

ACC

10000 1120 15691

IPW/22

ITALIAN ARMY IN THE BALKANS

Jan. - May 1945

N ARMY IN THE BALKANS

II 101 - 200

5844
5745

IPW/22/200

7 July 1945

Subject: Rations for Italian Military Lodging Centers
in Yugoslavia - Base of Ragusa.

To : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512, U.S. Army
Attn: G-5 Section

- 1/. Attached herewith translation of letter received from the Italian Ministry of War, Autonomous Office for War Veterans and Repatriated Prisoners of War, No. 411268/RPGR dated 5 July 45.
- 2/. Due to the urgency of this matter a signal was despatched this morning after my conversation over the phone with Col. Jackman.
- 3/. Will you please notify this office of any action taken, so that the Ministry of War may be informed.

For the Chief Commissioner:

15/ Col. Regis
J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WMD & IPOW Sub-Com.

Incl. Translation of letter as above.

5945

FILE

C O P Y

200
 Coll. - am. 7/7/45
 Major Boenman 666

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERSQ(MAINT) BRANCH

SUBJECT:- Evacuation of Italian
Army Personnel from JUGOSLAVIA.

AFHQ/1181/3/Q(Maint)ST30 March 45.

After the move of the GARIBOLDI Division from DUBROVNIK a considerable number of Italian military stragglers are still congregating there.

It has been ruled that food supplies will be despatched for these personnel. Will you please arrange dispatch of 25,000 rations to approximately the Italian Army scale as early as possible. They should be consigned to Rear MACMIS and MACMIS informed of despatch details.

For the purpose of accounting these supplies will be considered a BR-ITI commitment.

War Ministry state:

- last store of rations will be exhausted by mid-July
- average 1000 men per day awaiting shipment at RAGUSA
- request urgent assignment further one month's rations.

/s/ H. McLEAN, Lt.Col.,

(t) H. McLEAN, Lt.Col.,
for Brig Q(Maint).

Copy to:- G-4 (Mov & Tn)
 IMIA

6 July

Shannon

MMIA

5914

ST/62/10

EB/amc.

MINISTRY OF WAR
Autonomous Office for
War Veterans and repatriated POW

Rome 1 July 45

No. 411368/RPGR

TO: Allied Commission
S/C for Italian POW

SUBJECT: Rationing for the Italian military Lodging
center in Yugoslavia (Base of Ragusa)

The Base at Ragusa, that provides for the reception and repatriation of Italian Military personnel in Yugoslavia (more than 30.000 men of the ex division "Garibaldi") have informed us of the urgent need of rations, as the quantity now in their depots will last only to the 18th of July.

They have been re-furnished twice:

From A.F.H.Q. on the 30th of March (attention letter 1181/3/9) assignment of 25.000 rations ordered by the M.M.I.A.

From the 37th Military Mission on the 2nd of May, by order of A.F.H.Q.

We beg your Sub-Commission to benevolently examine this very urgent problem and to send rations to the base of Ragusa as follows:

Flour	120	3.11
Macaroni	60	"
rice	60	"
Sausages	60	"

The lack of these rations would cause an interruption in the repatriation which ~~is~~ at the present moment is in act, and further-more will put thousands of ~~our~~ men in great difficulties for finding food.

In hopes that your Sub-Commission will show your usual comprehension regarding this matter, you are informed that the question has already been reported to Displaced Persons and the repatriation Sub-Commission.

5913

Gen. A. MANZONI

17W
22

JR/amc.

198

193
IPW/22/193

4 July 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military Personnel from
Jugoslavia.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512
Att: G-5

See 173, 172, 171, 24

Reference our letter IPW/1/22/173 dated 15 June,
subject as per above.

May we be informed of any action taken so that we
can inform the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs who seems
to be very anxious about this subject.

For the Chief Commissioner:

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

5912

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

HMD & IPW

Originator's Reference: M 1382
 Date/Time of Origin: JULY 042255

Message Centre No: E/3146
 Date Time Rec'd: JULY 050845
 Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ACC BULGARIA
 TO : AFHQ INFO ALCON

197

RESTRICTED

195 - all 212 - 197

RESTRICTED.

Your FX 16710 of 3rd July.

Please inform us whether your last sentence refers to whole journey SOFIA to destination or travel inside ITALY only. In latter case please state whether this is new procedure and if so on what grounds as we should wish to warn these passengers whose applications appear similar to many previous ones.

Jed

INFO - ACTION

DIST

INFO-ACTION WMD & IPW
 " " DISPER
 INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 C & SEC
 PUB SAFETY SC
 FILE 2
 FLOAT

IPW
22

RESTRICTED

RECEIVED 5944
 5 JUL 1945
 412

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: M 16710

Message Centre No: E/3001

Date/Time of Origin: JULY 3/1726B

Date Time Rec'd: JULY 4/0830B

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AMRO, SIGNED ALEXANDER CIRE FREGI.

TO : ACC BULGARIA (BRIEF DELEGATION) INFO: ALCOM

RESTRICTED.

Reference M 1360 of 29 June. permits approved for serial numbers 98 to 104 all inclusive. travel must be at individuals expense not chargeable to Italian Government

INFO - ACTION

DISTINFO-ACTION : WMD & POW SC
DISPER SCINFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CASEC
PUBLIC SAFETY SC
FILE (2)
FILEAT

RESTRICTED

1PW

22

5940

RESTRICTEDRAC 1766/4648
JUNE 290930BW/7433
JUNE 301410
ROUTINE

BLEN ROMANIA

FREEDOM INFO ALSOIN ROME FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

RESTRICTED.

Our RAC 1853/4648 June 20th.

1. Italian representative today received cable via MOSCOW from his government enquiring about evacuation Italian ex PW's.
2. Presume you will communicate contents our previous telegram to Italian Foreign Ministry.

DISC

ACTION - DISPER SC
 INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 CA SEC
 RMD & POW SC
 FILM 2
 FLOAT

HEADQUARTERS

70 000 445

A. C.

191

1. Italian representative today received cable via MOSCOW from his government enquiring about evacuation Italian ex PW's.
2. Presume you will communicate contents our previous telegram to Italian Foreign Ministry.

HEADQUARTERS

TO: JMW 245

A. C.

DIST

ACTION - DISSEM SC

INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER

CA SEC

WMD & POW SC

FILE 2

PLOAT

RESTRICTED

5930

1914/20

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: FX 97047
Date/Time of Origin: JUNE 211840B

Message Centre No: E/6189
Date Time Rec'd: JUNE 221025
Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: FREEDOM SIGNED SACMED CITE FHGDM
TO : ACTION MAIN ALBAID INFO: MOV BARI, MOV DURAZZO, ALLIED COMMISSION
ROME, 54 AREA, MMIA, MMIA LO TARANTO, ADV ALBAID REAR ALBAID, BMM
ALBANIA

CONFIDENTIAL.

Advise numbers Italian Military and civilian remaining for
evacuation to ITALY.

INFO - ACTION

DIST

INFO-ACTION - IPW SC
INFO - DISPER
INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CA SEC
FILE 2
FLOAT

16-
11111111
24

Wanted N.A.
FER



CONFIDENTIAL

5938

4/8/45
22

EB/amc. (179)

IPW/22/179

23 June 1945

SUBJECT: Italian POW in RagusaTO : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512
(Att: G-5 Section)

1. The attached translation of phonogram dated 22nd June 1945 No.410337 received from the Autonomous Office for War Veterans and repatriated POW is forwarded.
2. I shall be pleased if you will inform me of any action taken.

For the Chief Commissioner:

J.A.CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel,
Director
WAD & MIPW Sub-Comm.

1337

URGENT

Phonogram by hand

22nd June 45

Sender: Autonomous office for War Veterans and Repatriated
POW Rome

To : Sub-Commission for Italian POW & W.M.D.
Allied Commission

No.410337/RPCR Stop We are informed that numerous Italian Military personnel have been a long time at Ragusa (Yugoslavia) who have arrived in that city to be repatriated Stop No practical result has been obtained from depending Balcan office Lecce with local Allied organs for concession of ships for evacuation of about 1000 men before mentioned stop If said individuals are held up much longer they will be without food, we would be pleased if your Sub-Commission would ask AFHQ at Caserta to send a ship to Ragusa to repatriate these Italians stop

General MANNERINI

5936

Wmo & IPW 177

3526.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

KBH/cml

G-5: 254

19 Jun 45

SUBJECT : TUKER CAMP.

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission, APO 394.

See 176/170

Reference your IPW/22/170 dated 13 June 45.

Steps will be taken by this Headquarters to have the two British officers (Captain A.N.C. CAYNES and Lt. R.E. HALL) at present attached to the camp, posted to the War Establishment of Allied Military Governments and Allied Commission.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

*K.B. Hicks*K.B. HICKS,
Lt. Colonel.

Copy to :- 3-District.

5935

IPW
22

WMD & IPW

(176)

3465

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

WDW/cml

G-5: 014.33-67

19 Jun 45

SUBJECT : Repatriation - Italian Military personnel - Toker Camp.

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission, APO 394.
(attn: IPW & WMD Sub Commission).

see 177/170

1. Reference conversation (Lt.Col. Campbell - Lt.Col. Hicks - Major Driffield-White) this is to confirm the understanding that the responsibility for the administration of TUKER camp, near Taranto has been delegated to IPW & WMD Sub Commission by Allied Commission with effect from 13 June 1945.

2. The camp will be used during the period of its continued existence for the reception, processing and dispersal of Italian Military personnel arriving in Italy from Balkan countries.

3. Procedure for notifying dispersal transportation requirements will be as heretofore.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

20 JUN 1945

W. DRIFFIELD-WHITE,
Major.Copy to:- G-3(Orig)
Mov & Tn
Q(Maint)

5934

IPW
22

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Dear Admiral,

I have received your letter IPW/22/187 dated 11 June 1945 and I thank you sincerely for the kind steps you have taken in the matter of repatriation of all Italian soldiers and ex-soldiers now in Japanese hands.

Yours very truly



Dean Admiral
Henry W. STONE

Chief Commissioner

U.S. Allied Commission

ROME

~~SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

6/14/45/479 (175)

WWDN IPow SC

Rome, 14 June 1945

See 166/67

June 1945 and I thank you sincerely for the kind steps
you have taken in the matter of repatriation of all Ita-
lian soldiers and ex-soldiers now in Yugoslavia.

Yours very truly



R. P. Murphy

Rear Admiral
Walter W. Burch

Chief Commissioner

U.S. Armed Commission

ROME

Rec. Inst. - 19 June 45 5533

Action: WFD + POW SC

INFO: CHIEF COMMR
EXEC COMMR

1805
22

(173)

IPW/22/173

15 June 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military personnel
from Yugoslavia

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

See 174/172-195/211/66

1. The attached memorandum from the Italian Government in regard to further information on Italian Military personnel in Yugoslavia is forwarded.
2. This matter was brought to your attention by our letter, subject as above dated the 6th June 1945.
3. Any step which can be taken to comply with the Italian Government's request will be greatly appreciated.

For the Chief Commissioner:

J.A.
J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel,
Director
WMD & IPO Sub-Comm.

5932

O 61F

9/2

EB/amc.

172

IPW/22/172

16 June 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military personnel
from Yugoslavia

TO : Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs

see 171/173

Reference memorandum 6/1650/754 from the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated June 12th, 1945.

The memorandum has been forwarded to higher
authority for consideration, and I shall let you know
of any action taken in due course.

JAC
J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel,
Director
WMD & IPW Sub-Comm.

5931

M/F

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

6/1660 f5H

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia.

Permessi to RPAR chm C.

1. Reference is made to Memorandum N.6/1518/696 of

May 31st.

2. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to forward to the Allied Commission, herewith enclosed, copy of a Note Verbale of the British Embassy at Rome, concerning the Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia.

3. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be very grateful if the Allied Commission will acquaint the proper Allied Authorities with the existence of the labour "battalions" at Belgrade and further their repatriation to Italy in the general framework of the action which is anticipated in favour of the Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia.

4. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs thank the Allied Commission for the steps they will see fit to take in the matter.

Comp

Subject: Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia.

Passed to J.P.A. chas C.
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4. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs thank the Allied Commission for the steps they will see fit to take in the matter.

Carpi

Rome, June 12th. 1945

ENCL.



5933

17 June
(12)
15 June
22

C O P Y

N.V. No. 135
95/14/45

N O T E V E R B A L E

The British Embassy presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and, on instructions from the Foreign Office, has the honour to communicate the following particulars which were supplied to the British Embassy at Belgrade by Tenente Giuseppe SALVETTI, the Senior Italian officer nominally in charge of Italian labour battalions at Belgrade.

2. There are at the present time four Italian labour battalions stationed at Belgrade. Their complement consists of five officers, including a Medical Officer, and 970 other ranks.

OFFICERS

- 1.- Tenente Giuseppe SALVETTI, home Address: 120, Via Faentina, Florence.
Has a wife and father living in Florence.
- 2.- Tenente Renato LOMBARDINI, home address: 12, Via Strinati, Cesena, near Forlì.
Married
- 3.- Tenente Ottavio SALEVA, home address: 6, Via Lo Presti, Agrigento, Sicily.
Has a mother and a sister living at this address.
- 4.- Tenente Giorgio ALESSANDRINI, home address: 46, Via della Pace, Rovigo.
Has a mother and father living at this address.
- 5.- Tenente Medico DI VIRGILIO, home address: will be communicated later by Lieut. Salvetti.

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Has a mother and father living at this address.
- 5.- Tenente Medico DI VIRGILIO, home address: will be communicated later by Lieut. Salvetti.

BATTALIONS

- 1.- The 1st. Battalion. Stationed at Banjica, Belgrade.
Consists of 380 other ranks
- 2.- The 2nd. Battalion. Stationed at Cukarica, a suburb of Belgrade. Consists of 150 other ranks. 3927
- 3.- The 3rd. Battalion. Quartered in a warehouse near the Belgrade railway station. Consists of 100 other ranks.
- 4.- The 4th. Battalion. Stationed in a school in the Dusanova Street, Belgrade. Consists of 340 other ranks

3. There are, besides, about 150 Italian other ranks used for rough work in the various Partisan Ministries and offi-

./.

ces at Belgrade. The total number of Italians in Serbia, Macedonia, Montenegro and in the liberated parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina is estimated by Lieut. Salvetti at 20,000.

4. Of the five officers included in the preceding 1st. Lieut. Di Virgilio of the Medical Service, was taken prisoner by the Germans after the collapse of Italy, and some time in 1944 joined the Partisans. The other four officers belong apparently to the "Venezia" and Taurinense" Division which, after the armistice, formed the "Garibaldi" Division. The latter fought in Montenegro and Bosnia on the side of the Partisans. The four officers were, apparently, in the 1st., 2nd and 3rd. Brigades of the Division, which were transferred to the Bosnian front in February 1944, and, after being decimated by enemy action, illness and cold, were disbanded by the Partisans, the surviving officers and soldiers being incorporated into various Partisan units. After the liberation of Belgrade the officers were sent by the Partisan authorities here, and posted to the Italian labour "battalions".

5. As regards other ranks, some are apparently survivors of the Garibaldi Division, whilst others are deserters from German labour battalion into which they had been drafted after the collapse of Italy.

6. Lieut. Salvetti is most anxious that the Italian Government should be informed about the existence of these Italian labour battalions in Belgrade with a view to steps being taken for their repatriation. He also requested that, if possible, the families of the officers should be informed that they are still alive, as they have had not news since August 1943.

7. According to Lieut. Salvetti the Italian Brigade called "Battaglione Italiano" whose strength was estimated about two

1180

Declassified E.O. 12065 Section 3-402/NNDC NO. 785020

cers were, apparently, in the 1st., 2nd and 3rd. Brigades of the Division, which were transferred to the Bosnian front in February 1944, and, after being decimated by enemy action, illness and cold, were disbanded by the Partisans, the surviving officers and soldiers being incorporated into various Partisan units. After the liberation of Belgrade the officers were sent by the Partisan authorities here, and posted to the Italian labour "battalions".

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7. According to Lieut. Salvetti the Italian Brigade called "Brigade Italia", whose strength was estimated about two months ago at 2,000 men, is fighting side by side with the Partisans on the Slavonian front. This Brigade, which was formed apparently after the fall of Belgrade by Captain Mongilardi, who returned to Italy some time in December last, is now commanded by a Lieut. Marras, the only officer of the Brigade who held a commission in the former Italian army. Battalions and companies are commanded by former N.C.O.s and Corporals. This formation is, according to Lieut. Salvetti, entirely Communist. During the recent German offensive in Slavonia the Brigade is reported to have lost over 25 per cent of its complement.

8. The British Embassy is sending a copy of this Note to the Director of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association for Italy since the information which it contains has already been communicated by the British Embassy at Belgrade to Mr Faber, the local representative of the Displaced Persons Sub-Commission of U.N.R.R.A.

Rome, 23rd May, 1945

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

JAG/ci

IPW/22/47013 June 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Repatriates Camp. TUKER.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512
(Att: C-5 Section - Lt. Col. K. B. HICKS)

174 - See 169/176, 177

Reference your G-5 : 254 dated 5 June 1945.

1. I would confirm my telephone conversation with you, when it was explained that it would be necessary for the Camp at Toker to remain as at present.

2. It is understood that it may be necessary to withdraw the officers who are attached, but at the same time, it is pointed out that no replacements are available at present from Allied Commission reserves. It is therefore requested that the officers should not be withdrawn as at 30 June, but should remain for a further period, so as to cover the period during which the camp will be used in connection with the repatriation of IPW from America - my signal 8199 dated 22 May 1945 refers.

3. In the proposals forwarded in AC, signal 9345 dated 8 June 45 regarding the repatriation of all IPW, the camp at Toker is included as one necessary for the scheme.

For the Chief Commissioner:

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

5928

IPW/22
22

(169)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

G-5: 254

5 Jun 45.

SUBJECT: Italian Repatriates Camp, TUKER.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission ✓
APO 394.*Sec 170.*

The above-mentioned Camp at TUKER was established for the sole purpose of giving temporary accommodation to returned Italian ex-military personnel from the Balkans.

Such personnel are screened by Italian Army Authorities at the Camp prior to re-absorption into or discharge from the Italian Army.

These personnel have been regarded as Displaced Persons for the purpose of their repatriation from the Balkans, but as soon as they are accepted by the Italian Army Authorities at TUKER they are considered to be no longer a Displaced Persons commitment.

Will you therefore please investigate and report on the existing arrangements for the clearance of these personnel in view of recent report that the camp is over crowded.

It is also requested that the question of the employment of British Officers for the administration of this Camp may be ~~examined~~.

At present two officers have been attached to TUKER Camp as an emergency measure from X(4) List. W/Lieut.(T/Capt) A.N.C. CAYNES and W/Lieut. R.E. HALL.

It will not be possible for these officers to remain attached for an indefinite period. It is proposed to withdraw them not later than 30 June for posting to an X(1) List.

-2-

Contd:

In view of this will you kindly notify this Office as soon as possible whether replacements can be made available from Allied Commission resources or whether at the conclusion of the evacuation of Italians ex ALBANIA at the end of this month, you will have no further use for this Camp.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

K.B. Hicks

K.B. HICKS,
Lt-Colonel.

COPY TO: G-1(Er) (your G-1(Er)/428/A9
of 4 Jan refers).
G-3(Orig) (for Major BARNES).

GG/KEH/mcc

5926

Prepared by _____

JAC/lm

(164)

WHD & IPOW S/C.

Ref: IPW/22/167

// June 1945

My dear Mr Prunas :

See 166/165/145

In reply to your letter 19/08720/24 dated 1 June 1945, I have referred the matter to higher authority with the request that everything possible be done to repatriate to Italy all Italian soldiers and ex-soldiers now in Yugoslavia.

As soon as a decision has been made you will, of course, be informed.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Elmer W. Stone

ELMER W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency don Renato Prunas
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Italian Government
Rome

25/6/45.
B/F 523
9c

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

166

LPK/22/1668 June 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Soldiers from Yugoslavia.

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

Sec 167/165 / 21 / 173

1. The attached copies of Memoranda from the Italian Government regarding Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia are forwarded.

2. I have been requested by the Italian Government to examine the position with a view to the early repatriation of all Italians from Yugoslavia. The fear that the political situation of the last few weeks may make the position worse for these Italian soldiers and ex-soldiers, is used as a strong reason for seeking Allied assistance in this matter.

3. Any steps which can be taken to return these Italians to Italy are strongly recommended, and I shall be pleased if you will inform me of any action taken.

For the Chief Commissioner :

(SGP) J. A. CAMPBELL.

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

encls:

Memorandum No. 6/1509/690 dtd 30 May 45.
Memorandum No. 6/1518/696 dtd 31 May 45.

25/6/45
592
B/F
gc

Inform c/comm.

Translation

(165)

State Department

The Secretary General

19/08720/24

Rome, 1 June 1945

Dear Admiral,

I take the liberty of drawing your attention on two memorandums, n. 6/1509/690 and n. 6/1518/689 respectively of the 30th and 31st of May sent by the State Department to the Allied Commission in relation with the question of the repatriation of the Italian soldiers and ex-soldiers who are in Yugoslavia. From the news which we constantly receive, the situation of these people is getting worse and worse because of the inhuman way in which they are treated, and which will probably get worse because of the political situation which arose in the last few weeks.

I shall therefore be most grateful, my dear Admiral, for anything you can do to hasten the return to Italy of the said soldiers.

Yours very truly,

S. R. Prunas

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Allied Commission
R o m e

EC DIST - 4 June

ACTION: WMD & POWS/C

INFO: CHIEF COMMR.

EX COMMR.

e.c.

18W
22

5923

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

6/1518/696 (1657)

Di Piero

Dir. 7.6.45
Regd. No. 37
A. O.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia. See 166/167.

1. Further to our memorandum N.6/1509/390 dated 30 May '45 requesting the interest of the Allied Commission in the repatriation of Italian soldiers from Yugoslavia, whose conditions of life and treatment are a motive of concern to the Italian Government.

2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs have now been informed that the Yugoslav Mission in Bari has stated that the matter of the repatriation of Italian soldiers must be submitted to the Yugoslav Delegation with the Advisory Council for Italy for the necessary authorization.

The above mentioned communication refers specifically to members of the Italian Armed Forces allocated in Spalato and Zara, but it may be assumed that the same procedure can be applied to all members of Italian Armed Forces in Yugoslavia.

3. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be very grateful if the Allied Commission will kindly forward to the above mentioned Yugoslav Delegation with the Advisory Council for Italy the request of the Italian Government intended to obtain the repatriation of all members of the Italian Armed Forces in Yugoslavia, and will interpose its good offices for a favourable decision in the matter.

4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thank the Allied Commission for those steps it will see fit to take in the matter.

requesting the interest of the Allied Commission in the repatriation of Italian soldiers from Yugoslavia, whose conditions of life and treatment are a motive of concern to the Italian Government.

2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs have now been informed that the Yugoslav Mission in Bari has stated that the matter of the repatriation of Italian soldiers must be submitted to the Yugoslav Delegation with the Advisory Council for Italy for the necessary authorization.

The above mentioned communication refers specifically to members of the Italian Armed Forces allocated in Spalato and Zadar, but it may be assumed that the same procedure can be applied to all members of Italian Armed Forces in Yugoslavia.

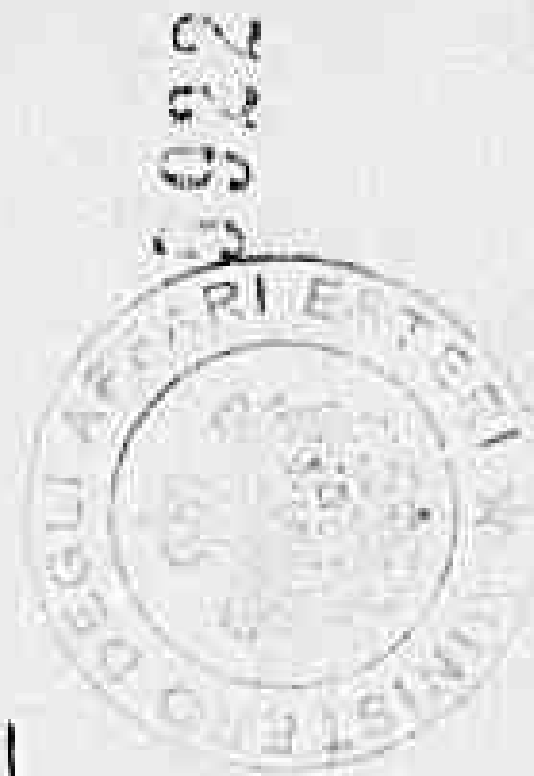
3. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be very grateful if the Allied Commission will kindly forward to the above mentioned Yugoslav Delegation with the Advisory Council for Italy the request of the Italian Government intended to obtain the repatriation of all members of the Italian Armed Forces in Yugoslavia, and will interpose its good offices for a favourable decision in the matter.

4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs thank the Allied Commission for those steps it will see fit to take in the matter and warmly request it to interest the A.F.M.Q. with a view to obtaining the necessary means of transportation for the practical implementation of the repatriation.

Rome, 13 Oct. 1945

13 Oct 1945	
14 Oct 1945	
15 Oct 1945	
16 Oct 1945	
17 Oct 1945	
18 Oct 1945	
19 Oct 1945	
20 Oct 1945	
21 Oct 1945	
22 Oct 1945	
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27 Oct 1945	
28 Oct 1945	
29 Oct 1945	
30 Oct 1945	
31 Oct 1945	

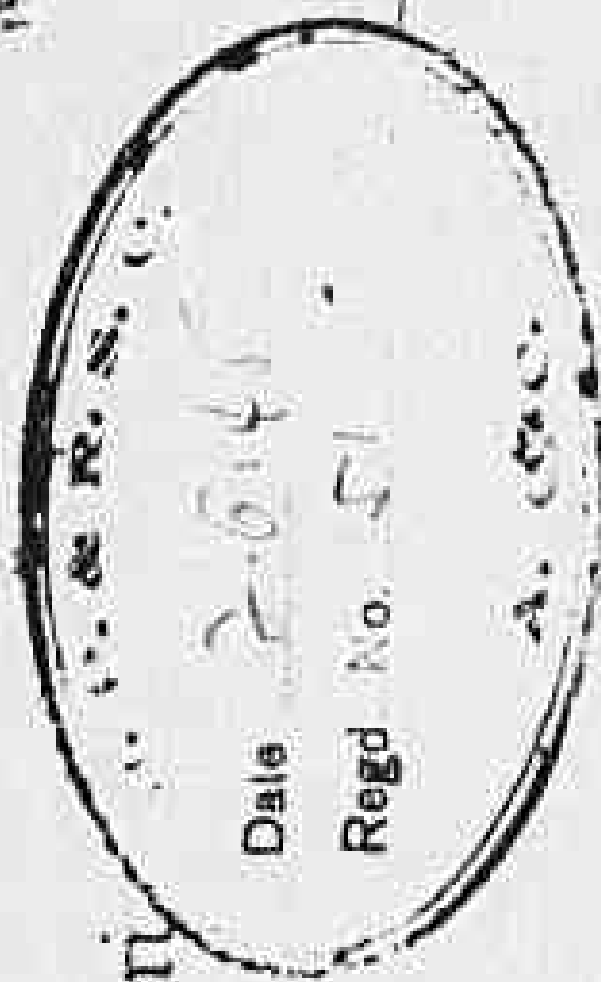
GH(17)



5922

1 June 1945

Ministero degli Affari Esteri



6/1309/690 (165)

Deppen

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

Subject: Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia.

See 166/164.

1. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, in consideration of the particularly distressing moral and material situation in which over 25,000 Italian soldiers in Yugoslavia, former D.O.W. of the Germans, now find themselves, would be very grateful if the Allied Commission could kindly consider the possibility of carrying out their repatriation as they have already done in the case of the Italian soldiers displaced in Albania.

2. To this effect, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs begs the Allied Commission to approach the proper Authorities in order to:

- a) obtain from the Yugoslavian Government that the Italian soldiers be assembled in Yugoslavian ports which are touched by Allied ships;
- b) grant the necessary authorization to that the aforesaid ships on their return journey should embark the Italian soldiers, as already has been done in the case of the repatriation from Albania.

3. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be very

June 16

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: FX 83734
 Date/Time of Origin: MAY 282035

Message Centre No: E/2733
 Date Time Rec'd: MAY 290830
 Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED ALEXANDER CITE FHGDM
 TO: ALCOM INFO MOV TARANTO

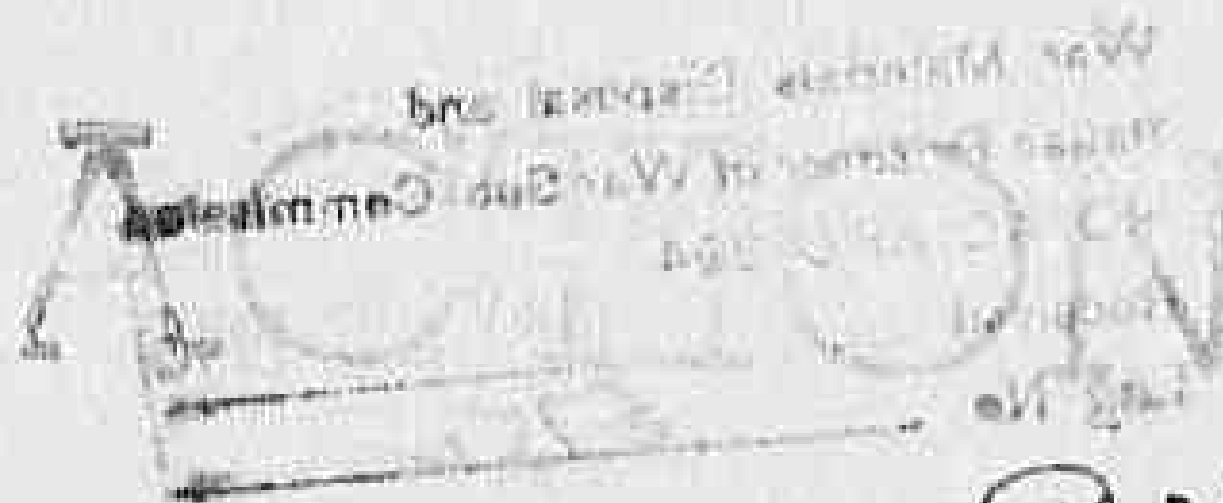
SECRET

SECRET.

Have agreed MIDEAST request to evacuate 120 women 84 children on
 VILLE D'ORAN ex RHODES. Eta TARANTO approx 3 June. These personnel are
 families of married Italian PW. Agreed G-5.

DIST

ACTION - DISPER & REP S/C
 " - WMD & POW S/C
 INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 CA SEC
 FILE



IPW
 22

SECRET

Dis Per & Rep s/c 5920
 taking all action
 ad.

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: EX 83371
 Date/Time of Origin: MAY 28/1248B

Message Centre No: R/2781
 Date Time Rec'd: MAY 29/1040B
 Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: AFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGGG

TO : ACTION: EMM ALBANIA INFO: MOV BARI, MOV DURAZZO, ALCON ROME, ALBAID

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

Reference conversation Brigadier HODESON.

Repatriation 500/6000 Italian civilians approved on assumption that these can be documented by General PICCINI and handled on same lines as military. Instructions GB 1-389.506/80-L should generally be followed but appreciate that direct connection between group and loading not possible. Groups must be cleared for embarkation as shipping available. Number should be limited to 500 alternate days if possible provided shipping space is not sacrificed.

DIST

INFO-ACTION : DISPER
 IPOV SC

INFO : CHIEF COMMISSIONER
 EX COMMISSIONER
 CA SEC
 FILE (2)
 FLOAT

HEADQUARTERS

29 MAY 1945

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

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Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

Liaison Officer, AFHQ

RESTRICTED

1919

1105
22

JAC/vl

(162)

IPW/22/162

29 May 1945

Subject: Italian Military Personnel in Rumania

To : Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War

Ref your 1621/pol C-21-A of 22/5/45, Lie 160/161.

The matter has been forwarded to higher authority recommending that every thing possible should be done to move the Italian Military Personnel repatriated to Italy.


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

5918

JAC/vl

(161)

IPW/22/161

29 May 1945

Subject: Italian Military Personnel in Rumania

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

See 160/162.

1. The attached translation of letter No. 1671/Pol/c-21-A dated 22 May 1945 received from the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War is forwarded.

2. The matter was referred to in your letter G-5 014.33-71 dated 11 February, and if it is the case that there are numbers of Italian Military Personnel still in Rumania, any steps which can be taken to repatriate them are recommended.

For the Chief Commissioner:



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

29/6/45
R/F 21/6/45
9179c.

(160)

1671 Pol/C-21-A

CC

Rome 22nd May 1945 N

High Commissioner for Italian PW

To the Allied Commission

Subject: Italian Military Personnel in Rumania

See 161/162

It results at the High Commissariat that the Italian Military Personnel in Rumania is still ~~Very~~ numerous and their repatriation is being made very difficult, by the local authorities.

We beg the Allied Commission to call this matter to the attention of the competent authorities that they may obtain the repatriation of these individuals in Rumania ^{As} ~~and~~ was done for those who were in Bulgaria.

Thank you

/s/ The High Commissioner

General Gazzera

22..

5916

RM/VL

(159)

IPW/22/159

24 May 1945

Subject: Ex Italian PW in German Custody at Rodi

To : Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War

See 156, 158

Reference your letter No. 1576/pol/C.25A dated 16 May 1945.

1. The matter has been forwarded to higher authority for consideration.

fab

J.A. CAMPBELL

Lieut. Colonel

Director

WHD & IPW Sub-Com.

5915

B/f

15/6/45
9c

MM/vl

(158)

IPW/22/158

24 May 1945

Subject: Ex Italian PW in German Custody at Rodi

To : Allied Force Headquarters, AFO 512
(Att: G-5 Section)*Sec 156/159*

1. The attached translation of letter 1576/Pol/C.25A dated 16 May 1945 received from the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War, is forwarded.

2. I shall be pleased if you will inform me of any action taken.

For the Chief Commissioner:

jac
J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WD & POW Sub-Com.*591/45*
B/F
9/c

(154)

Colonel CAMPBELL

Director War Material Disposal and Prisoners of War Sub-Com.

ROME

R. 408271/RXGR

TRANSMIT COPY OF WIRE SENT BY GENERAL PICCINI COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF ITALIAN SOLDIERS IN ALBANIA STOP REQUEST YOUR COURTEOUS INTEREST IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ALL POSSIBLE MEANS OF TRANSPORT AT DISPOSITION FOR REPATRIATION OF ITALIAN SOLDIERS IN ORDER TO AVOID THREATENING MEASURES BY ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT STOP GENERAL MAMMERINI.

p.c.c.

Lt. Col. Bordon

Note:

Spoke to G-5 AFHQ (Major Langworthy.)
The position is that no shipping has been available for some days to move these Italians, who are all vaccinated and sprayed, ready to be shipped.

Major Langworthy stated that he had received a signal to-day that some type of craft was being made available to move the Italians to Italy about 23/24 May, but whether all could be moved in 10 days he was not sure. Everything possible was being done. I requested that action be taken to get the Albanian Government to raise the time limit, and in any case to see that the Italians were not moved inland. *(Some information given verbally to the Americans. No further action necessary)*.

22 May 45.

J.A.C.

5913

WIRE

To: WAR OFFICE ROME

THROUGH MILITARE ALBANIAN MISSION BARI THE ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT REQUIRES THAT AGREEMENT HOXHA PALERMO REGARDING REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS FROM APRIL 15th ON SHOULD BE RESPECTED STOP THE ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT WARNS ME THAT IF WITHIN 10 DAYS THE ITALIANS WILL NOT BE EVACUATED FROM THE PORTS, THEY WILL BE OBLIGED TO FORM LABOUR UNITS WHICH WILL BE EMPLOYED WHERE DEMAND NECESSARY STOP I REPEAT THAT OUR SITUATION BECOMES UNSUBSTAINABLE IN SPITE OF ALL THE GENEROUS HELP OF ALBANIAN GOVERNMENT STOP GENERAL FIOCCINI STOP

Copia

Segrete (154b)

TELEGRAMMA A RIMO

Sig. Ten.Col. CAMPBELL

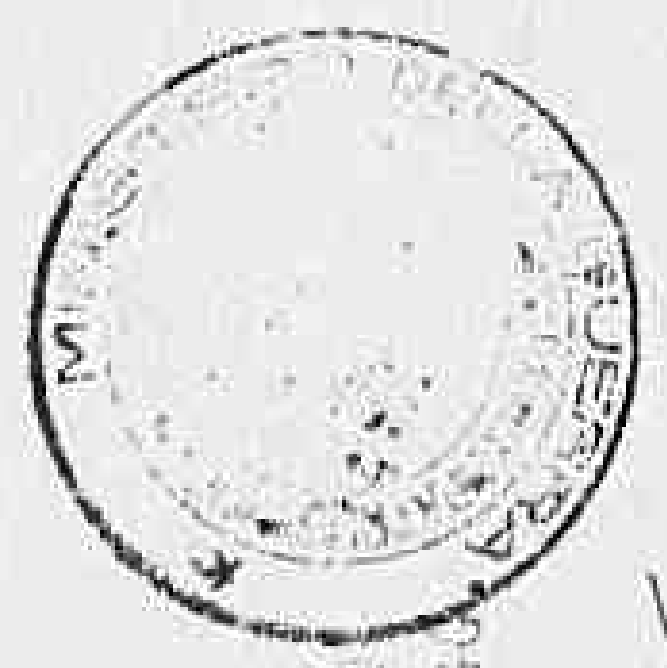
Direttore della WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL
AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB COMMISSION

R O M A

20408221/RPGR

TRASMETTO COPIA TELEGRAMMA PERVENUTO DAL GENERALE PICCINI CO=
MANDANTE MILITARE ITALIANI IN ALBANIA ALT FRGO SUC CORTESE IN=
TERESSAMENTO ONDE OTTENERE CHE TUTTI MEZZI DISPONIBILI SIANO CON=
CENTRATI PER RIMPATRIO MILITARI ITALIANI DALL'ALBANIA COPO EVI=
TARE MINACCIARE MISURE DEL GOVERNO ALBANIA ALT GENERALE KANNERINI

.....



P. C. C.

IL TEN. COLONNELLO

Capo Divisione AA. GG.

(R. F. F. F. F.)

[Signature]

...
 CENTRATI PER RIMPATRIO MILITARI ITALIANI DALL'ALBANIA COPO EVI=
 TARE MINACCIATE MISURE DEL GOVERNO ALBANIA ALT GENERALE MANNERINI

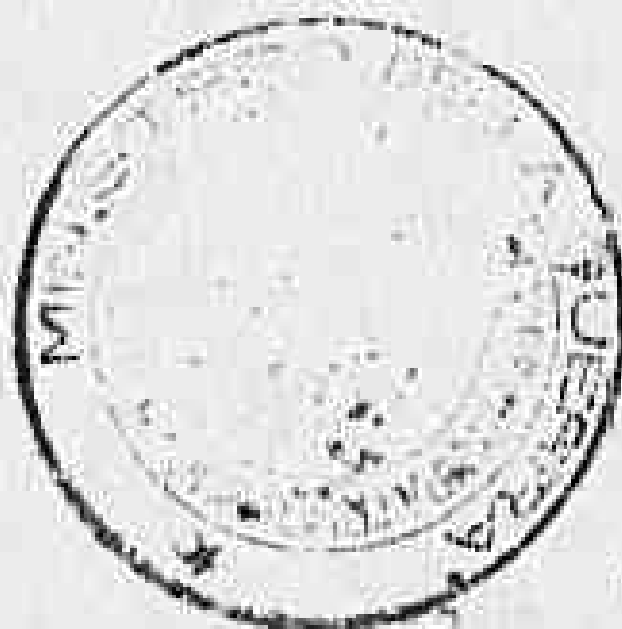
.....

P. C. C.

IL TEN. COLONNELLO

Capo Divisione AA. SS. e P. P.

(F. Bordonari)



[Handwritten signature]

5911

TELEGRAMMA

AL MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

R O M A

DA MISSIONE MILITARE ALBANESE BARI IL GOVERNO ALBANESE RICHIEDE
CHE VENGA RISPETTATO L'ACCORDO HOXHA PALERMO RIGUARDO AL RIMPATRIO
DEGLI ITALIANI COMINCIANDO DALLA DATA 15 APRILE STOP IL GOVERNO
ALBANESE MI HA AVVERTITO CHE, SE ENTRO DIECI GIORNI NON SARANNO
EVACUATI PORTI DAGLI ITALIANI CHE INGOMBERANO IVI SARANNO OBBLIGATI
LI PARLI REPARTI DI LAVORATORI ADOPERANDOLI SECONDO LE LORO NECES-
SITA' STOP RIPETO CHE NOSTRA SITUAZIONE DIVENTA INSOSTENIBILE,
MALGRADO TUTTO L'AUTOE GENEROSO DEL GOVERNO ALBANESE STOP
GENERALE PICCOLI STOP

p. c. c.

IL TEN. COLONNELLO

Capo Divisione A.A. 68.



ALBANESE MI HA AVVERTITO CHE, SE ENTRO DIECI GIORNI NON SARANNO
EVACUATI PORTI DAGLI ITALIANI CHE INGOMBERANO IVI SARANNO OBBLIGATI
DI PARLI REPARTI DI LAVORATORI ADOPERANDOLI SECONDO LE LORO NECES-
SITA' STOP RIFETO CHE NOSTRA SITUAZIONE DIVENTA INSOSTENIBILE,

MAI GRADO TUTTO L'AUTO GENEROSO DEL GOVERNO ALBANESE STOP

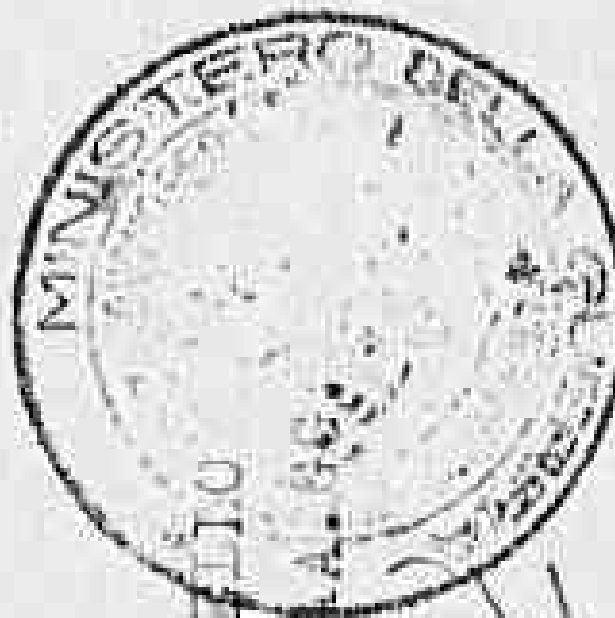
GENERALE PICCINI STOP

P. C. C.

IL TEN. COLONNELLO

Caro Divisore

(M. Ordori)



5910

Rome 16th May 1945

(156)

High Commissioner for Italian PW. To the Allied Commission

No. 1576/Pol/C.25A

Sub-Commission for Italian PW.

Subject: Ex Italian P.O.W. in German Custody at Rodi.

See 158/159

The High Commissariat is informed that around about the middle of last February there were nearly 1000 Italian Military prisoners on the island of Rodi in hospital for no other causes but de-nutrition, and that there existed a number of Prisoners, considered by the Germans as political prisoners and traitors, on whom were committed all sorts of atrocities.

We beg your Sub-Commission to call this matter to the attention of the competent authorities and examine the possibility of their repatriation, as according to the information we have received, they are in urgent need of assistance.

/s/ The High Commissioner

General P. Gazzera

5909

~~1123~~ 22.

Copy for Mr. Halford.

N.V. No. 121
95/7/45

N O T E V E R B A L E

The British Embassy presents its compliments to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and has the honour to communicate the following note from the Italian Minister at Sofia, received by telegram from London.

" Your despatch no. 19/03496/3 of March 17th and my report by courier, no. 493/63 of March 2nd concerning conversation pending the receipt of instructions between Vinci and Montezemolo and Yugoslav representative here, about Italian ex prisoners of war, in Yugoslavia.

Military Attache' showed me today his reports nos. 385 and 388 to which you refer.

General Popovich did not exactly invite Vinci and Montezemolo to go to Yugoslavia, but told them that should they receive authority, from the Italian Government to do so, he would be prepared to ask his own Government to accept and facilitate their mission.

Meanwhile local Soviet command has informed Military Attache' that an Italian military mission has arrived in Belgrade. This is not confirmed so far by people arriving here from Belgrade.

In these circumstances, and if no agreement has yet been reached to send a mission from Italy to Yugoslavia, immediately or in the near future, I submit that I should be officially instructed to send Military Attache' accompanied by Vinci or another civil officer from this Legation to Yugoslavia, where there are also many Italian civilians.

Their mission would only be to report on conditions of our people there and to lend them moral support.

5908

Military Attache' showed me today his reports nos. 385 and 388 to which you refer.

General Popovich did not exactly invite Vinci and Montezemolo to go to Yugoslavia, but told them that should they receive authority, from the Italian Government to do so, he would be prepared to ask his own Government to do accept and facilitate their mission.

Meanwhile local Soviet command has informed Military Attache' that an Italian military mission has arrived in Belgrade. This is not confirmed so far by people arriving here from Belgrade.

In these circumstances, and if no agreement has yet been reached to send a mission from Italy to Yugoslavia, immediately or in the near future, I submit that I should be officially instructed to send Military Attache' accompanied by Vinci or another civil officer from this Legation to Yugoslavia, where there are also many Italian civilians.

Their mission would only be to report on conditions of our people there and to lend them moral support. 5908

As you are aware I have no means (e.g. financial) of helping our people in Yugoslavia.

Should evacuation from Dalmation ports (which seem the most obvious) fail, and transit through Bulgaria become necessary, we would have to apply for authorisation to this Allied Control Commission. In this case preliminary steps should be taken in Moscow, London and Washington. Signed Maneli. "

Rome,
25th April, 1945.

1015/V; Received from E.C. Office 30/4/45 E.K.

153

Note: G-5 (Major Driffield-White) informed me by telephone that small numbers of IPW were being repatriated out of Jugo-Slavia daily, and were being sent to Toker Camp, Taranto.

The Military Mission in Belgrade are trying to get as many as possible repatriated, and everything possible is being done to get all Italian Military out as quickly as possible.

The same applies to Albania.

4 May 45.

J.A.C.

5907

Rome 25th April 1945

(152)

Ministry of War

To the Sub-Commission for It.PW.

Autonomous office for

and W.M.D.

War Veterans and Repatriated

Attention Lieut. Col. Campbell

P.O.W.

40674/RPCR

See 151.

Subject: Italian Military personnel of units who were in Albania
now find themselves in territory subject to Yugoslavia

We are informed of the existence, in the undermentioned
territories of Italian Military Units who were in Albania.

Prizzen 250 u.

Pristnia 100 u.

Gare (tra Dibra e Kicevo) 600 u.

Bitoli (Monastir) 400 u.

As these territories, due to the recent events, have passed
under control of the Yugoslav Government, we beg you to ask the
Allied Mission to the Yugoslav Government, to obtain the permission
for Gen. Piccini representative of this Ministry in Albania, to for-
ward help to the said military personnel, in the form of food and
clothes, and to send these individuals into Albanian territory, that
they may follow the destiny of their comrades who according to
agreements concluded with the Provisional Albanian Government; should
be repatriated in the near future.

Signed Gen. A Mannerini

See encl. 49
in 116/28Note:

Explained position in ref. to folio 51 to Gen. Mannerini -
no further action required.

✓ 27 Apr. 45.

J.A.C.

5906

SECRET

D/8738

APRIL 26/1430B
PRIORITY

ACTION: BMM ALBANIA INFO 52 AREA FOR TUKED CAMP. 54 AREA. MMIA LO TARANTO, AICG
HOME. MMIA. MOVET. FOTALI REAR BMM ALBANIA. MOV DURAZZO. MOV BRINDISI. MOV VALONO.
AIBAD. DINTHREE

~~SECRET~~

Evacuation Italian military from ALBANIA. Reference your BM-79 of April 24 not to all. Emphasize only military personnel to be evacuated no civilians. Your suggestions 1, 2 and 3 agreed. Disinfestation before embarkation essential. Lifts may be arranged returning craft employed on DOCKLING commencing approx April 26 lifts alternate days. Rate not more than 1000 per lift. Craft must not be delayed. MOVE-IT to arrange AL 63 and dusting guns be placed aboard craft proceeding. (2 groups corrupt) send complete nominal roll with party, cable numbers embarked and Etc repeating all addressees of this message. On arrival port MEEL 3 DISTRICT arrange movement to Taker Camp.

For AICOM. Letter 2215/45/BMC April 21 refers. Inform Italian Government bare details only. Action is at request BMM ALBANIA. Letter reply yours follows.

DIST
INFORMATION : LAND FORCES

INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CA SEC
DISPEN
WJD 1/18
FILE

THE

(150)

26 April 1945

IPW/22/150

Subject: Repatriation of Italian Military Personnel
from Macedonia and Yugoslavia.

To : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.
(Att: G-5 Section)

See 144, 143, 142

Reference your G-5: O14.33-71 dated 23 March 1945.

1/.

May I please be informed if any further informa-
tion has been received in relation to above.

For the Chief Commissioner:

CJP

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

O B/F 3/5/45
9c

5904

(149)

AFHQ 3-5 SECTION

8091

25 APRIL 1945

PRIORITY

SECRET PD

See 148

PARA ONE PD ALBANIAN MILITARY MISSION BARI HAVE INFORMED ITALIAN GOVERNMENT THAT IF ONE FIVE ZERO ZERO MEN OF ITALIAN BRIGADE GRABOCI NOW AT DURANGO AWAITING REPATRIATION ARE NOT REPATRIATED EARLY DATE THEY WILL BE MOVED INLAND PD

PARA TWO AMHQ GEORGE DASH FIVE SECTION FROM ALCOM CITY AGWHD PARER

PARA TWO PD ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REQUEST ACTION TO AVOID RETURN OF THESE MEN TO INTERIOR OF ALBANIA AND URGE THEIR EARLY REPATRIATION TO ITALY PD

*but sent**see off/parke*

WHD & IPON SUB COM.

*B/F 29/4/45
gc.*

5903

(148)

MINISTRY OF WAR
AUTONOMONS OFFICE
FOR WAR VETERANS AND REPATRIATED
PRISONERS OF WAR

Rome 24th April 1945

No. 406698/RPCR di Prot.

TO: Allied Commission
See 149. ROME

Through the Albanian Military Mission at Bari, the General Staff of the Albanian Army has informed us that due to economical reasons, the Italian Military Brigade Gramsci is to be transferred from the district of DURAZZO, if said brigade is not immediately repatriated stop In the aim of averting this transfer and the subsequent delay in the repatriation of said brigade beg you to repatriate these individuals, who amount to about 1500 men, as quickly as is possible.

/s/ GEN. MANNERINI

11w
22

5902

(147)

IPW/22/1475 April 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Military Personnel from
Jugoslavia.

TO : General Commanding, The Autonomous Office for
War Veterans and Repatriated PW.

See 146

Reference your letter No. 405418/RPCR dated
29 March 1945.

1. Immediately you can inform me of the numbers,
location etc., together with full particulars regarding
the repatriation, I shall take up the question of trans-
portation with higher authority.

2. It is understood that the question of repat-
riation of Italian Prisoners of War from Jugoslavia is
being considered by all parties interested, and it may
be that transport is being arranged of which I shall be
notified later.

JAC

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

5901

(146)

EOR/gm

Rome 29th March 1945

MINISTRY OF WAR
AUTONOMOUS OFFICE
FOR WAR VETERANS AND
REPATRIATED POW
405418 RFOR

TO: The Allied Commission
R O M E

See 147

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military Personnel from Yugoslavia.

The Italian Military attached at Sofia has communicated, that the Soviet High Command has requested information from the Yugoslav Government regarding the number of the Italian POW in Yugoslavia and the localities where they are held, with the aim of fixing the modalities for their repatriation, through Dalmatia.

As soon as the Soviet High Command receives this information they will confer with the Italian Military attaches. We beg you to examine this question and to inform us on what basis, the transport could be arranged to bring these people from Dalmatian to liberated Italian Territory.

/s/ BY THE GENERAL COMMANDING
THE AUTONOMOUS OFFICE
A. MANNERINI

22.

5900

SUBJECT: Repatriation from BALKANS.

CONFIDENTIAL

LAND FORCE SUP-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

5/6/31/2
3 JANUARY 44

TO : AFHQ for G-3 (Org)
AFHQ for G-5
Displaced Persons & Repatriation Sub Com., A.C.

1. Following is the position from 11 Nov 44 thru 31 Dec 44 regarding Italian personnel arrived TARANTO ex GREECE and BALKANS:-

(a) Received in ST ANDREWS CAMP 21246
Dispatched from Camp 17768
Remaining in Camp 3478

(b) Personnel has been dispatched from Camp as follows :-

To Hospital	1345
To PW Camp	21
Derobilised	1639
Leave then GRUPPI	876
To GRUPPI	609
Leave then TRANI (BR-ITI)	2025
Leave then ASTRONI (US-ITI)	2248
To TRANI (BR-ITI)	3487
To ASTRONI (US-ITI)	56
Leave then Pack Transp Coy	3
To Pack Transp coy	2157
Various	2402

2 Of the 21,246 shown as received in camp, 710 are personnel who

(a) Received in ST ANDREWS CAMP 21246
 Dispatched from Camp 17768
 Remaining in Camp 3478

(b) Personnel has been dispatched from Camp as follows :-

To Hospital	1345
To PW Camp	21
Demobilised	1639
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To TRANI (BR-ITI)	3487
To ASTRONI (US-ITI)	56
Leave then Pack Transp Coy	3
To Pack Transp coy	2157
Various	2402

2. Of the 21,246 shown as received in camp, 710 are personnel who have been readmitted to Camp from Hospital.

INTERNAL DISTR:

MAIA LO 52 AREA, CCS, AC
 MPILA LO 54 AREA
 2 1/c, AC,
 Spec Sec
 5 T, Med, Lab,
 6D/50
 6D/52
 6/SD/30

10/11
 22

AC DIST

Cops

disperse

Major General
 Major General *Major*
 M.M.I.A.

5899

(144)

IPW/22/144

27 March 1945

Subject: Italian Military Personnel in Macedonia.

To : General Commanding,
Autonomous Office for War Veterans and Repatriated
Prisoners of War.Reference your letter No. 404242/MPGH dated
8 March 1945. *141 4142* *14150*

1. The matter of the repatriation referred to in the
above mentioned correspondence is being taken up through the
British and American Embassies in Belgrade.

2. I shall inform you as soon as a reply is received.

cll

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

cc: Italian High Commissioner for
Prisoners of War.*B/F 26/4/45*
c/c

5898

WMS + IPW
(143)
3468.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

G-5: 014.33-71

23 March 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military
Personnel from Macedonia & Jugoslavia.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission. + 144
See 142.

Reference IPW/22/142 of 10 March 1945. See 150

1. The matter of the repatriation referred to in the
above mentioned correspondence is being taken up through the
British and American Embassies in Belgrade.

2. As soon as a reply is received, you will be notified.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff G-5:

EES/mcc

E. E. Silveira

E.E. SILVIERA,
Capt. Spec. Res.

11'W
22

~~B/H 26/4/45~~
c/c.

5897

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

IPW/22/142

10 March 1945

Subject: Italian Military Personnel in Macedonia.

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

1. The attached translation of a letter received from the Italian Government is forwarded.

2. I shall be pleased to know if the Italians referred to in this letter are being taken care of under the scheme mentioned in your G-5:014.33-71 dated 11 February 1945.

3. If arrangements have not been made for the repatriation of the 2,500 Prisoners of War mentioned, it is recommended that their repatriation also be provided for.

4. I shall be pleased if you can inform me as to the actual position so that I may reply to the Italian Government.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Encl. 404272/RPGR.

J.C.B.
J.A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WMD & IPW Sub-Com.

5896

BOR/gm

(141)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans and Repatriated PW

Rome, March 8th 1945

404272/RPCR.

TO: THE ALLIED COMMISSION. SUB-COMMISSION for PW & W.M.D. ROME.

SUBJECT: Italian Military Personnel in Macedonia.

see 142 & 143/44

That the Sub-commission may do all that is possible to repatriate the It. Military personnel from Balcan, we inform you of a very grave state of affairs existing in Macedonia.

At SKOPLJE there are 2.500 prisoners, who were turned over by the Germans to the Partisans, they are badly fed, treated abominably and made to work very hard, in contrast to those Italians who belonged to the S.S. and were volunteers in the German army; these latter are free, walk about the streets in civilian cloths and no-one molests them.

We beg therefore the sub-commission to call this matter to the attention of the competent Authorities that they may take measures that this situation may cease to exist.

Signed:

for the General Commanding

the Autonomous Office

the head of the Division

Col. M. ANFOSSO.

see 142, 144, 3895

11w
22

VC.cm

(140)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for Veterans

& Repatriated PW.

Rome, March 4th 1945

N.404076/RPGR.

TO: THE SUBCOMMISSION FOR It. PW AND W.M.D. AC. ROME.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of It. Military personnel in Albania.

see 49.

In consideration of the arrival in the future of It. Military Personnel from Albania and following our communication in letter N.400430/RPGR. dated the 30th of November 1944, we inform the Sub-Commission that the veterans in question will be sent on their arrival to the following places:

Bari (Caserma Falanga)	1.200 places
Grottaferrata (Taranto)	400 "
Lecce (Caserma funzionali)	1.200 "

The sick will be sent to:

- the hospital at Mesagne, for those who arrive at Lecce.
- the hospital at Acanfora, for those who arrive at Taranto
- the hospital at Altamura, for those who arrive at Bari.

These arrangements will facilitate the distribution of the type "30" rations.

Signed:

the General Commanding

the Autonomous Office

A. MANNERINI.

5894

22/

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

IPW/22/139

2 March 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Lieut. RAVALLI Giovanni, Italian
POW held by ELAS.

TO : General Commanding,
Autonomous Office for War Veterans and Repatriated
Prisoners of War.

See B7
Reference your letter No. 403324/RPGR dated 23
February 1945.

1. The policy regarding Italian POW and military
personnel at present in the Balkan States is that they
shall all be repatriated to Italy.

2. Now that the internal troubles in Greece are
being settled, it would seem reasonable to expect an early
return of all Italian personnel held there, subject to
availability of shipping.

3. I suggest you inform Paolo Ravalli that there
is every chance of his son returning to Italy in the near
future.

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

5893

PA/cm

MINISTRY OF WAR

Rome, 23rd February 1945

(138)

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans & Repatriated PW

N.403324/RPGR

TO: IPW SUB-COMMISSION. & WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL. ROME.

SUBJECT: Request for repatriation of a prisoner of the E.L.A.S. *See 139*

We beg you to examine the attached document with a view of repatriating ~~ing~~ Liut. Giovanni RAVALLI, son of Paolo RAVALLI of Catania, author of letter herewith attached, said Giovanni RAVALLI is at present prisoner of the E.L.A.S. in the prison at Trikala (Greece).

Signed:

The General Commanding
the Autonomous Office
A. MANNERINI.

///

5892

COPY AND TRANSLATION OF LETTER SIGNED PAOLO RAVALLI

TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR P.O.W... ROME.

(138a)

As father of Ltut. RAVALLI Giovanni of the reserves, who has been since 1940, at the Command of the 13th Regiment "Pinerolo", stationed at Kastoria (Greece), I beg the High Commissioner, through the Allied authorities, to do all in his power to obtain the liberation and repatriation of my son.

I inform you that in September 1944, while he was hoping to be repatriated with the 1st group of officers and Italian military personnel, he was arrested at Neohori (Greece) by order of a rebel Greek General, General Zefiris, and was accused of having favoured, together with General Adolfo Infante, the passage of troops to the Allies, with the help of General Zervos, hostile to the E.L.A.S.

Tried on November of the same year, no evidence was found against him, notwithstanding he was treated as a suspected person, in the prison of Trikala; after having rendered valuable service to the Command and after having miraculously escaped from the Germans. It is four years that my son has been away from his family. His mother died of a broken heart and I am 70 years old and alone, because my family has all been disbanded by the war. I feel that I can not resist much longer, knowing my son to be in his present danger.

In view of the fact that our Government can not perhaps treat directly with the E.L.A.S. rebels, I ask at least, that something may be done through the Allied authorities for his repatriation; therefore I beg you that my son may return with the exchange of prisoners, contemplated in the near future, by General Scobie and the E.L.A.S.

Hoping we will accept this plea, I await for news that will re-

PA/cn

Roma 23 febbraio 1945

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

WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
 ITALIAN P.W. SUB COMMISSION
 = R O M A =

Procedimento
 Ret. 403324 / RPCR/Allegato 1

Rappresentante dell'

Dir. Ra N°

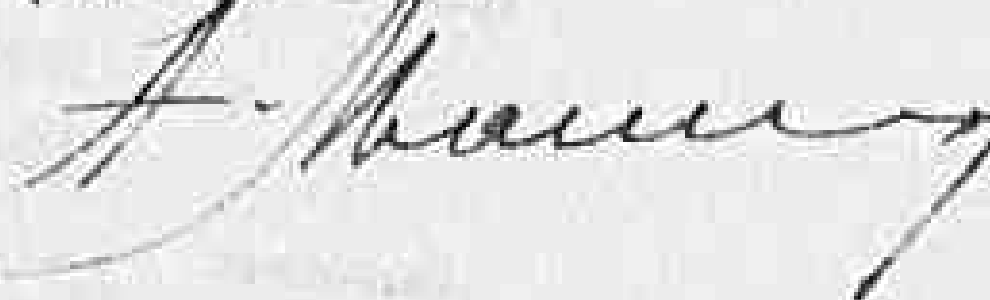
Oggetto: Domanda di rimpatrio di un prigioniero
 dell'E.L.A.S.

Con preghiera di cortese interessamento si
 trasmette copia della istanza presentata dal Sie-
 gnor Paolo RAVALLI da Catania tendente ad ottenere
 il rimpatrio del figlio Tenente Giovanni Ravalli
 attualmente rinchiuso nelle carceri di Trikala (Grecia)
 quale prigioniero dell'E.L.A.S.-

IL GENERALE

CAPO DELL'UFFICIO AUTONOMO

(A. Manzerini)



5890

COPY AND TRANSLATION OF LETTER SIGNED PAOLO RAVALLI

TO: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR P.O.W.. ROME.

(138) a

As father of Ltut. RAVALLI Giovanni of the reserves, who has been since 1940, at the Command of the 13th Regiment "Pinerolo", stationed at Kastoria (Greece), I beg the High Commissioner, through the Allied Authorities, to do all in his power to obtain the liberation and repatriation of my son.

I inform you that in September 1944, while he was hoping to be repatriated with the 1st group of officers and military personnel, he was arrested at Neohori (Greece) by order of a rebel Greek General, General Zefirig, and was accused of having favoured, together with General Adolfo Infante, the passage of troops to the Allies, with the help of General Zervos, hostile to the E.L.A.S.

Tried on November of the same year, no evidence was found against him, notwithstanding he was treated as a suspected person, in the prison of Trikala; after having rendered valuable service to the Command and after having miraculously escaped from the Germans. It is four years that my son has been away from his family. His mother died of a broken heart and I am 70 years old and alone, because my family has all been disbanded by the war. I feel that I can not resist much longer, knowing my son to be in his present danger.

In view of the fact that our Government can not perhaps treat directly with the E.L.A.S. rebels, I ask at least, that something may be done through the Allied Authorities for his repatriation; therefore I beg you that my son may return with the exchange of prisoners, contemplated in the near future, by General Scobie and the E.L.A.S.

Hoping we will accept this plea, I await for news that will re-

/

live my profound anxiety.

Signed :

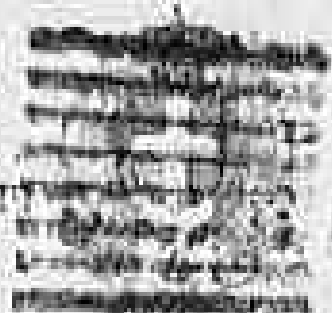
Paolo RAVALLI

Catania, January 10th 1945

Via Cancelliere, N.18

Very Honorable, Special and
Honorable of War Sub-Commission
No. 394
24 FEB 1945
Log No. 3206

PA/CH



Roma 23 febbraio 1945

Ministero della Guerra

Uff. Auton. Reduci Prigionieri
di Guerra e RimpatriatiWAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN P.W. SUB COMMISSION
= R O M A =Numero
Ind 403324 / RFGB/Magdi 1Registrali f. del
Lun Lun 15OGGETTO: Domanda di rimpatrio di un prigioniero
dell'E.L.A.S.

Con preghiera di cortese interessamento si
trasmette copia della istanza presentata dal Si-
gnor Paolo RAVALLI da Catania tendente ad ottenere
il rimpatrio del figlio Tenente Giovanni Ravalli
attualmente rinchiuso nelle carceri di Trikala (Grecia)
quale prigioniero dell'E.L.A.S.-

IL GENERALE

CAPO DELL'UFFICIO AUTONOMO

(A. Manerina)

5890

C O P I A

ON. AITO COMMISSARIO PER I PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA

- R O M A -

Quale padre del tenente di complemento Ravelli Giovanni, già assegnato fin dal 1940 al Comando del 13° Reggimento "Pinerolo" con sede in Kastoria (Grecia) rivolgo viva ed angosciata istanza a codesto Commissariato perchè voglia promuovere, direttamente o per il tramite delle competenti Autorità Militari Alleate, la liberazione e il rimpatrio del detto mio figliolo.

Taccio presente all'uopo che il medesimo, nel settembre del 1944, mentre spero di essere rimpatriato col Io scaglione di Ufficiali e Militari italiani, venne arbitrariamente arrestato a Neochori (Grecia continentale) per ordine del generale greco ribelle Zefiris, sotto l'accusa di aver favorito, d'accordo col comandante Genr. Adolfo Infante, il passaggio delle truppe agli Alleati, e ciò per il tramite del genr. Greco Zarvos, ostilissimo all'ELAS.

Sottoposto a processo nel novembre dello stesso anno, nulla si poté comprovare a suo carico. Ciò non ostante, egli continuò ad essere trattenuto, come elemento sospetto, presso le prigioni di Trikala (nociosa), con quanto disagio e con quale disperata angoscia, dopo i preziosi servizi resi al Comando e dopo essere miracolosamente sfuggito al feroce blocco dei tedeschi, è facile immaginare! Sono ben quattro anni che il povero figlio manca dalla famiglia! Già l'anno scorso perdetti la mamma, morta di crepacuore per non avere avuto più sue notizie, ed io stesso, vecchio settantenne e solo - poichè tutta la mia famiglia è stata sbanda-

Faccio presente all'uopo che il medesimo, nel settembre del 1944, mentre spera-
ve di essere rimpatriato col 1° reggimento di Ufficiali e Militari italiani, venne
arbitrariamente arrestato a Moschori (Grecia continentale) per ordine del generale
greco ribelle Zefirio, sotto l'accusa di aver favorito, d'accordo col comandante
Genr. Adolfo Infante, il passaggio delle truppe agli Alleati, e ciò per il tram-
te del genr. greco Zervos, ostilissimo all'ELAS.

Sottoposto a processo nel novembre dello stesso anno, nulla si poté compro-
vare a suo carico. Ciò nonostante, egli continuò ad essere trattenuto, come e-
lemento sospetto, presso le prigioni di Trikala (moschoni), con quanto disagio e
con quello disperata amarezza, dopo i pericoli servigi resi al Comando e dopo es-
sere miracolosamente sfuggito al feroce blocco dei tedeschi, è facile immaginare!
Sono ben quattro anni che il povero figlio marce dalla famiglia! Già l'anno scorso
perdetto la mamma, morta di crepacuore per non avere avuto più sue notizie, ed io
stesso, vecchio settantenne e solo - poiché tutta la mia famiglia è stata sbanda-
ta della guerra - sento che non potrei a lungo resistere alla pena che mi cagiona
quest'altro pericolo a cui si trova esposto il detto mio figlio.

Subordinatamente, e cioè nel caso che il nostro Governo non possa agire di-
rettamente presso i ribelli dell'ELAS, chiedo almeno che siano fatte pratiche
presso le Autorità Alleate affinché, in vista dell'imminente scambio di prigio-
nieri tra il generale Scottie e l'ELAS, il mio figliolo non sia ulteriormente
sciato alla mercé di un'ecoazzaglia di ribelli e venga al più presto restituito
al suo focolare.

Nella speranza di essere esaudito in tale mia legittima richiesta, ringrazio

./.

e resto in attesa di qualche notizia che possa sollevare il mio animo.
Profondamente angosciato.-

Catania, li 18 Gennaio 1945

Via Cancelliere, n°18

E/to. Paolo Ravelli



P. C. C.

IL TEN. COLONNELLE

CARO DAVIS. A. G. G.

(Ferruccio Bordini)

(137)

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

IPW/22/1372 March 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Military personnel from
DALMATIA.

TO : General Commanding,
Autonomous Office for War Veterans and Repatriated
Prisoners of War.

/ See 136

Reference your letter No. 403706/RPGR dated 28
February 1945.

1. As stated in my IPW/22/122 dated 5 February 1945,
the problem of repatriation of Italian Military personnel
from various Balkan localities has been given careful study,
and the 200 Italians at present in Dalmatia will no doubt
be included in the repatriation of all Italian Military
personnel from the Balkans, dependent on the availability
of the bodies at the points of embarkation and the avail-
ability of shipping.

clb

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

5888

ANF/cm

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans & It. PW

Rome, 28th February 1945

403706/RPGR

TO: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL & IPW SUB-COMMISSION. ROME.

ATTENTION: LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION. A.C. (M.M.I.A.)

SUBJECT: It. Military personnel at Zara.

A warrant officer, returned from the Balkans, informs us that in the City of Zara (Dalmazia) there are 200 Italians, ex-prisoners of the Germans, who are at present working in the port under the control of the Yugoslav Partisans.

This group of men are practically without clothes and food.

We beg the Sub-Commission to examine the possibility of repatriating these two hundred Italians as soon as the present events will permit it.

Signed:

The General Commanding the Autonomous
Office.

A. MANNERINI.

1 PW
22

887

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

IPW/28/41

27 February 1945

To: General Commanding, Autonomous Office for Veteran Soldiers
and Repatriated Prisoners of War.
(Attention: General A. Mannarini).

Subject: Repatriation of Italian military personnel from
Yugoslavia.

- (see 130 in file 22)
- 1/. With reference to your letters 403265/RPGR dated February 13, 1945 and 403104/RPGR dated February 15, 1945.
(see 36 in file 28)
- 2/. These matters were referred to higher authority for action, and their reply states as follows:
- (a) For your information recent negotiations with the Yugoslav Government have resulted in agreement for the release of these personnel.
 - (b) How soon the necessary movement can be effected will depend on the availability of these men at the points of embarkation and the availability of shipping. Information on both these points is being obtained.
 - (c) This agreement also covers repatriation from SPACATO (SPLIT).
- 3/. I will inform you in due course of estimated time of arrival.

WJ.
J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
W&D & IPOT Sub-Com.

cc: Italian High Commissioner for
Prisoners of War (ref 548/Pol/
C-25 dated 17 Feb. '45.

5886

*see file 28
encl 41*

CONFIDENTIAL.

134

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

WTW/cml

22 February 1945

G-5: 014.33-36

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Military personnel
from Yugoslavia.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission.

1. Reference is made to letter IPW/23/37 of 19 February 1945 regarding the repatriation of Italian Military personnel from the Dalmatian Islands Lissa (Vis) and Biscovo. *See file 28 encl. 34.*

2. For your information recent negotiations have resulted in the agreement by Marshal TITO for the release of this personnel.

3. How soon the necessary movement can be effected will depend upon the availability of the bodies at the points of embarkation and the availability of shipping. Information on both these matters is being obtained.

4. Repatriation from SPALATO (SPLIT), your letter IPW/22/131 of 19 February 1945 refers, may also be covered by the same agreement. *See 131*

for Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

W. DRIFFIELD-WHITE,
Major.

22
This document is classified
CONFIDENTIAL by the Department of Defense
on 10-10-83

5885

(133)

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

IPW/22/13320 February 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of War Veterans.

TO : General Commanding,
Autonomous Office for War Veterans and Repatriated
Prisoners of War, Italian Government.

- 132

Reference your letter No. 403358/RPGR dated 18th.
February 1945.

1. The information for which you ask is supplied to
General Gazzera, and in future I shall be pleased to send
you copies.

2. I would point out, however, that sometimes very
short notice is given of the impending arrival of any ret-
urning Prisoners of War.



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

5884

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans and Repatriated PW

Rome, 18th February 1945

N.403358/RPGR

TO: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND IPW SUB-COMMISSION. ROME.

SUBJECT: Arrival of groups of Veterans from imprisonment.

Following our request in letter 402022/RPGR dated the 22nd of January, it would be appreciated if the information regarding the arrival in Italy of the Groups of repatriated Veterans, could be sent directly to this Ministry, who will inform the proper persons as to their disposal.

Signed:

The General Commanding
the Autonomous Office.

A.MANNERINI.

File
22

5883

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

IPW/22/131

19 February 1945

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.
(Att: G-5 Section).

Subject: Repatriation of Military personnel from Spalato.

See 130 & 134.

- 1/. I have been informed by General Mannerini, Commanding the Autonomous Office for Veteran Soldiers and Repatriated Prisoners of War, that there are approximately some 400 Italian soldiers at SPALATO, Jugo-Slavia who are virtually prisoners, being forced to work under surveillance of Jugo-Slav guards.
- 2/. He also states that these soldiers are very badly treated and the only food given to them is 400 gr. of bread per day.
- 3/. The Italian Government request the repatriation of these soldiers, and if the facts are as stated, this Headquarters recommends that their repatriation be hastened. I shall be pleased if a report can be forwarded to me in due course so that I may reply to General Mannerini.

For the Chief Commissioner:

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

5882

PA/cm

(130)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans and repatriated P.O.W.

Rome, February 16th 1945

N.403265/RPGR.

TO: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB-COMMISSION.ROME.

SUBJECT:Repatriation of military personnel from Spalato.

See 122, 131.

This Ministry thanks the Sub-Commission for the Communication 1 letter IPW/22/122 dated the 5th of February 1945, relative to the repatriation of the It.military personnel from Ragusa, Sofia, Harmauli, Sado=vo, Vidin, Plovdiv, Macedonia(North Western), and Albania.

We inform you that we have had a message from an Italian soldier at Spalato, that reveals the existence of nearly 400 Italian military personnel who are prisoners in that locality, they are under surveillance of Jugo-slav guards and apart from being forced to work more than is humanly possible, they are very badly treated, and given only 400 gr. per day of bread , being the only nurrishment given.The message ends begging repatriation, to return and take up arms in the files of the new It.Army that is fighting a war of liberation.

We beg this Sub-Commission to consider the possibility of putting this new group of Italians in the plan of repatriation from the Balkans as mentioned above.

Signed:

The General Commanding the

Autonomous Office.

General .A.MANNERINI.

5881

IPW
22

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

(129)

IPW/22/12914 February 1946

SUBJECT: Repatriation - Military Personnel from Rumania
and Bulgaria.

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

See 123, 127, 128, &

Reference your G-5: 014.33-71 dated 11 February 1946.

1. I shall be pleased if you will notify me as early as possible the Port and ETA of all personnel being repatriated to Italy.

For the Chief Commissioner :

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

7/3/45
B/F 28/2/45
O c/c.

5880

(128)

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

IPW/22/12814 February 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation - Military Personnel from Rumania
and Bulgaria.

TO : Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.

See 123 & 127 & 129

Reference your letter No. 398/POL/C.28 dated 3rd.
February 1945.

1. All possible and most expeditious means of evacuat-
ing Italian Military personnel from Rumania and Bulgaria have
been constantly under review.

2. At present a scheme for evacuation by road to Salonika
via Rupel Pass and thence by ship to Italy is in its final
stages. It is anticipated that evacuation will commence in
parties of 200 within seven days.

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

5879

RESTRICTEDPW 102
124ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

RHP/j

G-5: 014.33-71

11 February 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation - Military Personnel from
Rumania and Bulgaria.TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.
(Attn: Italian PW Sub-Commission).

124 / 128 / 129

Reference your IPW/22/124 dated 8 February 1945.

1. All possible and most expeditious means of evacuating Italian Military from Rumania and Bulgaria have been constantly under review.
2. At present a scheme for evacuation by road to Salonika via Rupel Pass and thence by ship to Italy is in its final stages. It is anticipated that evacuation will commence in parties of 200 within seven days.
3. Please advise General Gazzera to this effect.

For Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

*Roy H. Pegler*ROY H. PEGLER,
Capt.,
Balkans Section.IPW
22

5878

RESTRICTED

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

125

IPW/22/125

8 February 1945

To: Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.

Subject: Italian military personnel in Rumania and Bulgaria.

all 123, 124, 123, 122

Reference your letter 398/Pol/C.28 dated 3 February 1945.

- 1/. General Mannerini has already written me on this subject and I enclose a copy of my reply.
- 2/. However, your suggestion regarding the embarkation of Italian military personnel at Soviet ports has been forwarded for consideration and I will advise you in due course of any action taken.

clp

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

Encl. IPW/22/122

all 124

*29/2/45
5877*

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

124

IPW/22/124

8 February 1945

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.
(Att: G-5 Section - Col. T.R. Henn).

Subject: Repatriated military personnel from Rumania and
Bulgaria.

all 121, 125, 123, 122, 127.

1/. Further to your letter G5: 014.33-71 dated 31 January 1945. A suggestion regarding the repatriation of Italian military personnel in Rumania and Bulgaria has been put forward by General Gazzera, the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.

2/. I enclose a translation of General Gazzera's letter. If the statement regarding the use of Soviet ports, and the passage of Allied ships is permitted through the Dardanelles, the suggestion for repatriation of Italians would appear to be a sound one.

3/. May I have your views on this matter?

For the Chief Commissioner:

CP

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

Encl. 398/Pol/C.23

5876
90

(123)

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PW

Rome, 3 February 1945

File No. 398/Pol/C.28

To : IPW Sub/Com., AC,
ROME

Subject : Repatriated Military personnel from Rumania and Bulgaria.

In consideration of the news regarding the re-activation of the traffic of Allied shipping with the Sovietic ports of the Black Sea through the Dardanelles, the Minister of Foreign Affairs has asked the Allied Authorities to examine the possibility of repatriating our Military personnel in Rumania and Bulgaria, using as transport the Allied ships on their return from the Russian ports, having them stop at the Port of Varna (for Bulgaria) and Costanza (for Rumania), where the prisoners could be sent to for embarkation, in agreement with the Sovietic Authorities.

We beg this Allied Commission to inform the competent authorities of this proposal, presenting the question in all its urgency, owing to the bad conditions that these people are living under, as many of them have escaped from German imprisonment and are without cloths and quite a few of them are also in bad health.

Thanking you for your kind interest.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
s/ Gen. Pietro Gazzera11w
22

5875

me.



L'Alto Commissario

Roma, li 3 febbraio 1945

per i prigionieri di guerra

N° 398/R.L./C. 28

OGGETTO : Rimpatrio militari in Rumania e Bulgaria.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

Sottocommissione per i P. di G.

R o m a

Prendendo lo spunto della notizia concernente il ripristino del traffico delle navi alleate con i porti sovietici del Mar Nero, attraverso i Dardanelli, il Ministro degli Esteri ha interessato le Autorità Alleate pregandole di esaminare la possibilità di rimpatriare i nostri militari in Rumania e Bulgaria usando come trasporti le navi alleate nel viaggio di ritorno dai porti russi, facendo fare a queste scalo nei porti di Varna (Bulgaria) e Costanza (Romania), dove verrebbero fatti affluire i rimpatriandi in accordo con le competenti autorità sovietiche.

Si prega codesta Commissione Alleata di voler affiancare la predetta proposta presso le competenti Autorità presentando la cosa carattere d'urgenza data le gravi condizioni di vita nelle quali si trovano i militari sfuggiti alla prigionia tedesca, sprovvisti di vestiario e male alloggiati e in parte ammalati.

Si ringrazia sin d'ora per il benevolo interessamento.

L'ALTO COMMISSARIO
(Generale Pietro Gazzera)

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Si ringrazia sin d'ora per il benevolo interessamento.

L'ALFO COME ISSARIO
(Generale Pietro Gazzera)



5874

(122)

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

IPW/22/1225 February 1945

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

TO : Autonomous Office for War Veterans and Repatriated Prisoners of War, Ministry of War, Italian Government, Rome.

See 121, 130.

Reference the undermentioned letters:

40044/RPGR dated 5 December 1945.
400572/RPGR dated 12 December 1945.
400801/RPGR dated 17 December 1945.
40083F1/RPGR dated 23 December 1945.
401092/RPGR dated 24 December 1945.

1. The problem of Italian Military personnel in various Balkan localities has been given careful study.

2. The general policy now is to evacuate these soldiers as soon as possible.

3. Until recently, the events in the Balkans were impediments to evacuations, but now that the situation in Greece, Jugoslavia, and Albania is clearing, it should be possible to move the Italians with a view to repatriation to Italy.

4. Enquiries are being initiated with H.Q., M.L. (Jugoslavia) and the British Military Mission in Albania as to the best arrangements which may be possible to move the Italian soldiers in the very near future.

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

*copy to hand forces sub-com.
FHE ✓*

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TRH/HEH/j

(121)

G-5: 014.33-71

31 January 1945

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

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

95 ——— / 122

Reference is made to your letter IPW/22/95 of
8 January 1945.

1. The problem of Italian military personnel in various Balkan localities has been presented from various quarters by means of reports from many sources.

2. The general policy is to evacuate these soldiers as soon as possible in order:

- a. to avoid embarrassment to the military commanders.
- b. to ameliorate the condition of the subjects.
- c. to ease the supply problem of the country concerned.

3. The recent events in Greece and the negotiations with Yugoslav and Albanian authorities were impediments to evacuations, but now that the situation in all three countries is clearing it should shortly be physically possible to move the Italians concerned.

4. It is not thought appropriate at this moment that the Italian Government should approach either the Yugoslav or the Albanian authorities, but enquiries are being initiated with HQ ML (Yugoslavia) and the British Military Mission in Albania as to what arrangements might be possible in the near future.

I will keep you informed of any developments.



for T. R. HENN,
Colonel,
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

SECRET

IPW/
22.

Ref. 116, 117, ~~118~~ 119.

The subject matter was discussed and answers given to General Mannerini at a meeting on 3 February 1945 at this office. No further action is necessary.

3 Feb. 1945.

J.A.C.

5871

BOR/gm

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans and IPW.

Rome, January 28th 1945

N. 401298/RPCR. Encl.N.I

SUBJECT: Military personnel from the Balcans.

TO: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND IPW SUB-COMMISSION. ROME.

ATTENTION: LAND FORCES SUB-COMMISSION.A.C. (M.M.I.A.)ROME.

Following our letter 400887 dated the 23th of December 1944, we transmit the copy of letter N.262/R.3 from the screening Commission for the repatriated from the Balcans. In this report there is a declaration of, an officer who has been repatriated, on the conditions of Italian soldiers in the Concentration Camps of MISSOLUTI, EPTACORI, and DUCCICO', and of the presence of an English Major amongst the Italian Military Personnel.

Signed:

The General Head
of the Autonomous Office.

A.MANNERINI.

IPW
22

5870

MILITARY COMMAND OF PUGLIE AND LUCANIA VIA.

SCREENING COMMISSION FOR THE WAR VETERANS FROM THE BALCANS.

TARANTO.

N.262/R.3 di prot.

Taranto, December 16th 1944

TO: THE MILITARY COMMAND OF PUGLIE AND LUCANIA. OFFICE 1. BARI/.

ATTENTION: TO THE CENTER OF THE C/SIM BALCANS. LIUT. COL. DE LUCA.

VIA PUTIGNANI 112. BARI.

SUBJECT: Informations regarding the conditions of the Italians PW in Greece awaiting repatriation.

Capt. VENEGONI Luigi repatriated from the Balkans and who is at present at Camp S. Andrea awaiting his orders to leave, has given me the following information that he received from Caporal Major ROSSI Luigi (Pinerolo Division):

"On and about the end of November 3000 Italians, who were in the Concentration Camps of MISSOLUTI, EPTACORI, and DUCCICO, were on the way to the coast to be embarked to Italy. Owing however to the Political disorders in Greece, the Andartes refused to allow them to pass and they were obliged the all crowd of 3000, to retire to the mountains.

ROSSI declares to have been with them but managed to escape and reach the coast where he found a boat to take him to Italy.

The above ROSSI declared as having heard that with these Italians there was a British Major, who was killed by the Andartes".

Unfortunately I was unable to interrogate ROSSI, who during the process of interrogation did not reveal these facts, and only gave this information to Capt. VENEGONI on his departure.

However this information is interesting, if put together with my communication to you in my letter N.127 dated the 3th of December 1944, subject "Information furnished by 2nd Liut. FONTANA Oreste (transmittal only to the Military Command of Puglia and Lucania. - Uff. "I")

Signed

the Colonel President

Colonel M. PALMA.

P.C.C.
Liut. Col.
Head of the Division AA. CG.
F. BORDONI.

3869

GU/gm

Ministry of War

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans and Repatriated PW

Rome, January 28th 1945

N.402325/RPGR.

SUBJECT: Lodgings for War Veterans and Repatriated PW in Campania.

TO: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB-COMMISSION.ROME.

ATTENTION: Col. Campbell.

Regarding your verbal request made to me on the 27th of January 1945, I inform you as follows:

1) the "Garibaldi" barracks at Naples released by the Allied Authorities about nine months ago, is at present being used as lodgings for Carabinieri and for a military Transit Office; also for a depot for the depositing of sanitary and building materials.

The room space is all occupied and is not even sufficient for its present needs.

2) Regarding the Camp at Aversa, that we are informed could be released by the Allied Authorities, we communicate to you that the Camp is N.326, run by the Americans, in the locality of Carinaro of Aversa, that could be used as Camp S. Andrea of Taranto, for all the men arriving from France and North Africa.

Thanking you.

The General Commanding
the Autonomous Office.

A. MANNERINI.

5868

IPW

2126 C. has by copy
of the for action

BA/cm

WAR MINISTRY

Autonomous Office for War

Veterans and Repatriated IPW.

Rome, January 25th 1945

N. 401798/RPGR

SUBJECT: Italian Military Personnel at the Concentration Camp of Ragusa.

TO: War Materials Disposal and IPW Sub-Commission. Rome.

ATTENTION: Land Forces Sub-Commission A.C.(M.M.I.A.)

✓ 10 107 1789 89. - 95 refers

Following our letter N.401092 dated 24th December 1944 we herewith transmit a copy of a report arrived at this office regarding the Italian Military Personnel in the Concentration Camp of Ragusa, guarded by the Croat Partisans.

It results from this report that there are still fifty Italians in the Camp.

Signed:

The General Commanding
the Autonomous Office
A. MANNERINI.

*Spoke 95 letter on question of reports
of all those from Balkans being forwarded.*

5867

*File
22*

COPY OF "CUTTING"WAR MINISTRY

Autonomous office for War Veterans and repatriated POW's.

Treatment of Italian Military Personnel in the Concentration Camp of Ragusa .

From the beginning the Partisans began a system of rounding up all the Italian Military Personnel, by all methods, prospectuses on the walls, by groups of partisans and even stopping them in the streets.

They took the places of the Germans as guards in the Concentration Camps and quadrupled the number of the sentrys. The Camp was used more or less as a place of transit, because the Italian Military Personnel were sent to the Dalmatian Islands (especially Curzola) to work at the heaviest work of Reconstruction.

I, having remained with the partisans at the Civil Hospital, do not know the exact treatment used in regard to the Italian in the Islands, but from what I heard, I can assure they were treated worse than normal prisoners, in as much as they were worked very hard, paid hardly at all and not fed properly.

At their arrival at Ragusa the partisans, to those who arrived from Fort LOVERNAC (about 300), subjected them to a double requisition: first preformed by the Partisan Officers, who took all their money and anything of value in their possession - the second requisition was done by the troops who took everything left, not excluding their clothes.

I personally declare that I was made to work at my Hospital duties uninterruptedly from eight o'clock in the morning to eight at night.

The Italians who have had the misfortune to become Prisoners of the Partisans are to-day confronting their conditions with their past conditions when prisoners in German hands, and not a few find their present state much worse.

At the time of my departure from Ragusa, the number of Prisoners was of about 50, all in the hands of the partisans and the Allies.

At the Civil Hospital at Ragusa - kept by the Partisans - Capt. Dr. ABRASCIANO Sabino, from Andria (Bari) And Lieut. Dr. MAGNONI Alvare from Modena, are held.

Before I escaped, Capt. ABRASCIANO was obliged, (after having been forced to wear a partisan uniform) by the Partisans to follow them to NIKSIC. I do not remember the precise locality.

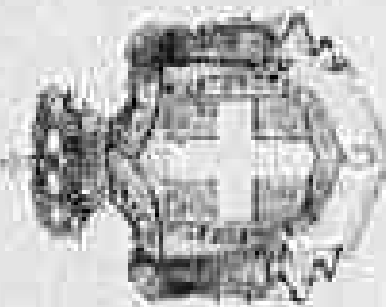
I afterwards heard that Capt. ABRASCIANO had been shot by the partisans for, according to them, having behaved badly during the Italian occupations

5866

SAY I do not think I have anything of more important to add, but I wish to add that all the Italians now in Ragusa or in the Island, are awaiting their repatriation with understandable anxiety.

/s/ Lieut.-Colonel
F. BORDONI.

BA/cm



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

Deputato
10/11/49
RPGR *Allegato*

OGGETTO

Militari italiani nel campo di concentramento di Ragusa.-

e, per conoscenza :

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

- R O M A -

A seguito del foglio n. 401092 in data 24 dicembre u.s., si trasmette stralcio di una relazione pervenuta a questo ufficio in merito al trattamento subito dai militari italiani nel campo di concentramento di Ragusa sorvegliato dai partigiani croati.-

Dalla suddetta relazione risulta che circa cinquanta italiani si trovano ancora a Ragusa.-

IL GENERALE

CAPO DELL'UFFICIO AUTONOMO

(A. Mannerini)

25 gennaio 1945

Al
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN P.W. SUB COMMISSION

- R O M A -

Risposta al Foglio del
Gen. 24/2

e, per conoscenza :

LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION A.C. (M.E.I.A.) - R O M A -

A seguito del foglio n.401092 in data 24 dicembre u.s., si trasmette stralcio di una relazione pervenuta a questo ufficio in merito al trattamento subito dai militari italiani nel campo di concentramento di Ragusa sorvegliato dai partigiani croati.--

Dalla suddetta relazione risulta che circa cinquanta italiani si trovano ancora a Ragusa.--

IL GENERALE

CAPO DELL'UFFICIO AUTONOMO

(A. Mannerini)



STRALCIO

MINISTERO DELLA GUERRA

Ufficio Autonomo Reduci Prigionia di Guerra e Rimpatriati

Trattamento subito da militari italiani nel campo di concentramento di Ragusa.-

....." I partigiani effettuarono sin dall'inizio un sistematico rastrellamento dei militari italiani a mezzo di bandi, manifesti murali, e fermamenti anche materialmente per le strade.- Essi si sostituirono ai tedeschi nella guardia del campo di concentramento, quadruplicando il numero delle sentinelle.- Il campo serviva per lo più come posto di transito, poichè i militari italiani rastrellati venivano inviati nelle Isole Dalmate (specie CURZOLA) per essere adibiti a pesanti lavori di ricostruzione e di riadattamento.-

Io, essendo rimasto anche coi partigiani presso l'Ospedale Civile, non so il preciso trattamento usato nei riguardi degli italiani nelle Isole.- Ma per sentito più volte dire, posso affermare che essi sono trattati forse peggio dei normali prigionieri, in quanto sono sottoposti a fatiche durissime e mal ricompensati da scarse distribuzioni di vitto insufficiente.-

All'atto del loro arrivo in RAGUSA, i partigiani fecero oggetto gli italiani del campo di Forte LOVERNAC (circa 300) di una duplice espropriazione: una prima effettuata dagli ufficiali partigiani e rivolta particolarmente agli oggetti di valore e al denaro; la seconda svolta ad opera della truppa e tendente a privare i nostri militari del rimanente, non esclusi gli indumenti personali.-

Io personalmente, in merito al trattamento dei partigiani, posso dire che ero obbligato a esplicare la mia attività di infermiere ininterrottamente dalle ore 6 del mattino alle ore 8 di sera di ogni giorno.-".....

5862

....." Gli italiani che hanno la sventura di trovarsi prigionieri dei partigiani confrontano spesso il trattamento che attualmente subiscono, con le condizioni di vita che riservava loro la prigionia tedesca.- E non sono pochi quelli che quasi rimpiangono quest'ultima.-".....

- 2 -

....." All'atto del mio imbarco gli italiani ancora in Ragusa ammontavano ad una cinquantina circa, quasi tutti alle dipendenze dei partigiani o degli alleati.-

All'ospedale civile di Ragusa - tenuto dai partigiani - si trovavano il capitano medico ABBASCIANO Sabino di Andria (Bari) ed il tenente medico MAGNONI Alvaro di Modena.-

Prima ancora che io me ne fuggissi, il capitano ABBASCIANO fu obbligato dai partigiani, dopo aver indossato la loro uniforme, a seguirli in direzione di NIKSIC (non ricordo peraltro la precisa località).-

Da voci che circolavano in seguito, negli ambienti dell'ospedale, mi risulta che il suddetto capitano sarebbe stato fucilato dai partigiani perchè, a loro dire si sarebbe comportato malamente durante l'occupazione italiana.-

Non ritengo di avere altre notizie importanti da aggiungere.- Però voglio terminare questa mia breve relazione ricordando che gli italiani tuttora in Ragusa, e specialmente quelli delle isole, attendono con ansia comprensibile che qualcuno si interessi di loro e provochi con urgenza il loro rimpatrio.-

Bari, li 6 gennaio 1945



P. C. C.

TENENTE COLONNELLO

(F. Bordonì)

5863

(116)

MINISTRY OF WAR
Autonomous Office for War Veterans
and Repatriated prisoners of War.

Rome, 29 January 1945

TO: IPW 3/C, A.C.
R O L E

File No. 402407/RPGR

SUBJECT: Repatriated Italian Military personnel in
Bulgary and Rumania.

N/P

86 / 123

Further to our letters No. 400121/RPGR and No. 400601/RPGR dated respectively the 10th and the 17th of December 1944, we inform you that we have received from Bulgaria and Rumania news of the sad conditions under which our soldiers are living in those territories.

Because their repatriation is not possible across Greek territory, we beg this Sub-Commission to have the competent authorities examine the possibility for the soldiers in question to embark at Varna, regarding Bulgaria, and at Costanza, for those in Rumania, relative to the passage for Allied ships, through the Dardanelles.

We thank you cordially for anything this Sub-Commission will be able to do regarding this subject.

The General
Head of the Autonomous Office
A. Mannerini

IPW
22

(2271)

5861

(115)

ANF/gm

Rome 30 January 1945

MINISTRY OF WAR

Office Repatriated Prisoners of War
402422/RPGRTo: LAND FORCES SUB COMMISSION
A.C. (M.M.I.A.)
R O M AWAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN
PRISONERS OF WAR SUB COMMISSION
R O M ESubject: Clothing belonging to Italian Soldiers who have been repatriated
from the Balkans to S. Andrea Camp (Taranto)

As is known, the Allied Commission placed at the disposition of S. Andrea Camp (Taranto) for Italian Soldiers who have been repatriated from the Balkans, 63 tons of clothing and 10,000 pairs of repaired shoes.

Such provision was prompted by the fact that many who were repatriated from the Balkans have arrived in Italy in miserable condition with regard to clothing, so much so that it becomes necessary to immediately distribute clothing to them in order to shelter them from the severe weather and in order to put them in a decent condition during the return to the employment units.

At times it has happened that, owing to the temporary lack of clothing at that Unit, some Italian Soldiers have had to be moved in the same miserable conditions in which they arrived at the Camp.

We request that the A.C. interest itself in this case and that it make provisions whereby the units dependant upon Taranto could continuously furnish the above necessities in clothing, in order that the above situation may be dealt with without delay.

We will be grateful if this Sub Commission will do something to improve this condition upon the next arrival of Garibaldi's Division at Camp S. Andrea.

/s/

Gen. MANNERINI

IPW
22.

(2272)

5860

Prepared by

Lieut.-Colonel.

Copy to:

Land Forces Sub-Com. (MIA)

6. of S.

6/6

Ref: IPW/22/114

28 January 1945

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

See III, II, II, III.

Reference your letter 35413/10909/19.5 dated 23 January 1945.

I have been informed by the Director of the Sub-Commission concerned with the S. Andrea camp that it is his opinion that your informant does not know the position, and if he does, then he has not given you the facts.

The camp is undoubtedly open and wind swept, but accommodation for the repatriates from the Balkans and Greece had to be found at short notice and S. Andrea was the only possibility near Taranto with facilities to handle such numbers.

The repatriates on arrival are sorted, disinfested, issued with such clothing and boots as are available and fed on a large scale ration. They sleep in half shelter tents - (so do many of our soldiers), and a paillassae, straw and two blankets are issued.

My information is that there has been no trouble, and that the men were glad and grateful to be back in Italy, eating good food and with prospect of early hospitalisation or return to their homes.

Some 25,000 have passed through this camp, the average stay has not been more than 5 or 6 days, and at to-day's date there are less than 300 men left in the camp.

With such divergence of opinion I would request that you check the information you have received, and if your opinion remains the same after investigation I shall be glad if you will inform me, when I shall be pleased to arrange for a joint committee of Allied - Italian officers to investigate the whole question.

Yours very truly,

(Lgd) ELLERY W. STONE

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

FILE
His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi,
The President of the Council
of Ministers,
Italian Government, ROME.

B/R

22/2/45
9c

copy

Subject: St ANDREA Camp, TARANTO.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.O.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. AQ/78
26 January 45

Chief of Staff AG.

See 111, 112, 114.

Reference BUNOKI's letter to Chief Commissioner 25416/10909/19.5
of 23 Jan.

1. (a) I think the letter is monstrous and BUNOKI has been so wrongly informed that it almost looks as if his informant is either malicious or trying to discredit the Government and thus make political capital.
- (b) I can only speak of the one camp which handles repatriates from Balkans and Greece, which I visited myself a few weeks ago.
2. (a) This camp is undoubtedly open and wind swept. On the other hand, doubtless it was selected as being the only possibility near TARANTO with requisite facilities in being - and, for the repatriates, a camp was required at short notice.
- (b) The repatriates on arrival are sorted, disinfected, issued with such clothing and boots as are available and fed on a perfectly adequate ration. Granted that they sleep in half-shelter tents; so do many of our soldiers. One cannot expect THE RITZ in war. I was informed that all repatriates received a palliases, straw and two blankets.
- (c) The organization from what I could see, was good and has worked smoothly. I was informed that there had been no trouble and that in fact the men were only too glad and grateful to be back in Italy, eating decent food and with the prospect of early hospitalization or return to their homes.
- (d) We have passed some 25,000 through this camp and the average stay has not been more than 5 or 6 days, depending on the size of the variable inflow.

2. (a) This camp is undoubtedly open and wind swept. On the other hand, doubtless it was selected as being the only possibility near TARANTO with requisite facilities in being - and, for the repatriates, a camp was required at short notice.
- (b) The repatriates on arrival are sorted, disinfested, issued with such clothing and boots as are available and fed on a perfectly adequate ration. Granted that they sleep in half-shelter tents; so do many of our soldiers. One cannot expect THE R.I.I.Z. in war. I was informed that all repatriates received a palliase, straw and two blankets.
- (c) The organization from what I could see, was good and has worked smoothly. I was informed that there had been no trouble and that in fact the men were only too glad and grateful to be back in Italy, eating decent food and with the prospect of early hospitalization or return to their homes.
- (d) We have passed some 25,000 through this camp and the average stay has not been more than 5 or 6 days, depending on the size of the variable inflow.
- (e) To talk about "endlessly waiting to be examined"---"wearing out what energy they have left"---"cherished hope to participate in the war of liberation"---"depressing return" is just pure "hot air" or completely false.
- (f) The camp is only temporary and will presumably cease when the repatriates are all evacuated.
- (g) Finally, I would mention that these repatriates are aggressors. They ought never to have been in GREECE and the BALKANS. For political and humanitarian reasons we have been at great pains to get them back, despite the fact that we know that only a few would be able directly to assist the war effort. The result is SUMMEL's letter of gratitude.

o/ L. SUMMEL
Major General
(M.A.I.A.)

5858

2.

(112)

See III, 112, 114.

Land Forces Sub-Com.

Reference translation of letter from the Italian Prime Minister. (111)
I shall be very pleased to have your remarks before forwarding a reply as instructed by the Chief Commissioner.

I understand from what was said by Col. Noakes yesterday that there are very few men now remaining in S. Andrea camp and that while weather conditions were bad - steps were taken to provide some sort of corrugated iron shelters with fires where the men could dry themselves.

If you can confirm that the position is as above and let me have any further information with regard to blankets and sleeping conditions at the camp-by return I shall be obliged as I have been instructed to answer the letter at once.

26. Jan. 45

J. A. Campbell

J. A. CAMPBELL, Lt. Col.
Director, WMD & IPOW Sub-Com.

5857

Translation

IPW V WMD SC



The President of the Council of Ministers
25418/10909/17.

Rome, 23 January 1945

Dear Admiral,

JAN 25 1945
cc 112, 113, 114.

I want to draw your kind attention on a state of things which
is a cause of painful worry to me.

I have been informed that near Martina Franca (Taranto), in S. Andrea, has
been established a centre for the gathering and sorting of the Italian sol-
diers who come back from the prisoner of war camps.

These eight camps have no barracks so that they all sleep under a small
tent, with a little straw and one blanket only. Because of the altitude, the
windy climate of the locality, the configuration of the ground which makes it im-
possible to deviate the water from the tents on rainy days, these men are suffer-
ing terribly from the cold, for most of them have no shoes, their clothes are in
rags, and they get fed irregularly because of the difficulties which the logistics
services meet with on the one and only path which gives access to the camps.

Such are the living conditions of 7000 men who are waiting endlessly to be examine
ed and then liberated, wearing out what energy they have left for their health
has been badly damaged by the hardships of a life of fighting, and by their suffer-
ings in prison.

The moral consequences are just as bad, for good purposes and the cherished
hope of being able, after so useless a sacrifice, to participate in the war of
liberation, seldom outlive the ordeal of such a depressing return to the Country.

For these reasons, my dear Admiral, I draw your attention on this question
and ask for your intervention to set things right. In case it wouldn't be possible to
provide a better and more suitable accomodation, I beg you to see that everything
is done to make their stay in the camp as short as possible; the sorting operations
would have to be made much more quickly.

I remain,

Yours very truly,

S. I. Bonomi

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
R o m e

e.c.

IPW
22.

COS DIST - 25 Jan 45

Action: IPW. 5856

INFO: Chief Commr

COS.

LAND FORCES SC.

CONFIDENTIAL

WMD 1801 (110)
~~108~~F31382
JAN 25/1139AC/9465
JAN 25/1955
PRIORITYAPND SIGNED BACKED CITE: PHUSB
ALCOS FOR POLITICAL SECTION.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL.

A request has been received from AGC BULGARIA for permission to send Col CESARE DI MONTHEROLO Italian Military attache to report to MFA ROME. Object of visit is stated to be discussion on financial matters and report situation Italian ex PW in BULGARIA. Application is for visit only and permission has been granted by Italian Minister, BULGARIA. Please advise as matter of urgency whether MFA desire his return for this purpose.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DIST

Action: Pol Sec
Info: /President
Chief Commissioner
WED & POS
Finance S/C
Pub Safe
File (2)
Plant

IPW

22

HEADQUARTERS
26 JAN 1955
8857
A.

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy of telegram received from Mr. Broad
Caserta, addressed to Foreign Office and
repeated to Rome, 19th Jan 1945.

Copy for Political Section

(109)

Ankara telegram no.1 to Rome [repatriation of Italian
troops in Bulgaria and Rumania]

AFHQ inform me that the possibility of Italian Government
providing a ship for this purpose is remote. The question is
being pursued however in conjunction with C-in-C, Mediterranean
and I will inform you of any future developments. In the
meantime AFHQ have notified GHQ, Middle East, that they wish to
continue with scheme of evacuation of Italian civilian officials
from Rumania and Bulgaria through Turkey and the Middle East
as planned. First priority personnel only will still be evacuated
by air as and when opportunity occurs.

3. Question of evacuation of Italian troops from Bulgaria is
being considered on a different basis and solution depends on
development of situation in Greece.

a/c/lw

SECRET

5854

(108)

Rome January 23rd. 1945

Ministry of War

To the Allied Commission

Autonomous office for War

Rome

Veterans and Repatriated PW

402041

Subject: Repatriation of Italian from Albania.

We inform you that at the present date H.E. the Minister of War, in accord with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has delegated General Gino Piccini, residing at Tirana, to arrange with the Albanian Authorities, the questions regarding the repatriation of military and civil personnel and militarized Italians in existence to day in Albania.

signed

The General

Head of the Autonomous office
(A. Mannerini)

*copy passed to MMIA for info. 28/1/45.
gc.*

*IPW
22*

5853

(104)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for War
Veterans and repatriated PW.
402022 RPGR

Rome, 22 January 1945

To : WMD & IPOW Sub/Com., A.C.? Rome.

Subject : The arrivals of the war veterans and repatriated PsW.

See 132.

With the aim of sending my greetings to the military personnel on their arrival in Italy I have arranged that they be met by the Territorial Commander, or any officer delegated by him.

I have been informed that many times this order cannot be followed, as not always do they know the date of arrival of the groups.

I shall therefore be very grateful if this Sub-Commission will arrange in manner that the territorial Commanders are informed in time of these arrivals.

THE MINISTER

s/ Casati

1PW

22

copy passed to Capt. Ape for 1/7 & action memory.
Suggests copy be sent to MMIA
for info. 28/1/45. etc.

5852

SECRETSUBJECT: Return of GARABALDI DivLAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/G/31/2
23 Jan 45TO : MINISTRY OF WARCopy to: P.W. SUB-COM.

46 negato

Ref your letter 40191/ of 12 Jan 45.

1. It is regretted that no special accommodation arrangements can be made for the GARABALDI Div in the BARI Area. These personnel will be processed at ST ANDREWS Camp where every facility exists. As you know 23,000 personnel have already passed through this camp and the camp strength on 20 Jan was only 180.

2. As soon as it is known exactly when the Div will arrive, this HQ will communicate with 52 Area with a view to special reception arrangements, in order that the Div may receive a befitting welcome. War Ministry will also be informed.

M. J. Ingledew
Jr. Col
Major General
M. M. I. A.

Internal: SD/50
AQ
ST

IPW

22

5851

SECRET

Y187784
JAN 191815A

WMD
C/867A
JAN 201020A
PRIORITY

AFHQ SIGNED ALEXANDER CITE PIRAN

- (1) MIDEAST INFO (2) ACC BULGARIA (3) ACC ROMANIA (BRIT DELEGATION)
(4) ALCOM (5) MIL ATTACHES AMMAN

FOR INFORMATION ONLY**SECRET.**

Reference your A1/79518 January 16 not to ACC ALCOM. Subject is evacuation of Italian diplomatic personnel and Italian military personnel from BULGARIA and ROMANIA.

1. At the present time evacuation is NOT possible via BLACK SEA ports.
2. The evacuation of military personnel will continue via RUFEL PASS - SALONIKA as soon as the situation permits.
3. The evacuation of diplomatic personnel (excluding those on priority who may travel by air) is desired via TURKEY and SYRIA at the earliest opportunity.
4. At present the limiting factor to 3 above is individual approval by this HQ which will be signalled as soon as full details are submitted by ACC.
5. ACC please expedite application forms.

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

DIS
INFO-ACTION: Tol Sec
Land Forces
INFO: A/resident
Chief Commissioner
C.O.S.
C.A. Sec
SMD & POW
Sub Safety
File REARS

SECRET

1822
255

5850
20 JAN 945
A. C.

SI/cm

104

MINISTRY OF WAR
Autonomous Office for War Veterans
and Repatriated P.O.W's.

Rome, January 21st 1945

401975 /RPGR

SUBJECT: Organization of lodging Centers for War Veterans and Repatriated
P.O.W's.

TO: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB-COMMISSION.
Attention Col. Campbell. Rome.

*See 374 in file I.
(copy attached)*

While awaiting information on the decision to be taken on subject that we informed you of in our letter N.401586 dated January 12th 1945, we herewith inform you of the necessity to increase the number of places in the Lodging Center of Bari from 1000 to 1500, in order to bring the capacity of the Center up to the possibility of receiving the Groups of War Veterans of the "Garibaldi" from Albania, that as is known, will return to Italy in the near future.

For this organization the following assignments will be required:

N. 1000 blankets (calculating two blankets for each man.)
" 500 food-tins
" 500 spoons.

This Ministry has confidence in your benevolent interest to effectuate the consignment of these materials to the Territorial Command at Bari.

Signed:

the General

5849

Commanding the Autonomous Office

A. Mannerini.

IPW
22

(104)

MINISTRY OF WAR
Autonomous Office for War
Veterans and Repatriated
POW N. 401586

Rome 12th January 1945

To the Sub-Commission for War Materials Disposal
and IPW
Attention: Col. Campbell

Subject: Organization by Lodging Centers for War Veterans and repatriated POW.

As you are aware this Ministry, during the period of waiting for the definite policy on the receiving of veterans and POW to be decided upon, on the basis of ideas contained in the note sent to this Sub Commission, is now preoccupied to provide for the reception of those already repatriated and in process of repatriation.

To this end we have given course to the forming of lodging centers near the Territorial Commands at Bari, Naples and Palermo, some of which are actually in full activity others that have still to be organized.

For the latter, it is necessary above all to arrange for the furnishing and general organization, in more we have forwarded a request to this Commission requesting for building materials and for general services necessary for the functions of these centers, materials that must be taken from the R.Army States.

Particularly for Sicily where it has been decided to organize a Lodging Center for 2,000 men in houses already closed and prepared for this use, a request has been sent from the General Direction of the Commissary department of the Ministry of War in letter N. 6676/3 dated 28th December 1944 to the M.M.I.A. the assignment of the following building materials to be taken from the depots of the Commissary Department of the Territorial Command at Palermo:

- N. 6000 small boards
- 4000 trusses
- 2000 linings for mattress
- 4000 blankets
- 5000 hair mattress.

To this request the M.M.I.A. answered with letter AG/12/1 dated 29 December 1944 that they could not authorize the releasing of these building materials and that clothes could only be issued to POW who are on duty on the Italian Army.

Although understanding the reasons that induced the M.M.I.A. to refuse the request I wish to insist again on a solution of this problem, that for its moral and social aspects, is urgently necessary to resolve.

More so in Sicily, as in other centers, where the military personnel repatriate, who though not having need of Hospitals, have need of care while waiting for their designations, whether to auxiliary formations with the Italian Army.

I turn to you in hopes that with your benevolent attention you will be able to obtain the authority to give the minimum aid as without it, it will be impossible to organize anything owing to the complete lack of these materials.

/s/ The General
Head of the Autonomous Office
A. MANZONI

5848

SI/cm

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for War Veterans
and Repatriated P.O.W's.

Rome, January 21st 1945

401975 /RPCR

SUBJECT: Organization of lodging Centers for War Veterans and Repatriated
P.O.W's.

TO: WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN P.W. SUB-COMMISSION.
Attention Col. Campbell. Rome.

While awaiting information on the decision to be taken on subject that we informed you of in our letter N.401586 dated January 12th 1945, we herewith inform you of the necessity to increase the number of places in the Lodging Center of Bari from 1000 to 1500, in order to bring the capacity of the Center up to the possibility of receiving the Groups of War Veterans of the "Garibaldi" from Albania, that as is known, will return to Italy in the near future.

For this organization the following assignments will be required:

N. 1000 blankets (calculating two blankets for each man.)
" 500 food-tins
" 500 spoons.

This Ministry has confidence in your benevolent interest to effectuate the consignment of these materials to the Territorial Command at Bari.

Signed:

the General

Commanding the Autonomous Office

A. Mannerini.

5817

(103)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Rome 12th January 1945

Autonomous Office for War Veterans and repatriated P.O.W.

N. 40191/

Subject: Repatriation of the "Garibaldi" division.

In view of the repatriation of the "Garibaldi" division, actually operating in the Balkans, I represent to this Commission the necessity for finding lodgings for the above mentioned subjects on their return, lodgings that will offer them a minimum of comfort, to soldiers who have been subject to many hardships and that have been fighting with great valour against the Germans.

We therefore beg this Sub Commission to examine the possibility of finding them lodgings in the Bari Center, rather than at St. Andrea, (which would be where all war Veterans arriving from the Balkans are designated) the members of the "Garibaldi" division on their return.

It would thus be possible to give them a better welcome which they deserve from the Italian Nation.

Naturally the said military during their transit will be fed with the Italian Army rations "type 30"

/s/

The Minister

GASATI

See 106.

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission.

Ref. above and our conversation.

It is agreed that you will deal with this question and reply direct to the Ministry of War - copy to me.

22 Jan. 45.

J.A.C.

3846

IPW
22.

(102)

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

IPW/22/102

17 January 1945

To : The Minister of War, Italian Government, Rome.

Subject: Clothes for War Veterans and Repatriated Italian
Soldiers and Prisoners of War.

94 / ju 101

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter POW No.
401451 dated 8 January 1945.

- 1/. The question of clothes for all repatriated soldiers and Prisoners of War arriving at Centers other than the S. Andrea Center has been under consideration, and a special request has been made to the Priorities Board for the amount of clothing asked for in your letter.
- 2/. I hope to be able to notify you at a very early date the original allotment I have been able to procure.

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

5845

B/F 25/1/45

c/c

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

INTER OFFICE MEMO

IPW/22/101

14 January 1945

To: Commerce Sub-Commission.

Subject: Clothing for Italian Soldiers and Prisoners of War
returning from France and the Balkan countries.

- 1/. Reference my conversation with Colonel Evans this morning. I have to request that 5,000 sets of clothing to include the outer and inner garments be made available for issue to the Italian Ministry of War.
- 2/. This clothing is urgently required to clothe practically naked Italian soldiers and Prisoners of War returning from France and the Balkan countries.
- 3/. This clothing is required immediately as considerable numbers that are at present in camps cannot be dispersed as there is actually no clothing to issue to them.
- 4/. The cost of this clothing will be a charge against the Italian Ministry of War.

5814

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

1261