

ACC 10000/120/6431

AQ/61/A

"BIANCHI"

June 1946 - May 1947

SUBJECT: - Agent 'BLANCH'.

5 British Liaison Unit
File: GDLE 1595
A/GA/V14

7 May 47

5 TERRITORIAL COMMAND

Herewith copy of GAF letter 5067/Q 2 dated 6 May 1947, forwarded for your information.

WJ
/td

Alman
Major,
For Lt - Col.
Gd.

File
Diary.

13

FOI: DATA 28672

G. H. & G. H. P.

06/1/47

6 May 47

SUBJECT: Tugboat - "REINART"

TO: LAGOS

Reference your 0-5 : 286. 20 of 29 Mar 47. *V.P.*

1. Attached for information is a copy of 3 MIB's letter 4/6/47 of 28 Apr 47. The tugboat is not employed by the allies.

Good

2. It is considered that the return of this tugboat to the Italian Army under the terms of AMB letter 12 J86. 3-14-47 of 2 Oct 45 does not in any way prejudiced any claim which COMINT may make against the Italian Government. It is understood that under maritime law the salvor has no rights of possession.

3. It is not understood why COMINT have not taken legal proceedings for the settlement of their claim against the Italian Government.

M. L. M.
(H. L. M. L. M. L. M.), Colonel,
for Lieut-General,
Commander-in-Chief,
CIN. CEN.

7 MAG 1947

INT/RE

Copy to: 3 MIB
LAGOS (For INFO - Land Forces and Section)
EX/1003

The tug boat wolf is
2863 (- is nearly 20)

See 114

C.C.
The name of the
5th Army Group
The 1st Army Group

SEEN BY	
GSO I	<i>Curry</i>
GSO II	
DAA & OMG	<i>all</i>
S. C. REME	
S. C. S & I.	
S. C. C.D.	
1	<i>20</i>

AF 6/11

26 APR 1947

12



12347 N HNS 262142
FROM GND QRT 26:2455
TO 2 211

262142

26335 UNCLAS SUBJECT IS TUESDAY DIALOGUE PLEASE EXHIBIT

REF TO THIS GND LETTER 5867/2 OF 19 APR 47

BT

WENT S.P.C. AT 1125 APR 47

262142 (S.P.C.) AT 1125.

*already
gmc.
Reply
Days 26/4.*

SEEN BY	
GSO I	<i>all</i>
GSO II	<i>/</i>
DAA & CMG	<i>all</i>
S. C. REME	<i>/</i>
S. C. S. & T.	<i>/</i>
S. C. ORD.	<i>/</i>
CLERKS	

101 GEN. JEP

British Liaison Unit
Tel: 11111 1553
A 61/4/11

25 Apr 67

11111 1553

Ref: your 567/12 dated 15 Apr 67.

1. There has never been any suggestion that the boat should be returned to anyone other than the original owners - the Italian army. Furthermore there has been no doubt that the Italian army are in fact the rightful owners.

2. This is interpreted as to say 356380 about 25 50 is as meaning that "there was no allied objection to the boat being handed over to the Italian army". It consequently, in good faith, but the necessary machinery in motion to obtain a release. But when that this action was correct in 26/10/67 reported by MILA, near Hill Camp and 26/10/67 MILA all of them were kept informed.

3. At no time has this been participated in the dialogue between the Italian air Ministry and the FIRM MILA. Your Lord have however supplied us with the following information:-

- (1) MILA made a slide for 1,177,297 lire on account of salvage. The Italian Navy was consulted and asked to give an opinion on the amount claimed. The Navy opinion was that the amount was grossly excessive. The Italian Army thereupon offered 30,000 which was at first accepted by MILA. At a later date however they backed out of their agreement.
- (2) Between the date of delivery of the boat for 15 and the date of handing over MILA had full use of the boat and it is believed also a considerable sum of money. The sum approximately of a bag of the British type is as much as 10,000 a day. It would appear therefore that MILA had some pretty well out of the bag - however this is no concern of ours.

Field

14 Oct

1st Gen. Staff

1st Gen. Staff

and your 567/2 dated 15 Oct 67.

1. There has never been any suggestion that the boat should be returned to anyone other than the original owners - the Italian army. Neither has there been any doubt that the Italian army was in fact the rightful owner.

2. This is interpreted as a letter of 565/1 dated 25 Sep 66 as meaning that "there was no action objection to the boat being handed over to the Italian army". It subsequently, in good faith, put the necessary machinery in motion to obtain a release. Our view that this action was correct is accidentally supported by the fact that Xiff Doria and 2nd Lt. 14. 14. 14. all of these were kept informed.

3. As no time has this is generalised in the dispute between the Italian War Ministry and the Prime Minister. There have been however involved in with the following information:

(1) CHILKA made a claim for 1,171,877 Lire on account of salvage. The Italian army was consulted and asked to give an opinion on the amount claimed. The army's opinion was that the amount was grossly excessive. The Italian army therefore offered him 500,000 Lire which was at first accepted by CHILKA. At a later date however they backed out of their agreement.

(2) Between the date of salvage of the boat in 46 and the date of handing over CHILKA had full use of the boat and it is believed was a considerable sum of money. The rent was roughly of a bag of the 14. 14. 14. type in a month at 10,000 Lire a day. It would appear therefore that CHILKA had done pretty well out of the boat - however this is no concern of ours.

Field
Army/aw

awm

1st Gen
StaffFile
Diary

TRANSLATION

5 TERRITORIAL COMMAND - UDINE -

- Services Office -

- M E M O -

5 B. L. U. - UDINE -

24 April 47

On Aug. 45 the Arty Direction of Venice knew that the 18 Ton. tugboat Bianchi, of Army property administered by the Venezia Arty Direction was repaired by one firm VIOLA which employed it on its account.-

Ditta VIOLA was therefore warned to ^{know} over the tugboat because of it was sure property of the Italian Army. Ditta CO.RI/MA (Grado) answered to said warning asking for the restitution, a compensation of 1,577,797 to cover the recovery expenses.-

The Navy Genio, requested for its opinion answered that said amount was much over the expenses really sustained owing to the prices then in force.-

Further interest was taken at the CO.RI.MA. firm (Apr. 46) and it proposed a transaction of 500.000 lire for the handing over of the tugboat as compensation of the expenses for the recovery.-
Said transaction is more than right keeping in mind that CO.RI.MA. has used the tugboat since 1945 and has also rented tugboats of the same type for 10.000 lire per day.-

The War Ministry was informed about the matter and as GRADO was under the A.M.G. jurisdiction they applied to 'Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (M.M.I.A.)' in Rome in order to obtain authority to recover the tugboat.-

The Sub Commission with its letter Q/158 dated 1 Jul. 46 asked the 5 B.L.U. to contact the Allied authorities in order to recover the tugboat.-

On 29 Jul. the 5 B.L.U. forwarded to this Command his letter Q/158 dated 24 Jul. 46 which informed that M.M.I.A. was dealing the matter with the HQ. A.M.G. 13 Corps.-

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- 2 -

On 1 Oct. 46 the 5 B. L. U. informed this HQ. with his GS -386 -20P dated 25 Sept. 46 that there was no objection from the Allied Commands to the handing over to the Italian Army of the "Bianchi" tugboat, except the right to recognize the expenses made for the recovery and repairs by CO.RI.MA. - Any dispute in the matter was of Italian Government competence and the CO.RI.MA. firm. -

In accordance with the a/q letter the 5 B. L. U. forwarded to this Command the consignment order n. 15 in regard to the tugboat. For the execution of said order this Command informed with letter 13729/S/9/2 dated 5 Nov. 46 about personnel encharged of the taking over. -

The Grado A.M.G. informed that the tugboat would have been given on 13 Nov. 46 having the A.M.G. also informed the Salvage Section of Venezia Giulia. -

So the tugboat was taken over and sent to Venezia - Isola S. Giorgio - Arty Direction. -

The War Ministry informed about the recovery of the tugboat authorized the payment to CO.RI.MA. of the 500.000 agreed upon on Apr. 45. -

The CO.RI.MA. refused the sum and informed that they would have interested the Higher Italian Authorities. - In regard to that this Command considers that such should be the answer. -

"The Venice Arty Direction of 5 Territorial Command - Udine - on behalf of Italian War Ministry, having known on Aug. 45 that a tugboat of theirs, the "M. Bianchi" had been recovered and used by CO.RI.MA. firm, stated their step for recovery. -

The firm concerned asked the a/q Arty Direction as compensation of expenses the sum of 1.577.797. - But the Arty Direction answered to CO.RI.MA. that the firm had a utility from the rent of tugboat since the date of its recovery (up to Apr. 46) -

In accordance with this objection the firm transacted for a sum of 500.000 lire. -

When the tugboat was recovered, ^{the} Arty Direction offered to CO.RI.MA. the sum agreed upon. -

CO.RI.MA. refused it. -

No action was taken by the B.L.U. when the matter was dealt. - Action was only taken between Italian Military Authorities and

was of Italian Government competence and the CO.RI.MA. firm.-

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In accordance with this objection the firm transacted for a sum of 500.000 lire.-

When the tugboat was recovered, ^{the} ~~to~~ Arty Direction offered to CO.RI.MA. the sum agreed upon.-

CO.RI.MA. refused it.-

No action was taken by the R.I.U. when the matter was dealt.- Action was only taken between Italian Military Authorities and CO.R.MA.-

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- 3 -

The handing back of the tugboat cannot have damaged CO.RI.MA. as:-

- the sum agreed upon was calculated according with the Italian prices which the Italian Navy recognized with the Italian to private firms which recover ships.-

- the CO.RI.MA. from June (date of recovery) to Nov. 46 (date of handing over to Italian Army) has used the tugboat renting it and having remarkable benefits, because, as known, the price for rent of tugboat type "Bianchi" is of about 10.000 lire per day.-

This B.L.U. therefore considers that the matter has been regularly dealt and that CO.RI.MA. firm can be completely satisfied receiving 500.000 lire offered by the Italian Military Command.-

COMMANDING THE SERVICE

OFFICE

Sgd: (L. Olivieri, Col.)

WGC/t.

COMANDO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI UDINE
- Ufficio Servizi

Udine, li 24 aprile 1949

P R O M E M O R I A

AL COMANDO DEL 5° B.L.U.

S E D E

Nell'agosto 1945 la Direzione Artiglieria di Venezia veniva a conoscenza che il rimorchiatore "M. Bianchi" di 18 tonnellate di proprietà dell'Esercito Italiano ed in carico alla stessa Direzione Artiglieria di Venezia era stato rimesso a galla da una certa Ditta VIOLA che lo impiegava in proprio.

Scrittura dell'Autore
Diffidata la Ditta Viola a restituire il rimorchiatore perone di sicura appartenenza all'Esercito Italiano. Alla diffida rispondeva la Ditta CO.RI.MA. di Grado chiedendo, per la restituzione un compenso di lire 1.577.797 a saldo spese sostenute per il recupero.

Richiesto il parere del Genio navale sull'equità della richiesta, questo comunicava che tale spesa era notevolmente superiore a quella realmente sostenuta, date le tariffe in vigore.

Interessata nuovamente la ditta CO.RI.MA. (aprile 1946), questa propose una transazione in lire 500.000 per la consegna del rimorchiatore ed a saldo delle spese da essa sostenute per il recupero.

Tale transazione è più che equa, tenuto conto che la CO.RI.MA. ha fatto uso del rimorchiatore sin dal giugno 1945 riscuotendo noli che per un rimorchiatore del tipo del "M. Bianchi" si aggirano sulle 10.000 lire al giorno.

Di quanto sopra venne informato il Ministero della Guerra, il quale, essendo Grado situato in zona sotto la giurisdizione dell'A.M.G., si rivolse alla "Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. (M.M.I.A.)" di Roma per ottenere l'autorizzazione di procedere al recupero del rimorchiatore.

Detta "Sub Commission" con lettera n. Q/158 in data 1 luglio 1946, pregava il 5° B.L.U. di prendere contatto con la competente autorità alleata allo scopo di recuperare il rimorchiatore.

In data 29 luglio il 5° B.L.U. trasmetteva in copia a questo Comando la lettera O.158 del 25 luglio 1946 con la quale veniva informato che la M.M.I.A. trattava la questione con il HQ A.M.G. 13° Corps.

Il 13 ottobre 1946 il 5° B.L.U. comunicava questa Comando

AL COMANDO DEL 5° B.I.U.

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Diffidata la Ditta VIOLA a restituire il rimorchiatore perché di sicura appartenenza all'Esercito Italiano. Alla diffida rispondeva la Ditta CO.RI.MA. di Grado chiedendo, per la restituzione un compenso di lire 1.577.797 a saldo spese sostenute per il recupero.

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Il 1° ottobre 1946 il 5° B.I.U. comunicava a questo Comando il foglio G5; 186 20P in data 25 settembre 1946 che da parte alleata non esisteva alcuna opposizione alla restituzione all'Esercito Italiano

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del rimorchiatore "Bianchi", salvo i diritti al riconoscimento spese di recupero e riparazione a favore della CO.HI.MA. - Qualsiasi divergenza in materia di tale risarcimento ~~da~~ di competenza soltanto del Governo Italiano e della ditta che ha effettuato il recupero.-

In base a tale lettera il 5° B.L.U. trasmetteva a questo Comando l'ordine di cessione n. 115 del rimorchiatore.- Per l'esecuzione di tale ordine lo scrivente segnalava con foglio n. 12729/3/9/2 in data 5 nov. 1946, il personale incaricato del recupero.-

Interessato al riguardo il G.M.A. di Grado, questi informava che il rimorchiatore sarebbe stato ceduto il 13 novembre 1946 e dopo avere informato la Salvage Section A.M.S. della Venezia Giulia.-

Il rimorchiatore è stato quindi recuperato e avviato alla sua vecchia sede, cioè Venezia - Isola di S. Giorgio - Direzione Artiglieria.-

Il Ministero della Difesa, informato del recupero, autorizzava la corrispondenza alla CO.HI.MA. delle 500.000 lire pattuite nell'aprile del 1946.-

La ditta però rifiutò tale somma comunicando che avrebbe interessato le superiori autorità italiane.-

Per quanto sopra l'ufficio scrivente sarebbe del parere di rispondere in tale senso:

"La Direzione Artiglieria di Venezia del 5° Comando Militare Territoriale di Udine, per il Ministero della Guerra Italiano, venuta a conoscenza nell'agosto del 1945, che un suo rimorchiatore e più precisamente il "M. Bianchi" era stato recuperato ed esercito dalla ditta CO.HI.MA. iniziò le pratiche per il recupero.-

La ditta interessata chiese alla predetta Direzione di Artiglieria, a titolo di rimborso spese la somma di lire 1.577.797.- la Direzione Artiglieria obiettò però alla CO.HI.MA. che essa aveva ricevuto un utile con il noleggio del rimorchiatore dalla data del recupero all'aprile del 1946.-

In base a tale obiezione la ditta addivenne ad una transazione chiedendo lire 500.000.-

In base a tali trattative la Direzione di Artiglieria di Venezia, una volta recuperato il rimorchiatore, offerse alla CO.HI.MA. la somma pattuita.-

La CO.HI.MA. però la rifiutò.-

Ora in tutte queste trattative questo M.I.U. non ebbe alcuna ingerenza.- Esse furono eseguite tra il Comando Italiano e la CO.HI.MA.-

La cessione del rimorchiatore dalla CO.HI.MA. non la può avere

Comando l'ordine di cessazione n. 115 del rimorchiatore. - Per l'esecuzione di tale ordine lo scrivente segnalava con foglio n. 13729/3/9/2 in data 5 nov. 1946, il personale incaricato del recupero. -

Interessato al riguardo il G.M.A. di Grado, questi informava che il rimorchiatore sarebbe stato ceduto il 13 novembre 1946 e dopo avere informato la Salvage Section A.M.F. della Venezia Giulia. -

Il rimorchiatore è stato quindi recuperato e avviato alla sua vecchia sede, cioè Venezia - Isola di S. Giorgio - Direzione Artiglieria. -

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La ditta però rifiutò tale somma comunicando che avrebbe interessato le superiori autorità italiane. -

Per quanto sopra l'ufficio scrivente sarebbe del parere di rispondere in tale senso:

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La CO.RI.MA. però la rifiutò. -

Ora in tutte queste trattative questo B.L.U. non ebbe alcuna ingerenza. - Esse furono eseguite tra il Comando Italiano e la CO.RI.MA. -

La cessione del rimorchiatore della CO.RI.MA. non la può avere ingiustamente danneggiata perchè:

- il prezzo pattuito è stato calcolato in base alle tariffe italiane

3 -
che il Ministero della Marina Italiana riconosce alle ditte private le
recuperatrici di navi;

- la CO.RI.MA. dal giugno, data del recupero, al novembre 1946 (data della
consegna all'Esercito Italiano) ha sfruttato il rimorchiatore non
leggiandolo, ricavando notevoli benefici, perché, come sarà noto, il
prezzo del noleggio per rimorchiatore del tipo del "M.BIANCHI" si aggira
sulle 10.000 lire al giorno.-

Pertanto questo P.L.U. è del parere che la pratica si sia
svolta regolarmente e che la ditta CO.RI.MA. può ritenersi soddisfatta
riscuotendo le 500.000 lire offertegli dal Comando Militare Italiano.- "



IL CAPO UFFICIO SERVIZI
(Col. L. Olivieri)

Olivieri

Memo. in connection with "
TUGBOAT, "BIANCHI"

Coma

In demands are a few salient
points in connection with this
letter.

1. There has never been any
suggestion that the boat should
be returned to anyone other
than its rightful owners.
2. GHS issued a release order
by mistake and then cancelled
it out of hand stating (a) the
boat had never been requisitioned
and (b) it was entirely a matter
between Italian Government and the
firm of COLOMA.
What point would there have
been in informing GHS therefore?
- if what interest is it to them?
3. Para 2 of the letter appears
to have been adequately answered
by folio (5) para 2

Q.B.

1. There has never been any suggestion that the boat should be returned to anyone other than its rightful owners.
2. G40 issued a release order by mistake and then cancelled it out of hand stating that the boat had never been requisitioned and (b) It was entirely a matter between Italian Government and the firm of CORMA.
 What point would there have been in informing G40 otherwise?
 - If what difference is it to them?
3. Para 2 of the letter appears to have been adequately answered by folio (5) para 2
4. AMG, V.G. and Grando appear to be the real interested parties and so much so that they eventually gave the release instructions and facilitated the hand over. (letter no. 13)

5. GAO do not seem to be aware of the M of W complaints that their boat was being 'intimidated' and that COKIMA have made over 3 million profit from its use. (See letter attached Copy 1)
6. The practical step for COKIMA is to take as a civilian firm ~~in~~ if they think they have a claim is, for them to issue a writ under Italian law claiming an indemnity. If they can produce sufficient evidence in support thereof a civil action against the M of W should follow.
7. The only steps we can take are (a) To ask Committee what they propose to do about settling the claim.
8. (b) To ask T & F B to take

6. The practical step for COMINT is to take as a civilian from ~~us~~ if they think they have a claim is, for whom to issue a writ under Italian law claiming an indemnity. If they can produce sufficient evidence in support thereof a civil action against the MoW should follow.

7. The only steps we can take are (a) to ask Committee what they propose to do about settling the claim or (b) to ask I L F B. to take up the question with MoW who can either decide to pay up or send the boat back (at the same time informing GRC!!)

16/6

A Q

TRANSLATION

5 TERRITORIAL COMMAND - UDINE -
- Services Office -

N. 4994/S/9/222 Apr. 47SUBJECT:- Tugboat " Bianchi " .-

5 B. L. U. - U D I N E -

Ref. letter 22579 G.H.Q. C.M.F. 5067/Q2 of 15 Apr. 47.-

We inform that the Artillery Direction in Venice, has taken interest in the matter and has reported that Ditta CO.RI.MA. has refused the payment of 500.000 lire which were already verbally agreed upon with the a/q Direction and assigned by the War Ministry as settling of expenses done for the recovery of the ship and to close the matter.-

COMMANDING OFFICER
Sgd:(A. Zauli - Brig.)

CWG/t.

22 APR 1947

SEEN BY	
GSO I	<i>[Signature]</i>
GSO II	<i>[Signature]</i>
DAA & CMG	<i>[Signature]</i>
S. C. REME	<i>[Signature]</i>
S. C. S. & T.	<i>[Signature]</i>
S. C. ORD.	<i>[Signature]</i>
CLERKS	

MST/dra

QUARTO MILITARE TERRITORIALE DI UDINE
- Ufficio Servizi -

N. 4994/S/972 di prot. 22 APR 1947

Udine, 14 22 aprile 1947

OGGETTO: Rimorchiatore "Dianchi".-

AL COMANDO DEL 5° R.L.B.

S E D E

.....

In relazione a quanto segnalato nella lettera diretta a codesto Ufficio dal Comando Alleato di Padova con n.22679 - G.H.Q. C.M.F. - 5067/Q2 del 15 aprile v.e. si precisa che la Direzione di Artiglieria di Venezia, interessata al riguardo da questo Comando, ha comunicato che la Ditta CO.RI.MA. ha rifiutato il pagamento delle lire 500.000 (cinquecentomila), già concordate verbalmente con la suddetta Direzione e concessele dal Ministero a saldo delle spese sostenute per il recupero del natante ed a tacitazione di ogni altra pretesa.

sa.-

IL GENERALE DI BRIGATA COM/TE INTER.
- Adolfo Zauli -



17 APR 1947

SEEK Y	
C-01	<i>hmm</i>
C-02	<i>/</i>
C-03 & C-04	<i>all</i>
S. C. COME	<i>/</i>
S. C. S. & T.	<i>/</i>
S. C. T. D.	<i>/</i>
C-05	<i>/</i>

SUBJECT: Tugboat "BLANCHET"

TO: S. British Liaison Unit

Tel: PADUA 22672

C. H. S. J. M. F.

5067/42

15 APR 47

Reference our 5067/42 of 11 Nov 46.

1. It has been reported to this HQ by AFHQ that despite the cancellation of Ord Release Order No. 115 issued under reference DOS/1062 of 18 Oct 46, no action has apparently been taken by you either to return the Tugboat or inform this HQ.
2. It is not understood why the request for the release of the Tugboat in your 24/01/390 of 1 Oct 46 was originally made in view of the AFHQ letter D-5 136.2 CP of 25 Sep 46 in which it was clearly stated that the matter was one for settlement between the Italian Government and COMITA. As the result of this request a release order was issued by Ord this HQ subsequently to be cancelled as stated above.
3. It is requested therefore that you inform this HQ why no action was taken by you at the time of receipt of our letter to report the fact that the release had already taken place and to effect the return of the Tugboat.
4. It will be appreciated that the release to the Italian Army of the Tugboat "BLANCHET" has seriously prejudiced COMITA's claim. Will you please therefore state what steps are proposed to restore the status quo or to procure the settlement of Messrs. COMITA's claim.

*Are they not
informed
indirectly by
sending a signal
complying, please
with it*

J. Laurie

(I. L. W. D. LAURIE), Colonel
For Brig 1/c Adm.

RRF/39

Copy to: LAGAF (for D-5)
LAGAF (for DAB - Land Forces Sub-Section)
File DOS/1003

AR/W/A

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Land Forces BranchTel: 489081
Ext: 415

Q.158/LF

Mar 47

Allied Force Headquarters. (G-5 Section)Subject: Tugboat "Bianchi"

Reference your G-5 994.20 dated 20 Feb 47 and Chief IMAS letter IMAS/8003/US of 15 Mar 47.

1. The complaint has been investigated and it appears that the Tugboat was recovered by the Italian Military Authorities on the 13 Nov 46 and is now in their possession.
2. 5 BHU gave no instructions to the firm of CORINA. A.E.G. authority (copy attached at Appendix "A") was passed by 5 BHU to 5 Territorial Command. This appears to have been based on a GHQ authority (attached at Appendix "B") which was cancelled on 14 Nov 46 by letter (attached at Appendix "C").
This letter (Appendix "C") was not received until after the tugboat had been collected.
3. The position must have been known to all concerned in Nov 46 and it is recommended that any further action as indicated in your para 4 should be taken by GHQ with 5 BHU.

RAO/jw

Copy to: 5 British Liaison Unit

Major General,
Director.

SEEN BY	
GSO I	<i>Seen</i>
GSO II	<i>/</i>
DAI & C-2	<i>au</i>
S. C. P-11	<i>/</i>
S. C. S. & T.	<i>/</i>
S. C. O-2	<i>B</i>
CLERKS	

22 MAR 1947

H/A.
Quinn

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Force Sub Section
(Formerly IMIA)

Tel: 489004
Ext: 415

G. 150/12

14 Mar 47

Chief, I.M.A.S.

Subject: Draft "Blanchi"

Further to this sub section letter of even number dated 10
Mar 47 herewith draft reply to AFHQ G-5 as requested.

(5)

RMG/JW

(Sd) W.P.
for Major General,
Director.

Copy to: 5 RMG ✓

17 MAR 1947

DISTRIBUTION	
CO-1	<i>Quater</i>
CO-2	<i>Quater</i>
A & CMO	<i>all.</i>
S. C. PEAL	
S. C. S. & I.	
S. C. ORD.	
CLERKS	

DELET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub Section
(Formerly NMIA)

Tel: 490084
Ext: 415

C. 158/12

Mar 47

Allied Force Headquarters, (G-5 Section)

Subject: Tugboat "Rianchi"

Reference your G-5 994.20 dated 20 Feb 47.

1. The complaint has been investigated and it appears that the Tugboat was recovered by the Italian Military Authorities on the 13 Nov 46 and is now in their possession.

2. 5 HHU gave no instructions to the firm of CORMA, A.M.G., authority (copy attached at Appendix "A") was passed by 5 HHU to 5 Territorial Command. This appears to have been based on a GHQ authority (attached at Appendix "B") which was cancelled on 11 Nov 46 by letter (attached at Appendix "C").

This letter was not received until after the tugboat had been collected.

3. The position must have been known to all concerned in November 1946 and it is recommended in view of the present run-down of I.M.A.S. that any further action as indicated in your para 4, should be taken by GHQ with 5 HHU.

Subject: Tugboat "Marsabit"

Reference your C-5 994, 20 dated 20 Feb 47.

1. The complaint has been investigated and it appears that the Tugboat was recovered by the Italian Military Authorities on the 13 Nov 46 and is now in their possession.
2. 5 BII gave no instructions to the firm of CORINA, A.M.S., authority (copy attached at Appendix "A") was passed by 5 BII to 5 Territorial Command. This appears to have been based on a GHQ authority (attached at Appendix "B") which was cancelled on 11 Nov 46 by letter (attached at Appendix "C").

This letter was not received until after the tugboat had been collected.

3. The position must have been known to all concerned in November 1946 and it is recommended in view of the present run-down of I.M.A.S. that any further action as indicated in your para 4 should be taken by GHQ with 5 BII.

BII/jw

Copy to: 5 BII

*a 5 filed as example
of passing the baby!*

1947
Major General,
Director.

Allen

ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub Section
(Formerly 2015)

Tel: 489081
Ext: 415

4. 158/17
10 Mar 47

Chief, I.S.A.S.

Subject: Request "BLANCO"

Reference your IMAY/8251/CS dated 25 Feb 47 and further to this sub Section Q.132/17 dated 27 Feb 47.

1. A report has now been received from 5 HCU from which it appears that:

- (a) The bag-out was collected by the Italian Army on the 13 Nov 46 and is now in their possession.
- (b) 5 HCU gave no instructions to the firm of CORDA. They passed to the HQ of 5 Territorial Command and authority, a copy of which is attached (A).
- (c) A CMA release order was issued on 18 Oct 46 and cancelled on 11 Nov 46 (see B & C attached). This however was not received by 5 HCU until 14 Nov 46.

2. The dispute appears to be entirely one between the Italian Authorities. 5 HCU approached the appropriate Allied Authorities as the release authority (A) was essential before the Military Authorities could take possession. The War Ministry authorized 5 Territorial Command to recover their property and the position today would be the same if instead of issuing a release order AHC had made it clear they would not take any steps to prevent this being done. The latter course would appear to be in accordance with para 2 of AHA letter G.S. 356.30 dated 25 Sept 46.

S. P. ...

Major General,
Director.

RAC/jr

14 MAR 1947

Subject: August "MIA"

Reference your IMAG/8081/CS dated 23 Feb 47 and further to this sub section 0.152/12 dated 27 Feb 47.

1. A report has now been received from 5 MJJ from which it appears that:

- (a) The tug-out was collected by the Italian Army on the 13 Nov 46 and is now in their possession.
- (b) 5 MJJ gave no instructions to the firm of CORMA. They passed to the HQ of 5 Territorial Command AMG authority, a copy of which is attached (A).
- (c) A CMJ release order was issued on 12 Oct 46 and cancelled on 11 Nov 46 (see B & C attached). This however was not received by 5 MJJ until 14 Nov 46.

2. The dispute appears to be entirely one between the Italian Authorities. 5 MJJ approached the appropriate Allied Authorities as the release authority (A) was essential before the Military Authorities could take possession. The War Ministry authorized 5 Territorial Command to recover their property and the position today would be the same if instead of issuing a release order AMG had made it clear they would not take any steps to prevent this being done. The latter course would appear to be in accordance with para 2 of AMJ Letter G.S. 386.30 F dated 25 Sept 46.

RAC/jw

Copy to: G.E.O.
5 MJJ

14 MAR 1947

CHECKED	
GEO I	<i>[initials]</i>
GEO II	<i>[initials]</i>
DAA & OMG	<i>[initials]</i>
S. C. BENE	<i>[initials]</i>
A. C. S. & T.	<i>[initials]</i>
S. C. ORD.	<i>[initials]</i>
Clerks	<i>[initials]</i>

[Signature]
Major General,
Director.

ARMY FORM 07146 (Small)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call

Srl. No.

Priority

Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM
(A)

Originator

Date-Time of Origin

Office Date Stamp

5 B.L.H.

For Action

140900

DIAS LPHI HOME

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

Originator's No.

8/61/11 (.) UNCLAS (.) ref your signal Q 113 dated 07 received 12 (.)
report sent 05

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT AS WRITTEN
BY ANY MEANSIF LIABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO
FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS, THIS MES-
SAGE MUST BE SENT IN CIPHERORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS
DECREE OF PRIORITY

Time

THI 010R

Time cleared

SIGNED

SIGNED

ROUTINE

1808

49/6/A

FROM HQ AFHQ
TO 27A 5 ALY
INFO AFHQ



3

BT
113 U/C

*Branch
Reply and
Sinter*

EXPEDITE REPORT CALLED FOR IN OUR 1/1 C 135/LF OF 27 FEB
FOR A F H Q (.) YOU C 13137 OF 27 FEB REFERS

BT
SENT BY G J J FOR G D S

SEE BY	
GSO I	
GSO II	
DSA & OMS	<i>any</i>
S. C. ECH	
S. C. S. & T.	
S. C. OMD.	
CIRCU	

SUBJECT: - Tugboat 'Blanchi'.

5 British Liaison Unit
Tele: URMH 1595

RG/CJ/A
5 Mar. 47

INAS (Q)

Ref. Your Q 158/12 dated 27 Feb. 47.

1. A copy of the complete file relating to this matter is now forwarded herewith for consideration.
2. The sequence of events is made no plain by mere perusal of the letters therein that it is felt no useful purpose would be served in summarizing the story.
3. It will be observed that no instructions were issued by this H.Q. to the Firm of OO-RL-Ma.

PA
AC/p31

File
Diary.

Alman
/ Lt. Col. *Major*
GS.

Copy

URGENT: - Secretary of Ministry of War

Lead Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(S.M.A.A.)
R.O.M.S.
0.153

1 July 46.

TO : - 5 MIN. URGENT

The attached copy of letter received from Ministry of War is passed to you for action.

1. It is requested that you contact the appropriate Allied authority with a view to requesting the mg. in question.

2. This is to be kept in mind of all persons.

L.F. RYAN, Major,
for Major General,
S.M.A.A.

Copy to: - Ministry of War
(For letter to act on
lot 300/14573/46
dated 19 June 46 refuse)

STY/ab

Received 14 July 46.

100-100000

100-100000

100-100000

100-100000

SUBJECT: Recovery of the ship "Blond".

- 1) The Mil. Com. of Venice informed this Ministry that the 13 tons ship, "Blond", sunk, on 27 Feb. 1945, in the Adriatic Sea, is currently being salvaged by the firm "Blond", in accordance with the order issued by the Mil. Com. at Venice.
- 2) "Blond" firm has been approached and invited to return the ship, in accordance with the R. Decree No. 32 dated 1st Feb. 1945 published in the Official Gazette No. 25 dated 27 Feb. 1945, but the firm has always postponed the handing over, giving as a pretext the large expenses born for the recovery of the ship, and forwarding to the Mil. Com. reports of a survey of a wreck so high that it is to be considered exaggerated, especially if we take into account the low regular use of the ship in question by which the firm "Blond" made over 3 millions lire profit.
- 3) Having ordered the freeing of said ship and arranged for its recovery, the Mil. Com. of Venice reported of not being able to comply with this order because of the place where the ship is located) is under the jurisdiction of ...
- 4) Should you have no objection, kindly authorize the recovery of the ship which belongs to the Administration.

100-100000
Gen.

001 2

SUBJECT: - Our belonging to Italian Ministry of War.

2 British Liaison Unit
 Ref: 1774
 A/51/75
 11 Jul. 46.

C. I. N. , Rear 13 Corps.

1. Attached is a copy of a letter received from the Ministry of War for your information and necessary action.
2. It is clear that if this tug is in Zone 'A', it is subject to our booty Claims, however a civilian firm has no right to use this tug even if allowed by A.S.G., 13 Corps.
3. If however it is ruled that an authority granted by A.S.G., 13 Corps is valid, then the firm in question should make arrangements to pay for the rent of the tug.

J.W. DEWINTER
 Major,
 D.A. & J.R.

DDI

2

SUBJECT: - Salvage Air "Mendai".

Rear HQ XIII Corps
1013/YC
15 July 46

5 British Liaison Unit

Reference your letter A/61/176 dated 4 July '46.

1. Enclosed herewith copy letter from Chief Industry and Utilities Officer A3.
2. Further inquiries are in progress and you will be notified in due course of results obtained.

Major,
For Colonel.
DUS.
(D.F.A. RES)

Received 16 Jul. 46.

REF

HEADQUARTERS
ARMED MILITARY SERVICES
13 AUG 46

Telephone No : 6642 Ext. 04 Date 12 July 46
Reference No : 134/ARM/12/8-2
Subject : Salvaged tug "Bianchi"
To : Rear HQ 13 Corps for HQS
Copy to : Economics Section this HQ.

1. Ref. Your 1013/3/08 of 5 July 1946.
2. It is known that the tug "Bianchi" is at present held by the firm OMBRA of Trieste who do not dispute its original ownership by the Italian authorities but contend they are entitled to compensation for having salvaged it.
3. An investigation is being made to ascertain the facts and certain information regarding registration, whether the tug was loaned to the German etc is being obtained by the Navy Security Officers.
4. A report will be submitted on completion of enquiries. In the meantime OMBRA have been instructed that they are not responsible for safe custody of the tug and that it will not be moved from Zone 'A' waters.

Per the Senior Civil Affairs Officer

J. E. MORGAN
Lt. Col. G/L.
Chief Industry & Utilities Offr.

DM

SUBJECT: - Recovery of Ministry of War Property.

5 British Liaison Unit
Tele: 17A
AD/6A/179

17 July 46

4th Forces Gp Comd. A.C.
(M.I.A.) R.O.E.

1. Reference your 4.158 dated the 1st July 46, attached are copies of letters from G.M. Section 13 Corps, and AD, 13 Corps.

2. The position of Ministry of War property in Venezia Giulia is subject to War Footy Claims and none of the a/m is recoverable till the position of reparations to Yugoslavia is finally settled.

Yours faithfully
Major,
D.M. & G.O.

Subject: Disposal of U.S.A.
Recovery Italian Army Property.

Land Forces 33b Cancellation AG,
M.L.L.A.
R O M E
Q. 158

26 July 1946

TO : GENERAL HEADQUARTERS C.I.P. (3)

Reference is made to A.M.L. 386.5 (AS)-O dated 2 Oct. 1945.

1. Para 3 c of above Directive states "recovered material of Italian Military origin which is not required for military purposes including maintenance of P.O.A. will be turned over immediately to the Italian Military Authorities".
2. The following is reported as a matter requiring policy decision and serving to illuminate a discrepancy from the above Directive in the case of Venezia Giulia.
 - (a) The 18 ton "Ag-Bianchi" the property of the Italian Army is at present located at Trieste under the control of the Fire Control of TRIESTE.
 - (b) This fire refuses to hand over the Ag and claim compensation for salvage and repairs.
 - (c) The matter has been taken up by M.L.L.A. with U.S.A. M.L.A. 13 Corps, who state that the fire (Gallia) have been held responsible for the safe custody of the Ag and forbidden to move it from Zone 'A' waters pending a decision.
 - (d) It is stated that Italian Army property in Venezia Giulia is subject to "MILITARY CLAIMS" and is not recoverable till the question of reparations to Yugoslavia is finally settled.
4. Your instructions are requested.

Copy to : A.C. (for Acc. Com.)
Rear All Corps (1012/303 of 15 July 46 refers)
5 M.L.B. (2/6/47) of 17 July 46 refers)

Internal : L.O.
ST.

TO : GENERAL HEADQUARTERS C. P. (3)

25 July 1946

Reference is made to A.M.A. 386.5 (AS)-O dated 2 Oct. 1945.

1. Part 6 c of above directive states "reacquired material of Italian Military origin which is not required for military purposes involving maintenance of P.O.C. will be turned over immediately to the Italian Military Authorities".
2. The following is reported as a matter requiring policy decision and serving to illustrate a departure from the above directive in the case of Venezia Giulia.
 - (a) The 16 ton "Reg. Bianchi" was property of the Italian Army is at present located at Trieste under the control of the Firm Galleria of Trieste.
 - (b) This firm refuses to hand over the Reg and claims compensation for salvage and repairs.
 - (c) The matter has been taken up by I.M.A. with H.Q. A.M.A. 13 Corps, who state that the Firm Galleria have been held responsible for the safe custody of the Reg and forbidden to move it from Trieste, pending a decision.
 - (d) It is stated that Italian Army property in Venezia Giulia is subject to "WAR REPT. CLAIMS" and is not recoverable till the question of reparations to Yugoslavia is finally settled.
4. Your instructions are requested.

Copy to : A.C. (for Exec. Com.)

Re: All Corps (1012/303 of 15 July 46 refers)

5 B.I.U. (A/51/179 of 17 July 46 refers)

Interval : L.O.

"P"

ST.

See for General.

A.M.A. 13

Received 29 July 1946

COPY

SUBJECT: - Recovery of Property of War Property.

Lord Forster 346 Comm.A.C.
(L.L.L.A.)
R.O.N. 3
Q.153

27 Sept.45.

TO : - MINISTER (A. 153)

Ref. your letter 2305/45/153 dated 19 June 45.

1. The attached copy of a letter received from ABH is passed to you in answer to your query regarding the recovery of the "Blanchi" bag.
2. Any necessary instructions should be passed direct to 5 Permittorial General.

Copy to : - 5 A.L.U.
(ref. our Q 153 dated
1 July 45 and your
ref 51/153 dated
17 July 45).

R/E/ab

S.D. LEAF, Major,
For Major General,
L.L.L.A.

Received 20 Sept.45.

OPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

G-5 Section

AO 512

G-5; 396.30P

25 September 45

SUBJECT: Disposal of Sinking Claims - VENEZIA GIBLIA.

TO : Land Forces Sub Commission (3)

MAIA

RMS

ITALIAN TUGBOAT "ELABHI"

Reference Land Forces letter G 152 of 25 July.

1. No claim for this vessel as war booty having been made by YUGOSLAVIA, there is no Allied objection to her being returned to the Italian Army.
2. She will, however, be subject to land civil rights and laws as they exist under Italian law as a result of her salvage and repair. Any dispute as to this is a matter solely for the Italian Government and the salvors; JAG will neither order the vessel to be handed over nor have any steps to prevent this being done.
3. Should any have given any orders for salvage it will discharge so much of "Dalla's" account as is its responsibility.
4. The Italian Government may be informed that the tug is available subject to such rights, if any, which the salvors may be and that possession is a matter for it to settle with Gambia.

BY COMMAND OF LIAISON OFFICER GIBLIA. MAIA :

A.I.B.

MAIA MAIA

Colonel, G.I.B.

Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Copy to: - ALG-4

Rear HQ, 13 Corps reference letter 1014/3/03 of 18 Sep both to this HQ.

25 September 46

SUBJECT: Disposal of Shipping Claims - VERONA ITALIA.

TO : Land Forces Sub Commission (5)

MILA
ROMEITALIAN REPORT "BLANCH"

Reference Land Forces letter Q 153 of 25 July.

1. No claim for this vessel as war booty having been made by YUGOSLAVIA, there is no Allied objection to her being returned to the Italian Army.
2. As still, however, by subject to such civil rights and liens as may exist under Italian law as a result of her salvage and repair. Any dispute as to this is a matter solely for the Italian Government and the salvors; and will neither order the vessel to be handed over nor have any steps to prevent this being done.
3. Should war have given any orders for salvage it will accompany so much of "Blanch's" account as in its responsibility.
4. The Italian Government may be informed that the tug is available subject to such rights, if any, which the salvors may be and that possession is a matter for it to settle with Quinn.

BY ORDER OF ASSISTANT DEPUTY DIR. :

Adm.
Adm. MILA
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, 1-5

Copy to:- ADM

Rear Hq, 13 Corps reference letter 1013/5/00 of 15 Sep 46 to this Hq.

COPY

SUBJECT: - Boat belonging to Italian Ministry of War.

5 British Liaison Unit

Tele: 1555

A/61/230

1 Oct. 46

G2, XIII Corps

Ref. Your 101/3/05 dated 15 July 46.

1. Attached is a copy of a letter from Gen. G2 on the subject of the tugboat "Bianchi", property of the Italian Army, but which is being used by firm "U.M.A." of TRIESTE.
2. Could a Release Order be issued to this firm in order to enable us to make the necessary arrangements for its collection by 5 Italian Territorial Command.

VRG/rv

FIELD

File
Diary.

Copy to: - 5 Italian Territorial Command.

J.W. Johnson
Major,
D.A. & J.G.

CONF

8

SUBJECT: - Request belonging to Italian Ministry of War.

5 British Machine Unit
Tele: 1535
A/6/231

16 Oct. 46

COM, XIII Corps.

A reply to our A/6/230 of 1st Oct is still awaited. Please forward
moment.

PLSD
VRW/rv

JRW TOWNSTON
Major,
DAA & G.

FILE
DIARY.

OFF
COMMUNIC. DIRECTORATE
G.I.G. C.I.G.

SUBJECT: Release of G.I.G. TUN.

Ref: 103/1692.
Tel: UDDE 2203.
Date: 18 Oct. 46.

TO : DCA & 303,
HQ 5 British Liaison Unit.

Ref. A/61/230 of 1st Oct. 46.

Trigate.

Herewith Release Order in respect of August 'Bianchi' at

Received 21 Oct. 46.

(D.P.A. REX) Major,
for Brigadier,
D.O.S.

C O P Y

SERIAL NO 115

Copy No. 1

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tagboat "Blanchi"	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgt: (D.F.A. REX) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.B.

The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgt.....

Date.....

COPY

Copy No. 1

CAPTURED ITALY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

DESCRIPTION

QTY

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Yugoslav "Blanchi"

1

Italy

is released to
Liaison Unit.

The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

A. R. (N) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.B.

Sgt.

Date.

COPY

SERIAL NO 115

COPY No.².....

CAPTURED FIRST MATERIAL. RELEASE CODE.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tugboat "Bianchi"	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgt: (D.F.A. RES) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit

Sgt.....

Date.....

QY

Copy No. 2

CAPTURED GERMANY MATERIAL RELATIVE ORDER.

Ref: 1002.

DESCRIPTION

QY

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Tagboat "Gianchi"

1

Italy

is released to
Liaison Unit.

RECS) Major,
Brigadier.
D.C.S.

The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit

Sgt.

Date.

10

OFF

SUBJECT: - Release of C.R.

5 British Liaison Unit
Tels: 1555
A/6/217

23 Oct. 46

5 TACTICAL CHAINS.

1. Attached are two copies of No. 115 Release Order in respect of "Hugboe" "Blind" which is at present lying in ORSO (Zone 1, Veranda Gaulia).
2. You will arrange for an Officer representative to contact C.O., MG, Grado and collect the tug in question from the firm "GRILLA FROS" of Trieste.
3. The attached copies will be duly signed and returned to this HQ which will in turn forward No. 1 copy to ORL Directorate, MG, G.P.
4. It would be appreciated if collection could be carried out as quickly as possible and completion of a/m reported forthwith to this HQ.

FIELD
VROJ/r

V R W JOHNSTON
Major,
DAA & G.S.

Copy to: - Directorate Directorate G.P., G.P.

ADJ. GEN. GRS (Att. C.O., G.R.X)

FILE

DLAT.

OFF

Tel P/OMA 22673

G.I.I., G.I.I.

5067/2

23 Oct 46

SUBJECT: - Report.

TO : - 5 British Liaison Unit

Your A/61/230 of 1 Oct. 46 addressed to Xill Corps cannot be traced in this Staff Branch.

Please forward copy.

JS/RB

(J. SMITH) Captain,
For P/13 1/c Adm.

Received 5 Nov. 46.

SECRET: - Rebort.

No. 3 Primary Liaison Unit
Tele: 1355

12.
/

CHQ., GAF.

A4 61/231
5 Nov. 46

1. Ref. your 5067/12 dated 23 Oct. 46.
2. Further copy of this HQ A4 61/230 dated 1 Oct. 46 is forwarded herewith.

Ed
AC/OT

AT G. RAY
Major,
DAF A 30.

File

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

13

Grade, 9 November 1946.

Subject : Tugboat "Mascot"

File : 64/31

To : 5 British Liaison Unit.

Ref. your R/CA/27 dated 23 Oct. 1946.

1. Tugboat in question will be released as soon as J. Information
Section, A.S.C. Venezuela Office.

Transaction can take place on Wednesday 15 Nov. 1946.

Capt. GEORGE A. JAMES

C.A.C. Grade

Copy to : Lt. Col. Foden
Salvage Sec. A.S.C. Venezuela Office
Div. Art. Venezuela.

Received 19 Nov. 46.

1. B 9 2

GRIT

Subject : - Subboat "Murchi"

5 British Liaison Unit
Rele: 1505
A/51/262
11 Nov. 46

147

5 Italian Territorial Command.

Ref. this HQ letter A/61/247 dated 23 Oct. 46.

1. Copy of CAD GRADO letter 04/51 is forwarded herewith.
2. Your attention is directed to the fact that the handover of the above-mentioned subboat can now take place on 13 Nov. 46.
3. Please take the necessary action.

Field
AG/ar

File
Diary.

A. GRAY
Major,
DRA R. 357.

1 8 9 3

13.

_____ COPY _____

Tele: ROMA 22271
Adm. Sec. C. 1.2.
5007/12
11 Nov. 1945.

SUBJECT: Airport "Disputed".

TO : 5 British Liaison Unit

Reference your letter of 6/6/257 of 5 Nov. 14.

1. It is pointed out that this is not in a position to release the boat to the Italian army as it is clearly stated in paragraph 2 of ARA's letter of 5-5 386 28P of 25 Sept. that the dispute is a matter solely for the Italian Government and the salvors.
2. As apparently this boat was never requisitioned by the British Military authorities, release order issued under D.L. 0018 letter of 10/10/42 of 18 Oct. 140 is cancelled.

(A.S.B. 200X), Lieutenant-Colonel.
for Brig 1/0 242.

JRM/RL

Copy to : - Lord Forces Sub Commission
MIA, R.A.S.

(RM (file 10133/00)

Received 14 Nov. 1945.

OFF

DIREZIONE AMMINISTRATIVA DI VAREZIA
Ufficio Amministrazione

No. 24/8706

18 nov. 1946

AL:5 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

TO: 5 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

Oggetto: Amministratore Bianchi

SUBJECT: Subject "Bianchi"

Con riferimento al foglio N. 64/247 del 23 ottobre 1946, si informa che il richiedente "Bianchi" e' stato ritirato il 13 Novembre 1946 e presentemente trovasi presso una direzione di artiglieria.

In answer to your A/64/247 dated 23 Oct. 1946 we inform you that the subject "Bianchi" has been collected on Wednesday 13 Nov. 1946 and she is at present housed near this "Divisione di Artiglieria".

Con l'occasione si restituiscono firmate due copie dell'ordine di cancellazione N. 115 riguardante la rinuncia in questione.

On the occasion we return enclosure herewith two copies of 115 Release Order signed regarding the subject in question.

IL COLONNELLO DIRETTORE
(Enrico Lenti)

ENRICO LENTI
(Col. Enrico Lenti)

GPY

SERIAL # 115

GPY ID.....

CAPTURED GERMANY MATERIAL. REASON ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tugboat 'Bianchi'	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

The above item has been received
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

(D.F.A. 8003) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

Sgd.....
Date... 13 Nov. 46

COPY

COPY ID.....

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

DESCRIPTION

QTY

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Tugboat 'Bianchi'

1

Italy

is released to
a Liaison Unit.

The above item has been received by
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

A. Ross) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

Sgd.....
Date. 13 nov. 46

OPY

OPY ID.

SERIAL NO. 115

CAPTURED NAVY MATERIAL RELEASES ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tugboat 'Bianchi'	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

(D.F.A. R223) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

The above item has been received
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgt.
Date. 13 Nov. 16

DPY

DPY ID.....

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

DESCRIPTION

QTY

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Submarine 'Blind'.

1

Italy

is released to
British Liaison Unit.

The above item has been received by
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

A. RSCB Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.C.

Sgt.....
Date, 13 Nov. 46

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Italian Military Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub Section
(Formerly MMIA)

Tel: 489081
Ext: 415

1 MAR 1947

Q. 158/LF

27 Feb 47

5 B.L.U.

Subject: Tugboat - Bianchi

1. Attached is copy of AFHQ letter G5 : 994-20 dated 20 Feb 47.
2. The War Ministry were informed of the decision contained in AFHQ letter G5 : 386-30 P of 25 Sept 46 under cover of this HQ letter Q. 158 dated 27 Sept 1946 (copy to you).
3. In reply to your AQ/61/257 of 5 Nov 46 you were informed by GHQ in letter 5067/Q2 of 11 Nov 46 (copy to this HQ) that the dispute was to be considered "a matter solely for the Italian Government and the salvors".
4. A report is required as to the circumstances under which the Tug was recovered by the Italian Army and in particular what instructions, if any, were given by you to the Firm of CORIMA.

RAC/jw
Major General,
Director.

RAC/jw

Copy to: Chief I.M.A.S. (ref attd 1st indorsement)
Ministry of National Defence - Army (by LO) (your 3308/44370 URA dated 19 June refers)

CCD II	
DAA & OMC	
S. C. REME	
S. C. S. & I.	
S. C. C. D.	
C. C. C. D.	

Julius 230

(C O P Y)

ALLIED FORCES HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
APO 512

G-5: 994.20

20 Feb 1947

SUBJECT : Tugboat "BIANCHI"

TO : Chief, IMAS
APO 794

1. Attached is a copy of a letter from Co.Ri.Ma., and this headquarters letter, G-5: 386.30 of 25 September 1946.
2. Will you please investigate the complaint that No 5 BIU has ordered the above firm to hand over the "BIANCHI" to the Italian Army. If so, will you please obtain an explanation why the instructions of this headquarters (contained in letter, G-5: 386.30 P of 25 Sep) have not been carried out.
3. n It is also pointed out that BIUs have no authority to give instructions to Italian firms. Their functions relate solely to the Italian Army.
4. Unless the tug is being employed on work vital to the Allies, she will be returned to Messrs Co.Ri.Ma. If her return would endanger Allied interests, you will arrange for the early settlement of what is justly due to Co.Ri.Ma. for salvage. Please keep this headquarters informed of the action taken.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL LEE:

Sgt A.L. HAMBLEY
Colonel G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Incls: as above

Copy to: AMG Venezia Giulia.

COPY

To: Colonel HAMBLIN
Assistant Chief of Staff
G-5 Section
AFHQ,
PADOVA

CC AMG HQ VG TRIESTE - Economics
AMG HQ VG TRIESTE - Industry
Div.

11th February 1947

Dear Sir,

Tug boat Michele Bianchi-

This firm takes the liberty of writing to ask for your assistance regarding the Tug Bianchi, salvaged by this firm at Grado.

This Firm was in the process of negotiating with the owners of the Tug, The Italian Ministry of War, for payment of the costs of salvage & repairs (totalling nearly Lit. 2,200,000) when we were ordered by 5 British Liaison Unit to hand over the Tug to 5 Italian Territorial Command.

Whilst we were still in possession of the Tug we were in a strong position to negotiate for payment, but the enforced removal of the Tug has greatly reduced our chances of ever being paid.

We cannot understand on what grounds the Tug was ordered to be handed over, as she has never been requisitioned by the British Authorities, and Colonel Poden, Chief of the Industry Division, AMG Venezia Giulia, was always of the opinion that the question of the settlement of salvage & costs was a matter to be settled entirely between ourselves and the Italian Ministry of War and that the Tug should remain in our possession until this claim had been settled.

We therefore beg you to intervene on our behalf, in order that we may receive the payment that is due to us.

We are looking forward to hearing from you and meanwhile, thanking you beforehand, we are, Sir,

Yours faithfully:

"CORIMA"
Compagnia Ricupero Marittimi
??????????????

Assistant Manager - TRIESTE BRANCH

Certified true copy:
jw

(CCF)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 SECTION
AFO 512

25 September 1946

G-5: 386.30 F

SUBJECT: Disposal of Shipping Claims - Venezia Giulia.

TO : Land Forces Sub Commission (3)
MIA
ROME.ITALIAN TUGBOAT "BLANCHI"

Reference Land Forces letter Q.158 of 25 July.

1. No claim for this vessel as War Booty having been made by YUGOSLAVIA, there is no Allied objection to her being returned to the Italian Army.
2. She will, however, be subject to such civil rights and liens as may exist under Italian law as a result of her salvage and repair. Any dispute as to this is a matter solely for the Italian Government and the salvors; AMG will neither order the vessel to be handed over nor take any steps to prevent this being done.
3. Should AMG have given any orders for salvage it will discharge so much of CORIMA's account as is its responsibility.
4. The Italian Government may be informed that the tug is available subject to such rights, if any, which the salvors may have and that possession is a matter for it to settle with CORIMA.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

Sgd. A.L. HAMBLIN
Colonel G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff G-5Copy to: ALCOM
Rear HQ, 13 Corps reference letter 1013/3/CS of 18 Sep both
to this HQ.

A. AB/LI 75.
Subject:- Recovery of Ministry of War
property.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E
Q.158

1 July 46.

To :- 5 BLU UDINE.

The attached copy of letter received from Ministry of War is passed to you for action.

1. It is requested that you contact the appropriate Allied Authority with a view to recovering the tug in question.
2. This HQ should be kept informed of all progress.

Copy to:- Ministry of War
(Your letter Dir Art &
Mot 3308/44370/URA
dated 19 June 46 refers).

E.F. Byatt
E.F. BYATT, Major,
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

EFE/ab

*Received 4 Jul 46
3 copies*

TRANSLATION

COPY

FROM: M. of W.

REF : 3308/URA

TO : M.M.I.A.

DATE: 19/6/46

SUBJECT: Recovery of the tug "Bianchi".

- 1) The Mil.Terr.Command of Udine informed this Ministry that the 18 tons tug, "Bianchi" make, property of the army repaired by the Firm VIOLA, is abusively used since the month of June last by the Firm CO.RI.MA. at Grado.-
- 2) Said Firm has been approached and invited to return the tug, in accordance with the R.Decree N°32 dated 1st Feb '45 published in the Official Gazette N°25 dated 27 Feb.'45 but the Firm has always postponed the handing over, giving as a pretext the large expenses born for the recovery of the tug, and forwarding to the Mil Adm. requests for repayment of a sums so high that it is to be considered exaggerated, especially if are take into account the non regular use of the tug in question by which the Firm CORIMA made over 3 millions live profit.-
- 3) Having ordered the freezing of said tug and arranged for its recovery, the CC.RR. Group HQ. of Venice reported of not being able to comply with this order because Grado (place where the tug is located) is under the jurisdiction of A.M.G.
- 4) Should you have no objection, kindly authorise the recovery of the tug which belong to this Administration.

Sgd PROPERXI
Gen.

3 copies

SUBJECT:- Tug belonging to Italian Ministry of War

176
5 British Liaison Unit.
Tel.: 1774

AG/61/176

4 Jul 46.

C.R.M., Rear 13 Corps.

1. Attached is a copy of a letter received from the Ministry of War for your information and necessary action.
2. It is clear that if this tug is in Zone 'A' it is subject to War Booty Claims, however a civilian firm has no right to use this tug even if allowed by A.M.G., 13 Corps.
3. If however it is ruled that an authority granted by A.M.G., 13 Corps is valid, then the firm in question should make arrangements to pay for the rent of the tug.

[Signature]
Major.
DAA & CMC.

10/61
Subject:- Salvage Tug "BIANCHI"

179
Rear HQ XIII Corps
1013/3/OS
15 July 1946

5 British Liaison Unit

Reference your letter AQ/61/176 dated 4 July '46.

1. Enclosed herewith copy letter from Chief Industry and Utilities Officer AMG.
2. Further inquiries are in progress and you will be notified in due course of results obtained.


Major,
for Colonel.
DDOS.
(D.F.A. REES)

Received 16 Jul 46

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

Telephone No: 6642 Ext. 04
Reference No: 13C/AMG/IND/N-2
Subject : Salvaged tug "BIANCHI"
To : Rear HQ 13 Corps for DDOS
Copy to : Economics Section this HQ.

Date 12 July 46

1. Ref. your 1013/3/OS of 5 July 1946.
2. It is known that the tug "BIANCHI" is at present held by the firm CORIMA of TRIESTE who do not dispute its original ownership by the Italian authorities but contend they are entitled to compensation for having salvaged it.
3. An investigation is being made to ascertain the facts and certain information regarding registration, whether the tug was leased to the German etc is being obtained by the Navy Security Officer.
4. A report will be submitted on completion of enquiries. In the meantime CORIMA have been instructed that they are held responsible for safe custody of the tug and that it will not be moved from Zone A waters.

For the Senior Civil Affairs Officer

J.E. FODEN
Lt. Col. G/L.
Chief Industry & Utilities Offr.

SUBJECT:- Recovery of Ministry of War Property.

S British Liaison Unit.
Tel.: 1774

AM/61/179

17 Jul 46.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.,
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E.

1. Reference your Q.158 dated the 1st July 46, attached are copies of letters from GEM Section 13 Corps, and AMG, 13 Corps.

2. The position of Ministry of War property in Venetia Giulia is subject to War Booty Claims and none of the a/m is recoverable till the question of reparations to Yugoslavia is finally settled.


Major,
DAA & Ad.

1909

SUBJECT: Disposal of C.E.M.
Recovery Italian Army property.

Land Forces SubCommission AC.,
M.M.I.A.
ROME
Q.158

25 July 1946

TO : GENERAL HEADQUARTERS C.M.F.(3)

ON FILE COVER

Reference is made to AFHQ AG 385.3 (AE)-O dated 2 Oct 1945

1. Para 8 c of above Directive states "recaptured material of Italian Military origin which is not required for military purposes including maintenance of P.O.W will be turned over immediately to the Italian Military Authorities".

2. The following is reported as a matter requiring policy decision and serving to illustrate a departure from the above directive in the case of Venezia Giulia.

3. (a) The 16 ton Tug "BIANCHI" the property of the Italian Army is at present located at GRADO under the control of the firm CORIMA of TRIESTE.

(b) This firm refuses to hand over the Tug and claim compensation for salvage and repairs.

(c) The matter has been taken up by M.M.I.A with HQ. AMG 13 Corps who state that the firm of CORIMA have been held responsible for the safe custody of the tug and forbidden to move it from Zone "A" waters pending a decision.

(d) It is stated that Italian Army property in Venezia Giulia is subject to "War Booty claims" and is not recoverable till the question of reparations to Yugoslavia is finally settled.

Your instructions are requested.

187
29/7
E 184A

10
Snd
SFC
Dore

Synd 511
25 July 1946
Q.158

TO : GENERAL HEADQUARTERS C.M.F.(3)

ON FILE COVER

Reference is made to AFHQ AG 386.3 (AE)-O dated 2 Oct 1945.

1. Para 8 c of above Directive states "recaptured material of Italian Military origin which is not required for military purposes including maintenance of P.O.W will be turned over immediately to the Italian Military Authorities".

2. The following is reported as a matter requiring policy decision and serving to illustrate a departure from the above directive in the case of Venezia Giulia.

3. (a) The 18 ton tug "BIANCHI" the property of the Italian Army is at present located at GRADO under the control of the firm COBIMA of TRIESTE.

(b) This firm refuses to hand over the tug and claim compensation for salvage and repairs.

(c) The matter has been taken up by M.M.I.A with HQ. AMG 13 Corps who state that the firm of COBIMA have been held responsible for the safe custody of the tug and forbidden to move it from Zone "A" waters pending a decision.

(d) It is stated that Italian Army property in Venezia Giulia is subject to "War Booty claims" and is not recoverable till the question of reparations to Yugoslavia is finally settled.

4. Your instructions are requested.

Received 29 July 1946
Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to : A.C. (for Exec. Comm.)
Rea. XII Corps (1013/3/OS of 15 July 46 refers)
✓ 5 BUJ (20/64/179 of 17 July 46 refers)

Internal: L.O.
MCM
ST.

Adm
Dad
G.S.O.
P.T.

337

Subject:- Recovery of Ministry
of War property.

Land Forces Sub Comm. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
R O M E
G.158

27 Sept 46.

To :- MINISTRY OF WAR.

Ref. your letter 3308/44370/URA dated 19 June 46.

1. The attached copy of a letter received from AFHQ is passed to you in answer to your query regarding the recovery of the "BIANCHI" tug.
2. Any necessary instructions should be passed direct to 5 Territorial Command.

W. Shaw
W.F. BYATT, Major,
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- 5 HLU
(ref our G158 dated
1 July 46 and your
AG/61/179 dated
17 July 46).

KFB/sb

SEEN BY	
G.S.O. I.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DAA & O. G.	<i>[Signature]</i>
DADOS	
ST	
S.C. REM	
G.S.O. II.	<i>[Signature]</i>
CLERKS	

See my AR folio 230

Received 30 Sep

CO PY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

238

G-5; 386.30P

25 September 46

SUBJECT: Disposal of Shipping Claims - VENEZIA GIULIA.

TO : Land Forces Sub Commission (3)
MMIA
ROME

ITALIAN TUGBOAT "BIANCHI"

Reference Land Forces letter Q158 of 25 July.

1. No claim for this vessel as War Booty having been made by YUGOSLAVIA, there is no Allied objection to her being returned to the Italian Army.
2. She will, however, be subject to such civil rights and liens as may exist under Italian law as a result of her salvage and repair. Any dispute as to this is a matter solely for the Italian Government and the salvors; AMG will neither order the vessel to be handed over nor have any steps to prevent this being done.
3. Should AMG have given any orders for salvage it will discharge so much of "CORIMA's account as is its responsibility.
4. The Italian Government may be informed that the tug is available subject to such rights, if any, which the salvors may be and that possession is a matter for it to settle with CORIMA.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

A.L.H.

A.L. HAMBLEW

Colonel, G.S.C.

Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

Copy to:- ALCOM

Rear HQ, 13 Corps reference letter 1013/3/OS of
18 Sep both to this HQ.

230
SUBJECT- Subject belonging to Italian Ministry of War.

5 British Liaison Unit.
Tel.: 1575

4/6/20

1 Oct 46.

CBS, XIII Corps.

Ref your 1013/3/02 dated 15 July 46.

1. Attached is a copy of a letter from G14, G15 on the subject of the tugboat "ELVIGLI", property of the Italian Army, but which is being used by the firm "CORONA" of TRIESTE.
2. Could a Release Order be issued to this HQ in order to enable us to make the necessary arrangements for its collection by 5 Italian Territorial Command.

VRM/rv


Major,
DIA & MC.

FIELD

Copy to- 5 Italian Territorial Command.

FILE

DLNY

2/11
SUBJECT: - Tugboat belonging to Italian Ministry of War.

5 British Liaison Unit
Tel.: 1555

A/61/20

16 Oct 196.

CMA, XIII Corps.

A reply to our A/61/20 of 1st Oct is still
omitted. Please forward earliest.


Major,
DAA & JAO.

FIND

VRW/cv

FILE

DLAY

ORDNANCE DIRECTORATE
G.H.Q. C.M.F.

21 OCT. 1946

21/6

*20/10/46
M.D.
P.T.*

Subject: Release of C.E.M. TUG

Ref: DOS/1692.
Tel: Padua 22303.
Date: 18 Oct. '46.

To: D.A.A. & Q.M.G.,
H.Q.5 British Liaison Unit.

Ref. AQ/61/230 of 1st Oct. '46.

Herewith Release Order in respect of
Troop 'BLANCHI' at Trieste.

SEEN BY	
GSO I	<i>Cur</i>
GSO II	
SA & CMG	<i>R.ale.</i>
S. C. FEME	
S. C. S. & J.	
S. C. ORD.	
CLERKS	

[Signature]
(D.P.A. REES) Major,
for Brigadier,
D.O.S.

Delivered to...
2:10/10/46 *Received* *21 Oct 46*

C O P YSERIAL NO 115COPY NO. 1

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Rowboat "BIANCHI"	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.Sgd: (D.F.A. REES) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgd.

Date.

C O P Y

IAL NO 115

COPY NO. 1

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tugboat "BIANCHI"	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.Sgd: (D.F.A. REEN) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

Sgd.....

Date.....

C O P YSERIAL NO 115COPY NO.....2.....

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tugboat "BIANCHI"	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgd: (D.F.A. REES) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgd.....

Date.....

C O P Y

SERIAL NO 115

COPY NO.....2.....

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tagboat "BLANCHI"	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgd: (D.F.A. REES) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

The above item has been received
by H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgd.....

Date.....

SUBJECT: - Release of CHM.

5 British Liaison Unit.
Tel.: 1555

AQ/61/247

5 Italian Territorial Command.

23 Oct 46.

1. Attached are two copies of No. 115 Release Order in respect of tugboat "BIANCHI" which is at present lying in Grado (Zone "A" Venezia Giulia).
2. You will arrange for an Officer representative to contact CAO, AMG, Grado and collect the tug in question from the firm "CORIMA Bros" of Trieste.
3. The attached copies will be duly signed and returned to this HQ which will in turn forward No. 1 copy to Grd Directorate, GHQ, CMF.
4. It would be appreciated if collection could be carried out as quickly as possible and completion of a/m reported forthwith to this HQ.

FIELD
VRWJ/rv

Major,
DAA & CMF.

Copy to: - Ordnance Directorate GHQ, CMF.

AMG, XIII Corps (Att. CAO, GRADO).

FILE

DIARY

5 NOV. 1946

SUBJECT: - TugboatTel RADUA 22679G.H.Q., C.M.F.2067/9223 Oct 46TO: - 5 British Liaison Unit

Your AQ/61/230 of 1 Oct 46 addressed to
XIII Corps cannot be traced in this Staff Branch.

Please forward copy.

JS/RS

[Signature]
(J. SMITH) Captain,
For Brig i/o Adm.

SEE, I OY	
G.O. I	<i>[Signature]</i>
G.O. II	<i>[Signature]</i>
DAA & CNG	<i>[Signature]</i>
S.C. I/1	
S.C. I/2	
S.C. I/3	
S.C. I/4	

Received 5 Nov 46

SUBJECT :- Turbom

No. 5 British Liaison Unit
Tel: 1555

4/61/231

5 Nov 46

CHQ., CMB.

1. Ref your 5067/92 dated 23 Oct 46.
2. Further copy of this HQ A/61/230 dated 1 Oct 46 is forwarded herewith.

Field
AL/SP

A. L. Mans.
Major,
DAA & CMB.

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
GRADO

Grado, 9 November, 1946.

Subject : Tugboat " Bianchi "
File : GR/31.
To : 5 British Liaison Unit.

Ref. your AQ/61/247 dated 23 Oct. 1946.

1. Tugboat in question will be released as soon as I inform Salvage Section, A.M.G. Venezia Giulia. Transaction can take place on Wednesday 13 Nov. 1946.

Charles J. Molfetto
Capt. CHARLES J. MOLFETTO
C.A.G. Grado

10 NOV. 1946

Copy to : Lt. Col. Foden

SEC 1	Salvage Sec. A.M.G. Venezia Giulia
GSO I	Art. Venezia.
GSO II	File.
GAA & CUG	<i>Alc.</i>
S. C. TIME	
S. C. S. & I.	
S. C. CED.	
CITE	

Received 10 Nov 46

1924

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785020

WAR DEPARTMENT

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

C.A.O. Grade

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

To

5 BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

SUBJECT :- Tug-boat "BIANCHI"

5 Italian Territorial Command

5 British Liaison Unit

Tel: 1355

AG/61/262

11 Nov 46

Ref this HQ letter AG/61/247 dated 23 Oct 46.

1. Copy of JAO GRADO letter GR/31 is forwarded herewith.
2. Your attention is directed to the fact that the hand-over of the above-mentioned tug-boat can now take place on 13 Nov 46.
3. Please take the necessary action.

Field
AG/SP

File
Diary

all
Major,
DAI & Co.

264

Tel: PADUA 22271

G.H.Q., C.M.F.

SUBJECT: Flagboat "BLANCHI"5067/Q2// Nov 46TO: 5 British Liaison Unit

Reference your letter AQ/61/257 of 5 Nov 46.

1. It is pointed out that this HQ is not in a position to release the Boat to the Italian Army as it is clearly stated in paragraph 2 of AFHQ's letter G-5 386 ZOP of 25 Sep that the dispute is a matter solely for the Italian Government and the salvors.

2. As apparently this boat was never requisitioned by the British Military Authorities, release order issued under GHQ Ord's letter DOS/1692 of 18 Oct 46 is cancelled.

*246 folio**Mumut**Comd. Sin.*(J.R.B. KNOX), Lieutenant-Colonel.
for Brig 1/c Adm.

JREK/RH

Copy to:- Land Forces Sub Commission
MMIA, ROME.HAG, have released -
Ord (file 1013/3/OS)

Received letter HQ G/HQ do not enter into S.C. 1013

① Action. appears sufficient - as indicated in my folio. 262

② how propose to await further repercussions - HQ.

14 NOV. 1946

SEEN BY	
GSO I	<i>Curly</i>
GSO II	<i>Ady</i>
DAS & CDS	<i>Ady</i>
S.C. 5 & 1	
S.C. 6 & 2	
CIEDS	

OK

273

DIREZIONE ARTIGLIERIA DI VENEZIA
Ufficio Amministrazione

Nº. 2A/8708

18 nov. 1946

AL 5º BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

TO: 5º BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

Oggetto: Rimorchiatore Bianchi

Soggetto: Tugboat "Bianchi"

Con riferimento al foglio AQ/61/247 del 23 ottobre 1946, si informa che il rimorchiatore "Bianchi" è stato ritirato il 13 novembre 1946 e presentemente trovasi presso questa direzione di artiglieria.

Con l'occasione si restituiscono firmate le due copie dell'ordine di cessione nº 115 riguardante il rimorchiatore in questione.

In answer to your AQ/61/247 dated 23 oct. 1946 we inform you that the Tugboat "Bianchi" has been collected on Wednesday 13 nov. 1946 and she is at present moored near this "Direzione Artiglieria".

On the occasion we return enclose herewith both copies of 115 Release Order signed regarding the Tugboat in question.

IL COLONNELLO DIRETTORE
(Enrico Landi)



MANAGER
(Col. Enrico Landi)

30 NOV 1946

SEEN BY

GOI

AL 5° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

TO: 5° BRITISH LIAISON UNIT

Oggetto: Rimorchiatore Bianchi

Soggetto: Tugboat "Bianchi"

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IL COLONNELLO DIRETTORE
(Enrico Landi)



MANAGER
(Col. Enrico Landi)

Handwritten signature

30 NOV 1946

SEEN BY	
GSO I	<i>Handwritten initials</i>
GSO II	<i>Handwritten initials</i>
DAA & C.M.C.	<i>Handwritten initials</i>
S. C. SEAF	
S. C. S. & T.	
S. C. OFD.	<i>Handwritten initials</i>
OTHER	

SERIAL NO 115

COPY NO

CAPTURED ENEMY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tugboat 'BIANCHI'	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

[Signature]
(D.P.A. REES) Major,
for Brigadier.
D.O.S.

The above item has been received by
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgd. *[Signature]*

Date... 13. Nov. '46

[Signature]
Capt Charles M. Gitts.
CAO & Lads.

SERIAL NO 115

COPY NO 2

CAPTURED GERMANY MATERIAL RELEASE ORDER.

Ref: 1692.

LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN
Trieste	Tugboat 'BLANKU'	1	Italy

The above item is released to
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

(D.F.A. MERS) Major,
for Brigadier,
D.O.B.

The above item has been received by
H.Q. 5 British Liaison Unit.

Sgd. *Paul G. Middleman*

Date..... 13 Nov. '46

Capt. Charles J. Molfetto
CAD. Ludo.

