

ACC

10000/124/204

10000/124/204

GEN. CORRES. INDUSTRIES
OCT. 45 — SEPT. 46

WSI-3

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 754

Ref. : 9/28/CA

6 September 1946

SUBJECT: Manufacture of small arms.

TO : G-5 Section,
AMSL

1. I have received numerous requests from various departments of the Italian Government as well as from certain private firms, for permission to manufacture or repair and to sell to State Departments, Commercial undertakings or private individuals, certain types of arms and ammunition.

2. The only direction which I appear to have received from you on this matter is contained in your AG 388/3/087 GSC/O of 2 August 1945 copy of which is attached for easy reference. This Directive, which was written before the conclusion of the war in the East and which consequently lays stress on our war effort, is quite clear as far as "Armaments and ammunition or implements of war" are concerned. It does not, however, define these items or state whether the manufacture of such weapons as sporting shot guns, small practice rifles or pistols of small calibre is to be restricted. Further, as this directive pre-supposed the signing of a peace treaty within a comparatively short space of time after the end of the war, it did not allow for the circumstances which have arisen in Italy during the past 12 months and which may continue for some time.

3. In fact (see my letter 501/143/20 of the 22 November 1945) positive control of manufacture of war material has not been complete owing to the absence of qualified technical staff, the only control existing being through the service Sub-commissions and their respective Ministries, leaving the manufacture by private firms without direct control.

4. As a result of this situation I on receiving the requests referred to in para 1 above, together with frequent complaints on the injustices due to a system (or rather, a lack of system) under which certain small firms are able to make and sell various weapons without any control, whereas the large and reputable firms who are under contract

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WSI-3

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(3289). Wt. 30147/D.8071. 25,000M. 11/44. P.I.

S. 1320d.
(Established—May, 1930)
(Revised—June, 1944)

U/C.

TO. FOLI (R) CINC MED, NEC, AO. . COMAVMED. NOIC TRISTE.
SUNLOI. VAM. CS MALTA.

FROM. RNO VEHICLE.

Expect packing cases to be ready in 12 days. On shipment of torpedoes
will be able to proceed with closure of station.

== 431100A/MARCH

Ref. Is closure of delayed by packing of torpedoes?

T/P P/L

TON 4505

P.R.

13/5.

Dist. 1-6. 10. log. FSC(14).

WSI - 3003

RESTRICTED (DEFERRED TO ALL EXCEPT VENICE).

TO. RNO VENICE (R) CINC MED. COMNAVMED. S.U.S.N.L.O.I. FROM. FOLI(2).
NSC.AC. NOIO TRIESTE. VAN.C.S. MALTA.

For Officer in Charge, Allied Naval Experimental Station.
Paragraph 2 of your 261131 January not to all. Closure of
Station is to be expedited. If unnecessary delay is arising from
lack of packing materials for shipment of torpedoes, application
should be made to S.N.S.O. Malta giving full particulars of requirements.

... 111259A/MARCH ...

R.f. Servicing and boxing of 6 torpedoes.
T/P F/L TOD 2300
Dist. 1-6. 10. 10g. NSC(4).

P.R.

11/3.

NSC/4629

21 February 1946

CONFIDENTIAL

From: Navy Sub-Commission, Hq. Allied Commission.
To: Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.

Subject: Miniature Submarines at Caproni Works of Milan.

Reference: (a) Navy S/C ltr NSC/4558 dated 6 Feb. 1946.

Enclosure: (A) Letter from Lt. Comdr. L.K.P. Grabb, RNVR to RNO, Venice, dated 13 Feb. 1946. (Copy).
(B) Navy S/C ltr NSC/4612 dated 18 Feb. 1946.
(C) Copy Legal S/C, AC ltr AC/4005/L dated 20 Feb. 1946.

1. Pursuant to reference (a), enclosures (A), (B) and (C) are forwarded herewith for information.

2. Final disposal of SSB Torpedoes at Caproni Works in Milan will be held in abeyance for the present as requested in Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean's signal DTG 160846 February.

G. F. MENTZ,
CAPTAIN, U. S. NAVY,
FOR REAR ADMIRAL
CHIEF, NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, AC,
For CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

Copy to:
FOIL
Sanaluelo, Italy
RNO, Venice

26 FEB 1946

From: Lt. Comdr. K.K.P. CRABB, R.N.V.R.
To: R.N.O. Venice.

Subject: Miniature Submarine at Caproni Works, Milan.

Ref: (A) Navy S/C letter NSC/4558 6th Feb. 1946.
(B) Navy S/C letter NSC/4429 15th Jan. 1946
(C) AC/4005/L 4th, Feb. 1946.

1. When the writer first visited Caproni Workshops in Milan in June 1945, Ing. Costa stated that the Germans had ordered 10 SSB. Four of these were in an advanced state of assembly and could be completed in three weeks, nine more could be produced in four months. Ing. Costa suggested that in order to keep his men working he should carry on work in the four torpedos at his own risk. A signal was made to C-in-C Med (R) FOTALI FOTALI (Rome) SNONA by NOIC Venice, stating these facts.

2. The matter was again referred to in my report to C-in-C Med paragraph 3 Sec: III of 26.6.45.

3. The Superintendent of Diving visited the works in July 1945 and referred to the torpedos in his report to D.T.M. dated 16.7.45 Appendix IV paragraph 2 and Appendix VII paragraph 4.

4. N.O.I.C.'s letter to Navy Sub Commission Rome, dated 3rd September 1945, No. 831/26/2 paragraph 6, states that 2 SSB had been completed and that 2 more were practically ready. At this time Ing. Costa was told by me not to proceed further pending further orders.

5. Ref paragraph 3 of AC/4005/L 4th February 1946. Plans of these SSB had been sent to A.F.H.Q. from Venice by the Intelligence Collecting Unit early in May.

6. Ref paragraph 7 of the same letter it is desired to stress the fact that Ing. Costa stated that three weeks work would serve to complete the four machines, that all parts were ready and present in his shops and that he would like to keep his men busy as they had to be paid in any case.

7. At this time the U.S. Navy was showing great interest in this type of craft and a visit from the Superintendent of Diving was expected, on his report it was expected that a final decision would be made as to the future of these machines.

/s/L.K.P. Crabb
Lt. Comdr. L.K.P. Crabb, R.N.V.R.

NHC/4612
18 February 1946.

From: Navy Sub-Commission, Hq. Allied Commission.
To : Legal Sub-Commission, Hq. Allied Commission.

Subject: Italian Naval Munitions Production.

Reference: (a) Your ltr. AC/4005/L dated 4 February 1946.
(b) Navy S/C ltr. NHC/4429 dated 15 January 1946.

Enclosure: (A) Letter from Lt. Comdr. L.K.P. Grabb, RNVR, to RND
Venice dated 13 February 1946. (Copy).

1. With regard to references (a) and (b), enclosure (A) is forwarded for information.
2. It is requested that the Legal Sub-Commission inform the Navy Sub-Commission whether or not the facts set forth in enclosure (A) change the decision handed down in reference (a), paragraph 9.

/s/ G. F. MENTZ,
Captain, U. S. Navy,
for REAR ADMIRAL
CHIEF, NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, AC.

C
O
P
Y

NSC/4558
6 February 1946

From: Navy Sub-Commission, Hq. Allied Commission.
To: Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.
Subject: Miniature Submarines at Caproni Works of Milan.
References: (a) Navy S/C ltr NSC/4171 dated 5 December 1945.
(b) Navy S/C Signal 301131 January and Previous
Signals on the Same Subject.
Enclosures: (A) Navy S/C ltr NSC/4429 dated 15 January 1946.
(B) Copy Legal Sub-Commission, AC ltr AC/4005/L
dated 4 February 1946.

1. With regard to references (a) and (b), enclosures (A) and (B) are forwarded herewith for the information of the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.

2. In view of the last sentence of paragraph 7, and paragraph 9, of enclosure (B), and paragraph 2 of Resident Naval Officer, Venice's D.T.G. 261137, the Navy Sub-Commission proposes to take no further action on the Caproni SSB Human Torpedoes without further instructions from the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean. The present status of these torpedoes is that they are "frozen" at the Caproni Works in Milan on Allied authority.

(Sgd) G. L. WARREN

REAR ADMIRAL
CHIEF, NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, AC,
For CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

Copy to:
FOIL
SENALUSLO, ITALY
RNO, VENICE.

7 FEB 1946

WS-3

S. 13206.

WA 30147/D. 8071. 31-2547.

J. D. Co. Ltd.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

For use in
Signal
Department
onlyOriginators Instructions
(Indication of Priority,
Intercept Group, etc.)

CONFIDENTIAL

Codress/Plindress

No. of
Groups

TO: RNO VENICE (R) CINC MED FOIL NOIC TRIESTE

FROM:
N.S.C.A
C
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S

1. SUSPENSION OF ACTION ON NSC 141122 JANUARY AS REQUESTED
IN NSC 301131 JANUARY IS LIFTED AND SHIPMENTS OF SSB HUMAN
TORPEDOES TO BE MADE FROM THOSE EXISTING AT SAN ANDREA
EXPERIMENTAL STATION.

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2. ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHIPMENT OF TORPEDOES SHOULD BE MADE
WITH NOIC TRIESTE WHO IS REQUESTED TO CONSIGN (a) THREE ~~SS~~
~~SS~~ TO NASO MALTA AND (b) TWO FOR U.S. NAVY, BUORD,
INVESTIGATION LABORATORY, NPF INDIAN HEAD, MD.

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3. WOULD APPRECIATE CINC MED COMMENT ON PARAGRAPH 3 OF RNO
VENICE'S D.T.G. 261137 JANUARY.

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30 50

System

P/L Code or Cypher

Time of
Receipt Despatch

Operator

P.O.O.W.

Date

S. 1320b.

WA 39147/D. 8071.

FORM No. 12/44 J. Co. 1-44.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

For use in
Signal
Department
onlyOriginators Instructions
(Indication of Priority,
Intercept Group, etc.)

CONFIDENTIAL

Codress/Plaindress

No. of
Groups

TO: RNO VENICE (R) CINC MED

FROM: N.S.C.

REF RNO VENICE SIGNAL	DTG 261137	JANUARY LEGAL	SUB	5
COMMISSION, ALLIED COMMISSION IS INVESTIGATING	STATUS			10
OF CAPRONI SSB HUMAN TORPEDOES X ALTHOUGH NSC SIGNAL				15
141122 JANUARY INTENDED SHIPMENT OF TORPEDOES BE MADE				20
FROM THOSE EXISTING AT SAN ANDREA EXPERIMENTAL STATION				25
ONLY, IT IS NOW REQUESTED THAT ACTION ON NSC SIGNAL				30
141122 JANUARY BE SUSPENDED TEMPORARILY UNTIL LEGAL				35
SUB COMMISSION REACHES A DECISION X NSC SIGNAL 141122				40
JANUARY BEING PASSED ON TO CINC MED				45

PREPARED BY: 19

RELEASED BY: 30 50

System

P/L Code or Cypher

Receipt

Time of
Despatch

Operator

P.O.O.W.

Date

DTG 30 50 1131A

OFFICER I/C ALLIED NAVAL EXPERIMENTAL STATION SAN ANDREA, VENICE
(R) C IN C MED NSC A.C. COMNAVNAV

CONFIDENTIAL.

FROM FOIL 2

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, YOU SHOULD REPORT PARTICULARS OF
ALL TECHNICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL EQUIPMENT INCLUDING CRAFT TO THE
COMMANDER IN CHIEF MEDITERRANEAN, FOR DISPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS.
(2) DISPOSAL OF S S B HUMAN TORPEDOES WAS DIRECTED IN C IN C
MEDITERRANEAN'S 060930, AND NSC A.C.'S 141122 JANUARY, NOT TO ALL.

== 211550A JAN ...

DIST. C-5,13,15,17,25. LOG.. NSC (4).

REF. AS ABOVE.

T/P

F/L

TCR 1602

IAG

21/1

M11256/D7843: 300,000 pairs. 8/44. C.B. & S. Ltd. 52-8597.

S. 13206

NAVAL MESSAGE.

For use in
Signal
Department
onlyOriginators Instructions
(Indication of Priority,
Intercept Group, etc.)

CONFIDENTIAL IMPORTANT

Codress/Plaindress

No. of
Groups

TO:

SAN ANDREA EXPERIMENTAL STATION, VENICE.

FROM:

NAVY S/C

S C R I P T	1. REQUEST 3 S.S.B. HUMAN TORPEDOES FOR UK BE CONSIGNED TO	5
	NASO MALTA AND DISPATCH ARRANGED BY QUICKEST POSSIBLE ROUTE.	10
	2. FURTHER REQUEST 2 S.S.B. HUMAN TORPEDOES FOR U.S.N.,	15
	BUORD TO BE SHIPPED TO INVESTIGATION LABORATORY NFF	20
W R I T E	INDIAN HEAD MD.	25
	3. ANY REMAINING HUMAN TORPEDOES SHOULD BE MUTILATED AND	30
	DISPOSED OF AS SCRAP PRIOR TO CLOSING DOWN OF SAN ANDREA	35
	EXPERIMENTAL STATION VENICE.	40
	Prepared: <i>b</i>	45
	Released: <i>14/11/22/TAN</i>	50

System

P/L Code or Cypher

Receipt

Time of
Despatch

Operator

P.O.O.W

Date

30-2

S. 1329b.

WL 30147/D. 5071. 51-5347. 12/14. J. D. & Co. Ltd.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

For use in Signal Department only					
Originators Instructions (Indication of Priority, Intercept Group, etc.)		CONFIDENTIAL IMPORTANT		Codress/Plaindress	
TO:		FROM:		No. of Groups	
CINC MED		NAVY S/C			
A C C R O S S	PROPOSE TO MAKE SHIPMENTS REQUIRED IN YOUR 060930A JANUARY				5
	AND 080928A JANUARY FROM TORPEDOES AT SAN ANDREA EXPERIMENTAL				10
	STATION, VENICE, THEREBY LEAVING CAPRONI TORPEDOES AT MILAN				15
	FOR THE PRESENT AS REQUESTED IN YOUR T.O.D. 261725A NOVEMBER.				20
	DO YOU CONCUR?				25
W R I T E					30
					35
	= 101130H				40
	Prepared: <i>2</i>				45
Released: <i>3</i>				50	
System	P/L Code or Cypher	Time of Receipt Despatch		Operator	P.O.O.W. Date

S1320f

(GV320) Wt. 49577 / D5944* (EM) Pads 6/43, H. & S. Ltd. 45-238.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

use in
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Originators Instructions:
(Indication of Priority,
AIDAC, NOTWT
For Exercise).

SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL

IMPT

INTERCEPT GROUP.

TO: RNO VENICE FOR ALLIED NAVY EXPERIMENTAL
STATION (INFO) FOIL, SEN USNLO, CINCMED

FROM:
N.S.C.

REF ALLIED NAVY EXPERIMENTAL STATION VENICE 250730 NOV X
MINISTRY OF MARINE HAS NOT (R) NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED TO
PURCHASE HUMAN TORPEDOES X REQUEST CAPRONI BE INFORMED NOT
TO MAKE DELIVERY X ~~REPT OF ITALIAN NAVY TO BE INFORMED~~ X
FOR YOUR INFORMATION PARAGRAPH 4D OF AFHQ SECRET DIRECTIVE
AG 388.3/087 GEG-0 OF 2 AUGUST 1945 STATES IN PART: THE
OUTPUT OF ITALIAN ARMS AND MUNITIONS PLANT WILL NOT (R) NOT
BE FURNISHED TO THE ITALIAN NAVY WITHOUT THE PRIOR CONSENT
OF CINCMED X IN PRESENT CASE CONSENT HAS NOT BEEN GIVEN X

CINCMED 261725 REFERS

RELEASED:

PREPARED:

8/25

Book or Table to be used for		Initials of Cypherer or Coder.	Time of Receipt in Cypher or Coding Office.	Date.
Cyphering or Coding.	Recyphering or Recoding.			

302

