

ACE

10000/120/5698

NO 29

CUNEO DIVISION

PART I

Jan. 1944 - Apr. 1945

EO DIVISION

PART I

6338
6433

Ap. 1945

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PRISONERS OF WAR
Military Section

(100)
Rome, 23rd April 45

No. 31859 di Prot.

TO: THE ALLIED COMMISSION
Sub-Commissioner for
It.P.O.W.
ROME

SUBJECT: Italian Military personnel transferred from the
Egean to Egypt.

83
Following our letter No. 95/Pol/C.I. dated the 13th
of January 1945

The name of Capt. TROTTA Francesco son of Giuseppe
must be added to the list attached to above mentioned letter,
said Capt. TROTTA whom on presenting himself to the Allied
Authorities in Athens on the 20th October 1944, instead of
being repatriated to Italy was sent to Egypt and interned as
PW No. 248337 in Camp 305.

we beg you to call this matter to the attention of the
competent British Authorities.

Thanking you

for the High Commissioner
Gen. V. Dapino

IPW
29

DATE. 27-4-45
ENTERED ON CARDS. <i>V. Dapino</i>
INITIALS.

6433

(99)

ma/

Rome 20th March 1945.

High Commission for It. PW.

To the Allied Commission
Sub-Commission for It. PW.

No. 807/Pol/C-1 di Prot.

*Sec 93 + 96.*Subject: Italian Military Personnel transferred from the
Egeo into Egypt.

In Thanking you for your courteous letter IPW/29/96
dated the 12th. of March 1945, we inform you that 2nd. Lieut.
Sandro Rosa was not repatriated with the components of the
Cuneo Division.

He is an aviator and should have been repatriated
with his colleagues, who arrived in Italy a few months ago.
Probably he was not repatriated because he was interned in
Camp 305, and it is thought that the Military personnel
of Camp 305 will not be permitted to return as volunteers to
Italy in the plan for repatriation of the 28.000 men.

It will be appreciated if the Commission will again
examine the possibility of adhering to the proposal of the
High Commission prospected in our letter 581/Pol. dated the
22nd. of February 1945, also in the case of ROSA.

Thanking you ,

Signed the High Commissioner
Gen. P. GazzeraIPW/
29

6432

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

98

IPW/29/98

16 March 1945

Subject: Military personnel called to arms in Turkey to
fight against the Germans.

To : Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.

see 97, 96, 83a

Reference your 605/Pol/C.22 d1 prot of 6 March 1945.

1. It is considered the information contained in our
letter IPW/29/96 of 12 March 1945 will suffice to answer the
above referred letter.

clt

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

6431

ma.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PW

N.605/Pol./C.22 di prot.

Rome, March 6th 1945

TO: THE ALLIED COMMISSION. IPW SUB-COMMISSION. ROME.

SUBJECT: Military personnel called to arms in Turkey to fight against Germans.

In the period following the conclusion of the Armistice between Italy and the Allied Powers, the ex-It. Military Attaché at Ankara, with the aim of reforming the "CUNEO" Division and with the consent of the British Authorities of the Middle East, recruited the under-mentioned Italians, residing in Turkey, as volunteers for the war against the Germans.

- 1). 2nd Ltut. (Reserve) CITTONE David, son of Mosè and Luisa Levi, born at Istanbul on the 13th of June 1914, residing in Istanbul
- 2). Soldier RUSSO Carlo, son of Marcello and Maria Maggior, born at Izmir on the 7th of August 1920, residing at Izmir.
- 3). Soldier PARDO Neddy, son of Ascer and Cicurel Gila, born at Izmir on the 24th of January 1925, residing at Izmir.
- 4). Soldier CITTONE Giuseppe, son of Mosè and Luisa Levi, born at Istanbul on the 6th of January 1919, residing at Istanbul.
- 5). Soldier FRANCO Giacomo, son of Donato and Rachele Naum, born at Istanbul the 29th of March 1915, residing at Istanbul.
- 6). Soldier Delfino Giorgio, son of the late Michele and Maria Lubat born at Izmir on the 11th of June 1922, residing at Izmir.
- 7). Soldier COSEANTINI Flavio, son of Carmine and Virginia Capepa, born at Odemish (Izmir) the 11th of August 1922, residing at Izmir.
- 8). Soldier LANZA Carlo, son of Giuseppe and Vittoria Giamalianato, born at Tunisi the 5th of April 1906, residing in Istanbul.
- 9). Soldier PAPAGNO Remo, son of the late Pasquale and Anna Exadakti-los, born at Izmir on the 2nd of February 1924, residing at Izmir.
- 10). Soldier DE MARCHI Osvaldo, son of the late Luigi and Teresa Ros-si, born at Istanbul the 17th of October 1922, residing at Istanbul.

These people were sent to Egypt, where the "Cuneo" Division was being re-formed, (a ~~re~~formation that as is known, did not take place) and there interned in a concentration camp.

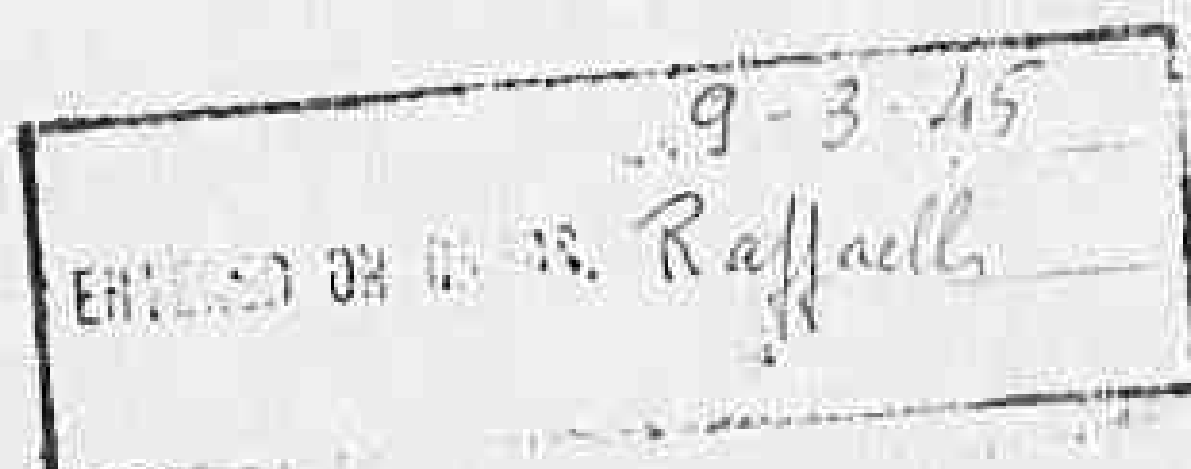
We beg the Commission to call this matter to the attention of the Allied Authorities that the possibility of repatriating them for Italian Combat Units, may be examined.

Thanking you.

Signed:

the High Commissioner

General P. GAZZERA.



29.

98

206430

(96)

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

IPW/29/96

12 March 1945

Subject: Italian Military Personnel transferred from the
Aegean to Egypt.

To : Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.

See 933 & 99.
Reference your 581/Pol/G-1 di prot dated 22 February 1945.

1. Your original letter on this subject (95/Pol/G-1 dated 13 January 1945) was forwarded to higher authority for action, but no reply has yet been received.

2. However, the scheme for the repatriation of 3,400 officers and 28,000 men needed as re-inforcements for the Italian Army is now being discussed by higher authority. It has been requested that members of the "Cuneo" Division should be included in this scheme. You will be advised of the decision reached in due course.

clp

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

6429

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

See 95.

IPW/29/90

22 February 1945

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

Subject: Repatriation of volunteers from TURKEY.

With reference to your letter 403033/PRGB dated 11 February 1945.

- 1/. As you will recollect there has been much correspondence in the past regarding members of the "Cuneo" Division. My letter IPW/29/82 dated 19 December 1944 finally cleared up the question of status of the members of this Division, and it also showed that these men were doing an excellent job to help the war effort.
- 2/. It is regretted that at the present time, we are unable to repatriate Italian Nationals out of the Italian Army. It was at the request of the Italian Government that this Division was relieved of Prisoner of War status, and consequently it is an Italian Division serving overseas, and as such, the question of repatriation cannot be considered.

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

*Letter re Cuneo Div
being used as reinforcements
for Italian Divs now fighting
in Italy.*

*See encl 1
para 5
in file*

39.

gc.

BIF

0 93

SUBJECT:- Cuneo Division.

Headquarters,
Allied Commission.
(IFW Sub Commission).

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

CF/3055/G1(Br).

5 Mar 45.

1. Reference your IFW/29/79 dated 12 Dec 44 and further to this Headquarters letter of even reference dated 16 Dec 44.

2. A reply has now been received from the War Office to the effect that in view of Commander in Chief, MIDDLE EAST FORCES' recommendation that no further segregation is possible, it has been decided that no change can be made in the status or treatment of these men.

WAKP/DDKT.

no action

A.R. K. Link
A.S. BANSBORN,
Lieut Colonel, A.A.G.,
for Major General,
DAG. G.1(Br).

6428

68.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PW

N.581/Pol/G-I di prot.

Rome, 22nd February 1945

TO: THE ALLIED COMMISSION. IPW SUBCOMMISSION. ROME.

SUBJECT: Italian Military personnel transferred from the Egeo to Egypt.

See 96.999.
10/19-22/10 Dec 83, 83a
Following my letter N.95/Pol/G.I dated the 13th of January 1945.

We are informed that 2nd Ltut.R.A.Rosa Sandro, interned in Camp 365, M.E.F. in Egypt, is not on the list attached to above-mentioned letter.

From information received relative to above-mentioned subject it seems" that he manifested an ardent national spirit and according to his comrades who were with him in action, showed to have extremely good qualities as a pilot and behaved in such a manner, as to induce his repatriated comrades to declare him absolutely without fascist sentiments!

We beg the Allied Commission, on the basis of what is written above, to bring this matter to the attention of the Competent Authorities, that the said officer may be repatriated as is agreed for officers of his corps, who in the Egeo, fought for the Common Cause.

Signed:

The High Commissioner
General Pietro Gazzera.

File
29

BIF
6427

(92)

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PW.

N.590/Pol/G.I di prot.

Rome, February 27th 1945

TO: THE ALLIED COMMISSION. IPW SUB-COMMISSION. ROME.

SUBJECT: Colonel of the General Staff, MANNO Antonio.

See 86/87
Reference your letter N.IPW 29/87, dated the 13th of February 1945.

The Colonel of the General Staff, Manno Antonio, born in 1895 is interned at Camp 308 in Egypt.

There is only one Colonel of the General Staff, whose name is MANNO.

Signed:

for the High Commissioner

The General Secretary

General V.DAPINO.

*IPW
29.*

6426

ma.



*L'Alto Commissario
per i prigionieri di guerra*

N° 590/Pol./G.1 di prot.

OGGETTO : Colonnello di S.M. MANNO Antonio.

Roma, li 20 febbraio 1945

(92a)

Alla COMMISSIONE ALLEATA
Sottocommissione per i p. di g.

R o m a

Riferimento foglio IPW 29/87 del 13 febbraio corrente.

Il Colonnello di S.M. MANNO Antonio - nato nel 1895 risulta internato nel Campo n° 308 in Egitto.

Nel R.Esercito Italiano esiste un solo Colonnello di S.M. Manno.

Si tratta di quello sopra indicato.

f L'ALTO COMMISSARIO

6425

Ref. 88.

(89)

Spoke with Gen. Mannerini.

Maj. Partridge. - There is some correspondence re the Cuneo Division being brought back as re-inforcements to the Combat troops in Italy. See what it says and draft something to Gen. Mannerini saying what has been proposed and that it is regretted that we cannot repatriate Italian Nationals out of the Italian Army.

18 Feb. 45.

J.A.C.

Sir,

Ref. above, encls. 72, 79, 80 & 82 refer.

17/2/45.

Jc.

6424

Rome, 11th of February 1945

(88)

MINISTRY OF WAR

Autonomous Office for
Veterans and repatriated
P.O.Ws.TO: The Sub Commission for
Italian PW & WMD
R O M E

No. 403033/PKGB.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Volunteers from Turkey.*See 82, 80, 49, 72, 95.*

This Ministry has been informed that amongst the personnel of the "Cuneo" Division, interned in Egypt, enrolled in Turkey after the Armistice as volunteers for fighting groups, are the individuals whose names figure on the list herewith attached.

These people were incorporated in the "Cuneo" Division, when the said Division was in Palestine awaiting re-organization and subsequent departure to the Italian front.

In consideration of the fact that these people are Italian Citizens, residents in Turkey, who voluntarily left a peaceful existence to enroll themselves in the army and come to Italy to fight the Germans, we beg the Commission to obtain the liberation and repatriation of said military personnel.

The General Commanding the
Autonomous Office

A. MANNERINI

*1PW
29.*

6423

BA/gm

(88) a

ELENCO DEI VOLONTARI ITALIANI ARRUOLATI IN
TURCHIA ED ATTUALMENTE INTERNATI IN EGITTO

DE MARCHI	Osvaldo	fu Luigi	- classe 1912
LANZA	Carlo	di Giuseppe	- " 1906
PAPAGNO	Remo	fu Pasquale	- " 1924
CITTONI	Giuseppe	di Moisè	- " 1919
FRANCO	Giacomo	fu Donato	- " 1915
COSENTINI	Flavio	di Carmine	- " 1922
RUSSO	Carlo	di Marcello	- " 1920
NEDDY	Pardo	di Ascer	- " 1925
DELPINO	Giorgio	fu Michele	- " 1922

6422

ma.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PW

Military Section

Rome, February 3th 1945

N.16891

TO: THE ALLIED COMMISSION. IPW SUB-COMMISSION. ROME.

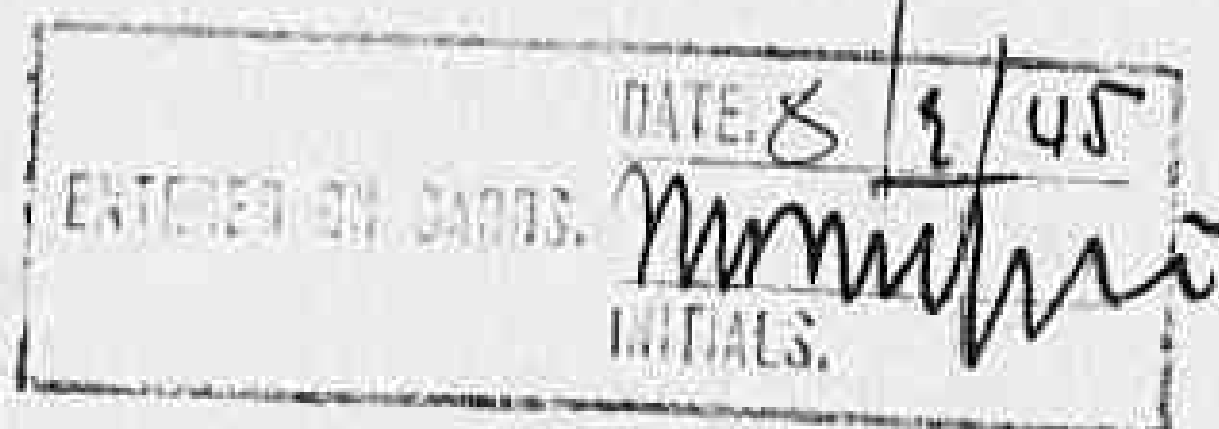
SUBJECT: Italian soldiers who are transferred from Egeo to Egypt.

Reference your letter IPW I/19 dated 13th of January 1945.

Captain G.GAMBERINI will be provided with the benedices that, we hope, the Allied Authorities will give to the Italian Soldiers, who were transferred from Egeo to Egypt. (File 95/Pol./G.I dated 13th of January 1945 from this High Commission).

The High Commissioner

General Pietro Gazzera.



File 29 sec Encl. 83

1/14
29

6421

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

IPW/22/84

22 January 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Military personnel transferred from the Egean to Egypt.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.
(Att: G-1(8))

1. Enclosed is a copy letter No. 95/Pol/C-1 dated 13 January 1945 received from General Gazzera, the Italian High Commissioner for POW regarding treatment of Italian POW in Camp 305, Egypt.

2. Could enquiries please be made into this matter and a report forwarded to me in due course, for onward transmission to General Gazzera.

3. Regarding Colonel Manno referred to in General Gazzera's letter, there have, in the past, been several applications made for his repatriation - all of which were turned down for security reasons.

General Gazzera's description of him hardly agrees with the various reports held in my office.

4. It is for consideration that further investigation be made in this matter, as the Italian War Ministry continue to state that there must be some misunderstanding in this particular case.

5. I would also point out that although the original request for repatriation of Colonel Manno was only forwarded after careful consideration by this Headquarters, and each request signed personally by the Chief Commissioner - the statement that S.I.W.F. "find it difficult to believe that his release was advisable" was signed by a Lieutenant.

For the Chief Commissioner :

Chd
J.A. CAMPBELL,
Lieut.-Colonel,
Director,
WID & IPW Sub-Com.

encl:
as in para.1.

copy to G-5, AFHQ.
FILE. ✓

6/120
15/2/45
etc

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

(83)

IPW/29/8322 January 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Military personnel transferred from the Aegean
to Egypt.

TO : Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War. *be 87.*

see 83 a
Reference your letter No.95/Pol/8-1 dated 13 January 1945.

1. This matter has been referred to higher authority, and a report
will be forwarded in due course.

see 104
CB
J.A. CAMPBELL,
Lieut.-Colonel,
Director,
WMD & IPW Sub-Com.

FILE ✓

6419

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PW

Rome, 13 January 1945

File No. 95/Pol/G-1

To : Allied Commission,
ROME

Subject : Italian Military Personnel transferred from the Egean to Egypt.

As it is known after the Armistice, some thousands of Italian Military Personnel belonging to the Units stationed on the islands in the Egean sea, (the "Danea", "Regina" and other divisions) after having fought against the Germans, fled to Turkey. They afterwards accepted transportation to the Middle East from where it was supposed they would have been repatriated as quickly as possible to continue the war against the Germans.

It is known that a certain number of these officers and soldiers have been interned in POW Camp 305 M.E.F. noted center of POW who have been declared Fascists and others who have refused to collaborate with the Allies.

The Prime Minister has received news from the families of this Military Personnel in the last few days, informing him that their relatives are interned at Camp 305, relatives who were in the Egean islands. (Herewith attached is a list of at least a part of these men).

In this report it is declared that the mode of judging and interning this Military personnel is most arbitrary and superficial; adding that those who did the judging had neither the discernment nor the capacity to do so, with the result that really fine officers and soldiers of undoubted military honesty who had always done their duty, also against the Germans after the Armistice, are today interned.

Amongst these officers is Colonel S.M. MAMO, well known to the Military Authorities in the past, for his honesty and loyalty. || see 87

The Italian Authorities have received numerous complaints regarding the question from the families and from the Military personnel involved. Complaints that put in evidence the humiliating position of these men, so contrary to what they expected.

We beg the Allied Commission to report this to the competent authorities, that they may examine the positions of this Military personnel who really deserve consideration as valorous soldiers in the common cause against the Germans and consequently to be treated as Free Italians and if possible repatriated.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
Gen. Pietro Gazzera

6418

(82)

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

IPW/29/82

19 December 1944

To: Comando Supremo, Italian Government, Rome.

Subject: Italian soldiers of the Cuneo Division.

(64) - Acc 65. d 88.

- 1/. Reference your letter No. 14008/OP dated 3 July 1944.
- 2/. G.B.C., Middle East have reported the majority of the Cuneo Division have now been formed into companies, which are self contained, and, although they come into contact with co-operator companies in the course of their work, they retain separate identity.
- 3/. There is, however, a small number of skilled tradesmen from the Division who are being employed in their trades alongside co-operators. It would otherwise be impossible to make use of their skill, and no discontent appears to be caused by this measure.
- 4/. G.B.C., MIDEAST, have recommended that no further segregation of personnel in para 3 above should be carried out.

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

cc: Political Section
MIA
Chief *of staff* ~~Commissioner~~

*See 80.**File*

6417

SECRET

(81)

SUBJECT: Colonel TIBERI - CUNEO Div.LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.E.I.A.)

C/6

17 Dec 44

TO : Ministry of War.Your ref 302921/CA of 23 Oct.
314-4-3

1. Approval is given for the appointment of Col. TIBERI, Tiborio, to command the Staff of the CUNEO Div. in the Middle East to fill the vacancy caused by the repatriation of Major ROSSI.
2. MIA movement section is arranging transportation by air and you will be advised, in due course, of the date of departure of Col. TIBERI. In the meantime, the Colonel should hold himself in readiness, at your disposal, in Rome.

ZEP
Major General
M.E.I.A.COPY:
P.W. Sub Com., A.C.

jpl

See 78.

IPW/29.

6416

12 SEP 1944

P-2-44

SUBJECT:- Cuneo Division.

Headquarters,
Allied Commission.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

CR/3055/G1 (Br).

16 Dec 44.

- (49)
1. Reference your IPW/29/79 dated 12 Dec 44.
 - + 2. G.H.Q., Middle East have (recently) reported (to War Office) that the majority of the Cuneo Division have now been formed into companies, which are self contained, and, although they come into contact with co-operator companies in the course of their work, they retain separate identity.
 3. There is, however, a small number of skilled tradesmen from the Division who are being employed in their trades alongside co-operators. It would otherwise be impossible to make use of their skill, and no discontent appears to be caused by this measure.
 4. G.H.Q., MIDEAST, have recommended (to War Office) that no further segregation of personnel in para 3 above should be carried out. X
 - (5. It is hoped that the above will enable you to reply satisfactorily to the representations made by the Italian Government.

PT/DDRT.

A. S. Barsdorf
A.S. BARSDORF,
Lieut Colonel, AAG,
for Major General,
DAG. G.1 (Br).

See 82.

IPW/29.

18 DEC 1944

6415

79

H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION
C.M.F.
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB COMMISSION

IPW/29/79

12 December 1944

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512,
(Attention G-1 (B)).

See 94.

Subject: Cuneo Division.

Reference is made to this office letters IPW/29/70 dated 8 October 1944 and IPW/29/71 dated 5 November 1944 in relation to above subject.

- 1/. On his recent visit to this Headquarters Major Thorpe explained to Lt. Colonel Campbell that the War Office had again been written with regards to the position early in November.
- 2/. Since the Italian Government raises the question of the status of Italian soldiers of the Cuneo Division on every possible occasion, it will be appreciated if this office can be informed if a reply has been received from the War Office yet, so that I may be able to explain the position to the Italian Government.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Handwritten signature

File

J.A. CAMPBELL
Lt.-Colonel
Director WMD & IPW Sub. Comm.

Subject: Cuneo Division.

See 94.

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For the Chief Commissioner:

file
J.A. CAMPBELL
Lt.-Colonel
Director WMD & IPW Sub. Comm.

*Received by Mr. [illegible]
11/10/71
80.*

*B/F
22/12/71
6414*

78
SECRET

SUBJECT: CUNEO Div

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

C/6

Dec 44

TO : A.F.H.Q. G-5.

Copy to: P.W. Sub-Com. A.C.,

1. Ref is made to your G-5: 091.711-1 of 7 July, in which you quoted G-3 section as stating :

"Should the Italian Comd consider it advisable to have a Col commanding the small staff of the Cuneo Div in the M E this sec has no objection to such an appointment being made."

2. The former head of this small staff, Major ROSSI, having been repatriated, there remains only a Capt in control of the discipline and adm of the personnel of the div.

3. Accordingly, the Italian War Ministry has applied to send Col TIBERI Tiberio to fill the vacancy.

4. It is now requested that approval be given for this appointment and arrangements made for Col TIBERI to move to EGYPT by air.

1. Ref is made to your G-5: OGI.711-1 of 7 July, in which you quoted G-3 section as stating:

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4. It is now requested that approval be given for this appointment and arrangements made for Col TIBERI to move to EGYPT by air.

76 refs.
Sec 81.

6413

Major General
M.M.I.A.

WMD DIV
42-1947
WMD DIV

18w 29.

(17)

WMD & IPW S/C

IPW/29/77

Cuneo Division

15 Nov. 44

Land Forces S/C(MMIA) Rm 56,7 floor

The attached copies of letters to A.F.H.Q. and from
A.F.H.Q. regarding the Commander of the nucleus of the
Cuneo Division are forwarded as requested.

Adm. by 62.

J.A. CAMPBELL
Lt.-Colonel

Director WMD & IPW S/C.

Encls.

ASC/29/67 dated 13 July 44.

G-5 091.711-1 dated 7 July 44.

6412

See 65467

INTER OFFICE MEMO
H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION

FROM: WMD & IPW Sub-Commission

IPW/29/76

Subject: Cuneo Division.

12 November 1944.

To: Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMAIA).

Reference attached.

- 1/. It was agreed that a Colonel could be left as the Commanding Officer of the Administrative Section of the Cuneo Division.
- 2/. It would appear from General Oxilia's letter that no senior officer was left with the Division and he now requests that permission to assign an officer be given, together with the necessary travel order for the officers movement.
- 3/. It is suggested that you give the necessary permission in respect of the officer, and arrange his movement to Egypt by Air through through Transportation Channels.

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

Encls.

1. Ltr dated 7 Nov.
2. Translation dated 23 October.
3. Ltr dated 8 September.
4. Ltr dated 17 July.

6411

MINISTRY OF WAR

Rome, 23 October 1944

File No. 302921/C.A.
314-V-3To : M.M.I.A., Rome

Subject : Soldiers of the "CUNEO" Division located in Egypt.

- 1/. Last June the Supreme Command asked the A.S.C. - according to Italian Military customs and for discipline, control and administration's necessities for the soldiers of the "CUNEO" Division located in Egypt that:
 - A Colonel, at least, should be put at the head of the "CUNEO" Division's nucleus.
 - The above-mentioned nucleus should have to care for discipline control and administration.
- 2/. This Commission answered to the request with letter A.S.C. 29/66 dated 17 July 1944 signed by Lieut. Colonel Campbell (the letter is enclosed)
- 3/. The S.M.R.C. asked by the General Staff to take accords with this Mission, considering that as Major Ratti, who was the C.O. of the "CUNEO" Division's nucleus, has been repatriated, the only superior officer left there is a captain, has done the communications referred in letter No. 9504/SP/2 dated September 8th 1944 (letter is enclosed)
- 4/. The question being so, although I admit that perhaps the S.M.R.C. did not understand it well, I think it is necessary, for morale, assistance and the above-mentioned reasons to send a superior officer as the C.O. of the nucleus of the "CUNEO" Division. The officer should be chosen among those who belonged already to that Division.
- 5/. I, therefore, beg this Mission to authorize this assignation which would be limited to the only superior officer, and to indicate us the necessary method for his going to Egypt.

s/

THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE FOR WAR
General G. S. Oxilia

640

copy

MILITARY SUB COMMISSION

(73)

ASC 29/66

July 17th 1944

Subject : Soldiers of the "CUNEO" Division

TO THE SUPREME COMMAND

- 1/. Confirming conversations had with General Infante about the request related in letter 1361/OP dated June 12th 1944 and sent by this Command, that a Colonel should be left as the C.O. of the administrative section of the "CUNEO" Division.
- 2/. I inform you that the A.F.H.C. agrees with your request, and I ask to let me know your preferences about the Colonel to be sent there.

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

for attention of
Lt.Col. Luigi Millefiorini

6408

COPY

(72)

GR/3055/G1(Br).4 Sep 44.SUBJECT: - Italian Forces in MIDDLE EAST.

TO: Under Secretary of State, The War Office, LONDON S.W.1.

1. It will be recollected that subsequent to the Italian Armistice, certain elements of the Italian Army - in particular the Cuneo Division - having resisted German Forces in the AEGEAN ISLANDS and elsewhere, were evacuated to MIDDLE EAST where they came under direct control of that Command.
2. A request made by Marshal Messe for the Cuneo Division to be reformed and used in a combat role was refused, and in a letter of 7 Mar 44, in which this decision was conveyed to the Italian Authorities, an assurance was given that the personnel of that division would not be considered in any way as prisoners of war.
3. Most of the personnel became dispersed in labour units in EGYPT. The senior and surplus officers were repatriated to ITALY, and those members of the division who proved unco-operative were removed to prisoner of war camps.
4. As a result of your cable 97709 PW 2 of 26 May 44, some members, of the division were mixed with Italians of prisoner of war status, and were and are treated as prisoners of war co-operators. The Italian authorities protested when this became known to them.

In view of the assurance referred to above, it is felt that there may be some cause for the complaints made to this Headquarters regarding the status of these particular Italians.

5./

Note:

The attached was handed to Col. Campbell by Major Thorpe of G-1 (B) on 7 Nov. 44. Major Thorpe explained that G-1 (B) had again written the War Office early in Nov. 44 asking if they could now be informed with regards to the position. Immediately a reply was received from the War Office we would be notified.

12 Nov. 44.

J.A.C.

6407

- 2 -

5. Accordingly, it is suggested that the ruling given in your cable, reference 97709 PW 2 of 26 May 44, to the effect that members of the Cuneo Division should be regarded as co-operators should be revised, and that the personnel of the division who are now dispersed in units at work in EGYPT should be accorded a status more in keeping with the fact that they fought alongside and rendered assistance to British troops at the time of the Italian Armistice.

6. Your early views on this matter should be appreciated.

For the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theatre:

J.A.H. CAMELL
Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff

6406

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

71

IPW/29/71

5 November 1944

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.

Subject: Cuneo Division.

Reference this office letter IPW/29/70 dated 8 Oct. 44.

1. May such information as is available please now be forwarded, in order that a reply may be made to the Italian Government ?

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

u 79

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

6405

70

H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394, U.S. Army
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB COMMISSION

IPW/29/70

8 October 1944

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.

Subject: Cuneo Division.

Reference the attached correspondence.

It would be appreciated if a copy of your letter dated 4 September to the War Office, London, could be forwarded to me.

The question regarding the alteration to the status of the Italian soldiers of the Cuneo Division was first raised by the Italian Government on 10 July and it will be appreciated that a reply is now expected by the Italian War Ministry.

As the letter to the War Office, London, was forwarded over one month ago - it is requested that a reply be asked for so that I may be able to inform the Italian Government as to the position.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB COMMISSION
APO 394, U.S. Army

29 OCT 1944 8:10 PM

Director WMD & IPW Sub. Comm.

J. A. CAMPBELL

Lt.-Colonel

WMD & IPW Sub. Comm.

29/70

The Colonel wrote
the original and signed
it

6404

Cuneo Division.

RESTRICTED

C.S.O.
9603

AG 091.711/109 -0 1st Ind HVR/JC/gsm
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, APO 512, 28 September 1944.

TO: Acting Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

A letter dated 4 September 1944 was forwarded from this headquarters to the War Office, London, requesting a ruling on the matter outlined in your letter dated 10 July 1944. No answer has as yet been received. Upon receipt of reply from the War Office you will be notified.

By command of General WILSON:

HEADQUARTERS
30 SEP 1944 HQ ACC, APO 394
455 Sec'y Gen.
A. C. C. Rec. 1 Oct 1330
DFE

H. V. Roberts
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

6403

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

JAC/mms

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

In reply refer to:
A/CC 091.711-1

19 September 1944

Subject: "Cuneo" Division.

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512, U.S. Army.

The attached memorandum from the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs is forwarded.

In a letter from General GAMMELL dated 7 March, 1944, it was clearly stated that personnel of the "Cuneo" Division were not to be considered in any way as Prisoners of War.

This information was passed to the Italian Government by letter on 16 March, 1944.

On 10 July, 1944, I wrote forwarding a translation of a letter from the Italian Comando Supremo complaining that they had received information that the Command in Cairo had issued an order stating that Italian soldiers of the "Cuneo" Division were to be treated as Cooperating Prisoners of War. I requested that I be informed as to the position so that I could reply to the Comando Supremo, but so far I have received no reply to my letter.

I shall be pleased therefore if I may now receive an early reply to this letter so that I may be able to answer the enclosed letter from the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs dated 6 September, 1944.


ELLERY W. STONE,
Captain, U.S.N.R.,
Acting Chief Commissioner

Encl. Memo from Italian Minister
of Foreign Affairs dated 6 Sep-
tember, 1944.

6402

COPY

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Rome, 6 September 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONPOLITICAL SECTION

The Allied Control Commission is aware that troops of the "Cuneo" and "Regina" Divisions, as well as elements of the Italian Air Force and of the Royal Navy, after having gallantly fought alongside the Allies against the Germans in some of the Aegean Islands were, after the evacuation of the Islands, sent to Egypt.

In the aggregate they amount to 7000 men. The exact position of these men who have never been taken prisoners by the Allies with whom, instead, they have fought, has been made clear in two letters addressed to Marshall Messe by General Duchesne and Admiral Stone, respectively dated 18 February and 16 March 44, wherein it is specified that they would be employed under the same conditions as those obtaining for the units of the Italian Army in the rear of the Allied Armies and in no case were they to be considered as prisoners of war.

According, however, to subsequent information received from various sources it appears that the British Command in the Middle East has ruled that the Italian servicemen in question are to be considered as "co-operating prisoners" and not as cobelligerents. The difference is considerable not only from the juridical and moral standpoint, but also from that of the material treatment afforded to them.

The Italian General Staff has already invited, on 3rd July, the technically competent Military Section of the Allied Control Commission to examine the question; however, given that the question bears also a political character, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs deems it advisable to draw the attention also of the Political Section on the matter.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would therefore much appreciate the kind intervention of the Allied Control Commission in order to obtain that the treatment that was originally accorded to the Italian troops who have fought alongside the Allies and which was probably inadvertently modified by the British Command in the Middle East be reestablished without undue delay. 6401

RESTRICTED

AG 091.711/109 -0 1st Ind
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, APO 512, 23 September 1944.

HVR/JC/gsm

TO: Acting Chief Commissioner, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

A letter dated 4 September 1944 was forwarded from this headquarters to the War Office, London, requesting a ruling on the matter outlined in your letter dated 10 July 1944. No answer has as yet been received. Upon receipt of reply from the War Office you will be notified.

By command of General WILSON:

H. V. ROBERTS,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

6400

War Material & Disposal
Allied Prisoner of War Sub-Commission
APO 512, APO 394
Approved
Page 138 - 6 OK gsm

RESTRICTED

Prepared by:

Lt. Col.

JAC/mms

Director WMD & IPW Sub. Comm.

In reply refer to:
A/CC 091.711-1

19 September 1944

Subject: "Cuneo" Division.To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512, U.S. Army.

The attached memorandum from the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs is forwarded.

In a letter from General GAMMELL dated 7 March, 1944, it was clearly stated that personnel of the "Cuneo" Division were not to be considered in any way as Prisoners of War.

This information was passed to the Italian Government by letter on 16 March, 1944.

On 10 July, 1944, I wrote forwarding a translation of a letter from the Italian Comando Supremo complaining that they had received information that the Command in Cairo had issued an order stating that Italian soldiers of the "Cuneo" Division were to be treated as Cooperating Prisoners of War. I requested that I be informed as to the position so that I could reply to the Comando Supremo, but so far I have received no reply to my letter.

I shall be pleased therefore if I may now receive an early reply to this letter so that I may be able to answer the enclosed letter from the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs dated 6 September, 1944.

Hq ACC Secy Com

20 Sept 1115

Hb

1944

ELLERY W. STONE,
Captain, U.S.N.R.,
Acting Chief Commissioner

6399

Encl. Memo from Italian Minister
of Foreign Affairs dated 6 Sep-
tember, 1944.

Copy to Political Section.

C O P Y

10 September 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: General Browning, Army Sub-Commission.

From paragraph 4. of the attached Memorandum it appears that the Italian General Staff have already taken up with you the question of the treatment of the CUNEO and REGINA Divisions. In order to make sure that we do not cross wires, may I know whether this is correct, and if so, what action you took. Also whether you would wish us to support any action from a political point of view.

/s/ HAROLD CACCIA

Gen. Browning's reply.

Political Section.

Herewith the only letter I can trace. I think we should support the Italian point of view. Otherwise a nasty smell of "double-crossing". Even if in error!

10 Sep.
Rome.L.B.
Maj. Gen. MIARemarks.

The correspondence was passed to me by Political Section who requested me to deal with the matter and to forward the letter to A.F.R.Q. with a covering letter from Acting Chief Commissioner.

J.A.C.

6398

R. MINISTERO

DEGLI

AFFARI ESTERI

nr. 6/431

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POLITICAL SECTION

The Allied Control Commission is aware that troops of the "Cuneo" and "Medina" Divisions, as well as elements of the Italian Air Force and of the Royal Navy, after having gallantly fought alongside the Allies against the Germans in some of the Aegean Islands were, after the evacuation of the Islands, sent to Egypt.

In the aggregate they amount to 7000 men. The exact position of these men who have never been taken prisoners by the Allies with whom, instead, they have fought, has been made clear in two letters addressed ^{to Marshall Mox} by General Duchesne and Admiral Stone, respectively dated 18th February and 16th March 1944, wherein it is specified that they would be employed under the same conditions as those obtaining for the units of the Italian Army in the rear of the Allied armies and in no case were they to be considered as prisoners of war.

According, however, to subsequent information received

639

Italian air force and of the Royal Navy, fought alongside the Allies against the Germans in some of the Aegean Islands were, after the evacuation of the Islands, sent to Egypt.

In the aggregate they amount to 7000 men. The exact position of these men who have never been taken prisoners by the Allies with whom, instead, they have fought, has been made clear in two letters addressed ^{to Marshal Stawell} by General Duchesne and Admiral Stone, respectively dated 15th February and 16th March 1944, wherein it is specified that they would be employed under the same conditions as those obtaining for the units of the Italian Army in the rear of the Allied Armies and in no case were they to be considered as prisoners of war.

According, however, to subsequent information ⁶³⁹² received from various sources it appears that the British Command in the Middle East has ruled that the Italian servicemen in question are to be considered as "co-operating prisoners" and not as co-belligerents. The difference is considerable not only from the juridical and moral standpoint, but also from that of the material treatment afforded to them.

The Italian General Staff has already invited, on 3rd July, the technically competent Military Section of the Allied Control Commission to examine the question: however, given that

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

-2-

the question bears also a political character, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs deems it advisable to draw the attention also of the Political Section on the matter.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would therefore much appreciate the kind intervention of the Allied Control Commission in order to obtain that the treatment that was originally accorded to the Italian troops who have fought alongside the Allies and which was probably inadvertently modified by the British Command in the Middle East be re-established without undue delay. *EWB.*

ROME, 6th September 1944.



639

CONFIDENTIAL

(68)

SUBJECT:- CUNEO Div HQ "Capo Nucleo"Military Mission to
the Italian Army
R O M E

G/6

17 Sep 44

War Ministry

Copy to:- Lt Col J.A. Campbell.
WM & PW Sub Commission ACC

Ref SMRE letter 7504/522 of 8 Sep 44. on the above subject.

1. The matter has been discussed with Lt Col J.A. CAMPBELL who at the time of his writing his letter ACC/29/46 of 17 July 44 was our representative at our ADV HQ in SALEMMO.
2. Col CAMPBELL states that there was never any question of sending an officer or officers from ITALY. A senior officer from the CUNEO Div staff was to be chosen from those with the Division in PALESTINE.
3. No question of transport from ITALY to PALESTINE therefore arises.



ABC

A.P. Phillips
Major General
M M I A

6395

File
27

(67)

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONSubject: Soldiers of the Gunco Division.ASL/22/67To : A.P.H.C., G-5 Section, APO 542.13 July 1944

1. Ref your 091.711 -1 dated 7 July 1944.
2. I have informed the Comando Supremo that you have agreed that a Colonel should remain in charge of the small staff of the Gunco Division, and have asked if they have any preference as to which Colonel should remain.
3. Ref para. 5 the Memo of 7 March referred to was one addressed to Allied Control Commission signed by Lt. General J.A.H. CAMPBELL, Chief of Staff.

For Acting Chief Commissioner:

J.A.C.

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

COPY to: (2) Secretary General, H.Q. A.C.C. (For information)

6394

JAC

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(66)

Subject: Soldiers of the Cuneo Division.

ASC/29/66

To : Comando Supremo.

13 July, 1944.

1. Confirming my conversation with General Infante re the request contained in your letter 15613/OP dated 12 June 1944 that a Colonel be left in charge of the Administration Section of the Cuneo Division.
2. I have to inform you that A.F.H.Q. have agreed to this request, and I shall be pleased if you will state if you have any preference as to the Colonel you wish to be in charge.

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

6393

Army SC (Rear HQ)
44817 (65)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
 G-5 Section
 APC 512

TBJ/dwa

G-5: 091.711-1

7 July 1944

SUBJECT: Soldiers of the Cuneo Division.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APC 394.

1. Reference is made to Rear AGO (Army Sub Commission) letter of 21 June on the above subject. *Encl 54.*

encl 47. 2. Memo of 7 March could not be traced as having been originated by M.G.S. and the matter was referred to G-3. That section also disclaim knowledge of the memo but on the general question state :

"Should the Italian Command consider it advisable to have a Colonel commanding the small staff of the Cuneo Division in the Middle East this section has no objection to such an appointment being made."

3. The above is accordingly passed to you. It would be appreciated however if you could give more precise references to the memo of 7 March including if possible the name, etc., of the officer who signed the memo in order that the section who originated it may be informed of the above.

For Asst. Chief of Staff G-5

T. B. JACKMAN
Major

T. B. JACKMAN,
 Major.



6392

10/7/44

File 29

Told Gen Infante that AFHQ had agreed to Colonel 11 July 44 for 6

See 78/11

(64a)

EWS/dfo

10 July 1944

Subject: Italian Soldiers of the Cuneo Division

To: Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512

1. The attached translation of a letter from the Italian Comando Supremo, No. 14005/OP dated 3 July 1944, is forwarded.

2. The letter DCC 091.711 of 16 March referred to in para 2 passed on the information contained in para 3 of General Gannell's letter of 7 March to A.C.C.

3. Since from General Gannell's letter above referred to it is clear that the personnel of the Cuneo Division are not to be treated or considered as prisoners of war, may I be given such particulars as will enable me to explain the situation to the Comando Supremo.

ELMER W. STONE
Captain, USAR
Acting Chief Commissioner

cc: Lt. Col. Campbell,
Army Sub-Commission

6391

Yuc 29/.

(63)

TRANSLATION NO. 926 - PFC. BONANNI

SUPREME COMMAND
GROUP I - Office of Operations

3 July 1944

TO: ACC

File No. 14005/OP.

Subject: Italian soldiers of the Cuneo Division.

According to information which has come to this Command, it seems that the English Command of Cairo has issued an order according to which the Italian soldiers already belonging to the Cuneo Division, and at present assigned to the companies of pioneers in Egypt, must be considered as "cooperating prisoners".

We think this must be an error, since it is a well-known fact that these soldiers cannot be considered prisoners of war. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ The Commission's letter D.C.C. 091.711 dated 16 March 1944 clearly ~~states~~ states that:

Those belonging to the division are employed in Egypt ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ under the same conditions as those units of the Italian Army ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ which are behind the Allied Armies, and are in no way considered as "prisoners of war".

Hence I wish to ask the Commission to kindly clarify this error, in order to permit this Supreme Command to ~~XXXXXX~~ the soldiers of the Cuneo Division who in these last few ~~months~~ reassure

months have given their service to the common cause with enthusiasm, despite ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ their bitterness at the fact that greater needs for transport have not permitted them to fight on their Fatherland

The Genral of Division
/s/ Adolfo Infante.

6390

4 July 44.
File 29.

See
encl.
49.

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
REAR H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(60)

SUBJECT: Soldiers of the "Cuneo" Division.

OS 375

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

29 June 1944.

1. Ref my letter dated 24 June 1944 re "Italian Soldiers of the Cuneo Division".
2. Marshal Messe now points out that in view of the repatriation of 6 officers of the "Cuneo" Division referred to in Mideast signal AS/11872 the position with regard to moral assistance and disciplinary control of the troops of the "Cuneo" Division became worse.
3. Marshal Messe most earnestly requests that the proposals put forward in my above quoted letter be put into effect.

For the Acting Chief Commissioner:

Agh

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

6389

(59)

ARMY SUB COMMISSION
REAR H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Soldiers of the "Canoe" Division.

QS 375

TO : Comando Supremo, Cava.

29 June 1944.

1. With reference to your letter 13877/Op dated 26 June 1944.
2. I wrote to A.F.H.Q. on 21 June forwarding the request contained in your No 13613 of 12 June and have to day again written them regarding the matter. I have requested a reply in due course.

sgt

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

6388

TRANSLATION No 850 - RO NO

SUPREME COMMAND
File No 13877/Op

26 June 44

To- ACC

(58)

SUBJECT:- Soldiers of the "Cuneo" Division

I am informed (letter QS/375 from the Army Sub-Commission) that the repatriation of the Group of the "Cuneo" Division Command is in view, who had remained in the Middle East by order of the Allied Command for the purpose of maintaining the morale and discipline of the soldiers of that Division.

If this group of officers leaves, the situation I explained in letter No 13613 of 12th instant will become considerably worse because the troops of the "Cuneo" division will be completely deprived of that moral assistance and disciplinary control which Italian soldiers are accustomed to.

I therefore once more earnestly request you to take the proposals stated in letter 13613 in consideration and notify in regards, the English Command of the Middle East.

The Marshal of Italy

(GIOVANNI MESSE)
/s/ G Messe

6387

ARMY SUB-COMMISSION
REAR H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(54)

21 June 1944

To: Allied Force Headquarters, G-5 Section, A.P.O. 512.

Subject: Soldiers of the "Cuneo" Division.

- 1/. Reference your Memorandum dated 7 March 1944, above subject.
- 2/. Marshal MESSE has requested that the small staff from the Headquarters of the Cuneo Division remaining, as administrative section - for Italian soldiers coming from the Aegean and at present in Egypt and Palestine - should be commanded by a Colonel and not a Major as has been suggested.
- 3/. Marshal MESSE points out that in accordance with Italian Military customs and for disciplinary reasons a Colonel should be in charge of such a section and expresses the hope that the necessary instructions may be issued for a Colonel to remain in charge.
- 4/. Your reply is requested.

For the Chief Commissioner:

J. A. Campbell

J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel

JAC/mms

6386

B/F.

674 B/D & DCC 21/6/44

ARMY SUB-COMMISSION
 REAR H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(53)

Q8375
 17 June 1944

To: High Commissioner for Prisoners of War, CAVA.

Subject: Repatriation of Officers from MIDEAST.

- 1/. Information has been received that thirteen Italian officers, are soon to be repatriated from MIDEAST.
- 2/. The following six proposed repatriates were among those retained from "CUNEO" Division H.Q. for administration purposes:-

Major	Staff	<u>RATTI</u>
Capt.	Artillery	DE OSMA
Capt.	Engineer	BERTOLINI
Capt.	Infantry	GIANGOLA
Lt.	Pay	TERRANOVA
2nd Lt.	Artillery	GAIANI

- 3/. The remaining seven are described as "arrivals from Turkey" and "dischargees from hospitals" and are identified as follows:-

Major	Infantry	TAMAGNINI
Capt.	Service Corps	MOSCARIELLO
Lt.	Transportation	MANTHE
Lt.	Engineer	BACHELLI
Lt.	Artillery	ASPESI
Lt.	Artillery	SISCETTI
2nd Lt.	Artillery	TORRUSIO

- 4/. Estimated time of arrival and any other information will be communicated to you when received.

For the Chief Commissioner:

JAC
 J. A. CAMPBELL
 Lieut.-Colonel

B/F

6385

TRANSLATION No716 * ROMANO

SUPREME COMMAND
1st Div. Off. of Operations
File No. 13613/op

12 June 44

(52)

TO:- A.C.C.

SUBJECT:- Soldiers of the "CUNEO" Division.

With reference to letter 11395 of 27th February from this
Supreme Command.

As is known, following the events which succeeded the Armistice, troops of the "CUNEO" division and other units in the Aegean were transferred to the Middle East, after ~~fight~~ fighting together with the Allies for the defense of the various Aegean Islands.

The English Command in the Middle East, while at first gave to understand that the said troops, reordered in the "CUNEO" division, would be able to take part in operations, as was desired by the Italians, in the end decided to use them as labour units and ordered as follows:

- (a) that the troops were to be reordered in autonomous
- (b) companies;
- (b) that a small group of the "CUNEO" division command, headed by Major RATTI, was to remain on the spot with certain not well defined tasks, while all the other superior officers were to be repatriated.

According to Italian military customs and in accordance with the necessity of discipline, control, and administration of the Italian soldiers coming from the Aegean and at present in Egypt and Palestine, I think it desirable that:

- (i) - authorization be given to place at least a Colonel at the head of the group of Officers commanding the "CUNEO" division remaining on the spot;
- (ii) - the above mentioned tasks, concerning the discipline, control and administration of the soldiers be assigned to the group of officers.

I therefore beg the A.C.C. to take fully into consideration the requirements indicated and to inform correspondingly the English Command of the Middle East.

THE MARSHAL OF ITALY
Chief of General Staff
(Giovanni Messe)
/s/ G MESSE

6384

14 June 44
File

C O P Y

EWS/hjp

In reply refer to:
DCC 091.711

Subject: Cuneo Division

Dear Marshal Messe:

General MacFarlane has forwarded you memorandum file N. 11395/OP dated 26 February, in regard to the employment of the Cuneo Division, and I telegraphed further on the subject as a result of General Infante's note to me dated 11 March. Because of your personal interest in this matter, I regret to have to inform you that considerations of equipment and supply prevent reconsideration of the earlier decision as to the disposition of the Cuneo Division.

With reference to the treatment of the personnel of the Division, Allied Force Headquarters states that the personnel of the Division are employed in Egypt under terms similar to those existing for Italian Army units in the rear of the Allied Armies, and are not considered in any way as prisoners of war.

As to the suggestion that a policy of gradual repatriation be established for the personnel of the Division, it is felt to be premature to consider such a project at this time due to existing priority of movement of personnel from the Middle East and the importance of the work on which the Division is employed.

Yours very truly,

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Deputy Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Marshal Messe
Chief of the Supreme General Staff
Comando Supremo

C O P Y

6383

(48)

C O P Y

EWS/hjp

In reply refer to
DCC 091.711

16 March 1944

Subject: Cuneo Division

My dear General:

Supplementing my letter of 11 March, replies have now been received in respect to the employment of the Cuneo Division and I am writing to Marshal Messe on this subject today.

Sincerely yours,

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Deputy Chief Commissioner

General Adolfo Infante
Comando Supremo

C O P Y

6382

(44)

C O P Y

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Chief of Staff

7 March 1944

MEMO TO: Allied Control Commission

SUBJECT: Disposal of Italian CUNEO Division.

1. Reference is made to your CC/G/116 of 29th February 1944, requesting our reconsideration of decisions already made regarding the disposal of the Italian CUNEO Division, at present in Egypt.
2. Recent rulings issued by the Combined Chiefs of Staff, regarding the equipment to be supplied from Allied sources to units of the Italian Army, prohibit any possibility of employing the CUNEO Division in a combat role. With this factor in mind, the decisions already made, regarding the disposal of the CUNEO Division must stand. Furthermore, the personnel of the Division are already dispersed in units at work in Egypt, and any attempt to reform the division would lead to many difficulties.
3. It is pointed out that the personnel of the Division are employed in Egypt under terms similar to those existing for Italian Army units at present collaborating in Italy in the rear of the Allied Armies, and are not considered in any way as prisoners of war.
4. The Comando Supremo suggest that a policy of gradual repatriation be established for the personnel of the division, but owing to the existing priority of movement of personnel from the Middle East, and the importance of the work on which the division is at present employed, it is considered premature to consider such a project.

J. A. H. GAMMELL,
Lieutenant General,
Chief of Staff.

DB/vp

Note:

Stone is informing Gen. Infante for Marshal Messe.

(Initialled) FNMM 14 Mar 44

COPY from a COPY

6381

S E C R E T

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION -- INCOMING MESSAGE

/ek

SECRET

PRIORITY

63748

FREEDOM SIGNED CINC CITE FHGCT

122009A Mar

FATIMA (VIA FATIMA ADVANCED)

131315A Mar

F — Dated 11 March your 2462. Reply to message memorandum despatched this HQ
9 March and was in substance as follows: A. Ruling preventing employment of
Cuneo Division in combat role. B. Decision already taken regarding disposal
Cuneo Division will stand. C. Personnel are employed as co-belligerents and
not POWS. D. Considered premature to initiate a gradual repairing scheme
owing to existing transportation difficulties and importance of work on which
division is presently employed.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - AG
- 1 - DSG - Info
- 1 - DCC - Info
- 1 - Army Sub-Com - Info

C O P Y

S E C R E T

6380

OUTGOING

4/11

2462

(45)

SECRET

PRIORITY

FATIMA

MAR

FREEDOM

11 Mar 44

YOUR 50285 DATED 31 JANUARY PD PAREN TO FREEDOM FOR CHIEF OF STAFF FROM
FATIMA FROM MACFARLANE PERSONAL PAREN SOLDARELLI NOW READY TO GO TO PALESTINE AND
MESSE INQUIRES WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON HIS MEMORANDUM OF 26 FEBRUARY *A (WELL)*
WHICH I SENT TO YOU WITH COVERING MEMORANDUM ON 29 FEBRUARY PD WHAT SHALL I
TELL HIM

AU THENTICATED:

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNF
Deputy Chief Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:

2 - AG Files
1 - Deputy Chief Comm
2 - Dep Sec Gen

- COPY -

6379

(44)

C O P Y

EWS/hjp

11 March 1944

My dear General:

Replying to your letter PM 151 of today, the Comando Supremo's memorandum of 26 February was forwarded by General MacFarlane to the Chief of Staff of the Commander in Chief, Allied Forces, on 29 February, but to date we have received no reply. As a result of your memorandum, General MacFarlane telegraphed the Chief of Staff and I shall advise you as soon as his reply is received.

Very sincerely,

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Deputy Chief Commissioner

General Adolfo Infante
Comando Supremo

C O P Y

6378

(43)

C O P Y

COMANDO SUPREMO

P.M. 151 11 March 44

My dear Stone,

as you know gen. Soldarelli is now ready to go
to Palestine to see his division.

I wonder if you can let me know something in relation
to our letter 11395 op/ of February 27 th last.

A-1955
Thanking you your sincerely

/s/ A. Infante

Captain U.S.N.

Ellery W. Stone

Allied Control Commission

-C O P Y

6377

B

(42)

C O P Y

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Ref. CC/G/116

FNMM/rj

29 February 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Allied Force Headquarters.
(For Chief of Staff).

1. I enclose translation of a memorandum just received from Marshal Messe.
2. As you know, the Italian Comando Supremo have already brought up the question of the status of the Cuneo Division on more than one occasion.
3. I would like to make it very clear that the Italian Government feel very strongly indeed over this question. Messe attacks me on the subject every time I see him. Their point of view seems to them the only logical and fair one.
4. I have no idea whether there is any chance of reconsidering your policy as regards the Cuneo Division but you ought to know the strength of feeling which it has aroused in the Italian Command. If you felt inclined to make a gesture in the connection it could not fail to have good results over here and might add some pep to Italian army collaboration. The latter is reasonably correct but sadly lacks enthusiasm or inspiration.

NOEL MASON MACFARLANE,
Lieutenant-General,
Chief Commissioner.

6376

A

(41)

C O P Y

TRANSLATION

COMANDO SUPREMO

File No. 11395/OP

P.M. 151/A, 26 February 1944

TO: ACC

Subject: "CUNEO" Division.

1. General Soldarelli is now ready to leave for Palestine, according to what had been written on this subject by Army Sub-Commission, note G/6/20 dated 16 February.
2. As to the employment of "Cuneo" Division, agreements between Gen. Wilson and Gen. Soldarelli had encouraged our hope that this division would have been employed in war operations as a fighting unit.
3. In process of time, however, Allied Authorities have decided to employ these troops as labour units.

Leaving aside the reasons for this change of policy, I must point out that the troops of "Cuneo" Division are not to be considered POW; indeed, they have already fought at Samos side by side with Allied troops.

If however AFHQ should confirm their decision to use them as laborers, in any case they should be accorded the same treatment as the labor units of the Italian Army collaborating at present in Italy in the rear of the Allied Armies.

Nevertheless, in view of the fact that employment of such a kind could only be detrimental to the morale of the division, and possibly impair the efficiency and discipline of the men, I consider that the best solution would be a gradual repatriation.

I fully appreciate the difficulties especially in view of lack of transportation, but in consideration of the above I would still be grateful if the latter solution were submitted to AFHQ for consideration.

COPY from a copy

A (INCL)

0075

ARMY SUB-COMMISSION
 REAR H.Q. ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

(40)

QS375
 17 June 1944

To: High Commissioner for Prisoners of War, CAVA.

Subject: Repatriation of Officers from MIDEAST.

- 1/. Information has been received that thirteen Italian officers, are soon to be repatriated from MIDEAST.
- 2/. The following six proposed repatriates were among those retained from "CUNEO" Division H.Q. for administration purposes:-

Major	Staff	<u>RATTI</u>
Capt.	Artillery	DE CSMA
Capt.	Engineer	BERTOLINI
Capt.	Infantry	GIANCOLA
Lt.	Pay	TERRANOVA
2nd Lt.	Artillery	GAIANI

- 3/. The remaining seven are described as "arrivals from Turkey" and "dischargees from hospitals" and are identified as follows:-

Major	Infantry	TAMAGNINI
Capt.	Service Corps	MOSECARIELLO
Lt.	Transportation	MANTHE
Lt.	Engineer	BACHELLI
Lt.	Artillery	ASPESI
Lt.	Artillery	BISCETTI
2nd Lt.	Artillery	TORRUSIO

- 4/. Estimated time of arrival and any other information will be communicated to you when received.

For the Chief Commissioner:



J. A. CAMPBELL
 Lieut.-Colonel

6374

U.S. RESTRICTED

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION - INCOMING

MESSAGE

/hft

6847
(39)

SVC/RELAY NO.

CLASS: RESTRICTED

PREC : ROUTINE

FROM : MIDEAST

TO : ACC REAR INFO AFHQ CITEHNGOT MMIA

M/C NO :

REF NO: A5/11872

FILED : JUN 160105B

REC'D : JUN 160900B

via teletype

Your 2895 of 11 Jun. Particulars Italian offr repatriates. 6 Hq Cuneo Div. Maj Staff Ratti Capt Arty de Osma Capt Engr Bertolini Capt Inf Giancola Lt Pay Terranova 2/Lt Arty Gaiani. Remainder now 7 various. Maj Inf Tamagnini Capt Service Corps Moscardiello Lt Tpt Mauthe Lt Engr Bachelli Lt Arty Aspesi 2/Lt Inf Torrusio Lt Arty Siscetti.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 - File
 1 - Float
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 1 - Adj Main "
 1 - Army Action

ACTION

U.S. RESTRICTED
EQUALS ENGLISH RESTRICTED

6373

16 June 44.
 4 cc 6375.

U. S. RESTRICTED

Eqn British RESTRICTED

OUTGOING

CAMPBELL/mar

3/11

(38)

2895

JUNE 111809B

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

ACC HEAR

WIDEAST RETD AMIA, MIA



REF YOUR ASLG FIVE SLIT ONE ZERO ZERO EIGHT THREE DATED NINE MAY PD
 TO MIDEAST COM RETD AMIA MIA FROM ACC REAR FROM ARMY SUBCOM FROM
 CAMPBELL SIGNATURE/PLANE PD PLEASE FORWARD NAMES AND PARTICULARS OF FIFTEEN
 PROPOSED ITALIAN OFFICER REPATRIATES

AUTHENTICATED:

E. J. Chiozza
 E. J. CHIOZZA
 CWO USA
 Asst Adj

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 File
- 1 Fleet
- 1 DCS
- 1 Army ✓
- 1 Adj Main

12 June 44

File 2.

6372

U. S. RESTRICTED

Eqn British RESTRICTED

B/F

Army S. (Rear HQ) 1230 (37)
S-482

11/3/10

HEADQUARTERS
10 JUN 1944
A. C. C.

WEST W. 10000 101

OVER

FROM: EAST 0919100

TO: ACC 1011

INFO: AMM. CITE 10000

ACC 10000 101

101

10000 101

NOT RECD

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ACC 1011
(Acc) ARMY SC (Rear HQ) 1-
(INN) - 10 1
JCC 2
CITE 1
FILE 1
FLAT 1

6371

RE: HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
.....

SECRET

Q8375

(36)

4 May 1944

SUBJECT: CUNEO Division (PALESTINE).

(500)

TO : Chief Commissioner, Main Hq. A.C.C., NAPLES.

For your information:-

228 Italian officers from the CUNEO Division are due to disembark at TARANTO on 4 May. A.A.I. have confirmed that these officers will be at the disposal of the Italian military authorities. Both the Comando Supremo and the General Staff at LEGGE have accordingly been informed.

You will recall that this was the Division that was broken up in PALESTINE and used for service and labour purposes and to which General SOLDARELLI returned in order to acquaint them with their fate.

It is also the Division from which MIDEAST excluded the return of Col. MANNO on the grounds that he was anti-Allies, a Fascist and pro-German.

On instructions from the Director this Sub-Commission, I informed Comando Supremo of the latter fact as they had especially asked for his return. It was also pointed out that careful supervision should be given by all concerned to the records of officers before their return was requested.

Lt. Col.

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

6370

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
.....

SECRET

Q3376

(35)

(492)

4 May 1944

SUBJECT: Despatches of troops from MIDEAST to ITALY.TO : Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C. Main HQ (MMIA)
LEQUILE (LECCE).

Copy of a "secret" cable No. AI/97093 of 30 April is forwarded to you for information.

It is noted that 193 Italian officers are coming plus 5 Yugoslavs. If the former refers to CUNEO Division officers, there is a discrepancy of 35.

(11)

Lt. Col.

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

1 Incl. as above.

QS/mmB

6367

34

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.
Main H.Q. (MENA)
LEQUILLE (LECCCE)
G/6/1
(May 44

(May 44

Copy to: Adv HQ Army Sub Comm
AAI (Your SD1159 of 10 Apr refers)
Moy MMIA } less Appx 'A'

1. We are informed that 228 Italian officers from the CUNEO Div are due to disembark at TARANTO on 4 May. Details in Appx 'A' attached.
2. Please arrange to meet them, and notify this HQ of your arrangements, so that the responsible authorities at TARANTO may be informed.
3. It will be confirmed later that the 228 officers will be at the disposal of the Italian military authorities.
4. It is emphasised that this letter and its contents are TOP SECRET and will not be made known to any persons other than those directly concerned with meeting the a/m officers.

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

SMRE copy by hand of offr

6365

SECRET

S-2772

Argy... (33)

8390

4681

APR 30

"

A1/97093

NONE

H31/01

W4/02

DIRECT

PRIORITY

MIDWAY

FREEDOM RPTD WILFOT HQ AAI MAIN 8 ARMY HQ 5TH ARMY

ADV 028 INDIAN AAI HQ ADV NAFT NOV ADNAF PATIM A TROOPERS

FOR PUGAB WAGST AND ONE BWAF. SEC A1/93897 OF 21ST APRIL NOT REPEAT
 NOT TO ALL. FOLLOWING DRAFTS AND DETAILS REBARRIED FOR AAI ON SEA
 CONVOY XIP 14. PARA 1 BRITISH. HEAD OFFICERS AND OTHER RANKS.
 INFANTRY RIFLES KINGS NIL AND 1 RIF NIL AND 1 Y AND 3 NIL AND 1 BLACK
 WATCH NIL AND 4 A AND 5H. NIL AND 1 QUEENS NIL AND 2 DORSETS 2 AND
 1 BRIGSTERS NIL AND 1 SURREYS 3 AND 1 BEDS AND HERTS 3 AND 1 RWE NIL
 AND 1 SUB 2 AND NIL BUTTS 1 AND NIL KINGS OWN 2 AND NIL SEAFORTHS
 4 AND NIL DWR 1 AND NIL GREEN HOWARDS 2 AND NIL UDF (2ND) 24 AND NIL.
 HBI 1 AND NIL LOYALS 1 AND NIL CAMERONS 1 AND NIL LP 1 AND NIL R
 SUSSEX 2 AND NIL TOTAL 50 AND 15. FOOT GUARDS COLDB GDS NIL AND
 4 GRN GDS NIL AND 2 SCOTS GDS NIL AND 5 TOTAL NIL AND 11. D.G.S.
 NF 3 AND 4 CHESHIRE 3 AND NIL TOTAL 6 AND 4. MOTOR RRRS 5 AND NIL.
 TOTAL INFANTRY 61 AND 38. RAC 1 AND 4. RA(FD) 16 AND 17. LAA 2 AND
 11 HAA 5 AND 383 INCLUDES 340 AA COMBAT ORS FOR DILUTION TOTAL RA 23
 AND 565. RE 4 AND 3. R SIGS 16 AND 1. RASC 39 AND 32. RASC/EPI
 1 AND NIL. ATS/EPI NIL AND 6. ATS 1 AND NIL. RAOC NIL AND 4.
 OFFICERS FOR GFTO DOUBTS 35 AND NIL. PG 1 AND 1. 5TH ARMY BAGGAGE
 PARTY 1 AND 14 MISCELLANEOUS. PERSONNEL MARGURSE 20 AND 22. 1.
 BRITISH 203 AND 672. 2. INDIAN ARMY. BRITISH OFFRS 80 V COMMISSIONED
 OFFRS 33 INDIAN ORS 2055. SPLIT BY? DIVS AS GIVEN BY A1/93897 OF
 21ST APRIL. 3. NZ. OFFICERS 35 ORS 750. 4. ITALIANS. OFFRS 193.
 5. YUGO-SLAVE. OFFRS 5 ORS 545. 6. UDF. ORS 4

ACC DIST

INFO: DEF CC

DISPER HARI

ARMY 30 (BALENNIO)

ARMY LG

FILE

FLOAT

SECRET

6367

(The...)

SECRET
 British SECRET

INCOMING

/MOR

3405
 (32)

4689

SECRET

A1/93897

IMPORTANT

APR 210935B

MIDEAST

APR 231140B

94 Sub Area

ACTION: PHENDOM, FILPOT, HQ AAI, MAIN 8 ARMY, HQ 5 ARMY
 ADV 02E IND AAI, HQ ADV RTES, MOVTS AINAF, FATIMA

For FHGAB PHOOT and 02E ENAF. Following are drafts and details being prepared for embarkation on sea convoy XLF14 ex DELTA for AAI.

1. British. Read offrs and ORs. Inf Rifle 60 and 46. RAC 1 and 4. RAFF 16 and 171 4AA 1(6?) and 122 incl 90 AOR LAA NIL and 10 Total RA 21 and 303 incl 90 AOR. RE 4 and 3. R Sigs 16 and Nil. RASC 39 and 22. RACC nil and 3. Offrs for CMTC course 35 and Nil. Pioneer C 1 and 1. 8th Army Baggage party 1 and 14. RACHD 1 and Nil. MTS 3 and nil. MISC Details incl personnel ex-courses 13 and 23. Total British 195 and 419 incl 90 AOR.

2. Indian Army. Read BOS VCOs and 1 ORs incl follows. A Ind Div Sigs Nil. Nil and 1. LAC 2 Nil and 5. 1E Nil Nil and 34 Inf 10 2. and 92. RLASC nil nil and 60. LACC 21 and 5. Total 14 3 and 143. B 8Ind Div ARTY 31 and 18. Sigs nil nil and 1. LAC 4 nil and 3. 1E nil 3 and 16. Inf 9 3 and 206. LACC nil nil 5. Total 16 7 and 249. C 1D Ind Div Sigs Nil Nil and 1. 1E Nil Nil and 31. Inf 12 5 and 280. RLASC nil nil and 8. LACC 1 nil and 4. Total 13 5 324. MISC. Sigs nil and 22. 1E nil nil and 46. Inf 8 8 and 291. RLASC 1 2 and 96. LACC 9 2 and 44. 1 FC nil 1 and 113. MISC nil nil and 11 incl 4 BOR. Total 18 13 and 603 incl 4 BOR. E Rfts ex India not rpt NOT disembarked DELTA. 9 Gr 3 Nil and Nil. 1/4 Gr Nil Nil and 70. 14/6 RAJ Rifs 2 1 and 60. 15 MLI nil 1 and 100. 6/2 PUNJAB nil nil

- 1 -

SECRET
 British SECRET

6366
 (F)

INCOMING

SECRET

A1/93897

AFR 210935B

MIDEAST

(CONTINUE)

and 18. 15 BALUCH nil 1 and 52. 7/13 TF 8 2 nil and 60. or 7 nil and 1. 7/22
TF 1 nil and nil. 15 2 nil and 79. 14ND 1 nil and 67 14CG nil nil and 8. 14NE
nil nil and 32. 150 nil nil and 39. MISC 1 nil and nil. Total 19 5 and 736.
F total Indian Army. 80 39 and 2055.

3. NZ. Offrs 35 OR 750.
4. Italians. Offrs 228 Freedom F 28901, of 6 APR not rpt not to all refers.
5. Yugoslavs. Offrs 3 OR 546.
6. UDY. OR 4.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - AG
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- 1 - DDC "
- 1 - ARMY "
- 1 - Main Hq ACG (Via Teletype)

SECRET
House British EXCHART

6365

U. S. RESTRICTED

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION - INCOMING

MESSAGE

/hft

SVC/RELAY NO.

CLASS: RESTRICTED

PREC : NOT GIVEN

FROM : AAI

TO : NMIA, INFO FATIMA REAR FOR QUINSMITH



M/C NO:

REF NO: SD1590

FILED : MAY 021730B

REC'D : MAY 031100B
via 94 SA

Your SD 619 of 1 May confirmed.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - File
- 1 - DSG (info)
- 1 - DCC (info)
- 1 - Army (info)

6364

U. S. RESTRICTED

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIONSECRET

CS362

477

2 May 1944

SUBJECT: 228 Italian Officers at disposal of Italian Authorities.

TO : Comando Supremo, Villa Rende, Cava del Trirani, Salerno.

Information has been received from Army Sub-Commission, A.C.C. Main HQ (MMIA) LEQUILE (LECOE) that 228 Italian officers recently serving with the CUNEO Division will be at the disposal of the Italian military authorities on arrival in ITALY.

Further information in regard to date of arrival will be forwarded to you when received.

For the Chief Commissioner:

Lt. Col.

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

CS/WHDC

S²
Leave *num. in com?*
ll

CS362

U. S. SECRET
Eg. is British SECRET
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION - INCOMING MESSAGE

/hft

28

SVC/RELAY NO.

CLASS: SECRET

PREC : NOT GIVEN

FROM : MMIA

TO : AAI. FATIMA REAR (FOR QUIN-SMITH)



M/C NO:

REF NO: SD619

FILED : MAY 011300B

REC'D : MAY 021030B
via 94 SA Sigs

4814

Ref your SD1159 of 10 April. Confirm 228 Italian officers ex Cuneo
Div will be at disposal Italian Military authorities on arrival Italy.

*ref att*DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - File
- 1 - DSG (info)
- 1 - DCC (info)
- 1 - Army (info) /

(N)

Grant Detach 1 LTA

U. S. SECRET
Eg. is British SECRET

6362

SECRET

52295
 277683
 Army Salerno
 4661

NS1/20
 SECRET
 RONE
 FREEDOM GOD GINO
 AAI INPS EMIA PATIA



APR 20 0930
 P34854
 SECRET

20 Apr

DATED 16TH APRIL YOUR SD:274. ^{NIP} 350 ITALIAN OFFICERS ORIGINALLY
 NOTIFIED BY MIDEAST AM BEING SURVEILLED AFTER EMPLOYMENT IN MIDEAST OF
 CUNEO DIV EX SALMO. CONSIDERED THESE OFFICERS OF GREATER VALUE IN
 ITALY UNDER JURISDICTION ITALIAN ARMY AND POSSIBLY EMPLOYED BY
 ADVISED COMMS THAN REMAINING COMMS IN MIDEAST. AGREED THEREFORE
 TO THEIR SHIPMENT TO ITALY. SUBSEQUENTLY DISCOVERED ONLY PORTION
 WERE EX CUNEO DIV REMAINING BEING FROM OTHER UNITS BUT FOR SAME
 REASONS AGREED TO THEIR SHIPMENT TO ITALY

file att

ACC DIST

Info - Sec Gen
 DCC
 CACR
 Army Salerno
 LC
 file
 float

6361

SECRET

SECRET

26

(4546)

1. Ref AAI signal SD 1159 of 10 Apr.
2. There is no shortage of offrs in the Italian Army on the MAINLAND at present; and no specific employment is in view for surplus offrs from CUNEO Div.
There is therefore no urgency as regards shipping priority.
3. It is suggested that these offrs be shipped as and when convenient, to be absorbed or demobilised on arrival in ITALY as Italian Army Authorities consider necessary.

Robert Buchanan
 for *St Col*
 Brigadier,
 Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

6360

11 APR 1944

(25) 4931

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION INCOMING

MESSAGE /msr

SVC/REPLY NO.

CLASS: SECRET

PRMC : ROUTINE

FROM : AAI

TO : MMIA INFO FATIMA

I/C NO :

4474

REF NO : SD 1159

FILED : APR 10 1415B

REC'D : APR 11 0840B
Via Br Sig

10 APR.

Ref. AFHQ F28904 of 6 Apr and 61944 of 8 Apr latter not to MMIA repeated request you state when officers required and proposed employment. Will insert in shipping priority list accordingly.

ref - NIP
AG sent it back because of lost 4 words - he
does not have refs.

DISTRIBUTION:

1 - AG
1 - DSG Info
1 - DCC "
1 - Army "

094.7114

6353

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

SUBJECT:

iv

Army Sub Commission A.C.C.

Main H.Q. (NWIA)

LEQUIL (LECOE)

SD/13/32

13 Mar 44

Chief of Staff SMRE

Copy to: Adv HQ
Army Sub Comm
SALERNO

1. I am informed that authority has been granted for 250 officers of the CUNEO Div surplus to requirements to be shipped to ITALY.

2. GHQ Middle East is arranging shipment and you will be informed in due course when these officers are likely to arrive.

ABC

Brigadier,
Army Sub Comm A.C.C.

633

TRANSLATION No716 ROMANO

SUPREME COMMAND
1st Div. Off. of Operations
File No. 13613/op

12 June 44

TO:- A.C.C.

(23)

SUBJECT:- Soldiers of the "CUNEO" Division.

With reference to letter 11395 of 27th February from this
Supreme Command.

As is known, following the events which succeeded the Armistice,
troops of the "CUNEO" division and other units in the Aegean were
transferred to the Middle East, after fighting together with
the Allies for the defense of the various Aegean Islands.

The English Command in the Middle East, while at first gave
to understand that the said troops, reordered in the "CUNEO" div-
ision, would be able to take part in operations, as was desired by
the Italians, in the end decided to use them as labour units and
ordered as follows:

- (a) that the troops were to be reordered in autonomous
- (b) companies;
- (b) that a small group of the "CUNEO" division command, headed
by Major RATTI, was to remain on the spot with certain
not well defined tasks, while all the other superior
officers were to be repatriated.

According to Italian military customs and in accordance with
the necessity of discipline, control, and administration of the
Italian soldiers coming from the Aegean and at present in Egypt
and Palestine, I think it desirable that:

- authorization be given to place at least a Colonel at the
head of the group of Officers commanding the "CUNEO" div-
ision remaining on the spot;
- the above mentioned tasks, concerning the discipline,
control and administration of the soldiers be assigned to
the group of officers.

I therefore beg the A.C.C. to take fully into consideration
the requirements indicated and to inform correspondingly the English
Command of the Middle East.

THE MARSHAL OF ITALY
Chief of General Staff
(Giovanni Messe)
/s/ G MESSE

Copy passed to D.C. on 16/6/44
B/Lef
[Signature]

6357

C O P Y

EWS/hjp

In reply refer to:
DCC 091.711

Subject: Cuneo Division

Dear Marshal Messe:

General MacFarlane has forwarded you memorandum file N. 11395/OP dated 26 February, in regard to the employment of the Cuneo Division, and I telegraphed further on the subject as a result of General Infante's note to me dated 11 March. Because of your personal interest in this matter, I regret to have to inform you that considerations of equipment and supply prevent reconsideration of the earlier decision as to the disposition of the Cuneo Division.

With reference to the treatment of the personnel of the Division, Allied Force Headquarters states that the personnel of the Division are employed in Egypt under terms similar to those existing for Italian Army units in the rear of the Allied Armies, and are not considered in any way as prisoners of war.

As to the suggestion that a policy of gradual repatriation be established for the personnel of the Division, it is felt to be premature to consider such a project at this time due to existing priority of movement of personnel from the Middle East and the importance of the work on which the Division is employed.

Yours very truly,

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Deputy Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Marshal Messe
Chief of the Supreme General Staff
Comando Supremo

C O P Y

6356

(19)

C O P Y

EWS/hjp

In reply refer toP
DCC 091.711

16 March 1944

Subject: Cuneo Division

My dear General:

Supplementing my letter of 11 March, replies have now been received in respect to the employment of the Cuneo Division and I am writing to Marshal Messe on this subject today.

Sincerely yours.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Deputy Chief Commissioner

General Adolfo Infante
Comando Supremo

C O P Y

6355

(18)

C O P Y

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Chief of Staff

7 March 1944

MEMO TO: Allied Control Commission

SUBJECT: Disposal of Italian CUNEO Division.

1. Reference is made to your CC/G/116 of 29th February 1944, requesting our reconsideration of decisions already made regarding the disposal of the Italian CUNEO Division, at present in Egypt.
2. Recent rulings issued by the Combined Chiefs of Staff, regarding the equipment to be supplied from Allied sources to units of the Italian Army, prohibit any possibility of employing the CUNEO Division in a combat role. With this factor in mind, the decisions already made, regarding the disposal of the CUNEO Division must stand. Furthermore, the personnel of the Division are already dispersed in units at work in Egypt, and any attempt to reform the division would lead to many difficulties.
3. It is pointed out that the personnel of the Division are employed in Egypt under terms similar to those ~~existing~~ for Italian Army units at present collaborating in Italy in the rear of the Allied Armies, and are not considered in any way as prisoners of war.
4. The Comando Supremo suggest that a policy of gradual repatriation be established for the personnel of the division, but owing to the existing priority of movement of personnel from the Middle East, and the importance of the work on which the division is at present employed, it is considered premature to consider such a project.

J. A. H. GAMMELL,
Lieutenant General,
Chief of Staff.

DB/vp

Note:

Stone is informing Gen. Infante for Marshal Mes

(Initialled) FNMM 14 Me

6354

COPY from a COPY

13 MAR 1944

U.S. SECRET Equals British SECRET

INCOMING

/sk

(17)

CUNEO DIVISION

SECRET

63748

PRIORITY

122009A MAR

FREEDOM SIGNED CINC CITE HQCT

131315A MAR

FATIMA (VIA FATIMA ADVANCED)

(3997)

Dated 11 March your 2462. Reply to message memorandum despatched this HQ 9 March and was in substance as follows: A. Ruling preventing employment of Cuneo Division in combat role. B. Decision already taken regarding disposal Cuneo Division will stand. C. Personnel are employed as co-belligerents and not POW. D. Considered premature to initiate a gradual repatriation scheme owing to existing transportation difficulties and importance of work on which division is presently employed.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - AG
- 1 - DSG - info
- 1 - DGC - info
- ✓ 1 - Army Sub-Com - info

N.B. - This answers DCC cable requesting expedite reply to his memo of Jan 29, forwarding Marcel's of 26 Jan. Marcel told us he is ready to visit Cuneo in Palestine. Marcel also answered by letter of which this is digest. Letter in DCC's files. - J. L. McC.

info - att.

U.S. SECRET Equals British SECRET

6353

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OUTGOING

4/11

2462

(15)

SECRET

PRIORITY

FATIMA

FREEDOM

MAR

11 Mar 44

YOUR 50285 DATED 31 JANUARY PD PAREN TO FREEDOM FOR CHIEF OF STAFF FROM
FATIMA FROM MACFARLANE PERSONAL PAREN SOLDARELLI NOW READY TO GO TO PALESTINE AND
MESSE INQUIRES WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON HIS MEMORANDUM OF 26 FEBRUARY
WHICH I SENT TO YOU WITH COVERING MEMORANDUM ON 29 FEBRUARY PD WHAT SHALL I
TELL HIM

AUTHENTICATED:

ELERY W. STONE
Captain, USNH
Deputy Chief Commissioner

DISTRIBUTION:

2 - AG Files
1 - Deputy Chief Comm
2 - Dep Sec Gen

- COPY -

6352

C O P Y

EWS/hjp

11 March 1944

My dear General:

Replying to your letter PM 151 of today, the Comando Supremo's memorandum of 26 February was forwarded by General MacFarlane to the Chief of Staff of the Commander in Chief, Allied Forces, on 29 February, but to date we have received no reply. As a result of your memorandum, General MacFarlane telegraphed the Chief of Staff and I shall advise you as soon as his reply is received.

Very sincerely,

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Deputy Chief Commissioner

General Adolfo Infante
Comando Supremo

C O P Y

6351

C O P Y

COMANDO SUPREMO

P.M. 151 11 March 44

My dear Stone,

as you know gen. Solderelli is now ready to go
to Palestine to see his division.

I wonder if you can let me know something in relation
to our letter 11395 op/ of February 27 th last.

Thanking you your sincerely

/s/ A. Infante

Captain U.S.N.

Ellery W. Stone

Allied Control Commission

-C O P Y

6350

(12)

C O P Y

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Ref. CC/G/116

FNMM/rj

29 February 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Allied Force Headquarters.
(For Chief of Staff).

1. I enclose translation of a memorandum just received from Marshal Messe.
2. As you know, the Italian Comando Supremo have already brought up the question of the status of the Cuneo Division on more than one occasion.
3. I would like to make it very clear that the Italian Government feel very strongly indeed over this question. Messe attacks me on the subject every time I see him. Their point of view seems to them the only logical and fair one.
4. I have no idea whether there is any chance of reconsidering your policy as regards the Cuneo Division but you ought to know the strength of feeling which it has aroused in the Italian Command. If you felt inclined to make a gesture in the connection it could not fail to have good results over here and might add some pep to Italian army collaboration. The latter is reasonably correct but sadly lacks enthusiasm or inspiration.

NOEL MASON MACFARLANE,
Lieutenant-General,
Chief Commissioner.

6349

C O P Y

TRANSLATION

COMANDO SUPREMO

File No. 11395/OP

P.M. 151/A, 26 February 1944

TO: ACC

Subject: "CUNEO" Division.

1. General Solderelli is now ready to leave for Palestine, according to what had been written on this subject by Army Sub-Commission, note G/6/20 dated 16 February.

2. As to the employment of "Cuneo" Division, agreements between Gen. Wilson and Gen. Solderelli had encouraged our hope that this division would have been employed in war operations as a fighting unit.

3. In process of time, however, Allied Authorities have decided to employ these troops as labour units.

Leaving aside the reasons for this change of policy, I must point out that the troops of "Cuneo" Division are not to be considered POW; indeed, they have already fought at Samos side by side with Allied troops.

If however AFHQ should confirm their decision to use them as laborers, in any case they should be accorded the same treatment as the labor units of the Italian Army collaborating at present in Italy in the rear of the Allied Armies.

Nevertheless, in view of the fact that employment of such a kind could only be detrimental to the morale of the division, and possibly impair the efficiency and discipline of the men, I consider that the best solution would be a gradual repatriation.

I fully appreciate the difficulties especially in view of lack transportation, but in consideration of the above I would still be grateful if the latter solution were submitted to AFHQ for consideration.

COPY from a copy

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178

RADIO

3218

SECRET PRIORITY TELEGRAM

SECRET

SECRET

PRIORITY

MIDEAST

Land Forces (10)

7581

OG PBS MCR FARGO AND FLANBO

SIGNED WILSON >

132125A

140144A

51283

FHGCT

GOING TO LIKELIHOOD POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS IN ITALY DECISIONS
GIVEN IN OUR 50285 OF FEBRUARY 11 MUST STAND. YOUR A5/68759 OF
100900B NOT TO FARGO IS SUBJECTS.

PBS DISTR:

ACTION : HQ ACC

INFO : G-2

SEBY

CG

ACC DISTR:

(INFO) PA TO CG

" LAND FORCES S C

-14185-

CUNEO

SECRET

6317

12227

CIPHER MESSAGE

SIGS NO: 3618

IMPORTANT

MOST SECRET

TO: - ACTION FARGO-INFO MIDEAST FLAMBO

FROM: - AFHQ SGD CINC CITE FHGCT

50285

11

MOST SECRET. DATED 29 JAN YOUR 6562. AS ALREADY DECIDED, GUS/DO DIV WILL BE RETAINED IN PALESTINE AND PERSONNEL, EXCEPT SURPLUS OFFICERS, WILL BE EMPLOYED AS TRADESMEN WHERE PRACTICABLE AND BALANCE ORGANISED AS PIONEER COYS IN MIDEAST. AGREED GEN SOLDARELLI BE ALLOWED TO PAY VISIT OF 7 DAYS DURATION ONLY TO DIVISION IN PALESTINE TO COMMUNICATE TO THE DIV THE INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING ITS DISPOSAL. ARRANGE PASSAGE SOLDARELLI DIRECT ITALY TO PALESTINE AND IMMEDIATE RETURN AFTER 7 DAYS

DISTRIBUTION: SMCACTIONG(SD)
INFO A QACC DISTRIBUTION:(INFO) PA TO CC
" Land Forces SC

120930

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(79)

(F)

(F)

6316

1093

Reference DE/9/21

CONFIDENTIAL

For information

30th. January. 1944.

To: Allied Force Headquarters.

1. As previously reported, I communicated your decisions regarding the Cuneo Division in Palestine to Marshal Messe at Leghio the other day.
2. Marshal Messe accepted the instructions with a good grace but was clearly disappointed. I am inclined to think that Messe returned to Italy with considerable hopes of rebuilding an active Italian army and that he is naturally becoming very disillusioned.
3. I hope you will be able to let me have an early reply to Messe's request that General Soldarelli should be allowed to make a quick trip to Palestine to inform his division of your instructions regarding its disposal.
4. The following is an extract from a letter I have just received from Vice-President Ellery Stone on the subject of a meeting between him and Marshal Messe on 27th. January. -
 "Messe then stated that the Chief of Staff of the Cuneo Division had just arrived in Italy, that he had been asked to proceed to Headquarters Cairo for a conference but on his arrival at Cairo was placed on a ship for removal to Italy, so that he was compelled to return virtually without luggage. He said that the Chief of Staff had reported that the treatment, including pay, of the members of the Cuneo Division was virtually that of prisoners of war. This he deplored because they were, of course, not prisoners of war but had fought with the British against the Germans after the armistice. He stated that he intended to write General MacFarlane in regard to the unhappy plight of the Division, after he had received General MacFarlane's letter which he expected, among other things, to set forth the disposition to be made of the Division."
5. I am not for a moment questioning your decision regarding the disposal of the Cuneo Division but I think I ought to point out that the degree of genuine

and keen

(2)

- - 2 - -

and keen cooperation which we may hope for from the Italian High Command must be adversely affected whenever our decisions fail to correspond with their hopes. In short, we cannot have it both ways. It is a problem of policy which merits considerable examination.

Lieutenant-General,
Deputy President.

Copy to: Headquarters,
A. C. N. F..

0314

(2)

*Land Inces
Sub. Com. for Inf.*

SECRET

FARGO 580

⑥

FARGO

29 JANUARY 44

SECRET

10050 MACFARLANE

ROUTINE

F A K F O T
(AFHQ Accused-
also det.)

FAIRFIELD (ACTION) FLAMBO (INFO) MIDEAST (INFO) FREEDOM (INFO)

462 F A K F O T
WITH REFERENCE YOUR FOUR ZERO SEVEN FOX NOW GEORGE CHARLIE TARE

PD I HAVE COMMUNICATED YOUR INSTRUCTIONS TO MARSHAL BESSE PD HE NATURALLY ACCEPTED THEM BUT WAS MUCH DISSAPPOINTED AND STATED THAT HE WAS AFRAID THAT THE DECISION WOULD CAUSE GREAT DISILLUSIONMENT IN THE CUNEG DIVISION PD (ENBASE PAREN FARGO PAREN TO FAIRFIELD FOR ACTION RPTD FLAMBO FOR INFO MIDEAST FOR INFO AFHQ FOR INFO PD CITE FARGO FIVE EIGHT ZERO) PD HE URGED THAT GENERAL SOLDARELLI SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO GO TO PALESTINE TO COMMUNICATE THE INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS DIVISION RETURNING IMMEDIATELY TO ITALY AFTER DOING SO PD BESSE MAINTAINED THAT SOLDARELLI WOULD BE ABLE TO PUT ACROSS THESE RATHER DISTASTEFUL INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS DIVISION BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE PD PLEASE SAY IF YOU AGREE IN WHICH CASE I WOULD SEND SOLDARELLI TO AFHQ FOR ONWARD PASSAGE TO PALESTINE

Lt Col. Quinn Smith

*Find out where Gen. Soldarelli
is now. He will be able to explain
the situation only in checking up
on general information*

47

b/c Col

PO

*Bring back the
Sen 11*

Who from?

6343

2111111111

JAN 1944

2145

SWS/pjp

(5)

091.711

28 January 1944

MEMORANDUM:

At request of Marshal Messe I met with him at 4 PM January 27.
The subject was the Cuneo Division.

He stated that General MacFarlane had promised to send him a letter following the meeting at Lecce to confirm the understandings reached. I said that the letter had been prepared for the General's signature but had been held for him in expectation of his immediate return. Since Marshal Badoglio had preferred to meet him in Naples, however, I had sent the letter to him by courier for signature.

He asked about the trip of General Soldarelli to Palestine and return and I replied that I had written a memorandum to General MacFarlane on that subject.

He then stated that the Chief of Staff of the Cuneo Division had just arrived in Italy, that he had been asked to proceed to Headquarters Cairo for a conference but on his arrival at Cairo was placed on a ship for removal to Italy, so that he was compelled to return virtually without luggage. He said that the Chief of Staff had reported that the treatment, including pay, of the members of the Cuneo Division was virtually that of prisoners of war. This he deplored because they were, of course, not prisoners of war but had fought with the British against the Germans after the armistice. He stated that he intended to write General MacFarlane in regard to the unhappy plight of the Division, after he had received General MacFarlane's letter which he expected, among other things, to set forth the disposition to be made of the Division.

The interview was short. His attitude was not unfriendly but he seemed distressed at the news he had just received regarding the Cuneo Division. His manner was dignified and calm.

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief of Staff

6342

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394.

23 JAN 44.

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHIEF OF STAFF, A.C.C.

SUBJECT: Assignment of Gen. SOLDARELLI

TO: The Comando Supremo (Marshal Messe)

1. I beg to advise you that instructions from higher headquarters received this date concerning the assignment of Gen. Soldarelli are as follows:

You will retain General Soldarelli in Italy. Inform him that his Cuero Division will not be reformed. Personnel except surplus officers, will be retained in Palestine employing tradesmen as such and remainder as Pioneer Companies. Surplus officers will be returned to Italy by Mid-east.

For the Deputy President,

*Information - Air Force
(New Matter)*

E.W. STONE,
Capt. USNR.
Acting Chief of Staff.

6311

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29

U.S. SECRET

Equals British MOST SECRET

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION INCOMING

MESSAGE

24 JAN 1944

/hd

(3)

SVC/RELAY NO.

M/C NO : 1/23

CLASS: MOST SECRET

REF NO: 407

PREC : IMPORTANT

FILED : JAN 22 1700A

FROM : (?) ENCIPHERED 15 ARMY GROUP SIGNED CINC CITE
FMCT

REC'D : JAN 23 0005A **

TO : ACTION FATIMA, INFO MIDEAST, FREEDOM

Jan 22

Instruct Marshal Messe to retain General Soldarelli from Italy, at the same time inform him CUENO Division will NOT be reformed but personnel, except surplus officers, will be retained in Palestine ^{including any} anyone (?) tradesmen as such and remainder as Pioneer companies. Surplus officers will be returned to Italy by MIDEAST. For your information C-in-C(?) gave NO commitments to Soldarelli as stated by him in your 2002 of 16 January not to MIDEAST.

** NOTE: Awaiting check on queried words.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - Col Fiske - ACTION

44

U. S. SECRET

Equals British MOST SECRET

Being dealt with by
Chief of Staff

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BEST COPY POSSIBLE

SECRET

SECRET

CONTAINS

EWS/hsp

9/16

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JAN

SECRET

PRIORITY

PATINA

FREDMAN

I FIND THAT CONTENTS OF FOUR TWO FIVE ONE FIVE TWO DATED JANUARY SEVENTH WERE ONLY SPOADLY REPRESENTED PD MARSHAL HEAD IN THE MEANTIME HAS REQUESTED RETURN OF GENERAL ALDOWELL TO COMED DIVISION IN PALESTINE IN ACCORDANCE WITH UNDERSTANDING STATED TO HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON WITH BRIGADIER MACGARDEN OF HIGHEST HEADQUARTERS ON THIRTY DECEMBER PD PARH TO FREEDOM FROM T TIRA SIGNED *MacFarlane* MAC FARLANE HE HAS ALSO SUBMITTED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT OF COMED DIVISION AS A FIGHTING UNIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AGREEMENT STATED TO HAVE BEEN ARRIVED AT IN GENE ON TEN DECEMBER IN CONFERENCE BETWEEN GENERAL ALDOWELL AND GENERAL TLECK PD SINCE REPORTS OF BOTH AGREEMENTS ARE AT VARIANCE WITH FOUR TWO FIVE ONE FIVE TWO DATED JANUARY SEVENTH REQUEST CONFIRMATION BEFORE ADVISING MARSHAL HEAD THE FULL CONTENTS OF FOUR TWO FIVE ONE FIVE TWO

AUTHENTICATED:

ELERY M. STONE
Captain, USMC
Acting Chief of Staff

6333

DISTRIBUTION:

2 - AG Files

1 - Biary

1 - Gen MacFarlane ✓

SECRET

U. S. SECRET
 Equals British SECRET

8 JAN 1944

EXCISING

/afe

28/07

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JAN 071618A

JAN 072032A

SECRET

PRIORITY

FREEDOM SIGNED CINC CITE PHCOT

MAYDAY, INFORMATION 15 ARMY GROUP, PLANDO

1. Mideast information that General Soldarelli, Commanding Cuneo Div., which was in Sams, arriving Italy middle January in convoy XIF 7. Request you give him instructions on arrival as to destination etc. in Italy. After visiting Badoglio he wishes return Mideast but this considered undesirable, as there is no intention reform Cuneo Division. Arrange his retention in Italy.

2. Present intention for employment of approximately 7500 survivors of division is to keep them in Palestine, employ all tradesmen as such and balance as Pioneer coys of which Mideast still has considerable need. This proposal leaves a large number surplus Italian officers including staff officers and unit commanders. Unless there are strong reasons to the contrary, propose repatriating these after screening undesirables. Confirm High Command concurs.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - Gen. Taylor - ACTION

OAG 711A

CUNEO

6338

U. S. SECRET

Equals British SECRET

2007