian reasons there were also political reasons at stake.

5. I am of opinion that Gen. Oxilia has sound common sense as well as necessity on his side in his demand for ~~for~~ the release of the clothing to which he refers, and I recommend that IMMEDIATE instructions be issued to release this material for the purpose of clothing these Italian men returning from the Balkans and Greece.

Lieut.-Colonel.

WMD & IPW Sub-Commission.

5809

War Materials Directorate
Letter from War Materials Directorate
HQ ACC, ACC, OGA, OH
Date 10/30/44
Ref No

(73A)

GENERAL HIGH COMMAND -
Operation Office
File No. 14998/Op

P.M.151, 2 September 1944

Subject: Italian Forces in the Balkans.

Encl 72

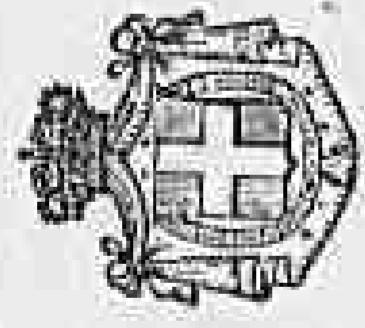
Dear Colonel Campbell,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the information you have given me in your letter D/C, IPM/22/72 of August 26th, 1944, concerning the repatriation of the Italian military from the Balkans.

I thank you sincerely for your action

General Scattini

5808



STATE MAGGIORE GENERALE

Ufficio Operazioni

150 MAR/09. dl prot.

O G G B P P O : truppe italiane nei Balcani.

Caro Colonnello Campbell,

Nel prendere atto delle comunicazioni che mi ha fatto
con foglio V/O, IPY/22/72 del 26 agosto c.a. circa il
ringattivo dei militari italiani dalla Balcania, La ringrazio
grazie vivamente del suo attivo interessamento.

Suo aff. res.
gen. Marchini

785020

Ora 20.00 ore 20.00 del 26 Agosto 1944,

nel pomeriggio stto dalla comunicazione che mi ha fatto

col Regg. U.O., 22/23 del 26 agosto c.a. circa il

rimpatrio dei militari italiani della Dalmazia, la cui

grazie al via libera del suo fattivo interessamento.

Suo aff. m
gen. Graziani

Comunicazione inviata per il controllo
Sottoseggiato di ufficio e preghiamo
che venga da me e presenti
l'attuale di guerra.

AL 121 - 091 - S.A. CARBELL

807

3 Sept. 44.
34

H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
WAR MATERIAL DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN
PRISONERS OF WAR SUB-COMMISSION,
D/O, IPW/22/72,
26 August 1944.

Dear

*General Scattini**Re 7/A*

Please excuse my delay in answering your letter No. 14648/OP
in part dated 11 August, 1944.

In my request to General Headquarters, MIDEAST, for a number
of specialists such as Engineers and M.T. Drivers etc, it was
made clear that they were to be included as part of the number
of 500 and will therefore in no way reduce the total numbers to
be repatriated.

The scheme to repatriate 500 per month as and when possible
still stands.

Yours, *Amirtha*

Amirtha

TO: General Arturo Scattini
Stato Maggiore Generale
1 Reparto Office of Operations
P.M. 135.

5805

SECRETSTATO MAGGIORE GENERALE
1 REPARTO OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

P.M. 135, August 11, 1944

71a

No. 14648/OP d1 prot.

SUBJECT: Italian Troops in the Balkans.

Dear Col. Campbell,

Enc 48

See 42

Enc 35

By letter 14083 of July 7, the Stato Maggiore Generale agreed with the point of view expressed in your letter ASC/22/35 about the impossibility to compile lists of specialists to recover from the Balkans and especially and the scheme for the repatriation from Albania and Greece of about 500 Italian soldiers a month.

The Stato Maggiore of the Army received a copy of the fonogram 0485 which the MMIA(Majors Bauman and Butterworth) transmitted to the A.C.C. (alleged) to communicate among others that the Italian Army required specialists for Medical Corps, Engineers and M.T. drivers at the utmost number of 200.

As this solution is in contrast with the previously agreed about specially because it reduces sensibly the number of soldiers to be recuperated, I would be very grateful to you if you would reexamine the question and let me know which of the 2 solutions shall be effected.

N.B. 68

Brig. General

Arturo Scattini.

Action 71

5863

12/8/44

9622

H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
WAR MATERIAL DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB COMMISSION

Secret

IPW/22/70

9 August 1944

Subject: Repatriation of sick and wounded of the "Garibaldi" Division.

To : His Excellency Marshal of Italy Messe, Chief of the Supreme General Staff.

Your Excellency:

Enc 69a

Ref 30

I have been informed that it is not possible to confirm or refute the report that six Allied aircraft which landed at BERANE on the night of 17 June returned without taking a full load of wounded with them.

I have also been asked to inform you that from BERANE alone during June 313 Italians were evacuated. In the same period 380 Partisans were brought out from BERANE all of whom were badly wounded whilst many of the Italian evacuees had not been injured in engagements with the enemy but were merely exhausted by the conditions under which they had been serving.

All concerned have been informed that the Italian Government is prepared to accept all Italian sick and wounded when it may be possible to evacuate.

For the Chief Commissioner:

J.A. CAMPBELL
Lt.-Colonel
Director, W.M.D. & I.PW S.C.

Copies to Secy Gen'l } also 694 + b
Army SC }

804

69a

OFFICE OF THE REPRESENTATIVE AT BARI
OF THE MINISTER PRESIDENT AT
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS,

36, Via Salvatore Cognetti,
BARI.

SECRET

22nd July, 1944.

Subject: Repatriation sick and wounded
of Garibaldi Division.

To: Army Sub-Commission, Main Headquarters (IMTA),
Lecce (Lecce).

Cordially *All 46*
I have received your letter of the 29th June (marked
ASC/22/27).

I cannot confirm or refute the statement made by Marshal
Messe about the six Allied aircraft which landed at Berane on the
night of the 17th June.

It seems possible, however, that the Italian Supreme Command
are not aware of the number of Italian soldiers who have been
evacuated from Yugoslavia with Allied assistance, and, in this
connexion, I suggest that you might inform Marshal Messe that from
Berane alone 313 Italians were evacuated during June. In the same
period 380 Partisans were brought out from Berane, all of whom were
badly wounded, whilst many of the Italian evacuees had not been
injured in engagements with the enemy but were merely exhausted by
the conditions under which they had been serving.

All concerned have been informed that the Italian Government
are prepared to accept all Italian sick and wounded whom it may be
possible to evacuate. Marshal Messe can be reassured on this point.

The question of the despatch of an Italian Military Mission
to the Supreme Command of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation
has been discussed by the Balkan Air Force Policy Committee, and I
have the honor to enclose a copy of their conclusions.

I cannot confirm or refute the statement made by Marshal Messe about the six Allied aircraft which landed at Berane on the night of the 17th June.

It seems possible, however, that the Italian Supreme Command are not aware of the number of Italian soldiers who have been evacuated from Yugoslavia with Allied assistance, and, in this connexion, I suggest that you might inform Marshal Messe that from Berane alone 313 Italians were evacuated during June. In the same period 380 Partisans were brought out from Berane, all of whom were badly wounded, whilst many of the Italian evacuees had not been injured in engagements with the enemy but were merely exhausted by the conditions under which they had been serving.

All concerned have been informed that the Italian Government are prepared to accept all Italian sick and wounded whom it may be possible to evacuate. Marshal Messe can be reassured on this point.

The question of the despatch of an Italian Military Mission to the Supreme Command of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation has been discussed by the Balkan Air Force Policy Committee, and I have referred the matter to Mr. Caccia with the Allied Control Commission, Naples, to whom I am also sending a copy of this letter.

On political grounds it is considered undesirable that such a mission should be formed, as it will raise difficulties with Allied Governments who may wish to send similar missions.

I should, therefore, be grateful if you could discourage the proposal and point out that the machinery of the Allied Control Commission exists for such purposes.

A copy of my previous communication to Mr. Caccia is enclosed for your information.

....

P. D. G.

*- Copy of my
file 9.2*

COPY

OFFICE OF THE REPRESENTATIVE AT BARI
OF THE MINISTER RESIDENT AT
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS,

BARI.

10th July, 1944.

You will probably have seen a copy of a minute sent by the Army Sub-Commission of Allied Control Commission to Force 399 on the 19th June (marked G/6/1) about Italian troops in Yugoslavia.

This question was discussed at a meeting of the new Policy Committee on the 28th June.

It was decided that there was no military objection to an Italian Military Mission being sent to the Supreme Command of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation, but it was pointed out that this was a matter for arrangement solely between the Italian Military authorities and Marshal Tito.

The meeting emphasised the great practical difficulties in the way of any large-scale evacuation in the present military situation and pointed out that Italian doctors had already been infiltrated into Yugoslavia and an increasing number of Italian wounded had been brought out.

Any communications which the Italians may wish to make to Marshal Tito should be addressed to the British Military Mission for onward transmission.

(Sgd) PHILIP BROAD

M. Caccia, Esq.,
Allied Control Commission,
NAPLES.

3802

(68) SOMTO CMA MIDEAST PAREN ACTION PAREN AFHQ CMA MMIA PAREN INFO PAREN

ACC ADVANCE

SECRET

FIVE SIX NINE

ROUTINE

ONE SIX JULY

ARMY SUB COMMISSION

REFERENCE AFHQ SIGNAL FX SIX FOUR SEVEN NINE SIX RECEIVED TWO
SEVEN JUNE PD FIRST PD TYPE OF SPECIALISTS REQUIRED PAREN A PAREN
SURGEONS AND ENT SPECIALISTS PAREN B PAREN ENGINEER OFFICERS WITH
CONSTRUCTION EXPERIENCE ORS BUILDING AND METAL TRADES PAREN TO
SOMTO CMA MIDEAST FOR ACTION AND AFHQ CMA MMIA FOR INFO FROM ACC
ADVANCE PAREN PAREN M POINT T POINT ALL TYPES PD SECOND PD WILL
ACCEPT IMMEDIATELY UP TO TWO ZERO ZERO PD THIRD PD ADVICE ALL
ARRIVALS EARLIEST POSSIBLE TO ENABLE ARRANGEMENT TO BE MADE FOR
TAKING OVER BY ITALIAN ARMY

6801

1st Lt. MONTANT

785020

ARMY FORM C 2128

MESSAGE FORM

Serial No.

694

No. of Grants Office Date Wanted
GR.

67

**CALL
AND
INSTRUCTIONS**

IN
OU

TO

NOVEMBER 2004

ELCON

100

SECRET (.) Refer your M 38/27 of 27 JUNE forwarding AFHQ Cignal FX64796 undated (.) FIRST (.) ITALIAN Army require Medical and Engineer ORs MT specialists as follows (.) Medical (.) Surgeons and ENT specialists as opposed to DOs (.) ORs MT required (.) Engineers (.) Officers with constructional experience ORs building and metal trades (.) MT (.) all types (.) SECOND (.) Accept up to 200 from FIRST above (.) THIRD (.) On arrival ITALY should be handed over to ITALIAN Army

This Message may be sent AS WRITTEN
by any means
+ [Except]

1980-1981 Wurzach

venatore

This Message must be sent IN CIPHER if liable to interception or risk into enemy hands.

Signature

Originator's Instructions

D.R.L.S.

Title or Origin

05 1150 A

THI

T.O.K.

** Originator may delete "Except" and insert "including." (BELOW THIS LINE IS FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.)*

System In	Time In	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender	System Out	Time Out	Reader	Sender
-----------	---------	--------	--------	------------	----------	--------	--------	------------	----------	--------	--------

5800

C O P YALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONMESSAGE

(67)

SVC/RELAY NO.

M/C NO :

CLASS: SECRET

REF NO: O 485

PREC :

FILED : O S 1130B

FROM : NMIA

REC'D :

TO : ACC

Refer your N 38/27 of 27 June forwarding AFHQ signal FX64790 undated. First. Italian Army require Medical, Engineer, MT specialists as follows: Medical, Surgeons and ENT specialists as opposed to GDOs; ORs Not required; Engineers, Officers with constructional experience, ORs building and metal trades; MT, all types; Second; Accept up to 200 from first above. Third. On arrival Italy should be handed over to Italian Army.

5793

CONFIDENTIAL
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : N10/04 E320 CONFIDENTIAL
 Classification : CONFIDENTIAL
 Precedence : ROUTINE
 From : AFHQ
 To : ACTION AAI FOR FILPOT INFO FATIMA MIDEAST

5-2872
Army Rear
 8582
 (66)
 MAY
 Date / Time Rec'd 04
 Date / Time Sent 03/1932
 Reference NR F41059
 Cite NONE
 (486)



YOUR A 197 OF 1 MAY. POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS PROPOSED TRANSFER PARTISANS TO ITALIAN ARMY UNDER CONSIDERATION. WILL CABLE YOU EARLIEST. FOR MIDEAST. THIS ANSWERS YOUR (13630/10/AC1 (ALS) OF APRIL 23.

(1) - att
 (2) - MIP - apparently ref to basic doc regarding ACC DISTN
 Info... Army S C (Rear)
 Army S C (L.O.)
 Dep S C
 File
 Float

CONFIDENTIAL

5798

file 22

MJDT VLRAR NR2335

QVR2

FROM FILPOT 011910B
 TO FREEDOM
 INFO FATIMA
 QOY GR110



N 69 / 01

4825

A197

REF MIDEASTS 13630/10AG1(ALS) DATED W/ 21 MAR 44 SUBJECT

YUGOSLAVS SOLDIERS EX MALTA(.) FIRST(.) ARMY SUB

COMMISSION ACC HAVE AGREED TO ACCEPT SUBJECT FOLLOWING
 CONDITIONS BEING SATISFIED BEFORE REPEAT BEFORE DESPATCH

(.) A ITALIAN NATIONALITY TO BE PROVED(.) B MEDICALLY

FIT FOR ARMY(.) C SECURITY EXAMINATION(.) SECOND(.)

SIGNAL PORT OF DISEMBARKATION AND ITA/ETA(.) TARANTO MOST
 CONVENIENT IF POSSIBLE(.) THIRD(.) IF ANY OF THEB WILL BE UNFIT AND UNLIKELY TO BE CURED SIGNAL DETAILS
 INCLUDING HOME ADDRESSES SO THAT RECEPTION

MAY BE CONSIDERED(.) FOURTH(.) FOR FATIMA(.) YOUR

QS301 OF 23 AND CONVERSATION COL QUINSMITH GERRETT REFERS

BT folio 3

L1/8 SUBJECT 4/3 SATISFIED 9/3/4 UNFIT AND

SENT 2225 RNLC K

43:5

RECD 2225 SS

GS 1(6) MA
 Eng blot RNLC Rm
 Shdld clg tank

Acc List

INFO - ARMY Svc Com (R)
 ARMY H.Q.
 DEP CC
 FILE
 FLOAT

579

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(64)

QB/mms

Q5325

26 April 1944

479

SUBJECT: YUGO-SLAV - ITALIAN citizens.TO : Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C. Main HQ (MIA)
LEQUILE (LEGGE).

Reference your I/103/T of 21 April.

It is noted RC & MG Section's 118/29/GA of
17 April has not been forwarded to this office.Their 118/25/GA of 7 April and 118/23/GA
of 3 April have been dealt with by this office No.
Q5301 of 23 April (copy to GSI (b) HQ. AAI).This for information. For completion of
your file records.

Lt. Col.

(G. V. QUINSMITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters

Copy to:

RC & MG Sec., NAPLES.

MB
MET
PW

5799
In view of the circumstances of the case
it is recommended that the
(Italian) and (by law to be held here) be
imprisoned for a period of one month, and
a trial date be set forth in due course. It is also
recommended that the Italian be held in custody
in a military prison. It is recommended that the Italian be held in custody
in a military prison.

785020

SUBJECT: YUGO-SLAV - ITALIAN citizens

Army Sub Commission A.C.C. (63)

Main H.Q. (MBTA)

LECCILE (LECCE)

1/103/T

2-1 Apr 44

H.Q. A.C.C.
RC & MG Section
APO 394

Copy to: Adv HQ Army Sub Comm A.C.C. SALENTO (4761)

Ref your 118/29/CA of 17 Apr 44. Your 118/23/CA of
3 and 7 Apr 44 have not been received by this H.Q.

CGL.

(3) O-MIP

(2)+(2)-

W. M. Gen,

Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

5795

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(b2)

Q.D./ame

45301

23 April 1944

414

SUBJECT: Yugoslavs - Italian citizens.

TO : National Control and Military Government
Section, Main HQ. A.C.C., Naples.Reference your letter No. 118/23/CA of 3 April
forwarding AMI/3094/9/A(O) of 31 March.

The Italian Supreme Command have been approached
as in regard to paragraphs 3 (a) and (b) of the basic
document. In order to be able to formulate a reply they
ask:

- a. Whether the soldiers under discussion are
really Italian subjects? This must obviously
be investigated on the spot.
- b. What are their military histories?
- c. By what sequence of events did they come
to be patients in the hospital in MALTA?

Deputy Chief of Staff further adds that "if
they are found to be PW, I am of the opinion that for
reasons of equity they should share the fate of all PW".
On the other hand, he is prepared to take up the case
should it be represented further to him.

L.

Lt. Col.

(G. W. QUINNITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters 5794

Copy to:

COT (b) HQ. A.C.C.
no. AMI/3094/9/A(O) of 4 Apr. refers.

TRANSLATION No. 251 Army Sub-Commission - 19 April 1944 - Sgt. Sorisi.

Supreme Command
Sunday Affairs Office
File No. 102470/AV

P.M. 151/A - 18 April 1944

TO: ACC Army Sub-Commission, APO 394
(Refer to: QS245, 13 April 1944)

SUBJECT: Italian citizens, belonging to the National Army of Liberation of Yugoslavia, and at present sheltered in hospital at Malta.

My dear Colonel Quin-Smith,

This headquarters has examined the matter represented in the letter we are now answering, with the greatest attention.

In order to be in possession of all data necessary to judge the matter, I beg of you the courtesy of furnishing information as follows:

- a. Whether the soldiers under discussion are really Italian subjects;
- b. What are their military histories;
- c. Where do they come from and in consequence of what events did they arrive in Malta.

In any case they were found to be prisoners of war, I am of the opinion that, for obvious reasons of equity, they should share the fate of all Italian prisoners of war.

In other cases, and always when their qualities of Italian citizenship have been ascertained, the position of each one of them will be carefully examined according to their particular cases.

Yours sincerely,

Adolfo Infante
The Underchief of Staff

(General Adolfo Infante)



D/e

B.R. 151/A, 11 Aprile 1944

COMANDO SUPREMO

ufficio affari vari

Prot.n° 10240/Al

ALLA COMMISSIONE MILITARE DI CONTROLLO
- sottocommissione esercito -

(rif.QS 245, del 13 corrente)

APO 394

OGGETTO: cittadini italiani, appartenenti all'esercito nazionale di libe-
razione jugoslavo, ed attualmente ricoverati in ospedale a Valte.

Mio caro colonnello Quinsmith,

Questo comando ha esaminato con la massima attenzione il caso
rappresentato con le lettere cui si risponde.

Allo scopo di poter disporre di tutti gli elementi di giudizio
necessari, pregherei le S.V. di voler cortesemente precisare:

- a) - se i militari di cui trattasi sono effettivamente suditi italiani;
- b) - quali siano i loro precedenti militari;
- c) - quale sia la loro provenienza ed in seguito a quali avvenimenti siano
giunti a Valte.

Qualora essi risultassero prigionieri di guerra sono d'avviso che,
per ovvie ragioni di equità, essi debbono seguire le sorte di ~~diffidati~~
prigionieri di guerra italiani.

Mio caro colonnello Quintin Smith,

Questo comendo ha esaminato con la massima attenzione il caso rappresentato con le lettere cui si risponde.

Allo scopo di poter disporre di tutti gli elementi di giudizio necessari, pregherei S.V. di voler cortesemente precisare:

- a) se i militari di cui trattasi sono effettivamente suditi italiani;
- b) quali siano i loro precedenti militari;
- c) quale sia la loro provenienza ed in seguito a quali avvenimenti siano finiti a Nettuno.

Qualora essi risultassero prigionieri di guerra sono d'avviso che, per ovvie ragioni di equità, essi debbano seguire la sorte di ~~prigionieri~~ ⁷⁸⁵⁰²¹ prigionieri di guerra italiani.

In caso contrario e sempre quando venga accertata la loro qualità di suditi italiani, la posizione di ciascuno di essi verrà attentamente esaminata e seconda dei singoli casi.

Sinceramente vostro

IL SOTTOCAPO DI STATO MAGgiORE GENERALE F.F.

(Generale Adolfo INFANTINO)



785020

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

QS/mmc

(S)

QSC45

13 April 1944

351

SUBJECT: Yugoslavia.

TO : Comando Supremo, Villa Rende, Cava dei Tirreni, Salerno.

1. Information has been received from MIDEAST that there are eight YUGOSLAVIAL soldiers at present in hospital in MALTA who have requested that, as they are Italian citizens, they should be permitted on recovery to proceed to ITALY to serve with the Italian Forces operating with the Allies. Particulars of these soldiers are attached.

2. It is understood that these soldiers have been serving for the past twelve months with the Partisans in YUGOSLAVIA but that they do not wish to return to YUGOSLAVIA as they cannot speak the language.

3. It is considered that their request may be granted provided that:-

- (a) The Italian Government agree.
- (b) Italian citizenship is substantiated.

4. May I have your remarks please?

For the Chief Commissioner:

 Lt. Col.

(G. W. GURNSMITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters

1 incl. as in para 1.

5791

1. (S) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)
2. (S) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)
3. (S) (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)

R. G. G.

U.S. 3-402/

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV - ITALIAN Citizens

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.

Main H.Q. (M.H.Q.)

LEGUE (LEGGE)

I/103/T

11 Apr 44

(55)

#527

Adv H.W.
Army Sub Commission
SALERNO

Further to our I/103/T of 7 Apr 44.

All correspondence is fwd to you for action as necessary.

CGL.

Brigadier,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

5790

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. SECTION
APO 394

(54)

4521

Ref/118/25/CA

7 April 1944

SUBJECT: Yugoslav - Italian Citizens.

TO : Army Sub-Commission Main.

1. Further to this Hq. 118/23/CA of 3 April 1944, a copy of Hq. AAI *Adm Ech) letter AAI/3074/9/a(0) of 4 April 1944 is forwarded.

att

for NORMAN. E. FIKSE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

5789

785020

COPY

(S3)

SUBJECT:- Adm - Yugoslav

H.Q. A.A.I (Adm Ech)

C.M.F.

AAI/3074/9/A(O)

4 Apr 44.

4578

Executive Commissioner,
H.Q. Allied Control Commission

Ref this HQ letter AAI/3074/9/A(O) dated 31 March 44, in particular para 40.

G.S.I. (B) AAI have commented on it as follows:-

"From a security point of view it is considered that no persons who have served with the YUGOSLAV forces should be allowed to join the ITALIAN forces, unless they have been subjected to a security check by the S.I.L.C at BARI.".

A. A. Ellison, Capt.
for Brigadier
D.A.G.

5783

785020SUBJECT: YUGOSLAVS

(52)

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.

Main H.Q. (MIA)

LEQUILE (LECCE)

I/103/T

7 Apr 44

(45%
45%)Adv HQ
ArmySub Commission ACC
SALERNO

Attached is fwd in original for your action.

*With thanks & best regards**for Brigadier,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.*

CGL.

5787

I/103/T
55
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

4577

3 April 1944.

Ref/118/23/CA

SUBJECT: Yugoslavs - Italian Citizens.

TO : Army Sub-Commission Main

Copy of a letter from H.Q. A.A.I.
(Adm Ech) is forwarded for action as necessary.

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

5786

C O P Y

(50)

4578

SUBJECT: Adm - YugoslavsHQ AAI ADM ECH,
CMF.

AAI/3074/9/A(0)

Executive Commissioner,
HQ Allied Control Commission31 March 44

1. Information has been received from MIDEAST that there are eight YUGOSLAV NAL soldiers at present in hospital in MALTA who have requested that, as they are Italian citizens, they should be permitted on recovery to proceed to ITALY to serve with the Italian Forces operating with the Fifth Army. Particulars of these soldiers are attached.

2. It is understood that these soldiers have been serving for the past twelve months with the Partisans in YUGOSLAVIA but that, despite their sympathy with the Partisan cause, they do not wish to return to YUGOSLAVIA as they cannot speak the language.

3. It is considered that their request may be granted provided that:-

- (a) the Italian Government agree,
- (b) Italian citizenship is substantiated,
- (c) GSI agree.

Signed ????????

Brigadier,
DAG.

GGR/PA

Copy to GSI (b) HQ AAI

785

Comando Supremo.

File No. 14083/OP

MPO 5

7 July 1944.

TO: A.C.C.

48a

Subject: Italian Troops in Balkans.

(reference your ASC/22/35 of 1 July 1944.) — End (35)

This Comando Supremo agree on what the A.C.C. suggests, submitting to A.P.M.Q. concerning the visit of Major De Salis, the impossibility to compile lists of specialists to repatriate, and, in particular, on the programme to repatriate from Albainia and Greece 500 Italian soldiers per month.

It is intended that the repatriation of these soldiers, even if it should in future exceed the proposed number, a similar number of Italian soldiers will be demobilised in order to maintain the strength of the Army in the fixed number.

The Major General,

(Sgd) Adolfo Infante.

5784

8/7/44
file 22

*Denny S. C. (Clear)*5200SECRET.

(47)

FORGE 399,
C.H.F.

E1/M75.

2nd July, 1944.

To: A.G.C., B.A.F.

Copy to: S.I.L.C.
~~P.W.~~ Sub-Commission, A.G.C.

1. Col. PIRG, Marshal TITO's A.G.C., states that early this year two D.C.17's flew from CROATIA to ITALY. An officer named DOBNIKAR and ten or eleven others were interned.
2. Col. PIRG states that these men are Partisans. He thinks that they are at present held in Camp 211.
3. Col. PIRG asks that these men should be released and permitted to join the Partisan forces.
4. It is suggested that A.G. 5, A.F.M.C., are approached with a view to obtaining their release.

H.H. Parker
Major, G.S.

MRC/MF.

5/7/44

File 22



5785

Ann of 46

SUBJECT: Repatriation Sick & Wounded - GARIBOLDI DIV.

ARMY SUB COMMISSION, A.C.C.
MAIN HQ (RAT)
LIEUTENANT
G/6/1
4 JULY 44.

Lt. Col. CLIFFELL,
A.C.C.,
SALERNO.

See 106.

32

Reference your (ASC/22/27 or 29 June) to TORCE 266.

Attention is invited to our AG/2 of 23 June which defines disposition
of sick and wounded soldiers.

1. The personnel of the GARIBOLDI Division is not carried as a part of the
2. The Italian Army as far as we are concerned, and when returned will not be admitted
to Italian military hospitals. Therefore, the Italian Government will have to
make arrangements for their hospitalisation from other than Army resources, as
neither rations, clothing or medical supplies furnished under P.N. 358 will be used
for this purpose.

3. The Surgeon of the Italian Army is attempting to get the cooperation of
the various Ministeries in taking care of the returned POWs and others in the military
hospitals at the present time who do not come within the provision of our letter.
The Italian Government stated that it would take care of returned POW. Actually
this was done by placing them in Army hospitals, which now has to be corrected.

4. You should make plain to Marshal MUSSE that army people returned from the
GARIBOLDI must be taken care of from resources other than resources we have made
available under P.N. 358 and that he should make necessary arrangements to do so.

R.S. & R.S.
Major General.
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

785020

to Italian military hospitals. Therefore, the Italian Government will have to make arrangements for their hospitalisation from other than Army resources, as neither rations, clothing or medical supplies furnished under F.M. 338 will be used for this purpose.

3. The Surgeon of the Italian Army is attempting to get the cooperation of the various Ministries in taking care of the returned POWs and others in the military hospitals at the present time who do not come within the provision of our letter. The Italian Government stated that it would take care of returned POW. Actually this was done by placing them in Army hospitals, which now has to be corrected.

4. You should make plain to Marshall MESSI that any people returned from the CARIB LMT must be taken care of from resources other than resources we have made available under F.M. 338 and that he should make necessary arrangements to do so.

R. L. Dinsmore

tvs. CPM.

R. L.
Major General.
Army Sub Comm, A.C.C.

Spoke with General Langlee - who wanted 7824,
the previous let 9/7/44

1/7/44
J.W.G.

45a

b6 b7c

Enc/dire

L 1 JUL 1944

WCO 011.35

30 June 1944

Subject: Repatriation of General Azzi and staff from Albania

To: G.O.C., HQ Force 266, C.M.F.

1. Reference is made to attached copy of letter and enclosure from Marshal Mosco.
2. The enclosure alleges inexplicably harsh treatment given to General Azzi and members of his staff on their repatriation from Albania.
3. I should be grateful if this matter might be looked into, and an answer given to the allegations made, so that a reply may be given in due course to Marshal Mosco.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: Army Sub-Commission

5781

3 July 44
file 22

TRANSLATION NO. 855 - SCR

ARMED COMMAND

P.M. , 25 June 44

+5k

FILE NO. 91423/AV
TO: - A.O.C.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Division General AZZI, 6 Officers and 277 Non-Coms and Troops from Albania.

The 9th Army Corps Command has informed us in the enclosed letter, of the manner in which Allied Authorities in Bari treated Gen. AZZI and 6 officers of the "Firenze" Division, & repatriated 11 June from Albania.

I believe it advisable to bring this incident to the attention of the Commission, with the prayer that it will intervene with the competent authorities so that better treatment may be given those who so bravely fought for the common cause.

The Marshall of Italy
Chief of General Staff
(Giovanni Messe)
/s/ G. Messe

* * * * *

ENCLOSURE

IX Army Corps Command
File 2177/Inf

PA 67, 13 June 44
TO: Ministry of War
General Staff, Royal Army.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Division General AZZI and other officers, and 277 non-coms and troops.

It is my duty to inform you that ZOGY, the Division General AZZI, commander of the "Firenze" division, presented himself to this command. He had debarked at Brindisi on 11 June from a barge, together with Colonel of Artillery CARMALIZZO, Artillery Major CHIARIZZA Ernesto, Chief of Staff of the division, and four other lesser officers.

General AZZI expressed his bitterness for treatment received from English authorities, who, right after the Brindisi landing, transferred him and the other officers to Bari by truck, and as soon as they arrived, lead them to a house away from the settled area. They were minutely searched, their weapons were taken away from them, money and documents. They were then subjected to severe questioning.

3167, 13 June 44
TO: Ministry of War
General Staff, Royal Army.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Division General AZZI and other officers, and
277 non-coms and troops.

It is my duty to inform you that ~~today~~, the Division General AZZI, ex-commander of the "Fierenze" division, presented himself to this command, he had embarked at Brindisi on 11 June from a barge, together with Colonel of Chabilliari CARVALZIO; Artillery Major CHIARIZZA ERNESTO, chief of Staff of the Division, and four other lesser officers.

General AZZI expressed his bitterness for treatment received from English authorities, who, right after the Brindisi landing, transferred him and the other officers to Pari by truck, and as soon as they arrived, lead them to a house away from the settled area. They were minutely searched, their weapons were taken away from them, money and documents. They were then subjected to severe questioning.

The General and the officers were later lodged in common premises containing double beds without straw, and were given troop rations in a spot (literal translation, - rail).

At 1100 hours today, the General and the officers were released at liberty in order to present themselves to the Italian Authorities, with the admonition to remain yet a few days at the disposal of the English Command.

The officers were given back their weapons and paper currency, but gold currency and the more important documents were held back.

The 277 non-coms and troops who landed in Brindisi by the same transport used by the officers, have not yet reached port.

The General commanding
/s/ Roberto LERICI

OURNIFEL, TRUE DUTY
(Omnipoudo supremo Seal)

SECRET

(44)

JAO/dfe

A/CC 014.33

26 June 1944

Subject: Italian Soldiers in Albania

To: G-5, Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512

1. Reference is made to your 091.711-1 of 15 June 1944.
2. The comments you require are being compiled from the departments concerned and will be forwarded to you at the earliest possible date.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

L. D. DENNISON
Colonel, Sig C
PA to A/CC

No A/CC - Secy Rm
DISPATCHED
Date Time 26 June 1944
No. 394.
26 JUN 1944

577.5

SECRET

785020

SECRET

(43)

JAC/dfo

A/CC 014.33

26 June 1944

Reference evacuation of Italians from Albania and Greece.

Force 266 have asked AFHQ for permission to evacuate from Albania some 500 Italian soldiers per month, and AFHQ want ACC's comments on this. From signals in the past it would appear that there has been some consultation on this point between AFHQ, "A" Force, the Resident Minister, and ACC, and that it was decided in May that no large scale evacuation was desirable.

Could you please tell me if yours is the department concerned, refer me to any of your correspondence on the matter, and lastly tell me if your attitude to the project is in any way changed, as both Force 266 and the Comando Supremo are anxious to see this evacuation put into effect.

J. A. QUAYLE
Major, R.A.
PA to A/CC

Major General L. Browning, CB, OBE, MC
Director, Army Sub-Commission
Lequile, Lecce

5778

Re A/CC Secy Gen.

DISP DRAFTED

26 June 1944
AS myc
Tb

SECRET

(42)

CC 014.33

28 April 44

SUBJECT:- Italians in Albania

TO :- HQ Force 266, C.M.F.

1. In reply to your memorandum SF/101/7/Comd of the 21st Apr it is considered inadvisable in the present circumstances, to permit the talian government to approach Albanian Authorities through Ankara with a view to arranging the repatriation of Italians in Albania. Apart from the undesirability of allowing the Italian government to get into direct touch with a puppet govern - ment under German control, it seems highly improbable that the Germans authorities would acquiesce in any such proposal.

2. In the event of it being considered an Allied interest to arrange for the repatriation of these Italians, it would be less open to objection from the point of view of the ACC should ten Allied authorities themselves undertake discussions through the Turkish government,

3. Copies of this correspondence are being sent to the American Political adviser and the British Resident Minister's Office at Allied Force Headquarters.

NOEL MASON MACFARLANE
Lieutenant General
Chief Commissioner.

5777

SUBJECT:- Italians in Albania

SECRET
HQ FORCE 266 CMF

TO:- HQ Allied Cont Comm Naples

Ref SF/101/7/Comd
21 April 44

1. From the following passage dated 20 Feb 44 in the Albanian official journal " Bashkimi I Kombit", it is apparent that the Albanian Govt are anxious and have attempted to arrange the repatriation of Italians in Albania.

" We have always insisted that what remained of the Italian Army should be sent out of the country because of the diplomatic troubles that may arise in the postwar period.....Our efforts to repatriate all Italians have often been prevented by the Communist Party "

2. It would appear that there is nothing to prevent the Badoglio Administration initiating negotiations on the subject with Tirana since the Albanian Govt is technically neutral. It would be possible for Badoglio to make the necessary approaches to the Albanians through Ankara, probably using the Turkish Consul at Tirana as an intermediary.

3. There is, of course, no guarantee that the Germans would permit such repatriation, but it is thought that the scheme is well worth trying and you may care to suggest it to the Badoglio Govt, without in any way mentioning Force 266, who are not in a position to carry out such repatriations, which would have to be arranged by the Italians themselves.

Brigadier
Comd Force 266

Copies to: HQ S.O.(M)
A.A.I.
B8
Comd (2)

5776

785020

ADY A/RM 2805
Received 11-16-96

40

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/jjr

11-16-96

1408.

G-5: 091.711-1

15 June 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Soldiers in Albania.

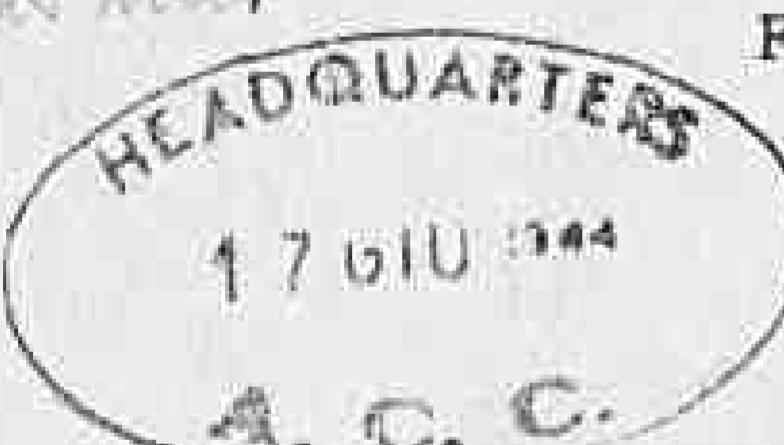
TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission,
APO 394

It is requested that you will furnish this
 Section with a copy of your comments on the letter
 dated 8 Jan to AFHQ, copy to you from HQ S.O.(M) CMF.
 The cable referred to in the letter would appear to
 be F 42273 of 6 May from this HQ to Mideast repeated
 to you, SOMTO and Force 266.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

Blue marker
 T. B. JACKMAN
 Major.

Ref letter in
 Secy Gurl's office -
 3/17/44
 Pick up will pick
 To them J. A. M.



19/6-1130-56 sent copy to DC & HLC - original value

785020

*S. 4800
Adv HKNY SC 5-376
REAR HQ Act 34*

NO ACC, APO 304
U.S. S.O. (M),
C.M.F.

Recd 12 June 1944
D.C.

Ref: G105

8 Jun. 44.

A.P.H.L.

Copy to A.C.C. ✓
Force 265.

(M.P. 014.33)

F-42273 { - see enc. #.

1. Reference your unnumbered signal dated 6 MAY reported to A.C.C.
It was ruled that no large scale evacuation of Italians from ALBANIA
was practicable or desirable on grounds of security.

2. The German drive against the Partisan bridge-head in Southern
Albania has again brought this problem into prominence.

3. The Naval Authorities have expressed the view that a limited
number of Italians evacuated by Italian vessels engaged on operations
to Albania would have a valuable effect on the morale of Italian crews.

4. At a meeting of DDC today, SHIO stated that from a security
angle it should be possible to handle up to 500 Italian evacuees per
month.

5. May confirmation be given that the evacuation of 500 per month
would not be regarded as a large scale evacuation which was prohibited
in your signal under reference.

6. Would emphasise that the continued presence of a large number
of Italians in guerrilla areas without any prospect of reducing their
numbers, presents a serious problem and may adversely affect current
operations.

*P. R. Bergeron
de b*

785020

3. The Naval Authorities have expressed the view that a limited number of Italians evacuated by Italian vessels engaged on operations to Albania would have a valuable effect on the morale of Italian crews.

4. At a meeting of SOC today, SILO stated that from a security angle it should be possible to handle up to 500 Italians evacuees per month.

5. May confirmation be given that the evacuation of 500 per month would not be regarded as a large scale evacuation which was prohibited in your signal under reference.

6. Would emphasise that the continued presence of a large number of Italians in Guerrilla areas without any prospect of reducing their numbers, presents a serious problem and may adversely affect current operations.

J. B. Steele Jr

(M.A.R. Steele, Jr.)

Maj. Gen.

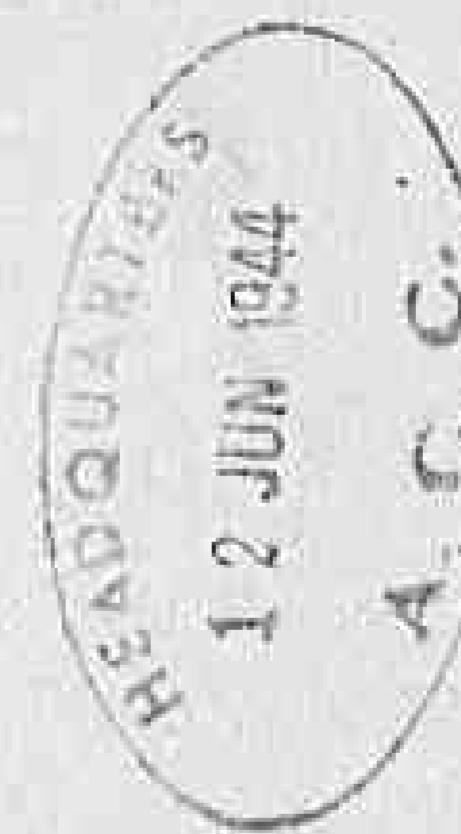
Comd. 5774

A. C. C. 12 JUN 1944

British

Copy to S.P.C.

Office Sub. Com. (C.I.W.D.)



*12 JUN 1944
A. C. C.
1000 hrs.
file 22.*

*20 June 44.
1000 hrs.
file 22.*

785020

B R O N T E

(37)

4/07 15/07

SUBJECT

ROME

ITALIANO SGD RAC

NORTHWEST MPTD ACO COMINT FORCE 266

MAXOC1100

"

EN2273 ✓

PHOT

PARA 1. QUOTATION OF ITALIANS IN GREECE AND ALBANIA PERTAINING YOUR MSG/11 OF 17TH MARCH FROM SECRETARY FORC INCLOSING APPROVAL BY FORC 135, HAS BEEN BRAINED FULLY IN CONSULTATION WITH ARMY FORCE, ALLIED COMINT COMMISSION AND RESIDENT MINISTER. CONCLUSION AS FOLLOWS:- A. NO REASON TO LARGE SCALE EVACUATION IS NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE ON GROUNDS OF SECURITY. B. SMALL NUMBER SPECIALISTS COULD HOWEVER BE UNUSUALLY REPATRIATED FOR DUTY WITH ITALIAN ARMY OVER. C. AS IT IS IMPOSITIVE TO HARBORISH LARGE NUMBERS, ITALIANS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED IF POSSIBLE TO DO IN THEMSELVES INTO GUERRILLA BANDS. FAILING THIS DISPERAL AND NO INCIDENT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED. D. ITALIANS IN GREECE SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM DRIFTING INTO ALBANIA AS TO DO SO WITHOUT MORE OR REPARATION WOULD MARK THEM TO DIFFICULTIES THERE. E. ALLIED MISSIONS IN THE FIELD SHOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE FINANCIAL AND OTHER POSSIBLE. PARA 2. CONSIDERED HOME THAT APPROACH TO GERMAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH NEUTRAL POWER WOULD BE TOO LONG AND TOO COMPLICATED AND WOULD IN ANY CASE BE UNLIKELY TO LEAD TO ANY PRACTICAL RESULT. PARA 3. ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND HAS AGREED TO LIAISON VISIT OF MAJOR DE SALVO. HE SHOULD REPORT TO ACO HEADQUARTERS ON ARRIVAL.

ACO DISP
INFO SEC GEN

- DCC
- AIRL LIGUE
- " LAZENO
- " LO
- FILE
- DISP

0/0553
Mid East
May 26

5773

785020

Secret

(36)

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
REAR H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONSUBJECT: Italian soldiers in Albania.

1 July 1944.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters, C-5 section, A.P.O. 512. AU/22/36

reference your letter No. C-5: 091.711-1 dated 15 June, 1944,
on the above subject.

1. The Comando supremo are still very anxious to have as many Italians as possible repatriated from Albania and Greece.
2. From the Italian point of view 500 is not considered a large scale evacuation and the Italian Government will accept with satisfaction numbers of 500 per month - with this I am in accord.
3. It is considered that it will be possible to collect statistics from these monthly parties, and in this way help the position to which your signal PMG.796 refers.
4. It is requested that as much notice as possible is given prior to the arrival of the parties concerned.
in Italy

For the Chief Commissioner:


J. A. CHAPPELL,
Lieutenant Colonel,
Army Sub-Commission.

Copy to: Secretary General, H.Q. A.C.C. (for information)

5772

785020

ARMY SUB-COMMISSION
RE/MG-H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(35)

SUBJECT: Italian Army in Balkans.

ABC/22/35

TO : Comando Supremo, Genova.

1 July, 1944.

1. Ref your letter 12978 dated 11 May 1944 and numerous discussions with General Infante.
2. A message from AFHQ states that Major De Salis cannot be spared from his present tasks and suggests that it is no longer necessary for Major De Salis to visit Italy.
3. It is suggested that it may be possible to evacuate small numbers of specialists if lists showing types, numbers and priority can be provided.
4. I have discussed this matter with General Infante and understand that it is impossible to provide such lists as are asked for, and, that while the visit of Major De Salis is not essential, it is desirable that he should visit Italy when it is possible to spare him. I shall therefore notify A.F.I.L. to this effect and shall be pleased if you confirm that you agree.
5. When speaking with General Infante it was decided that now that it was considered possible to repatriate some 500 Italians per month from Albania and Greece, that specialists could be selected from these parties.
6. I would like to point out that the repatriation of men from Albania and Greece would automatically result in demobilisation of similar numbers either from the army in Italy or from those repatriated.



J.A. CAMPBELL,
Lt. Colonel,
Army Sub-Commission.

5771

1096

RESTRICTED

AFRI SC (Rear HQ) 34

2533

ACTION IN ACC

N 49/30

AMIA

RESTRICTED

SD 1053

INFO

JUNE 28/

N/P.

IN ACC 014 POINT 33 OF 26 JUNE. ALL CORRESPONDENCE AVAILABLE IN AMIA AS BELOW AVAILABLE
 IN HQ ACC. LETTER AFHQ, MWS 091 POINT 711, 12 APRIL ADDRESSED TO HQ ACC LETTER AMIA
 0/19/5 OF 20 APRIL. COPY TO HQ ACC SIGNAL 2684 OF 20 APRIL. ADDRESSED TO FREEDOM.

- N/P
 FREEDOM SIGNAL F50273 FEBR OF 6 MAY. COPY TO ACC. ACC LETTER Y6365 OF 9 MAY, ADDRESSED
 TO HQS AFHQ MIDAST SIGNAL M127/27 OF 26 MAY COPY TO ACC FREEDOM SIGNAL F58387 DATE (13/6/44)

UNKNOWN. COPY IN AMIA RECEIVED FROM ACC, AMIA LETTER G/26 OF 16 JUNE COPY NO ACC. FROM
 THE ABOVE CORRESPONDENCE IT APPEARS THAT DECISION WAS MADE TO REPATRIATE SMALL NUMBER OF
 SPECIALISTS FOR DUTY WITH ITALIAN ARMY. EXCEPT FOR THESE SPECIALISTS A FEW HUNDRED OF
 ITALIAN SOLDIERS AVAILABLE IN ITALY. REPATRIATION OF 500 MEN PER MONTH FROM ALBANIA
 WOULD AUTOMATICALLY RESULT IN DEMOBILISATION OF SIMILAR NUMBER OF MEN NOW IN ARMY IN ITALY.

NOTE: This subject has been dealt with throughout
 by Adv Army SC (ACC Rear HQ)

HEADQUARTERS

30 JUN 1944

A. C. G.

ACC DISP

ACTION SEC 122 (2)

INFO DAP CC

CA DR

ARMY SO

ARMY 25

FILE

FLAG

5770

① see note 4.

② " " 58.

③ " " 7.

④ " " 18.

⑤ " " 10.

⑥ " " 278.

JUN 30/

File 22

785020

*Mr. See Report
33
5-5-77*

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE *2336*

TO: ACC REPD MIDEAST SOTTO AFHQ ADV CP
FROM: FREEDOM SGD SACMED
REFERENCE No: FX64796
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUN OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE/EHGCT

See me. 274. / See 22nd. ⑪

FURTHER TO OUR F58387 OF 12TH JUNE AND OUR F42273 OF 6TH MAY REGARDING
REPATRIATION OF SELECTED ITALIAN SPECIALISTS FROM GREECE AND ALBANIA.
MIDEAST SUGGEST VISIT OF DE SALIS UNNECESSARY AND STATE THEY CANNOT
AFFORD TO SPARE HIM FROM HIS PRESENT TASKS. IN VIEW OF THIS AND
OF THE FACT THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR SOE TO EVACUATE SMALL NUMBER
OF SPECIALISTS FROM TIME TO TIME REQUEST YOU INFORM SOTTO AND MIDEAST
COPY TO FREEDOM TYPES OF SPECIALISTS REQUIRED NUMBER THAT YOU ARE
PREPARED TO RECEIVE THE URGENCY THEIR EVACUATION AND TO WHOM THEY
SHOULD BE HANDED OVER ON ARRIVAL IN ITALY

ACC DIST
ACTION/ ARMY SC REAR HQ
INFO/ SEC GEN
DCC
CA BR
ARMY SC LECCE
ARMY LO
FILE
FLOAT

*HEADQUARTERS
27 JUN 1944*

5763

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: JUN OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE/FGCCT

PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

See rec. 274.

See file 2224. ①

FURTHER TO OUR F58387 OF 12TH JUNE AND OUR P42273 OF 6TH MAY REGARDING
REPATRIATION OF SELECTED ITALIAN SPECIALISTS FROM GREECE AND ALBANIA.
MID EAST SUGGEST VISIT OF DE SALIS UNNECESSARY AND STATE THEY CANNOT
AFFORD TO SPARE HIM FROM HIS ~~PART~~ PRESENT TASKS. IN VIEW OF THIS AND
OF THE FACT THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR SOE TO EVACUATE SMALL NUMBER
OF SPECIALISTS FROM TIME TO TIME REQUEST YOU INFORM SOMTO AND MID EAST
COPY TO FREEDOM TYPES OF SPECIALISTS REQUIRED NUMBER THAT YOU ARE
PREPARED TO RECEIVE THE URGENCY THEIR EVACUATION AND TO WHOM THEY
SHOULD BE HANDED OVER ON ARRIVAL IN ITALY.

ACC DIST
ACTION/ ARMY SC REAR HQ
INFO/ SEC GEN
DCC
CA BR
ARMY SC LECCE
ARMY LO
FILE
FLOAT

27 JUN 1944
STADGUARTER

A. C. C.

ACTION COPY

28 June 44.
file 2.

JUN 27
DATE and Time of RECEIPT

Distribution:

785020

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
AND I.C.C. ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION

(32)

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Sick & wounded - Garibaldi Div. ASC/22/27

TO : Force 266

22 Jun 44

1. Further to Army Sub-Commission letter G/6/1 dated Enc 28
16 Jun 44.
2. I enclose translation of a letter received from Marshal
Molse dated 22 June regarding the repatriation of Italian sick
and wounded of the Garibaldi Division.
3. With regard to the "first two para." of Marshal Molse's
letter, I shall be pleased if you will inform all concerned
that all Italian sick and wounded will now be accepted in
Italy and that the Italian Government will make all arrange-
ments necessary regarding their acceptance.
4. With reference to the suggested Italian Military Mission
with the Yugoslav Partisan Area of Liberation, I shall be pleased
if you will let me know if you are in agreement or not with
such a proposal.

SAC
J.A. CAMPBELL,
Lt. Colonel,
ARMY SUB-COMMISSION.

All. (4b)
7/26/44
(69)

COPY TO: ARMY SUB-COMMISSION,
MOSCOW (C.I.A.)
TELEGRAM (TELECO)

File

5768

(31)

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
REAR H.Q. ALLIED GENERAL COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Sick & Wounded - Garibaldi Div. ASG/18

TO : Comando Supremo

27 June 1944.

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your letter Ref 13317
dated 22 June 1944.

Wm. M.
Mr. C. G. M.,
Lt. Colonel,
Army Sub-Com. Mission

5767

TRANSLATION No. 20 - Army - 23 June 44. - Romano

(30)

Supreme Comand

22 June 1944

1st Div. Office of Operations

TO: A.C.C.

File No. 13817

SUBJECT: Repatriation of sick and wounded of the "Garibaldi" Division

I have been informed by the "Garibaldi" Division that of six Allied Airplanes which landed during the night of the 17th at BERANE, four returned carrying all the wounded partisan troops present, while the other two returned empty even though the sick and wounded Italians, including many seriously ill and mutilated, were ready to be transported and their removal had been requested.

The Allied Commission on the spot declared that the above mentioned sick and wounded Italians could not be taken because in Italy there was not sufficient bed room.

I earnestly request you to intervene in order to prevent a similar incident happening again. I think that if the proposal of this Supreme Comand stated in letter 13528/Op of the 7th instant is accepted, i.e. the institution of an Italian Military Mission with the Supreme Comand of the Yugoslav Partisan Army of Liberation such episodes could be more easily prevented.

I therefore permit myself to insist on the realization of this proposal

The Marshal of Italy
Chief of General Staff,

(Giovanni Messe)

5766

(28)

SUBJECT:- Italian troops fighting in YUGOSLAVIA

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LEQUILLE (LICCE)
G/6/1

19 JUN 44

Force 266**Adv HQ Army Sub Comm**

Your Asc/22/27 of 14 Jun refers Encell 27

1. Att is a translation of a letter received from Marshal MUSSolini.
2. Would you please state your reaction to his proposal, in order that a reply may be sent.

For your information
Maj Gen.

Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

ABC

(P)

5765

21 June 44.
File 22

ARMY SUB-COMMISSION

RE: A.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.

To: Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C. Main H.Q. (R.M.A.),
Reggile, (Lecce).

(24)a

Subject: Garibaldi Division and Italian soldiers fighting in
Yugoslavia with Partisan Units.

ASC/22/27.
14 June 1944.

End(24)

1/. The attached letter from Marshal Messe, together with
translation is forwarded.


J.A. CAMPBELL,
Lieut.-Colonel,
Army Sub-Commission.

B | F
5764

785020

SECRET

Army Salerno
S-44977
27a.

ACTION MIDNIGHT FOR JUNO - 133 INFO ACC COMINT

R 15/10

PROPOSED LEGEND DRAFTED CITE REPORT

SOURCE

R 58587

ROUTINE

RECALL

PURCHASE TO OUR R 42273 OF 6TH MAY SUBJECT TO REPARATION OF SELECTED ITALIAN REGIONS
 PHILIPPI, AND ALIMIA. PLANNING MAJOR DR. ALAS ON ARRIVAL ITALY TO CONTACT LT
 COL. QUINNITH ARMY - US COMMISSION ADV IN ACC AND WILL ARRANGE LIAISON WITH ITALIAN
 SURVEYS COMMAND

ACC D-1
 INFO SHADY G/R
 DSD CG
 CA IR

ARMY SC (LADG.)
 ARMY SC (LADG.)
 ARMY IR
 FIDS
 FLOT

This is cable
 last 6 lines
 please abort.

Janice
W.A.

JUNO 133

5763

SECRET

13 June 1944
 File 2

TRANSLATION NO. 677 - Pfc. BONANNI -

(26)

COMANDO SUPREMO

7 June 1944

Unit: Operations Office

TO: A.C.C.

File No. 13528/OP.

Subject: Garibaldi Division and Italian soldiers fighting in Jugoslavia
with Partisan Units.

This Comando Supremo has been able to ascertain that the following Italian forces are at present operating side by side with partisan Units of the Army of Liberation:

- The Garibaldi Division - under the II Corpus
- The Garibaldi Battalion - under the I Proletarian Brigade.
- The Matteotti Battalion - under the III Proletarian Brigade.
- Numerous groups of military distributed among the various partisan units.
- Numerous military isolated and dispersed, who have found refuge with various private individuals as workers.

The A.C.C. knows very well the difficult conditions to which Italian Officers and soldiers at present in the Balkans are subjected because of the deficiency of food, clothing, equipment, medicine, etc.

The heavy losses suffered in battle and the acute sufferings endured have influenced the physical status and morale of these men who, having given their oath, follow their commanders' orders, refusing to surrender to the Germans.

I believe it is absolutely necessary to provide in some way for

- 2 -

(23)

these brave soldiers whose efforts, though of an individual character, make up the contribution of the Italian Armed forces to the Allied cause against the common enemy. It is indispensable that they hear the voice and the aid of the Fatherland, so that they remain unwavering in that faith which they have chosen voluntarily from the very beginning.

I am of the opinion that a good beginning for the solution of the problem would be to send an ITalian Military Mission to the Supreme Command of the Jugoslav Partisan Army of Liberation (Marshal Tito).

The tasks of this mission could, in general, be the following:

- Examine the needs of our soldiers;
- Submit to and obtain from the Supreme Command of the J.P.A.L. (Partisan Army) all those measures of a material and moral nature which could be executed within the Partisan Army itself and in the interest of the individual soldier;
- Suggest to the Italian Comando Supremo those measures which are apt to inform our soldiers that the Italian Authorities follow their tidings, their life, appreciate their sacrifices and look after their material and spiritual needs;
- concretize, in accord with the Supreme Command of the Partisan Army, the procedure for the repatriation of those military needing medical care and rest, and who can no longer contribute effectively to the fight.

The military mission, leaded by a Colonel, would be composed of 4 or 5 officers and various mixed personnel for liason services, and furnished with radio equipment to establish communications with the units deployed with the partisans, and with the Italian Comando Supremo.

I trust that the above proposal, submitted with the purpose of increasing to the maximum the Italian contribution to the fight against

70

- 3 -

24

the Germans and of meeting the requirements, of a material and, above all, a spiritual nature of the many Italian soldiers scattered throughout Jugoslavia, will find in the Commission the support necessary to surmount those difficulties which could come in the way of its practical application.

3760

785020

SECRETAdv Army SC
(Rear HQ)
S-3408²⁰ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/thh

G-5: 091.711-1 (Italy)

28 May 1944

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italians from Greece and Albania

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to MGS 091.711 of 12 April and to cable from this Headquarters F 42273 of 6 May (MC OUT 1428) which was repeated to you. In answer to the latter cable Mideast have replied in their O/05535 of 26 May. This latter cable was apparently not repeated to you and a copy is accordingly attached for your information.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

*Jackman*T. B. JACKMAN,
Major.*HEADQUARTERS*
30 MAY 1944
*A C. C.*Incl:
as above

(Note: Attached cable has been given same distribution as F 42273 and referenced)
(ADS (M))

5759

SECRET

SECRET**SECRET EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET****AMFOSSA
MESSAGE CENTER**561
18**INCOMING MESSAGE**JCJC
508/27
TOO: 261920ATSC N 127/27
270145
WED**ROUTINE**

FROM: MIDEAST

TO : FREEDOM

REF NO THIS MESSAGE: 0/05535, 26 May 1944

Ref ID: A6781

For FEGCT.

Your F/42273 of 6 May.

1. We had hoped it might be possible to devise some arrangements which would materially relieve Force 133 of commitment which is not properly theirs and which seriously embarrasses their legitimate activities. In view conclusions stated your sig under reference, we will now proceed in accordance your para 1 D and E.

2. Your para 1 B. Under their present instructions Force are not permitted evacuate Italian personnel. We have therefore instructed them refer matter again to TROOPERS for decision and you will be informed result.

3. Your para 1 C. It is not practicable to form Italians into Guerilla bands because FLAS do not trust them and merely seize any arms which we give to them. Italians are dispersed when employment can be found for them. Otherwise they have to remain concentrated for ease of maintenance.

4. Your para 3. Major DE SALIS will be arriving at ACC HQ shortly under arrangements made by Force 133.

5758

MC IN 16450

SECRET

15

SECRET EQUALS BRITISH MOST SECRET

COPY NO.

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

FOOTNOTE: F-42273 MC OUT 1428 6/5/44 G-3
HAS BEEN RELAYED TO AFHQ ADV CP

AFHQ Dist
ACTION: G-3

INFO: SGS
G-5
'A' FORCE
G-2
IS & PS
MR MACMILLAN
MR MURPHY
MAAF
CINC MED
USN
AG RECORDS
62

Acc Dist

INFO - Secy GEN |
Dir C C |
Army SC (HECCE) |
Adv Army SC (Rear HQ) |
Army U.O. |
FILE |
FLOAT |

Reference General Infante's letter 12978 dated 11 May 44. (17)

Reference General Infante's letter 12978 dated 11 May 44.

In a discussion with General Infante in which Marshal Messe joined, I explained what Force 266 had told me. Namely, that for security reasons, they could not have Italians collecting at Ports or Points where ships were calling on the Balkan coast. Would continue to pick up the odd persons as and when possible. Would gladly bring back any special people asked for. Considered that all Italians working with or near the "Mission" should not return to Italy for the present.

In Albania and Greece all Italian Nationals should stay put - Join guerrilla bands - and should be instructed not to try and make their way across Albania into the Balkans.

It was considered that the matter should rest until De Salis reported when the question could again be discussed.

22 May 44

5757

TRANSLATION NO. 420 Bonanni

Comando Supremo
File No. 12978

11 May 1944

TO: Lt. Col. G. W. QUINSMITH
Army Sub-Commission

Dear Col. QuinSmith,

In our conversations of 27 April in support and clarification of what was reported in letter 12351 of 11 April from the Comando Supremo, I called your attention to the very serious conditions of Italian soldiers who, not having desired to go on the side of the Germans, have been left in ALBANIA and in GREECE.

I told you that we realised very well the difficulties in the way of a repatriation on a large scale due to the fact that the Italian soldiers in order to live, are scattered in small Groups in towns and villages, where they engage in agricultural work, thus aiding the population itself, and due also to the presence of German forces which are active in defending the coast.

However, I pointed out that it would be feasible to permit all ships, Allied and Italian, which anchor at any time on the Balkan coast, to bring back home all those Italians who might be found in the neighborhood of the coast, as it was done with some success along the coast of ALBANIA during the months of January and February. And that at any rate it would be possible to send an Italian officer, chosen from those already there, to all the Allied missions already in Albania and Greece. His job would be to organise, within possible limits, small evacuations based on an estimate of ship movements, as it has already been done in Southern Albania.

Now, with letter Q3364 of 4 May, you communicate that according to the latest information coming from Albania the "Firenze" Division and the Alpine Troops in Albania under the command of Gen. AZZI have been scattered and partly evacuated by the Germans and therefore it would not be advisable to send an Italian mission, or establish a radio connection with Albania.

Other information gathered from the questioning of repatriates confirms that the situation in Albania has become considerably worse. This being due to the fact that the Germans, probably expecting an Allied landing, have intensified considerably their watch along the coast, particularly south of VALONA, and terrorised the population to such an extent that whenever there have been small groupings of Italians near the coast, the Albanians themselves have reported the fact, causing the capture of all the Italians.

It must be then admitted that at least for the time being it is not possible to continue the clandestine evacuation of Italians from Albania.

On the other hand, it seems that we would try to do something in Greece. It is indeed to that sector that the Comando supremo's letters referred when it requested that ours and Allied ships be permitted to bring home all the Italians that came on the coast.

In this regard we do not have precise and detailed information. Perhaps Maj. DE BALIS' return will furnish some useful information and permit an evacuation, although on a smaller scale, but at least continuous.

575

7850204993 (b)

I must, however, point out that we are unable to make lists of specialists as the Allied Command desires, because the Italian soldiers are dispersed, and because of the tragic happenings of the last eight months it is absolutely impossible to have any information in their regard. Some information could be gotten from the Allied missions in Greece. However, it would be difficult to have the personnel come from MACEDONIA or from TESSAGLIA to PELOPONNESE and EPIRO. On the other hand, it would be inhuman to refuse those few persons that are already near the embarkation point.

To conclude, while awaiting the arrival of Maj. DE SALIS, after which we could meet the problem with some definite information, what can be done for the present is simply to authorise Allied or Italian ships which whenever they should enter a Balkan port to transport back to Italy those Italians that might have come there.

Divisional Commander
Adolfo Infante

575

Notes on interview with Gen. Infante pm 27 Apr. (14)

12639 Recovery of Ital. pers. in Greece & Albania.

I.A. 1 Greece has no sup. no liais. A few have been brought across; many waiting. I.Navy try to pick up a few when they are there.

Suggest liaison bodies be set up to comb localities & collect people at certain places on coast. Organise pick-up.

(Seen DCC 27th: cable sent Freedom).
para 2d: many are disarmed and have lost uniforms & amn. Wandering about.

para. 4d. Out of control.

5. de Salis to come when C.S. will arrange a directive. If necess. CS can later send offr. over to see how scheme works. Suggest some offrs already in Albania are attd. to dets. there of Allied Mission. (Ital. have 200 offrs at least there). Dets organise sabotage etc inward & also org. evac. outwards. We might do the same farther south. Such action was not possible before in Greece owing to civil strife.

In general : Want a positive organisation for future. Let Navy always be ready to pick up anyone thereabouts. These few will not add seriously to the situation in Italy.

Rearmament stores sent in should be increased.

11762 Montenegro.

Gen Oxilia was there and knows situation. Ital planes sent thereto help Partisans do not help Italian nationals. (Grouse). 266 say this is because their PLAN must not be upset. Suggest plan modified to allow natural inclination to help.

Weather may have been bad but it did not stop help to the Partisans.

Berane was captured by the enemy and all stores not used were lost.

12578 Oxilia is expert.

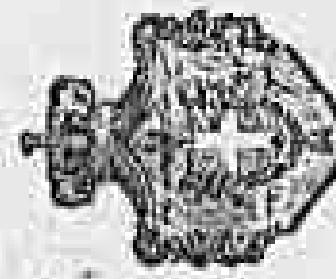
12621 1st para : now has been complied with.

Suggests British use Ital. planes to supply Ital.

Dropping places must be changed with situation.

5754

785020



COMANDO SUPREMO

10912 / 11 Dec 1940.

Capo Ord. Comunale,

Nell'ultima nostra conversazione del 27 aprile e rinforzata e schiarita
nella di quanto segnalato con la lettera 12351 dell'Ufficio del Comune
al Supremo, le nostre truppe sempre più severe dedi-
ciarsi bellicosi che, per aver voluto messere ai tedeschi, sono rime-
tti condannati all'abbandono in Grecia.

Le nostre truppe come eravamo venivamo tenute conoscenza delle diffe-
renti di un'imperazione su grande scala dato il fatto che' il nostro Stato
di Venezia, non era disseminato di vicoli strapiù in tutti i nos-
tri villaggi, dove si trovavano in levigati agrodolci in alcuni di essi
se no solazzanti, e date le grosse dimensioni di questi ultimi
nella discesa costiera.

Ho fatto fare presente come sarebbe stato in ogni modo onorevole
no corse, fare a tutte le navi, silente ed italiane, che comunque si fosse
debolito quelle coste veneziane, di trasportare in patria tutte quelle
familiari che fossero stati travolti in prossimità delle coste, analogo
mente a quando ci fu, successo si è veduto sotto sulle coste della
noi nel mese di gennaio, settembre 1940; che ad ogni modo si sarebbe po-
tuto, presso tutte le coste italiane, esistenti sia in Adriatico che

785020

stati sovietici in Libano e in Grecia.

Le ho accennato come avveniva verosimilmente quanto dall'area
della Tripolitania su grande scala fino all'alto delle Alpi fino
a Trilegia, dove si troggiava in larghi affioramenti in tutti i case-
ni di localazioni, e dato la presenza di forze tedesche sempre più attive
nelle diverse costiere.

No nello stesso presente caso sarebbe stato in ogni modo opportuno
di consegnare a tutte le truppe, uffiziate ed italiene, che comunque appro-
dassero sulle coste balcaniche, di trasmettere in tutta fretta tutti quegli
avvertimenti possibili perché trovate in possesso di un certo successo si è verificato sulla costa adriati-
ca nei mesi di gennaio, febbraio u.s.; che ad ogni modo si sarebbe po-
tuto, presso tutte le coste e alleate già esistenti sia in Albania che
in Grecia, far volare un velivolo italiano scelto fra quelli già su
posto, col compito di coordinare nel limite del possibile l'azione
contro il movimento previsto di navi, come in pratica
è avvenuto con vertice nell'Albania meridionale.

Che dire nella sede 364 del 4 maggio emessa da
secondo la ultime informazioni provenienti dall'Albergo La Div. "Meyer" =
"Z" e 20 truppe italiane esterse in varie avventure dei tedeschi a che per-
ci servivano stava diverso e in varie avventure dei tedeschi a che per-

3753

785020

Foglio N. 2

(13a)
493

tanto l'arrivo di una missione strutturata o quanto meno un nostro collegamento con l'Africa non era ritenuto opportuno.

Altre informazioni o noi venivute attraverso l'interrogatorio dei militari, confermano che la situazione in Algeria si è sensibilmente aggravata, perché a teleschi, probabilmente per tempi di uno sbocco alleato, hanno notevolmente intensificato le violenze costiere, specie a sud di Valone, a terrorizzato a tal punto la popolazione, che ogni qual volta si è verificato un piccolo assentramento di italiani in prossimità delle coste, gli stessi hanno immediatamente fatto, provocando lo scattare di tutti gli italiani.

Sì deve pertanto riconoscere che, almeno per il momento, dell'Algeria non sembra possibile controllare e vincere clandestini affiliati italiani.

Sembra invece che in Grecia qualcosa sia ancora possibile tentare; ed è quanto a tal settore che in particolare si riferiscono le lettere 905 e 906 del Comando Supremo che venisse consentito alle forze nostre ed alleate di trasportare in patria tutti gli italiani affluiti in quelle coste.

Non si hanno in proposito notizie precise se tuttavia il ritorno del generale De Solla visto il forte termine utili dati a consentire l'evacuazione di una evacuazione, sia pure a scalo rivotato, ma continua. Debbo però subito far presente che non si è in grado di formulare

Si deve verificare riconoscere che, almeno per il momento, dell'AL=
unica non sono possibili contingenze evacuazione clandestina degli I= Ateliers.

Sembra invece che in Grecia qualche sia stata possibile tentat= ve; ed è appunto a tal settore che in particolare si riferiscono le ist= teme con cui il Comando Supremo richiedeva che venisse consentito alle navi nesse ed alleate di trasportare in patria tutti gli italiani afflitti= ti sulle coste.

Non si hanno in proposito notizie precise di dettaglio; il ritor= no del maggiore De Salis potrebbe forse fornire utili dati e consigliate l'autizzazione di una evacuazione, sia pure a scade richiesta, ma continua.

Debo però subito far presente che non si è in grado di fornire= la lista di aereali visti come il Comando Alleato desidererebbe, perché i= assolutamente possibile avere alcuna indennazione al riguardo.

Quel che dunque forse potrà essere chiesto alla missione greca= te in Grecia: tra gerarchie designate fare sufficie pensabile ad es. dalla Macedonia o delle zone già in poligonosso od in Siria. D'altra parte se= vedrà risultato presto che quei pochi elementi che già si trovano nel seg= gno del posto di riferimento.

✓.

785020

Foglio N.

La conclusione, la stessa dell'autore del maggiore De Salis
e delle sue connate è dunque con qualche detto sì vero, si
che le sostanziali leggi della legge di controllazione delle
condizioni dovute allo scorrere del tempo sono quelle che
sono state stabilite da Léonard e da altri, e cioè che
quale che sia la legge di controllo delle cose, l'origine
della legge di controllo delle cose deve essere la legge
della sostanziale legge di controllo delle cose.

THE HISTORY OF THE GENEALOGY OF THE HOUSE OF BRUNSWICK-LÜNEBURG



{ 731

785020

SECRET HEADQUARTERS

9-MAY-1944

A. C. C.

4/07 15/07

SECRET

NONE

FREEDOM SGD SAC

MIDEAST RPTD ACC SOUTO FORCE 266

S-3084-28999

Army Salerno
11

4987

MAY061100

"

PA 2273

FHGCT

6/11/44

PARA. 1. QUESTION OF ITALIANS IN GREECE AND ALBANIA. REFERENCE YOUR MIL/11 OF 17TH MARCH FROM SECRETARY MNDC ENCLOSING APPRECIATION BY FORCE 133, HAS BEEN ANSWERED FULLY IN CONSULTATION WITH ABLE FORCE, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION AND REASSESSMENT MINISTER. CONCLUSION AS FOLLOWS:—
 A. ~~MIX~~ NO REPEAT NO LARGE SCALE EVACUATION PRACTICABLE OR DESIRABLE ON GROUNDS OF SECURITY.
 B. SMALL NUMBER SPONTANEOUS COULD HOWEVER BE USEFULLY REPATRIATED FOR DUTY WITH ITALIAN ARMY UNITS.
 C. AS IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPATRIATE LARGE NUMBERS, ITALIANS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED IF POSSIBLE TO FORM THEMSELVES INTO GUERRILLA BANDS. FAILING THIS DISPERSE AND EMPLOYMENT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.
 D. ITALIANS IN GREECE SHOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM DRAFTING INTO ALBANIA AS TO DO SO WITHOUT HOPE OF REPATRIATION AND MATTERIALLY TO DIFFICULTIES THERE.
 E. ALLIED MISSIONS IN THE FIELD SHOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE FINANCIAL AID WHERE POSSIBLE.
PARA. 2. CONSIDERED HERE THAT APPROACH TO GERMAN GOVERNMENT THROUGH NEUTRAL POWER WOULD BE TOO LONG AND TOO CUMBERSOME AND WOULD IN ANY CASE BE UNLIKELY TO LEAD TO ANY PRACTICAL RESULT.
PARA. 3. ITALIAN HIGH COMMAND HAS AGREED TO LIAISON VISIT OF MAJOR DE SALVO. HE SHOULD REPORT TO ACC HEADQUARTERS ON ARRIVAL.

ACC RPT10 AM—
Relevant file—last (Viterbo)
A.S. 1st Lt. of Subversive Group in Bari clip
of this to A.S. 365

Wife—See Plan

D.C.W.

Army Secy.

Salvo 350

L.C.

Feli
float

WJ

785020

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONSECRETQS365

(10)

486

3 May 1944

SUBJECT: Italian soldiers in Albania and Greece.

TO : Military Government Section, A.F.H.Q., APO 512

Reference your MGS 091.711 of 12 April as stated
in the cable of 27 April.

The Italian Supreme Command welcome the suggestion
of a conference with Major DE SALIS. They are preparing a
list of specialists whose repatriation is desirable. It is
pointed out however, that General INFANTE with whom this
matter has been discussed is now Deputy Chief of the General
Staff, Italian Supreme Command. At the same time there should
be no difficulty in arranging liaison to see that the points
enumerated in para 2 of your letter are implemented in con-
junction with the appropriate Allied authorities.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Lt. Col.

(G. W. QUINSMITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters

Copy to:

Army Sub-Comm., Main HQ.
(AMIA) LEGUILE (LEGCE).

5740

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONSECRET

QS366

3 May 1944

480

Dear General Infante:

With regard to our conversation on the visit of Major DE SALIS from ALBANIA, I append herewith the list of the letter from Allied Force Headquarters in regard to this matter:

- a. That no large scale evacuation of the soldiers is practicable or from the security point of view desirable nor would the food situation in Italy allow of the present repatriation of large numbers of troops.
- b. That small numbers of specialists, however, from such forces could usefully be repatriated to Italy for duty with the Italian Army units.
- c. That it is necessary that it be impressed on such forces in Greece that they must not drift into Albania, as to do so without hope of repatriation adds materially to the difficulties of the situation there.
- d. That as it is impossible to repatriate large numbers it is the duty of the soldiers to do all they can in the countries in which they at present find themselves to help the war effort in the most expedient manner, e.g., by formation of guerilla bands, and not to concentrate in areas where they cause embarrassment to forces which are fighting on the Allied side. 1)

I have no information as to the date Major DE SALIS is likely to arrive but after he has discussed the matter with the Comando Supremo and is furnished with the proper authority, there is no doubt he will be able to give considerable assistance in the necessary organisation for repatriating such individuals as is practicable.

The Headquarters letter asks that lists be prepared forthwith of specialists whose repatriation you can accept so that the arrangements can be completed on Major DE SALIS' arrival. The letter added that you should go back to Albania to see that arrangements are properly implemented in conjunction with the appropriate military authorities. It has however been pointed out to Allied Force Headquarters that you have now been appointed Deputy Chief of the General Staff, Italian Supreme Command. There will however be no difficulty, I take it, in arranging the necessary liaison when the time comes.

Yours,

General Adolfo INFANTE
Deputy Chief of General Staff
Comando Supremo

WJ
Lt. Col.
(G. W. QUINSMITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters

S E C R E T

'jim

Q3333

(44)

(8)

28 April 44

SUBJECT:- Italian Personnel in Greece and Albania.
(Ref 12639/OP of 25 Apr and 12203/Op of 8 Apr)

TO : - His Excellency Marshal of Italy Messe,
Chief of the Supreme General Staff.

Your Excellency:

1. I have to acknowledge your letter, 12639/OP of 25th April. The question was discussed with General Infant at Rear HQ. A.C.C. yesterday, 27th April.
Army Headquarters has now suggested that a liaison officer (Major de Salis) should be sent over from the Balkans to formulate a plan in conjunction with the Comando Supremo. A cable has therefore been sent requesting that he report here as soon as possible.
2. With regard to your letter of 8 April, this matter like the above, will be represented to the authorities at Bari at the same time as the above matter is taken up. Information thus obtained will therefore be available for conference with Major de Salis.

For the Chief Commissioner:

(U)

Lt. Col.

(G. W. QUINSMITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters.

12639 411203

5747

U.S. SECRET Equals B. MOST SECRET

ARM
GS/J1m

SECRET
ROUTINE
ACC REAR
FREEDOM RPTD MMIA

29 APR 1948

SERIAL NO.

(451)

178
2684
APR
APR

REFERENCE LETTER NUMBER MGS ZERO NINE ONE POINT SEVEN ONE ONE
 OF ONE TWO APRIL PD TO FREEDOM RPTD MMIA RLF YOUR G SLANT ONE
NINE SLANT FIVE FROM ACC REAR FROM QUINSMITH SIGNED MAGPARLANE
 PD ITALIAN SUPREME COMMAND CONCURS PD DE BALIS SHOULD REPORT
 ACC HQ ON AR IVAL

AUTENTICATED:


 P. J. CHIOCCA
 CWO, USA
 Asst Adj
DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 Army SC
- 1 DCC
- 1 DSG
- 1 Ag File

5746

U.S. SECRET Equals B. MOST SECRET

SECRET

QS332

27 April 1944 (6)

TO: Deputy Chief Commissioner.

Reference attached. I have interviewed Gen. INFANTE and he agrees that if Major DE SALIS can be sent over, a plan can be worked out with the Comando Supremo.

A draft cable to FREEDOM is attached for approval:

"SECRET
ROUTINE
FATIMA REAR
FREEDOM

REFERENCE LETTER NUMBER MGS 091.711 OF 12 APRIL.
ITALIAN SUPREME COMMAND CONCURS.. DE SALIS SHOULD
REPORT ACC HQ ON ARRIVAL."

J. A. Smith Lt. Col.

Incls.

G/19/5 of 20 April.
MGS 091.711 of 12 April.

3745

27 Apr

785020

RESTRICTED
 ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
 INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : 6/28
 Classification : RESTRICTED
 Precedence : ROUTINE *Priority*
 From : FREEDOM SGD CINC
 To : ACC MAIN

Date Time Rec'd APR261517B
 Date Time Sent APR261319B
 Reference NR F37678
 Cite FHMGS

8069
S2622
(S4)

REPLY STILL AWAITED TO SUBJECT MATTER REFERRED TO IN OUR F34106.

REQUEST IMMEDIATE REPLY AS MATTER HELD UP PENDING RECEIPT YOUR VIEWS

REF - VIP

*This is cable 11. Previous letter about division
 of US troops in Balkans - awaiting cable*

ACC DIST

ACTION: ARMY SC (REAR HQ) *attd - file in*

INFO : SECY GEN *suspense file*

DEP CC

FILE

FLOAT

HEADQUARTERS
 28 APR 1944
A. C. C.

NOTE BY ADJ MAIN HQ:

CONFIRMED ON TELEPHONE THAT REPLY HAS BEEN DISPATCHED TODAY BY ARMY SC (REAR HQ)

ACTION COPY

5714

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT: Italian soldiers in Albania S E C R T (5b)
and Greece

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE)
G/19/5

20 Apr 44

Army Sub Commission (ACC) Adv HQ
SALERNO

(4619)

Copy to: HQ ACC

1. Attached letter, MGS: O91.711 of 12 Apr 44, from Military Government Section AFHQ, is passed to you for action since it concerns the Supreme Command, and it is possible that all three Italian services are involved.
2. If there is no objection, please cable agreement to AFHQ vide para 5 of attached letter.
3. Since writing above, HQ ACC have informed us that MGS AFHQ have signalled for an urgent cable reply to their letter. Will you therefore take action as quickly as possible.

Please forward in Paddington

Franklin L'Col

Maj Gen,
Army Sub Comm A,C.C.

CGL.

o 713

785020



ACTION —— ARMY SC (LIECCCE)
SECRET

urgent.

S-1620
HP/TBJ/jjr

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Military Government Section

(40)

MGS: 091.711

12 April 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Soldiers in Albania and Greece.

TO : HQ A.C.C.

(4700)

1. This Section has received from Mid-east an appreciation concerning Italians (soldiers) known to be in Greece and Albania which has been prepared with a view to exploring the practicability of relieving the Allied Military Missions in the field of responsibility for maintaining such Italians which are said to number some 10,100 in Greece and some 20,000 in Albania.

2. The appreciation has been considered by G-3, "A" Force and the Ministers here and the following points appear:-

a). That no large scale evacuation of the soldiers is practicable or from the security point of view desirable nor would the food situation in Italy allow of the present repatriation of large numbers of troops.

b). That small numbers of specialists, however, from such forces could usefully be repatriated to Italy for duty with the Italian army units.

c). That it is necessary that it be impressed on such forces in Greece that they must not drift into Albania, as to do so without hope of repatriation adds materially to the difficulties of the situation there.

d). That as it is impossible to repatriate large numbers it is the duty of the soldiers to do all they can in the countries in which they at present find themselves to help the war effort in the most expedient manner, e.g., by formation of guerilla bands, and not to concentrate in areas where they cause embarrassment to forces which are fighting on the allied side.

5712

785020

SECRET

(4b)

3. It is understood that General Infante and four staff officers who have come out of Greece through Albania are in Italy and that Force 266 are willing to make available Major de Salis for a Liaison visit to the Italian Government. The latter officer is stated to be "persona grata" with the King of Italy and could with the proper authority and in conjunction with General Infante greatly assist in the necessary organization for repatriating such as it is practicable to deal with.

4. It appears therefore that the matter should be tackled on the following lines:-

a). The visit of Major de Salis should be approved.

b). That General Infante and his staff should stay until after Major de Salis' arrival.

c). That lists should be prepared forthwith of the specialists whose repatriation could be accepted and arranged and that arrangements for this be worked out in conjunction with Major de Salis and General Infante.

d). That the points made in 2 above be impressed on General Infante and that he go back ultimately to see that they are implemented in conjunction with the appropriate Allied Military authorities.

5. Will you please indicate by cable whether you concur in the above in order that Mideast may be informed and arrangements be made for Major de Salis to come over to you.

(Signature)

(T.B.JACKMAN MAR)

f HENRY PARKMAN, JR.
Lt. Colonel, G.S.C.
Acting Chief of Section. 5711

SECRET

785020

TRANSLATION NO. 297 Bonanni

SECRET

APRIL 25, 1944

(3)

SURREME COMMAND
OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

TO: A.C.C.

FILE NO. 12639/OP

4751

SUBJECT: Rescue of Italian personnel in GREECE and ALBANIA.

Further to letter 12351/OP of 11th April. 25 APR.

In reference to what has been previously communicated to the Commission, I wish to inform you that recently, too, the operations of repatriating Italians from the Greek and Albanian coasts have had a completely negative result.

Again the situation occurred wherein Italian soldiers were ready to embark in landing points and were left behind by order of the English authorities. An Italian soldier succeeded in getting on a motor torpedo boat by having himself taken for an Albanian.

One can well imagine what feelings such happenings arouse in the hearts of those unfortunate Italians who see themselves rejected even by Italian ships and who are guilty only of not having been won over by German enticements. One can likewise imagine the bitterness of the crews of our ships assigned to such services.

I direct my urgent request to the Commission to examine this question and permit that, operations be organised with the exclusive task of rescuing our countrymen, without interfering with similar operations that Italian ships are carrying out on behalf of the Allies.

ref with Balkan paper

Marshal of Italy

Chief of General Staff

/s/ Giovanni Messe

5741

12639

Acted 28 Apr.

12639

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

40/mms

QS261

18 April 1944

SUBJECT: Recovery of Italian Personnel in GREECE and
ALBANIA. (Reference your 12351/OP of 11 April).TO : His Excellency Marshal of Italy Messe,
Chief of the Supreme General Staff.

Your Excellency:

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter referred to above. I shall shortly be proceeding to BARI where I will interview the authorities concerned with this matter. On my return I shall be able to give you further information.

I note your offer to sending an Italian officer to assist in repatriation if required.

For the Chief Commissioner:

WJ Lt. Col.

(G. W. QUINSMITH)
Army Sub-Commission
Advanced Headquarters

File Copy to C.C. for info.
attach H.M.'s letter (English)
Forward to our file.

5739

Dated 18 Apr.

TRANSLATION No.197.

Rough Copy.

SECRET

The Supreme Command

Operational Section

Ref. No. 12351/OP.

Subject: Recovery of Italian
Personnel in Greece and Albania.

PM 151, 11 April 1944.

To: The Allied Control Commission

[Handwritten signature]

- ①
- 1)- The balance sheet of the recovery of Italian personnel in Greece and Albania is unfortunately very low. Considering the thousands of Italian soldiers who are wandering in those countries in tragic conditions for not having wanted to surrender to the Germans as we have heard from many reliable sources, very few are those who have been repatriated.
 - 2)- Having brought my attention to the reasons of the lack of success of ~~military~~ operations which are a duty to us, I have been able to realise that some of the reasons for the lack efficiency cannot be eliminated; for example the shortness of moonlit periods render it possible to carry out operations only a few nights in the month, the limitation of meteorological conditions, as the operations nearly always/take place on open coast lines, etc..
 - 3)- There are, however, other causes that could be eliminated if the problem were examined once again ~~if~~ and if all sections who are interested in these repatriations would display their maximum efforts to this end. For instance I was very concerned to hear that on the "Ardimentoso" which on the 20 March 44 accomplished a mission of recovery to the Peloponnesus, there was room for at least an other hundred men, and many Italian soldiers who appeared at the embarkation point were forbidden to embark by the British. It appears even that the allies searched the ship for two Italian soldiers ~~who=had=embarked=and=were=still=aboard~~.

it possible to carry out operations only a few nights in the month,
the limits of meteorological conditions, as the operations nearly
always/take place on open coast lines, etc..

3)-There are, however, other causes that could be eliminated if the
problem were examined once again ~~if~~ and if all sections who are
interested in these repatriations would display their maximum
efforts to this end.

For instance I was very concerned to hear that on the "Ardimentoso"
which on the 20 March 44 accomplished a mission of recovery to
the Peloponnesus, there was room for at least an other hundred men,
and many Italian soldiers who appeared at the embarkation point
were forbidden to embark by the British.

It appears even that the allies searched the ship for two Italian
soldiers ~~who=had=been=detained=and=were=still=hidden~~ stowaways.

I shall be grateful to the Allied Commission, who I am certain
understand the purely humanitarian object of these recoveries,
if it would examine the question (indicating at the same time
what could be done by the Italian side to improve the efficiency),
and if it would arrange, through the Allied Authorities, to eliminate the causes that given rise to the painful episodes mentioned above.

If considered necessary I would be very pleased to send from
time to time in the various zones some Italian Officer who could
with circumspection do the searching for, assistance and repatria-
tion of the a.m. Italian personnel.

The Marshal of Italy
Chief of General Staff
Signed: Giovanni Messe

Translators' Pool:L.E.Z.
12/14/44.

1135