1004

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ACC

10000 | 125 | 146

1005

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

10000 | 125 | 146

49/PAT Jacket #1

PATRIOTS FOR SERVICE WITH Italian Army
July 1944 - June 1945

49/PAT.

TOP SECRET

JACKET NO. 1

PATRIOTS [redacted] FOR

SERVICE WITH ITALIAN ARMY.

CLOSED 8/16/45.

CA - Feb 45

Patriots 2 feb 45.
Sections 28 Feb.
to [illegible] Feb

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1006

PATRIOT [redacted] FOR

SERVICE INTO ITALIAN ARMY.

Book 8/16/45.

CA 1 Jul 45

Patriots 2 telegs.
CA Section 28 Feb.
~~Cable 28 Feb~~
~~CA Section 2 Mar~~
~~Cable 6 Mar.~~
CA Section 5 Mar
PATS 1 Mar
~~CA Section 25 May~~
CA Comm 25 May
Pat. 25 May.

TOP SECRET

1000 125 146
125

THIS FOLDER
CONTAINS PAPERS
FROM JULY 44
TO JUNE 45
CATALOGUE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1008

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

TS

CLASSIFICATION

TOP SECRET & SECRET DOCUMENT RECORD
(SR 380-5-1)

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FILE

498/Pat

MINUTE SHEET No. 7 10

DATE

PAGE

(40)

NOTE re 114.

1. Smoke It Cdr Devien - Navy Sub Commission.

At present the Navy is only accepting men of "called up" classes. It is possible that they will want volunteers when the future policy for the Italian Navy has been clarified, and when men now over due for release have been demobilised. The Navy authorities at La Spezia are making every effort to absorb as much civilian labour as possible.

2. Smoke C/Idr Brunton (ORN) Air Force Sub Commission.

Wastage in Italian Air Force small. Air Force has prepared machinery to reabsorb as many ex-regular air force personnel as possible. Unlikely that they will be able to absorb any volunteers.

25 May 45

A.P.

(41)

The Chief of Cabinet at the Ministry of Public Works when asked if any provisions had been made for employment of patriots, replied that a far reaching plan for extraordinary works had been made to supply employment to all war veterans, amongst whom the patriots are included.

The Chief of Cabinet has furthermore stated ~~ated~~ that an employment committee, which will include a representative of the patriots is to be instituted shortly.

H.E. Chiri: Deputy Commissioner for the Veterans is well aware of the whole plan, which might be discussed by him and Col. Cripps on the latter's return.

F393

25 May 45

G.F. di Robilant, Capt.

(42)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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2. Chats S/Sec Transtory (org) Air Force Sub Commission.

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H.E. Chiri: Deputy Commissioner for the Veterans is well aware of the whole plan, which might be discussed by him and Col. Cripps on the latter's return.

393

25 May 45

G.P. di Robilant, Capt.

(42)

" V.P. Sec 116. I am not happy. MMIA are, in my opinion, being very narrow in their outlook. I think it must be on the top level - a policy matter, not merely the Allied operational requirements which the staff in MMIA itself have foremost. AL

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1012

FILE

44/PAL

MINUTE SHEET No. 9

DATE

PAGE

37

Civil Affairs Section

A Translation of an exstract from todays "Il Tempo", with a note from Cap Di Robilant, at folio (113), is passed to you for information.

24 May 45 — Patriots Branch — M. Pasley for Capt

38

Executive 25 May — Executive Commissioner

For information (folio 113)

A D Buchanan-Smith Lt Col

39

CA Sec

113 has been seen by E.C.

25 May. — [illegible] Maj

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE

Kal/Pat

8

DATE

PAGE

32.

33.

C.A.

(85) passed to you for information.

Craig
Lt Col
Director. Pat. Branch.

85

16 Mar 45

(34)

To: Patriots

Folios (85 - 85A) noted by

V.P.

W.A.S. Holland, Major
C.A. Sec.

17 Mar. 45

35.

Col Fava.

(86) appears to be a matter to be taken up with the Ministry of War, & is passed to you for such

5291

1013

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

33.

C.A.

(85) passed to you for information.

Craig
Lt Col
Director. Pat. Branch.

16 Mar 45

85

(34)

To: Patriots

Folios (85- & (85-A noted by

V.P.

W.A.S Holland, Major
C.A. Sec.

17 Mar. 45

35.

Col Fava.

(86) appears to be a matter to be taken up with the Ministry of Sup, & is passed to you for such action as you consider suitable.

See letter.

M. Proby for Com Sec
for Director.

20 March 45

Note
89 removed
Major Snee 31 Mar
returned/pms
9/4

36.

5391

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE

49/PAT (~~Temp~~)

SERVICE SHEET No. 9

DATE

PAGE

83

.../. (1)

(I) Ravenna Centre -"The food, which is good, comes partly from the Allied rations and is acquired partly from local sources with funds supplied by the Ministry of Occupied Territories."

(II) Pescia Centre -"Italian Officer in charge is Capt. Pianegiani. The organisation of the Centre is most efficient and entirely satisfactory, it has now about 950 guests, but this figure will shortly be greatly reduced because the "Armando" formation will soon go back to the lines.
A hospital has been instituted on the staff of which there are three M.Ds. and ten Red Cross nurses all of the Florence Health Military HQS.

. . . . . .

Fifth Army has supplied large quantities of medecines."

P.P. F. CRAIG, Lt. Colonel.
Director.

(20)

MAR.4.

To. Ex. Comm.

Please see 84 A.H. in reply to 2A.

Minute 19 2 has been more detailed remarks by PATS. BR.

84 A.H. has been cleared with M.I.1A.

It is requested that further copies of appx 'A' are not immediately available.

CAS.

4 MAR 43

84

5330

1015

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Capt. Pianegiani. The organisation of the Centre is most efficient and entirely satisfactory, it has now about 950 guests, but this figure will shortly be greatly reduced because the "Armando" formation will soon go back to the lines.
A hospital has been instituted on the staff of which there are three M.Ds. and ten Red Cross nurses all of the Florence Health Military HQS.

. . . . . .

Fifth Army has supplied large quantities of medicines."

P.P. F. CRAIG, Lt. Colonel.
Director.

(20)

MAR 4.

To. Ex. Comm.

Please see 84 G.S.R. in reply to 1 A.

Minute 19 has some more detailed remarks by GRTS. BR.

84 has been cleared with M.M.I.A.
It is regretted that further copies of Appx A are not immediately available.
C.A.S.
4 MAR 43

4 Mar

31 1/2/1 V

VACCHS

Ex Comm has seen. File returned 82

L 4/3.

84
5399

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE		
49/PAT Training Jewish.	FOLIO SHEET NO. 8	
DATE		PAGE
3 March, 45	(19	83

To : C.A. Section.

1. The following points are submitted in reply to para 2 of folio 83

(a) The current average length of stay in Patriot Centres is a fortnight, dependant on availability of transport from the Centre.

(b) See file 49/PAT min. 16 (now with C.A. Section-).

(c) (I) Recruiting agencies are attached to the Patriot Centres for the purpose of Recruiting individual Patriots into the Italian Army.
(II) Military Labour Camps absorb a varying number of Patriots, according to the demand for Labour for the Allied forces.
(III) No.2 District have guaranteed priority of employment to ex Partisans.

All (c) above are Military responsibilities.

2. With regard to the general criticisms raised in 83, the following is a summary of the services performed for Patriots at the Centres prior to reemployment a repatriation.

(a) housing
(b) reclothing
(c) rationing, on full Italian Military Scale
(d) hospitalization
(e) Deinfestation
(f) Welfare.

5389

3. The adverse affect on Patriots of a long period of waiting at Centres in fully appreciated and every effort is made to reduce this to a minimum.

4. Below are given some relevant comments on Patriot Centres from Italian Civilian and Military

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

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(b) See File 49/PaT min. 16 (now with C.A. Section-).

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(a) housing
(b) reclothing
(c) rationing, on full Italian Military Scale
(d) hospitalization
(e) Deinfestation
(f) Welfare.

5289

3. The adverse affect on Patriots of a long period of waiting at Centres in fully appreciated and every effort is made to reduce this to a minimum.

4. Below are given some relevant comments on Patriot Centres from Italian Civilian and Military Officials.

(a) Extract from a report by Lt.Col.Fedeli - O i/c Patriot Centre Florence - 9 Feb,45.

"Many who had found employment have already left their work and have tried to return to the centre",

(b) Extracts from record of conversation dated 2 March 1945 between the Under Secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories (H.E.Medici Tornaquinci) and the Italian Liaison Officer attached Patriots Branch, after a visit by the former to Patriot Centres.

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE		
49/PAT	MINUTE SHEET No. 7	
DATE		PAGE
2 March 43.	(16)	
	To : Civil Affairs Section	78

1. Ref para 2 of (78A)

2. This matter was considered on receipt of AFHQ Letter AG 09I.7II/OSS GCP-O dated 22 Feb 45, (folio 68) , and Patriots Branch agrees in principle to the suggestion that Recce Sns be found from existing Patriot Bands.

3. The Director of the Branch attended a meeting at HQ MMIA on 26 Feb, to discuss the proposed organisation of Patriot Recce units. Copy of agenda of this meeting is at folio 69 and minutes at 77, & M.M.I.A.'s reply to folio 68 at 79.

4. The action called for in Para 2 of 78A has been Completed in this MMIA.

Craig

F.CRAIG,
Lt Col,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

4 MAR. To. Ex. Comm. 17

Ref gam 3207/48/Ec. folio 68.

Response and action re para 2 are at 79 ~~79A & D~~ & 77.

77 & 79

A more complete memorandum on the subject is in HP/PAT (temporary file) attached hereto

5388

C.A.S.
4/MAR 45
2.6 pm.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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3. The Director of the Branch attended a meeting at HQ MMIA on 26 Feb, to discuss the proposed organisation of Patriot Recce units. Copy of agenda of this meeting is at folio 69 and minutes at 77, & M.M.I.A.'s reply to folio 68 at 79.

4. The action called for in Para 2 of 78A has been Complied with by MMIA.

Craig

W.CRAIG,
Lt Col,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

4 MAR.

To. Ex. Comm. 17

Ref gen 3207/48/Ec. folio 48.

Proposals and action re para 2 are at 79 ~~79A & D~~ & 77.

77 & 79

A more complete memorandum on the subject is in H/Pat (temporary file) attached hereto

5388

R.H. Coppin Capt

Capt.
4/MAR 45
2. I.C. of.

M.S. 4/3. 18

~~H.P. Capt~~ (Maj)

Seen by Ex Comm & Note returned. L 4/3.

4/Mar 45

78 & 79

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE	MINUTE SHEET No. 6	
49/PAT		
DATE		PAGE

(12)

To Civil Affairs Section.

Notified by Col. Pidgley, MMIA, at 1030 hrs that instructions have been sent to Eighth Army Recruiting Agencies that they may enlist up to 500 patriots per month direct into the combatant Italian Units which are there at the moment. In fact, this means that they will go direct into the line and not undergo further training.

1 February 1945.

2 Feb. 45.

To. V.P. 13

Minute 12. shows an interesting development. I believe it is due to pressure by 8 Army

Patriots 14

2 Feb.

Yes this was officially reported by G.O.C. Land Forces Sub at C.C.'s meeting yesterday.

5387

(15)

28 Feb, 45.

To Civil Affairs Section.

Letter at (75) for approval and signature by V.P. please. Col. Montfort asked for copies of these letters, which have not been received by 15 Army Group. (75)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Recruiting Agencies that they may enlist up to 300 patriots per month direct into the combatant Indian Units which are there at the moment. In fact, this means that they will go direct into the line and not undergo further training.

1 February 1945.

2 Feb. 45. 10. V.P. 13

Minute 12. Shows an interesting development. I believe it is due to pressure by 8 Army

Patriots 14

2 Feb. Yes this was officially reported by G.O.C. Land Forces Sub at C.C.'s meeting yesterday.

B 7387

(15)

28 Feb.45. To Civil Affairs Section.

Letter at (75) for approval and signature by V.P. please. Col. Montfort asked for copies of these letters, which have not been received by 15 Army Group. (75)

F.P. Lt.Col. F. CRAIG,
Director, Patriot Br.

1022

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE

49/PAT

MINUTE SHEET No. 5

DATE

PAGE

Ec

(9)

Dec. 20

broken : impossible to
Can it not be broken
down ?

Done Amb 21/12

(10)

Dec. 28

Ec

Anyone dealing with SI ?
It seems to me to require urgent
action.
I have never gotten a refusal
from Col. Donovan, I don't know
where he is, what he is doing.
— what !

5286

27 Dec. 44.

(11)

Director:

I have written to Col. SANSONE on this particular subject. As agreed with you verbally, in view of actions

5th.
SI.

1023

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

down ?

Done ans 21/12

(10)

Dec. 28 Ed / Have you dealing with SI ?
It seems to me to require urgent
action.
I have never gotten a report
from Col. Samson. I don't know
where he is. what he is doing.
— what !

5386

(11)

27 Dec. 44.

Director:

I have written to Col. SAMSON on this particular subject. As agreed with you verbally, in view of actions which are pending, it is felt that no further action should be taken at the moment.

544.
51.

Executive Officer.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE 49/PAT	MINUTE SHEET No. 3	
DATE		PAGE
18 Dec. 44.	(4) With reference to No.1 Special Force IS/4/174 dated 16 December, I discussed this matter with Maj. PINCHERI of M.E.I.S., who gave me 30,000 as an approximate overall total, to be absorbed at a rate of NOT more than 10,000 a month. P.D. Dagnus Major Executive Officer.	49
19 Dec.	(5) Director 3 (4) Pl. see S1. I informed M.E.I.S. some days ago that there would be no objection to a Recruiting Agency visiting AVERSA to screen these repatriates. As the Agency was one which is at our call, I said a week should be the time allowed. 2. Pl. see S1.4 I see no objection to the course suggested by Mr. HOPKINSON & would propose to reply accordingly. P.D. Dagnus EX Agreed 5385	S1 3 of 136/PAT Copy of Minute on 136/PAT S1 4 of 136/PAT

1025
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

N.A.A.F.I., who gave me 30,000 as an approximate overall total, to be absorbed at a rate of NOT more than 10,000 a month.

P.N. Magnus Major
Executive Officer.

(5)

19 Dec.

Director

(4) Pl. see 3. I informed N.A.A.F.I. some days ago that there would be no objection to a Recruiting Agency visiting AVERSA to screen these repatriates. As the Agency was one which is at our call, I said a week should be the time allowed.

3 of 136/PAT

Copy of Minute on 136/PAT

2. Pl. see 4. I see no objection to the course suggested by Mr. HOPKINSON & would propose to reply accordingly.

4 of 136/PAT

P.N. Magnus Major

Agreed

5385

19 Dec. 44

EX 51, 51A (8)
Ref. 50 + 59. The report is one of many of the same type. Unless something more than pointed is changed nothing can be done.

C. Bethell. Capt.

51

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FILE	MINUTE SHEET No. 2	
49/PAT		
DATE		PAGE
1 Dec.	(1)	46 B.

Lieut D. LORETO

Pl. see para 4 of 46 B.
I assume that screening arrangements are in hand in the normal way. Will you please confirm that this is so.

P.D. Magnus
Major
1 Dec.

2 Dec. Action discussed with Maj Magnus RDS.

(2)

6 Dec. Lieut. DI LORETO

48

I understand that the matter referred to in (1) above is in hand. Will you please first check that these "Italian persons" are patriots. If they are, & only then, a recruiting agency should be instructed to visit AVERSA & screen them forthwith.

P.D. Magnus
Major

5384

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Pl. see para 4 g 46 B.
I assume that screening arrangements are in hand in the normal way. Will you please confirm that this is so.

P.D. Magnus
Major
1 Dec.

2 Dec. Action discussed with Maj Magnus PDS.

(2)

6 Dec. Lieut. DI LORETO

48

I understand that the matter referred to in (1) above is in hand. Will you please first check that these "Italian personnel" are patriots. If they are, only then, a recruiting agency should be instructed to visit AVERSA & screen them forthwith.

P.D. Magnus
Major

5384

(3)

6 Dec. Action discussed with Maj. Magnus. PDS
Col. Sampò (St. min. War) to handle. (Ref. 47)
In a discussion with Col. Ingleden it was agreed that Col. Sampò should handle the screening insofar as the task was taken out of Col. Sansone's hands by Sampò. PDS.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MINUTES.

(1)

1030

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FOR ACTION AFHQ

9330 7 June 1945 PRIORITY

IMMEDIATE

130

PARA GEN FD ROF TOUR FOX EIGHT EIGHT SIX SEX SEX FD

PARA IMMEDIATE ACTION AFHQ FROM HAIRCUT SITE ACFAT PARIS

PARA TWO TO FOUR OF FOUR THOUSAND REFERS TO NUMBER OF PATRIOT VOLUNTEERS IT IS PROPOSED TO ENLIST INTO ITALIAN ARMY AND HAS NO REPEAT NO CONNECTION WITH GARIBALDI BRIGADE

Internal Distribution.

C.A. Section
Land Forces Sub Commission.(MMLA).

Patriote Bannock

321

5283

A.P.

710-3

R.R. GRIFFIS, Col. Director, Local Govt. S/C.

1031

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

365

7 JUN Read ~~1211~~ 49

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

180 Patriots Br.

Originator's Reference: P-03566

Date/Time of Origin: JUNE 061524

Message Centre No: F/3901

Date Time Rec'd: JUNE 062100

Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: ACHQ SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER

TO : ALCOM ROME

SECRET

SECRET.

Figure of 4000 in 2nd paragraph your signal not understood as MTA authorization for feeding carabinieri at present limited to 3000 extra. Reur 3761 cible ACPAT. Hoped to increase this shortly as soon as final decisions made on Italian ARMY reinforcement holding.

125

DIST

ACTION -- PATRIOTS BR
INFO -- CHIEF COMMISSIONER
G1 SEC
LAND FORCES S/C 2
FILE

HEADQUARTERS 7 JUN 1945

ACTION

SECRET

5382

1032

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

RESTRICTED

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AG 091.711/063 OCT-C

2 June 1945

SUBJECT: Enrollment of Patriots

TO: Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
APO 394
(Ital Armed Forces Sub Commission, (AMMI))

1. Reference is made to your C/100 of 26 May 1945.

2. As stated, the policy laid down permits enlistment of individuals but not of units, into the Italian Army.

3. It is confirmed that the action taken is correct and no further action is necessary.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

R. H. FREESE
Major AGD
Asst Adjutant General

R. H. FREESE
Major, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

MMIA DISTRIBUTION:

Info: Ex Com AC
" : Civil Affairs Sec for Patriots.

5281/102

RESTRICTED

1033

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PARTISAN BRANCH

Tel. No. 489081
Ext. 321

5 June 1945

Ref : 49/PAT

Subject : Enlistment into Italian Army.

To : 5 Army G-5 Section

Copies : 15 ARMY GROUP G-5 Section
: IV CORPS G-5 Section
: HQ. LOMBARDIA Region
: HQ. PIEMONTE "
: HQ. LIGURIA "
: HQ. EMILIA "
HQ Venezie " (dep. 11/6)

} with copy of A/C signal 8638.

123

The attached translation of signal No 17551/Mob. of 3 June, from the Ministry of War, is forwarded for your information, with reference to para 2 of our signal 8638 of 28 May.

127

123

P.P.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

F. 31

689-989

/mlg.

1034

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

337

3

0312DO

DOM TEXT BOLOGNA GENOA TURIN MILAN
TELEGRAPHED TO GENERAL OLIVERO. BOLOGNA REPEAT
MANTOVA - DIV. 225 - 230 - 231 .

No 17551/Gab.

MELA HAS AUTHORIZED ENLISTMENT OF FOUR THOUSAND PATRIOT VOLUNTEERS AS INDIVIDUAL REPLACEMENTS (.) SUCH PATRIOTS FOR ALL LEGAL PURPOSES WILL BE CONSIDERED AS ARMY VOLUNTEERS (,) AND AS SUCH THEY WILL BE REPORTED WHEREVER AND HOWEVER EMPLOYED IN OFFICIAL RECORDS (.) THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN CONVICTED (:) FIRST (:) BE OVER 18 YEARS AND UNDER 26 YEARS OF AGE (;) SECOND (;) COMPLETE MEDICAL EXAMINATION (,) FOR WHICH MEDICAL EXAMINATION WILL BE REQUIRED (;) THIRD (:) PROOF OF MORAL INTEGRITY (,) CONSIDER AND PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CHOICE OF VOLUNTEERS (.) ENLISTMENTS FOR ONE YEAR (.) PAY (:) THE SAME AS LAID DOWN UNDER THE PRESENT REGULATIONS FOR VOLUNTEERS NOW WITH THE COLOURS ACCORDING TO THE UNITS TO WHICH THEY ARE ASSIGNED (.) THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ABOVE REQUIREMENTS (,) BOLOGNA (,) GENOA (,) TURIN AND MILAN (,) WHO WILL MAKE ALL NECESSARY LOCAL CONTACTS FOR THE CHOICE OF VOLUNTEERS FROM MOST DESERVING PATRIOTS (.) OFFICER OF GENOA AND BOLOGNA WILL ENLIST 500 VOLUNTEERS EACH (:) OFFICER MILAN AND TURIN WILL ENLIST 1500 VOLUNTEERS EACH (:) TO BE ASSIGNED (:) FROM OFFICER BOLOGNA TO COMBAT GROUP FRIULI AND 226 DIVISION (;) FROM OFFICER GENOA TO COMBAT GROUP MANTOVA AND 230 DIVISION (;) FROM OFFICER TURIN TO COMBAT GROUP LEGNANO AND FOLGORE (:) FROM OFFICER MILAN TO COMBAT GROUP CREMONA AND 231 DIVISION (;) IN PROPORTION TO REQUIREMENTS (.) ABOVE GROUPS OF VOLUNTEERS TO BE ENLISTED CAN BE INCREASED UP TO MAXIMUM AND ACCORDING TO REQUESTS FOR REPLACEMENTS FORWARDED BY FORMATIONS TO EACH OFFICER(,) AS SPECIFIED BELOW (.) EACH ITALIAN GROUP AND DIVISION WILL DETACH TO THE COMPETENT OFFICER ONE OFFICER WHO WILL (:) FIRST (:) REDUCE NUMBER AND CATEGORY OF REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED TO BRING UNITS TO WAR ESTABLISHMENTS (;) SECOND (:) ARRANGE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF VOLUNTEERS WITH TRANSPORT BELONGING TO FORMATIONS (,) VOLUNTEERS WILL BE CLOTHED BY RECEIVING ONE (.) RATIONS TO BE ISSUED BY OWN FORMATION COMMENCING ON THE DAY OF ARRIVAL WITH ITS UNITS (.) OFFICERS OF BOLOGNA (,) GENOA (,) TURIN AND MILAN WILL SIGNAL EACH DETACHMENT TO THEIR STAFF(GENERAL STAFF) THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEERS RECEIVED (,) LOCALITY AND DATES OF DISPATCH (.) PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE

COPY SIGNED

LT. COL. CHIEF OF THE SECTION
(P. Dibattista)

2379

1035

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Pattuglie Formate - Per Patriotti Russi
- Nessuno - I Corpo

STAMAGGIUOE MOBILITAZIONE

031200
Jouk. 4/6/45

COMILITER BOLOGNA GENOVA TORINO MILANO
ITALGRUPPO LEGNANO COMBOTA FOLGORE FRIULI
MANTOVA - DIV. 228°- 230° - 231°

N° 17551/MOB.

MOLTA NECESSITA' ARRUOLAMENTO VOLONTARIO QUATTROMILA
PATRIOTI SUDDITI RUSSI (.) PARTE SARA' COMPLEMENTI INDIVISIBILI (.) PARTE PATRIOTI
ASSUMERANNO FERMA GIURIDICA DEI VOLONTARI PER L'ESERCITO (.)
DI CONFORMITA' D'ACCORDO DI ESSI SARANNO IMPIEGATI IN
COMILITER DA ZIONALE (.) DOVRANNO POSSEDERE I SEGUENTI
REQUISITI (:) PRIMO (:)DOMICILIO DA 5° DI NON SUPERARE 25°
ANNO DI ETA' (;)SECONDO (:) CONDIZIONI IDONEITA' FISICA (,)
DA ACCERTARE MEDIANTE ACCURATA VISITA MEDICA ;) TERZO
(:) ULTIMI PRECEDENTI DI ANNI ET MESI DA ACCERTARE (,)
COMILITER SONO STATI AUTORIZZATI AD ARRUOLARE NELLE ZONE DELLA SCELTA
VOLONTARI (.) FERMA DI ANNO (.) TRATTAMENTO ECONOMICO (:)
QUELLO STABILITO DALLE VIGENTI DISPOSIZIONI PER I VOLONTARI
ATTUALMENTE ALLE ARMI IN RELAZIONE ALLA GRADA QUI SOPRA.
ASSEGNATI (.) PER ARRUOLAMENTO IN OGGETTO SONO INCARICATI
COMILITER BOLOGNA (,) GENOVA (,) TORINO ET MILANO (,) I QUALI
PRENDERANNO OPPORTUNI CONTATTI LOCALI PER SCELTA VOLONTARI
TRA ELEMENTI PIU MERITEVOLI (.) COMILITER GENOVA ET BOLOGNA
ARRUOLERANNO CIASCUNO 500 VOLONTARI (;) COMILITER MILANO
ET TORINO NE ARRUOLERANNO CIASCUNO 1500 (:) DA ASSEGNARE (:)
DA COMILITER BOLOGNA AL GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO FRIULI ET 228°
DIVISIONE (;) DA COMILITER GENOVA AL GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO
MANTOVA ET 230° DIVISIONE(;) DA COMILITER TORINO AL GRUPPO
COMBATTIMENTO LEGNANO ET FOLGORE (;) DA COMILITER MILANO AL
GRUPPO COMBATTIMENTO CREMONA ET 231 DIVISIONE (;) PROPORZIONALMENTE
AI FABBISOGNI (.) SUDDETTE ALIQUOTE VOLONTARI DA ARRUOLARE
POTRANNO ESSERE SUPERATE FINO AL MASSIMO ET UGUALMENTE AI
RICHIESTI COMPLEMENTI INQUADRATI DALLE GRANDI UNITA' AI CIASCUN
COMILITER (,) COME PRECISATO QUI DI SEGUITO (.) CIASCUN
ITALGRUPPO ET DIVISIONE INVIERA' PRESSO COMILITER INTERESSATO
PROPRIO UFFICIALE CON I SEGUENTI COMPITI (:) PRIMO (:)
RICHIEDERE NUMERO ET SPECIE COMPLEMENTI FINO A NUMERO OCCORRENTE
PER RAGGIUNGERE AL MASSIMO ORGANICI ET SOSTITUIRE COMANDI (;)
SECONDO (:) PROVVEDE E AL AVVIAMENTO VOLONTARI CON MEZZI
TRASPORTO PROPRIA GRANDE UNITA' VESTIZIONE VOLONTARI AL CURA
UNITA' RICEVENTI (.) EL VETTOVAGLIAMENTO AL CURA STESSE

1036

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1274

GRANDI UNITA' POTRA' COMINCIARE DA GIORNO AFFLUENZA AI REPARTI(.)
COMITTERE BOLOGNA, GENOVA, TORINO ET MILANO SEGNALERANNO
OGNI SABATO AI QUESTO STAMAGGIONE NUMERO VOLONTARI ARRUOLATI
(,) DESTINAZIONE ET DATE AVVIAMENTO (.) SEGNARE RICEVUTA

P.G.C.
IL TEN. COL. CAPO SEZIONE
(F. Dibitonto)

1037

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

300

1

2 JUN Recd 49

RESTRICTED

Patriots 926

RZII/014.II
JUNE MFT

E/3253
JUNE 0121508
IMMEDIATE

FG VENETIE REGION
FG ALCOM FOR CHIEF COMMISSIONER

RESTRICTED

This is urgent. To STONE from DUNLOP on advice LUSH.

It is reported famous leader named MILO from VITTORIO VENETO has gone to ROME to try and arrange incorporation Patriot division NINO NANNETTI in Italian Army. Number of famous involved probably about 3,000. From point of view Regional political situation would be most desirable event. Request your personal interest.

Dist

Action - S. O. to Chief Comm
Info - Chief Commissioner
Exec Comm
Patriots
Legal
File

RESTRICTED

5376

1038

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FOR ACTION AFHQ G5AS FROM

8764 30 May 45 PRIORITY

—129

INFO CSCAF FD

PARA G4S FD CONTROLLED COPY NOT SENT TO THIS STAFF PLUS ZERO FD SUBSTANCE OF PARTIES IF ANY LARGE MEANT TO SUPERSEDE OTHER THAN PRESS POLICY REGARDING ITALIAN ARMY AND THE CHETNIKS FD

PARA TWO FD ENTIRE PARA BEGIN DISCUSSIONS WITH MARSHAL TITO AND G5A HEADQUARTERS BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS G5A HAVE AUTHORIZED THIS EXPEDITIONARY REPRESENTATIVE OF UNRRA TO ENTER YUGOSLAVIA FOR THE PURPOSE FD

PARA TWO A FD ~~MAKE THIS AN~~ ACTION AFHQ G5AS FROM G5A ADVISE WHAT ~~ARMY~~ BASIS

PARA TWO B FD BILL OF GRATEFUL FOR ASSISTANCE YOU CAN GIVE TO ALLOW OF FURTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF UNRRA TO ENTER YUGOSLAVIA G5A HOLDS IN HIS HEADQUARTERS REQUIRED BE GENERAL CATROUX

Internal Distribution

Executive Commissioner
Land Forces Sub Commission (AMIA)
Civil Affairs
Public Safety

Patterson 3 rcmds

321 mp

J/Coord A. [redacted] for

R.H. GRIFFIN, Col., Director, Local Govt. S/C

5375

6/2

1039

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FM2 ACTION AFHQ

8763 30 May 1945 PRIORITY

122

IM CLEAR ED

PARA ONE FD FOR REF FOUR/EIGHT ENTRE CARRE PIV ZERO OF TWO EIGHT OF MAY FD

REQUEST YOU AUTHORISE AND INSTRUCT MMIA TO ARRANGE FOR SUFFICIENT VACANCIES

IN ITALIAN ARMY TO BE MADE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE IN ORDER TO ENLIST UP TO TEN

THOUSAND PATRIOTS AS REQUESTED BY GENERAL CADORNA IN ACCORDANCE WITH PLANS FOR

ENLISTMENT OUTLINED BY HIM IN FIVE ARMY SIGMA NINE ENTRE ZERO FOUR FD

PARENE AC FOR ACTION AFHQ FROM HQ ALCON GEN A G P A T PARENE

PARA TWO FD AS AN INTERIM MEASURE MMIA HAS AUTHORISED THE IMMEDIATE RECRUITMENT

OF FOUR THOUSAND PATRIOTS UNDER THEIR ARRANGEMENTS PENDING A DECISION AS TO HIS

FUTURE POLICY REGARDING ITALIAN ARMY AND ITS CEILING

Internal Distribution

Ex. Commissioner.
Land Forces Sub Com.
Civil Affairs Section
Public Safety Sub Com.

Patriots Branch

321

5374

J/Comd M. PROBY for

R.H. CRIPPS, Col. Director, Local Govt. S/G

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FOR ACTION PWBAMGM FOR GENERAL FIVE SIXTION RPED FIFTEEN ARMY GROUP
PWB GENERAL FIVE SIXTION FOUR CORPS FOR GENERAL FIVE SIXTION

3638 26 May 45 PRIORITY

IH CLEAR PD

PARA ONE PD GREATEST ES VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENT OF PATRIOTS INTO ITALIAN ARMY PD REF PARA TWO OF CAIC EIGHT FOUR FIVE SIX OF TWO CEN MAY PD MUCH MORE ITEM ABLE STATE EXACT NUMBER OF WAC UNITS IN THIS ITALIAN ARMY DEPENDS ON FUTURE POLICY AND STRENGTH ALLOWED CMA BUT THAT TRIPOLITANE BRIGADE OF FOUR THOUSAND VOLUNTEERS ONLY APPEARS POSSIBLE PD

PARA TWO PD MILITARY GOVERNMENT SECTION FIFTH ARMY GROUP FOR GENERAL FIVE SECTION FOUR CORPS FOR GENERAL FIVE SECTION FROM HQ ALLIED CTRL ACTAT PARA

PARA TWO PD MINISTRY OF WAR IS ERECTING TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS AT MILAN TURIN AND GENOA NOW THEY SHOULD INSURE ENLISTMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF UP TO SIX POINT FIVE THOUSAND IMMEDIATELY

Internal Distribution

Dir. Commissioner
Land Forces Sub Commission (MMLA)

Patriots Branch

321

R.R. CURTIS Col.,

1041

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

28 MAY Read 1-7

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: T 83350

Date Time of Origin: MAY 2613306

Message Centre No: T/2557

Date Time Rec'd: MAY 2714000

Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: ARMY SIXTH SAFED STATE FIVE

TO : ATOC ROME

RESTRICTED

REPEATED 121

5 ARMY 5364 Situa F-197 repeated to you. What action if any do you desire be taken here.

ACTION

Dist

Action - Patriots Fr
Info - Chief Commissioner
Exec Comm
C.A. Sec
Land Forces 2
Safety
File 2
Float

See 126

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
ARMY
A. G.
5372

1042

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

58

2 MAY Road/49

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: 9304
Date/Time of Origin: MAY 261832

Message Centre No: E/2564
Date Time Rec'd: MAY 2711730
Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: 5 ARMY G-5 FOR HUME CITE F 197

TO : AFHQ INFO HQ AICOM

CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference your FX 82242 dated 26 May.

4 CORPS cable number 1474 reads as follows "Subject is disbandment of Partisan bands in Northwest ITALY. CADORNA requests that enlistment of volunteers into Italian Army and Police be implemented soonest. CADORNA recommends that ceiling of 10000 be fixed and that he be authorized to organize enlistment based on territorial HQ and Departments, with clothing, accumulated stores, rations and cadres from local Patriot and former Italian Army resources. Volunteers would be accepted as indivisuals and drafted as reinforcements to US-ITI and BR-ITI Units as required etcto commence on joining units. Doubtful how may would respond but above action would ease disbandment and disarment."

M/C note;

See cable E/2432
E/2307
E/2414
E/2415

INFO-ACTION

DIST

INFO-ACTION PATRIOTS BR
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EXEC COMMISSIONER
C A SEC
LAND FORCES SC (2)
PUB SAFETY SC
FILE (2)
FLOAT

CONFIDENTIAL

5371

1043

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

239

/49

Patriots Br.
32

CONFIDENTIAL

FX 82242
MAY 26/1055B

E/2432
MAY 26/1245B
PRIORITY

AFHQ SIGNED SACMED CITE FHGEG

HQ 5TH ARMY FOR G-5 INFO: ALCOM ROME, 15 ARMY GROUP

no trace
12 !

CONFIDENTIAL.

Cable number 1474 from IV CORPS not identified AFHQ files. Reur F-193. Please check.

N/C NOTE:

See 5 Army cable 9304(Cite197) which repeats IV Corps cable 1474. Distribution changed to conform to E/2307

DIST

INFO-ACTION: EX COMM (2)
CAS
ECON SEC
EST

INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMM
FILE (2)
FLOAT

Copies made for : PATRIOTS BR
LAND FORCES SC (2)
PUB SAFETY SC

See E/2307, E/2414, E/2415, E/2564

CONFIDENTIAL

5370

1044

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Patriots Br

4464
MAY 25/2055B

CONFIDENTIAL

E/2414
MAY 26/0830B
OPERATIONAL PRIORITY

HQ FIVE A RMY FROM G-5 CITE: OUR F 193

AFHQ, HQ ALCOM ROME, 15 ARMY GROUP

CONFIDENTIAL.

Reference cable number 1474 from 4 CORPS. Request that answer be sent to this headquarters.

E/C NOTE:

No record of IV CORPS cable 1474

Copies made for : PATRIOTS BR (INFO-ACTION)
LAND FORCES (2) (INFO)
PUB SAFETY SC "

See E/2307, E/2415, E/2432, E/2564

DIST

INFO-ACTION : EX COMMISSIONER (2)
CA SEC
ECON SEC
EST SEC

INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE (2)
FLOAT

5369

1045

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

230

Portiere 18

CONFIDENTIAL

9267
MAY NFT

E/2415
MAY 26/0930B
OP PRIORITY

5 ARMY G-5 SECTION CITE OUR F 194

AFHQ, HQ ALCOM ROME, 15 ARMY GROUP

Note Text is identical with 1474 (folio 116) but originated in addressed to AFHQ - ALCOM originated in corps

See 121

CONFIDENTIAL.

Ref number 1474 from IV CORPS.

Request that answer be sent to this HQ.

M/C NOTE:

No record of IV CORPS cable 1474

Copies made for: PATRIOTS BR(INFO-ACTION)
LAND FORCES (2) (INFO)
PUB SAFETY "

See E/2307, E/2414, E/2432, E/2564

DIST

ACTION : EX COMMISSIONER (2)
CA SECTION
ECON SEC
ESTAB SEC

INFO : A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE (2)
FLOAT

CONFIDENTIAL

5368

1046

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

FOR ACTION FIVEARMY FOR GEORGE FIVE SECTION R-TO FIFTEEN ARMY GROUP
FOR GEORGE FIVE SECTION FOUR CORPS FOR GEORGE FIVE SECTION

8456 26 May 1945 PRIORITY

IN CLEAR FD

PARA ONE FD REF YOUR NINE TWO FIVE FIVE OF TWO THREE MAY CITE FOX ONE EIGHT TWO FD ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PLANNING EXTENSIVE RECONSTRUCTING SCHEME WHICH WILL PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT FOR PATRIOTS AND EX MILITARY PERSONNEL FD MORE DETAILED INFORMATION NOT YET AVAILABLE PD

PAREN TO FOR ACTION FIVEARMY FOR GEORGE FIVE SECTION R-TO FIFTEEN ARMY GROUP FOR GEORGE FIVE SECTION FOUR CORPS FOR GEORGE FIVE SECTION FROM HQ ALCOM CITE A G P A T PAREN

PAREN ABLE PAREN

PARA TWO FD ITALIAN ARMY PREPARING FOR IMMEDIATE DEMOBILISATION OF FIFTY THOUSAND MEN AND PROPOSE OBTAINING TWO THIRDS OF NECESSARY REPLACEMENTS BY CALLED UP CLASSES AND ONE THIRD BY VOLUNTARY ENLISTMENT FD ISSUE BY MINISTRY OF WAR OF TERMS OF SERVICE FOR VOLUNTEER PERSONNEL AWAITED FD PAREN BAKER PAREN NAVY ACCEPTING NO VOLUNTEERS AT PRESENT FD NAVAL AUTHORITIES ENDEAVOURING TO ABSORB MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PATRIOTS AS CIVILIAN LABOUR AT LA SPEZIA FD PAREN CHARLIE PAREN AIR FORCE ACCEPTING NO VOLUNTEERS AT PRESENT BUT ENDEAVOURING TO REABSORB EX REGULAR AIR FORCE PERSONNEL FD

Internal Distribution

~~Navy Sub Commission~~
Land Forces Sub Commission (MMIA)
~~Air Force Sub Commission~~

Patriots Branch

321

5267

J/Comd M. PROBY
for Col. R.R.GRIFFS Director Local Govt.S/C

561

1047

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

205

INCOMING 464 MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: 1478
Date Time of Origin: MAY 251125

Message Centre No: E/2307
Date Time Rec'd: MAY 251510
Precedence: OP PRIORITY

FROM: LOCE

TO: G5 5 ARMY PLEASE PASS TO AICOM AND 15 ARMY GROUP

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL.

Cite ref No 88

Subject is disbandment of Partisan bands in Northwest ITALY.

CADCRNA request that enlistment of volunteers into Italian Army and Police be implemented soonest. CADCRNA recommends that token ceiling of 10000 be fixed and that he be authorized to organize enlistment based on Territorial HQ and Departments with clothing accumulated stores, rations and cadre from local Patriot and former Italian Army resources. Volunteer would be accepted as individuals and drafted as reinforcements to US-ITI and BR-ITI Units as required. Doubtful how many would respond but above action would ease disbandment and disarmement. SCAO ALG IV CORPS

DIST

INFO-ACTION PATRIOTS BR
INFO A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EXEC COMMISSIONER
C A SEC
LAND FORCES (2)
PUB SAFETY SC
FILE (2)
FLOAT

5366

CONFIDENTIAL

1048

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

204

49 T.S. enclosure 115

SECRET

SUBJECT: Enrolment of Volunteers into Italian Army.

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E
A 013
May 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR.

90

1. Further to my A.110 of 30 April, it is understood that you wish to issue new instructions on the enlistment of volunteers into the Italian Army in view of the fact that :-

(a) The obligation to remain under arms of volunteers already in the Italian Army (about 20,000) expires three months after the end of hostilities with Germany.

(b) The number of volunteers coming forward depends largely on the conditions of service offered to them.

2. The size of the post-war Italian Army is not yet known, nor whether the existing ceiling is to be maintained. Nevertheless, as a basis to work on, you should act on the assumption that it is necessary to maintain the Italian army at approximately its present ceiling for the time being. Providing we are kept informed so that we can watch loss of clothing, etc, volunteers can be accepted within reasonable limits up to the number of the losses incurred by authorized demobilization, etc. Any balance will have to be made up by further recalls or call-ups. An immediate loss anticipated is 50,000 from the demobilization of the first 4 months of the 1914 and all older classes.

3. Place of employment. Volunteers can be enlisted on the understanding that they will serve in ITALY only.

4. Period of Service. Volunteers should undertake to serve for one year. At the end of nine months they would be required to state if they wish to serve a further period. As the eventual strength of the Italian Army is a matter for higher political decision, no absolute guarantee can be given that a volunteer will not be demobilized before the period for which he has enlisted expires. In this unlikely event the Italian Government should be prepared to give him suitable compensation.

5385

1049

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1151

5. Method of Enlistment.

(a) Specialist volunteers may be enlisted direct by Screening Agencies and Territorial H.Q.'s, without previous reference to MMIA, as detailed in A.110 of 30 April.

(b) For other volunteers the method given in your 205059/11 Gabinetto of 27 February will continue to apply :- i.e. volunteers may be provisionally enrolled, then sent to their homes on special leave while awaiting approval for enrolment and movement instructions from SMRE and MMIA. Numbers of such volunteers will be signalled immediately to SMRE by Territorial H.Q.'s. If a Territorial H.Q. has no direct communication with SMRE, e.g. those HQ's who have now been called forward to the North, it can contact the nearest MMIA LO who will signal the information for them to MMIA.

(c) If reinforcements are required by Italian units within the area of a Territorial H.Q., the latter may post suitable volunteers direct provided the W.E. of the unit is not exceeded, or, provisionally for BR-ITI units, W.E. plus 5%. Details of such postings will be passed weekly to SMRE who will make a consolidated weekly return to MMIA, showing Territorial H.Q's and to which Admin Divs or similar formations the volunteers have been posted.

6. It is hoped that the above gives you the necessary guidance. Please prepare your instructions on this subject accordingly, and agree them with MMIA before issue. The matter is urgent as the whole question of the demobilization of the older classes depends on the supply of further personnel.

[signature]
Major General
M.M.I.A.

COPY TO: All MMIA LO's
All BLU's

INTERNAL: SD
Q

ck

53614

115B

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTE OF A CONFERENCE BETWEEN:

Col. LOMBARDI - Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of War and
Capt. di ROBILANT of Patricts Branch A.C. on 25 May 45
concerning M.M.I.A's letter ref. A 013 dated May 45.

The problem of the dismissal of 50.000 men of the Italian Army and their sobstitution, must be broken up in two distinct phases, where the Italian Ministry of War is concerned.

I PHASE. Regularisation of the position of the volunteers at present on active service. Volunteers who should be dismissed at the end of hostilities against Germany. Volunteers who should be dismissed three months after the end of hostilities . Volunteers who wish to remain in the service.

II PHASE. The 50.000 men who will be released from the Army because born during the first four months of 1914 cannot be substituted entirely by volunteers, first of all because it is not expected that 50.000 volunteeers for the Regular Army would be found; secondly, because even if they could be found the admission of 50.000 volunteers into the Regular Army, would cost the Italian Government something around 1.500.000.000 lire, which the present budget does not allow.

Ministry of War is studying a plan of sobstituting the 50.000 applicants for release by drafling in a few classes and admitting a

1050

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

and their substitution, must be broken up in two distinct phases, where the Italian Ministry of War is concerned.

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Ministry of War is studying a plan of substituting the 50.000 applicants for release by drafting in a few classes and admitting a certain number of volunteers.

The proportion which is foreseen would be about:

2/3 by conscription. 1/3 by volunteers.

The plan is at present in the hands of the undersecretary Chatrian, and within the week beginning on 28 May a definite answer is expected.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(67

CONFIDENTIAL

C P S 1142

24 MAG. 1945

9255
MAY 232234B

E/2129
MAY 241100
PRIORITY.

FIVE ARMY G-5 for HUMB
Hq ALCOM

CONFIDENTIAL.

Please inform of any contemplated reconstruction projects planned by Italian Government on which demobilized patriots could be employed. Also inform as to possibility of enlistments on Italian Army or other services in view of ceilings. This information urgently required. Cite our FIB2.

Distribution

Action: Patriots Br.
Info: A/President
Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
Land Forces S/C (2)
Navy S/C
Air S/C
File (2)
Float

HEADQUARTERS
A. F. H. Q.
5362
6476

CONFIDENTIAL

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

113

Review of the Press.

" IL TEMPO " 24 May 1945

" Il Tempo " independent morning paper, in its issue of 24 May publishes the following, among other measures of the Italian Government:

". . . . . .It appears also that Allied bodies, controlling the activities of the Ministry of War, have raised many and serious objections to the proposed intake of Units and ranks, drawn from partisan formations, into the Italian regular Army.

Such intervention, notwithstanding the relaxation of the control, announced last February by Mac Millan, indicates how the Allies have maintained all privileges of interfering in all Military matters".

N O T E No other paper in today's issue has mentioned the above facts. It is to be expected, though, that other papers, and especially the various political parties press will make this matter the subject of editorials and more or less veiled criticism.

5361

1054

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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49

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Enrolment of Patriots into the Army

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MMIA)

G/100

21 May 45

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, ALLIED COMMISSION

107

In reply to your 3207/98/EC of 19 May.

1. There is no alternative method envisaged of bringing Patriots into the Army in formed bands.

2. Patriots are being enlisted as individuals through the duly authorized screening agencies (3 type A and 5 type B) vide MMIA letter G/100 of 16 May (copy to you) and confirmed by you in your 49/PAT of 18 May. Every endeavour is, however, being made to keep friends together.

102

103

Major General
MMIA

Copy to: CIVIL AFFAIRS SEC
(For PATRIOTS BRANCH)

Internal: MA to GOC
GSI
File: SD/26/2

WS

5380

Re: enclosure with to "Stars & Stripes"

ALL THE PRESS OF 21 May 1945

INDIPENDENTE - TRIBUNA DEL POPOLO ecc....

A proclamation of Cadorna for the surrender od arms.

In a proclamation addressed to all partisans and patriots of Corps of Volunteers of Liberty, Gen. Cadorna said the following:

" You have been generous and obedient during the uprising, also to-day you must be obedient and earnest in the surrender of your arms and in the return to civil life. It is indispensable that with your behaviour of these days you should give evidence of your political maturity, in order to avoid even the smallest doubt arising on your true attachment to the Country, and to reassure all the people that there will be no repetition of regrettable episodes, and that our true democracy does not mean to bestow privileges upon any body. Before the 7th of June, and according to the directives set by Allied Headquarters, under the responsibility of the leaders and of and of the war Commissars, all arms will have to be collected and turned in".

The proclamation, furthermore, states the provisions that have been taken in agreement with the Italian Government, by the Command of C.V.L.in order to protect the rights of the Patriots, hasten their return to civil life, and to productive activity, and sponsor their admission into the regular army.

5359

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 745046

1,056

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Tel. 489081
Ext. 321

Ref : 49/PAT

21 May 1945

Subject : Enlistment of Patriots into Italian Army.

To : Executive Commissioner.

107

1. Ref your 3207/98/EC of 19 May 1945 106

2. The present position is summarised in the following extract from the HQ. signal 8018 of 19 May to Mr. Hopkinson for the information of Gen. Crittenberger.

"Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots into Police forces other than CC.RR., after screening and usual police training. Formed bands or units of Patriots will not be accepted into the Italian Army. Enlistment by individuals is approved if suitable up to a total strength permitted for army."

3. The numbers that can be absorbed in the above way, will of course be greatly affected by the rate of wastage in the Italian Army, which it is anticipated may be fairly high now that hostilities have ceased in this country.

M.P.

5358

F. CRAIG,
Lt. Colonel,
Deputy Director,
Local Govt. SubCom.

/mlc.

541

1057

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
A.P.O. 394

5th May 1945.

AIDE MEMOIR FOR LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORRISON.

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR RETURNING FROM ALL DIRECTIONS.

1. Now that hostilities have ended it is strongly recommended that the reception, screening, accommodation and distribution of returning Italian POW be placed entirely in the hands of the Ministry of War and implemented by the Italian Army. This is being done to a great extent with Italian POW returning from Allied sources and the Allied Commission (Italian POW Sub-Commission) is a Staff Liaison section between the Allied authorities and the Italian Ministry of War.

2. We are already faced with the disbandment of the Fascist Italian Army, many members of which have already turned into stragglers and are being found in the larger cities and even as far as Rome, and we shall be faced immediately with larger numbers coming over the frontiers.

3. The High Commissioner for POW in the Ministry of War is willing to and capable of handling this through the Italian regional commands if he can be given the necessary personnel. He has asked for 1520 at the moment and will probably want more. AMGOT have been unable to approve the provision of these officers and men and it is strongly recommended that an instruction be given to AMGOT that the whole of the returning Italian POW and the management of the stragglers from the Italian disbanded army be handled by the Italian forces. The Italian POW Sub-Commission will continue to exercise its liaison functions but should not become a functioning organisation with teams of collecting officers, camps, etc.

53157

15>

C A Sect

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT : Proposed Increase to AC ITI - ITI Ceiling (Cat 5a)

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MMIA)

SD/94/5

4 May 45

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER A.C. (5 copies)

- 5 MAY 1945

1. AFHQ has instructed MMIA to hold a conference on the recent request by AC for 6000 additional Italian Army personnel.

2. It is proposed that this meeting shall be held in the MMIA Conference Room 7th Floor AC Building at 1530 hours 5 May 45 to discuss the attached Agenda. Will you please send representatives on a First Grade Staff Officer level to attend, with powers to make decisions.

S.M. Tingley.
for Major General H.Q.
MMIA

Internal : MA to COC
C of S
A - will you please send a rep.
C

cmg

5356

E. C. DIST - 5 MAY 45

ACTION : C C A Sect (3)

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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level to attend, with powers to make decisions.

for Major General
MMIA

Internal : MA to GOC
C of S
A - will you please send a rep.
Q

emg

5356

E. E. DIST - 5 MAYWS

ACTION : { E A SECT (3)
: { WMD & I FOR

INFO · EXG COMMR

1948

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

A G E N D A

1. (a) A.C. request is for 6000 military personnel broken down as under :-

Eight Mine Clearance Coys and three Bn Hqs		1732
Twenty Frontier Repatriation Posts) Twenty Transit Centres)- Five Group Hqs)		2015
Twenty Collection and Transit Centres (WMD & PW sub-com)		1320
	Total	5067
Spare to cover further requirements		933

(b) AFHQ has recommended that the military components for all camp staffs be ten key personnel supplemented by civilians.

(c) Is the above agreed (either in whole or in part) and to what extent will the commitment in para 1(a) above thereby be reduced?

2. Are there any other reductions which can be made in 1(a) above?

3. How soon is the personnel required?

4. To what extent does the present AC ceiling cover the revised demands?

5. How is the balance (if any) to be met?

cgl.

5355

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(c) Is the above agreed (either in whole or in part) and to what extent will the commitment in para 1(a) above thereby be reduced?

2. Are there any other reductions which can be made in 1(a) above?

3. How soon is the personnel required?

4. To what extent does the present AC ceiling cover the revised demands?

5. How is the balance (if any) to be met?

cgl.

5355

178

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

1062

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

141

Tel ext 341

19 MAY Recd 49

LWS/el

107

Ref: 3207/98/EO

19 May 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Patriot Recce Battalions

TO : Land Forces Subcommission (MMIA)
Civil Affairs Section (for Patriots Branch) 100

Reference Land Forces S/c letter SD/26/2 of 14 May.

The Executive Commissioner wishes to know what steps are being taken to continue and possibly promote enrollment of Patriots into the army and if any alternative method is being planned for taking these Patriot groups into the army in composite bodies.

Major L. W. SHEARNS

Chief Staff Officer.
To Executive Commissioner.

5354

1063

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Enclosures:

321 F.C.

Lt. Col. T.L. HEATH

1064

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MOST SECRET

IN

MESSAGE FORM

MOST IMMEDIATE

From KEYCHAIN. Orig. No. 5063 Serial No. 291 Date 17.5.45

NR. FIVE ZERO SIX THREE OF ONE SIX. FOLL FOR ALCOM FROM HOPKINSON.

PSE PASS TO AGREED RECIPIENTS.

GEN CRITTEN BERGER WOULD BE GLAD TO KNOW WHAT PROMISES WERE GIVEN TO GEN CADORNA BY ITALIAN GOVMT ON TREATMENT OF PATRIOTS. ALSO WHAT COMMITMENTS IF ANY WERE MADE TO HIM BY ALLIED COMMISSION. PLEASE REPLY MOST IMMEDIATE.

Decoded by Time G. M. T.

Checked by Time G. M. T.

Time Rcvd. G. M. T.

Distribution

5372

i 0 6 5

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

To: Military Attaché.

Your 6063 of 16th

1. On 12 May Cadorna stated following statement obtained from Italian Government QUOTE Italian Government approves (a) Immediate wide organised intake within regular police forces of Pzn elements to safeguard renewal democracy (.) Such intake not temporary provision but fundamental absorption/of proved new energies in state (.) (b) Quick organic intake into regular army of proved Pzn all ranks drawn from CVL to elevate spirit of new national army (.) Italian Government will find finance to ensure help for demobilised Pzns and return of CVL to civil life and productive employment (.) UNQUOTE

2. UKJOHN interviewed Cadorna evening 12 May and stated AC and PCIA must consider above statements (.) Despite this whole statement appeared in press 13 May (.) Cadorna also informed he must take instructions from War Ministry but that no statement could appear in north without permission of AMG

3. Ref para 1 (a) AC approves immediate recruitment patriots incl police other than CC.RR after screening and usual police training

5351

4. PCIA pointed out to War Ministry that statement appeared contain changed policy (.) Pending further instructions from AFHQ War Ministry has been instructed (a) to say whether statement approved by Italian Government (b) to assure PCIA that formed bands of patriots will not be accepted into Italian Army

5. Policy of AC remains as laid down prior to appearance Cadorna and his statement (.)

SECRET

T E L E G R A M

MOST IMMEDIATE

From : ALCOM ACC AS

REF NO OF ORIGIN 49/PAT

To : KEYCHAIN FOR HOPKINSON

DATE OF ORIGIN 18 May 45.

~~Ref : 5063 of 16 May~~

Ref KEYCHAIN 5063 of 16 May.

1. On the 12th May Gen. CADORNA stated that he had obtained following statement from the Cabinet:

Quote-The Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not costitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

5350

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. UPJOHN on the evening of 12th May.

1066

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

statement from the Cabinet:

Quote-The Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not costitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity. 5350

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. UPJOHN on the evening of 12th May. Brig. UPJOHN pointed out that it was necessary for Allied Commission and MMIA to consider this statement quoted above. In spite of this the whole statement appeared in the press on Sunday morning, 13th May. General CADORNA was also informed on the morning of the 13th that he must take his instructions from the Ministry of War but no statement could appear in the North without the leave of A.M.G.

./.

1067

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots unto Police Forces (other than CC.RR.) after screening and usual police training.

4. MMIA have pointed out to the Ministry of War that the statement appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure MMIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.
5 Army, G.5.
AMG 8 Army.

J Craig Lt Col

for R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LFSC
PATS
PS

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref. 49/PAT

Subject : Treatment of Patriots. Tel. No. 439081

To : H.Q. S.O. (M) Liaison Staff, Rome. Ext. 321
(Signals)

It is requested that the attached message (our reference 49/PAT of 18 May 45) may be despatched in reply to KEYCHAIN message No 5063 of 16 May 45.

M.P. 5318

R.R. CRIPPS
Colonel,
Director, Local Govt. Sub Com.

SECRET

TELEGRAM

NOT ENCIPHERED

From : ALOSS ACC AG

REF NO OF ORIGI 49/747

To : KEYCHAIN FOR ROBERTSON

DATE OF ORIGIN 18 May 45.

~~Ref : 5063 of 16 May~~

Ref KEYCHAIN 5063 of 16 May.

1. On the 12th May Gen. CADORNA stated that he had obtained following statement from the Cabinet:

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the State of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

5237

[illegible] intended note, issued on the evening of 12th May.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775046

statement from the Cabinet

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the State of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary manner to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. HAINES on the evening of 12th May. Brig. HAINES pointed out that it was necessary for Allied Commission and SHAEF to consider this statement quoted above. In spite of this the whole statement appeared in the press on Sunday morning, 13th May. General CADORNA was also informed on the morning of the 14th that he must take his instructions from the Ministry of War but no statement could appear in the North without the leave of A.M.G.

./.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 763016

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots into Police Forces (other than CC.RR.) after screening and usual police training.

4. MMIA have pointed out to the Minister of War that the statement appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure MMIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not be accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and hos statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.
5 Army, G.5.
AMG 8 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LPSO
PATS
PS

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure MMIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not be accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and hos statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.

5 Army, G.5.

AMG 5 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LAMO
RATS
PR

5946

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

DRAFT TELEGRAM

Next ~~OPS PRIORITY~~ IMMEDIATE

FROM. AIGOM ACC AS

TO : KEYCHAIN FOR HOPKINSON

Ref 5663 of 16 May stated that he had obtained

1. On 12th May Gen. CADORNA ~~obtained the~~ following statement from the Cabinet:

Quote The Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. URQUHN on the evening of 12th May. Brig. URQUHN ~~was in agreement with sub para (a) but~~ pointed out that it was necessary for Allied Commission and AMGA to consider ~~further sub para (b)~~ this stated quoted above. In spite of this the whole statement appeared in the press on

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. URQUHART on the evening of 12th May. Brig. URQUHART ~~was in agreement with sub para (a) but~~ pointed out that it was necessary for Allied Commission and PWB to consider ~~further sub para (b)~~ this statement quoted above. In spite of this the whole statement appeared in the Press on Sunday morning, 13th May. General CADORNA was also informed on the morning of the 13th that he ~~would receive further~~ must take this instructions from the Ministry of War but no statement could appear in the Press without the knowledge of AFHQ.

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots into Police Forces (other than CCPP.) ~~The latter would be required to go through the normal channels for such recruitment after screening~~ + usual police training.

/4.

5345

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4. With regard to sub para 2 AFHQ have pointed out to the Minister of War that ~~it~~ it appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ, the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure AFHQ that formed bands or units of patriots will not be accepted into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.
5 Army. G.5.
AMG 5 Army.

Internal Ex Com
LFSC
PATS
PS

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

105

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots into Police Forces (other than CC.RR.) after screening and usual police training.

4. AMMA have pointed out to the Ministry of War that the statement appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure AMMA that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.
5 Army, G.5.
AMG 8 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

Internal Sx Com
LFSC
PAPS
PS

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure MGIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CARDOMA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.

5 Army, G.5.

AMG 8 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LFSC
PAIS
PS

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declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

T E L E G R A M SECRET

MOST IMMEDIATE

REF NO OF ORIGIN 49/PAT

DATE OF ORIGIN 18 May 45.

From : ALCOM ACC AS

To : KEYCHAIN FOR HOPKINSON

~~Ref : 5063 of 16 May~~

Ref KEYCHAIN 5063 of 16 May.

1. On the 12th May Gen. CADORNA stated that he had obtained following statement from the Cabinet:

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

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2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. UPJOHN on the evening of 12th May.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

5382

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. UPJOHN on the evening of 12th May. Brig. UPJOHN pointed out that it was necessary for Allied Commission and MMIA to consider this statement quoted above. In spite of this the whole statement appeared in the press on Sunday morning, 13th May. General CADORNA was also informed on the morning of the 13th that he must take his instructions from the Ministry of War but no statement could appear in the North without the leave of A.M.G.

./.

1080

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots into Police Forces (other than CC.RR.) after screening and usual police training.

4. MMIA have pointed out to the Ministry of War that the statement appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure MMIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.
5 Army, G.5.
AMG 8 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LFSC
PATS
PS

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

(b) to assure MMIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.

5 Army, G.5.

AMG 5 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LPAC
PATS
PR

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

1083

TELEGRAM SECRET

MOST IMMEDIATE

REF NO OF ORIGIN 49/PAT

DATE OF ORIGIN 18 May 45.

From : ALCOM ACC AS

To : KEYCHAIN FOR HOPKINSON

~~Ref : 5063 of 16 May~~

Ref KEYCHAIN 5063 of 16 May.

1. On the 12th May Gen. CADORNA stated that he had obtained following statement from the Cabinet:

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the ppirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

5340

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. DEJOUR on the evening of 12th May.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778506

statement from the Cabinet:

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the State of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

5340

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. UPJOHN on the evening of 12th May. Brig. UPJOHN pointed out that it was necessary for Allied Commission and MMIA to consider this statement quoted above. In spite of this the whole statement appeared in the press on Sunday morning, 13th May. General CADORNA was also informed on the morning of the 13th that he must take his instructions from the Ministry of War but no statement could appear in the North without the leave of A.M.G.

./.

1084

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots unto Police Forces (other than CC.RR.) after screening and usual police training.

4. AMG have pointed out to the Minister of War that the statement appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure AMG that formed bands or units of patriots will not be accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.
5 Army, G.5.
AMG 8 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LP&C
PA&E
PS

5339

1085

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots unto Police Forces (other than CC.RR.) after sreening and usual police training.

4. AMIA have pointed out to the Ministry of War that the statement appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure AMIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CROWCASS and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.
5 Army, G.5.
AMG 5 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LFSC
PATR
PS

5339

1086

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(b) To ensure that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADOGAN and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.

5 Army, G.5.

AMG 8 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LPSC
PAIC
PS

5339

1087

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

T E L E G R A M

SECRET

MOST IMMEDIATE

REF NO OF ORIGIN 49/PAT

DATE OF ORIGIN 18 May 45.

From : ALCOS ACC AS

To : KEYCHAIN FOR HORNIBROOK

~~Ref : 5063 of 16 May~~

Ref KEYCHAIN 5063 of 16 May.

1. On the 12th May Gen. CADORNA stated that he had obtained following statement from the Cabinet:

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the surest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the State of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of renewed national solidarity.

5338

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. ARBUCKLE on the evening of 12th May.

1088

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 788046

statement from the Cabinet:

Quote the Italian Government approves:

(a) An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular Police Forces of elements drawn from Partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the surest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Govt. considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the State of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

(b) A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

5338

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty. Unquote.

2. Gen. CADORNA interviewed Brig. [redacted] on the evening of 12th May. Brig. [redacted] pointed out that it was necessary for Allied Commission and SHAEF to consider this statement quoted above. In spite of this the whole statement appeared in the press on Sunday morning, 13th May. General CADORNA was also informed on the morning of the 13th that he must take his instructions from the Ministry of War but no statement could appear in the North without the leave of A.M.G.

./.

1089

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 745046

3. With regard to sub para (a) above this Commission approves of the immediate recruitment of Patriots unto Police Forces (other than CC.RR.) after screening and usual police training.

4. MMIA have pointed out to the Ministry of War that the statement appears to contain a change of policy. Pending further instructions from AFHQ the Minister of War has been instructed:

(a) to say whether the statement quoted above had the approval of the Italian Government and

(b) to assure MMIA that formed bands or units of patriots will not to accept into the Italian Army.

5. Present policy of Commission is still that laid down prior to the appearance of CADORNA and his statement.

Copies to 15 Army Gp. G.5 Sec.

5 Army, G.5.

AMG 8 Army.

R.R. CRIPPS ,Colonel,
Director,
Docal Government sub Commission.

Internal Ex Com
LFSC
PATS
PS

5337

1090

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1091

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

122

IN

T SECRET

MESSAGE FORM

MOST IMMEDIATE

From KEYCHAIN. Orig. No. 5063 Serial No. 291 Date 17.5.45

NR. FIVE ZERO SIX THREE OF ONE SIX. FOLL FOR ALCOM 18 MAY 1945
FROM HOPKINSON.

PSE PASS TO AGREED RECIPIENTS.

GEN CRITTEN BERGER WOULD BE GLAD TO KNOW WHAT PROMISES WERE GIVEN TO GEN CADORNA BY ITALIAN GOVMT ON TREATMENT OF PATRIOTS. ALSO WHAT COMMITMENTS IF ANY WERE MADE TO HIM BY ALLIED COMMISSION. PLEASE REPLY MOST IMMEDIATE.

V.P. CAS

Action please. DS/CITS

Decoded by Time G. M. T.
Checked by Time G. M. T.
Time Revd. G. M. T.

Distribution

5236

(6052)

1092

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION.

Ext. 620

13th May, 1945

Reference: 49/ENT

Subject : Enrolment of Patriots.

To : AMA

102

1. Reference your G/100 dated 16th May 1945 addressed to the Minister of War.

2. It is confirmed that the action taken by this letter is correct. It is not considered that any further action is necessary until such time as answers are received: (i) from Allied Force Headquarters and (ii) from the Minister of War.

R.R.C

R.R. GRIFFIN, Colonel,
Director,
Local Government Sub-Commission

5335

16 MAY Recd/49

SUBJECT:- Enrolment of Patriots

LAND FORCES SUB COM, A.C. (MMIA)

G/100

16 May 45

MINISTRY OF WAR

1. My attention has been drawn to a statement in the civilian press of 13 May to the effect that "the Italian Government approves "(among other things)" a quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks." I attach a translation of this statement.

2. I am informed by the Allied Commission that this statement was under discussion (between General CADORNA and Brig UPJOHN) at the time when it appeared in the press. It appears therefore that it could not have been approved by your Ministry or by the Italian Government.

3. It is my duty to inform you that this statement as it stands appears to be misleading in that it suggests that formed units ("organica immissione") of patriots may be incorporated in the Italian Army.

4. The present approved policy is to permit enlistment into the Italian Army of individuals (but not of units or cadres) up to the total strength approved for the Army, subject to their being in every respect suitable. This policy still holds good and any departure from this would require approval of the Allied Authorities.

5. I am requesting Allied Force Headquarters to confirm whether the statement referred to above should be allowed to pass without comment or whether a correction is called for. Pending further instructions you will please :

(a) Inform me whether the statement referred to had the approval of the Italian Government.

(b) Assure me that formed bands or units of patriots will not be accepted in to the Italian Army.

R. Browning

Major General
M M I A

ABC

5334

Copy for:- AFHQ NOTE (NOT to MINISTRY of WAR). Will AFHQ and A.C. please

1093

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

2. I am informed by the Allied Commission that this statement was under discussion (between General CADORNA and Brig UPJOHN) at the time when it appeared in the press. It appears therefore that it could not have been approved by your Ministry or by the Italian Government.

3. It is my duty to inform you that this statement as it stands appears to be misleading in that it suggests that formed units ("organica immissione") of patriots may be incorporated in the Italian Army.

4. The present approved policy is to permit enlistment into the Italian Army of individuals (but not of units or cadres) up to the total strength approved for the Army, subject to their being in every respect suitable. This policy still holds good and any departure from this would require approval of the Allied Authorities.

5. I am requesting Allied Force Headquarters to confirm whether the statement referred to above should be allowed to pass without comment or whether a correction is called for. Pending further instructions you will please :

(a) Inform me whether the statement referred to had the approval of the Italian Government.

(b) Assure me that formed bands or units of patriots will not be accepted in to the Italian Army.

R. Browning

Major General
M M I A

ABC

5334

Copy to:- AFHQ
A.C

NOTE (NOT to MINISTRY of WAR). Will AFHQ and A.C. please confirm that above is the correct action and say if any further action is considered necessary. It is felt that any further reference to this matter in the press would tend to advertise a matter which were better left as it is.

Internal: "A"

1094

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1095

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Annexure to MMIA letter G/100
Dated May 45

STATEMENT GIVEN BY THE CABINET TO GENERAL CADORNA 12 MAY 1945

The Italian Government approves :

1. An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular police forces of elements drawn from partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the safest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Government considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

2. A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces of all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new ITALY in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities, and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of liberty.

ROME 12 May 45

1096

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

101

FOR ACTION 57 AFHQ ELIGIBLE EUGENI ALONE

7626 15 May 1945 PRIORITY

IN CLEAR FD

PARA ONE FD REFERENCE YOUR FOUR-ONE OF TWELVE MAY FD RECRUITING FOR ITALIAN ARMY IS OPEN FOR CERTAIN CATEGORIES SEE ATTACHMENT TO OUR FOUR NINE SEVEN FOUR AREA PARA OF ONE MAY FD

PARA TWO FOR ACTION 57 AFHQ FOR LIGURIA PEDMONT ALCOL FROM HQ ALCOL CITE A C E A T PAGEM

PARA TWO FD IN ADDITION LIMITED NUMBER OF PATRIOTS CAN BE ABSORBED IN ITALIAN ARMY AS REINFORCEMENTS FD REQUEST ONE AND TWO RECRUITING AGENCIES LAST REPORTED IN FLORENCE AND LUCCA MAY BE CONTACTED THROUGH YOUR ITALIAN TERRITORIAL HEADQUARTERS

Patriots Branch

321 M.P. 5332

Lt. Col. F. CRAIG.

497

1097

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

101

100

SUBJECT: Italian Patriot Recce Pn

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MMIA)

SD/26/2

14 May 45

TO : EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER, A.C.
CIVIL AFFAIRS SEC, A.C.
PATRIOTS BRANCH, A.C.

93

Further to MMIA Signal SD 2655 of 4 May, copy to you.

1. Attached for information at Appx "A" is AFHQ reply and attached at Appx "B" is interim letter sent to Italian Ministry of War.

Major General
MMIA

WD

5331

1098

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1029

COPY

Annex 'A' to HMLA Letter SD/672 of 1 May 45.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AG 091.711/047 GCT-O

11 May 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Patriot Recce Bn

TO : Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
FWR: Land Forces Sub Commission (HMLA)

93

1. Reference is made to your SD/26 dated 1 March 1945.

2. It has been decided that the Patriot Recce Bns which were to operate with the Italian Combat Groups are no longer required.

3. In consequence the proposal contained in the letter under reference will not be submitted for consideration of the W.E.C.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

/s/ Robert V. Benham
/t/ ROBERT V. BENHAM
Captain, AGD
Asst Adjutant General

WB

5330

S E C R E T

Appx. B to MMIA letter SD/26/2 of 14 May 45.

SUBJECT: Ops of Independent Combat Troops Cat 2 Combat

LAND FORCES SUB COM, AC (MMIA)

SD/26/2

7 May 45

TO : MINISTRY OF WAR

Patriot Recce Bns

1. Reference this HQ letter SD/28 of 25 Feb 1945 and your 1202/G.A of 26 Feb 1945.

2. In view of the cessation of hostilities in Italy it has been decided that the plan for incorporating into the Italian Army five patriot recce battalions shall not now be proceeded with. Instructions are being issued for disposal of the patriots of 28 GARIBALDI BDE and LIBERO BAND to be effected in the normal way = those wishing to join the Army to be dealt with by the screening Acts, the remainder to be dispersed.

3. A further letter will follow amending this HQ letters SD/94 of 24 Apr and 1 May and reallocating the total of 2500 now rendered unallotted within the Category 2 (Independent Combat Troops) ceiling of 5921. It is probable that the 2500 will be counted within an increased allocation to carabinieri.

L.M. Inglesden.
Major General, Ft Cdr
for MMIA.

5329

Info: = 'F' BLU RTC ICF

Copy to:= MMIA LO 5 Army
" " 8 Army
" " 5 Army Br Incr
" " 1 District
" " 2 District

50)
51)

Internal:=

MA to GOC
COS
GSO
GSI

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1099

1. Reference this HQ letter SD/28 of 25 Feb 1945 and your 1202/G.A of 26 Feb 1945.

2. In view of the cessation of hostilities in Italy it has been decided that the plan for incorporating into the Italian Army five patriot recce battalions shall not now be proceeded with. Instructions are being issued for disposal of the patriots of 28 GARIBALDI BDE and LIBERO BAND to be effected in the normal way = those wishing to join the Army to be dealt with by the screening lots, the remainder to be dispersed.

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L.M. Inglesden.
Major [illegible], Fr Cdl
for
MMIA.

5329

Info: = 'F' BLU RTC ICF

Copy to:= MMIA LO 5 Army
" " 8 Army
" " 5 Army Br Incr
" " 1 District
" " 2 District

50)
51)
52) BLU's
53)
56)

Internal:=

MA to GOC
COS
GSO
GSI
G Trg
A (2 copies)
Q (2 copies)
RE
K
ST
Med
Ord
RMLE
SD/94
SD/1/4
ORG B

jv.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1101

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref: INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM. 15 May 45.

SUBJECT: Banditry.

TO: Public Safety.

Suggest you transmit copy of this signal to P.S., Emilia with the comment that there is nothing that I know of to prevent them forming auxiliary police force out of patriots. 8th Army and 5th Army are doing it in a big way.

If there is any doubt in the minds of R.P.S.O's on this point, send out a signal, please. Patriots Branch sent out a signal as to the handling of Patriots yesterday which you should see.

I think that Major Gibson, attached to Patriots Branch, could probably tell you the name of the S.I.O. and his location and the R.P.S.O. can contact.

G.R. WILSON, Brig.,
VP CA Section.

Copy to: Patriots Branch.

Copy of signal sent to P. Safety. hb 5/22/PAT
PAP 16/5-

1102

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY

SECRET

S.O. (M) Liaison Staff,
c/o R.A.A.C..
C.M.F.

LS/31/7/9

14 May 45.

Office of the Executive Commissioner,
Allied Commission.

The following has been received from a S.L.O. in Piacenza area, dated 11 May :

"Isolated cases of banditry are occurring in the foothills. Have sent many telegrams warning this situation might occur, and suggesting means to stop it. It was natural that A.M.G. came here in complete ignorance of the zone and with insufficient police. It appears they are not allowed to form auxiliary Partisan police force. Have stressed to them need for strong action and for police garrisons in hills. All registered Partisans now disarmed. The authorities appear slow to appreciate situation. It would be a very great mistake to abandon the mountains. Danger of lawlessness will increase if nothing is done."

(Sgd). R.P. Wilson,
Major,
SO (M) Liaison Staff.

5327

58/18

1103

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

83

14 MAY Recd 49

INCOMING MESSAGE

Patriots 96

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Originator's Reference: 41
Date/Time of Origin: MAY 121500B

Message Centre No: E/666
Date Time Rec'd: MAY 140630
Precedence: IMPORTANT

FROM: ARG LIGURIA REGION FOR MARSHALL
TO: HQ ALCOM CITE PAT B

IN CLEAR.

1. Please inform me if recruiting for Italian Army now open to patriots.

File 7 of 42/PAT

2. Ref my 15 signal of 5 May please advise Eta certificates.

End Signed MARSHALL.

action on file 42/PAT

ACTION

DIST

ACTION - PATRIOTS BR.
INFO - A/PRESIDENT
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
CA SEC
LAND FORCES S/C
FILE 2
FLOAT

HEADQUARTERS
11 MAY 1945

1104

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

97

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED OCCUPATION
APO 500
Local Government Sub-Commission
PAPROOT BRANCH

No: 491/PAT

23 May 45

SUBJECT: Deployment of Activists.

TO: Land Forces Sub-Commission (MEIA).

1. In the afternoon of Friday 11 May Mr. Sir Geoffrey Political Adviser and Brig. Tate, Chief of Staff, Allied Control Council met in order to discuss with the Government of the Land Political Adviser's views on the necessity with dismissing Activists.

2. Mr. Sir, therefore, decided that Brig. Tate should see General CARINA as soon as possible to find out the position.

3. Brig. Tate and General CARINA on their arrival soon it transpired that the main object of the latter's were concerned as to their position in joining the Allied Forces and Italy. General CARINA stated he wished to get a statement of policy from the Government to show to Activists in Rome. It was arranged that the statement of policy, if obtained, would be given to Brig. Tate before General CARINA returned to the North.

4. Brig. Tate and General CARINA again met on Saturday morning when General CARINA produced a statement of policy formulation which he said the Government had agreed to. RJ

Brig. Tate asked General CARINA whether the Minister of the Land Forces had before agreeing to the statement. General CARINA did not know and Brig. Tate suggested, he get into touch with the Minister of War. Brig. Tate pointed out that the Minister of War should undoubtedly seek the advice of MEIA before agreeing to this document and said that he himself would take the document to the Chief Commissioner to see if he had any objection to its application in the North.

5325

5. Brig. Tate consulted the Chief Commissioner who directed that a copy be sent to General CARINA in the form of the letter attached (B)

6. In the meantime the Government statement has been published in this morning's papers, almost exactly in accordance with the draft shown to Brig. Tate yesterday evening. The Chief Commissioner is in agreement with the

474

1105

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

proposed intakes into the Police Services and very strongly backs the recruitment into the Italian Army.

This is, however, a matter on which you must be consulted and for that reason the facts set out above are placed before you for consideration and such action as you may deem fit.

F. CRAIG,
Lt. Colonel,
Deputy Director,
Local Govt. P/C.

Copy to: Executive Commissioner
Public Safety Co-ordination

1106

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

annexure 'A' to 49/PAT of 13 May 45

9718

STATEMENT GIVEN BY THE CABINET TO GENERAL CARBONI 12 MAY 45.

The Italian Government approves ;

1. An immediate wide and organised intake within the regular police forces of elements drawn from partisan units, such as in quantity and quality the police should become the surest guarantee and protection of renewed democratic status. The above intake does not constitute a temporary provision, as the Government considers it as one of the steps tending to the inception into all the bodies and the life of the state of fresh energies, which have been proved in the fight for national liberation.

2. A quick and organic intake within the regular army of partisan forces and all ranks drawn from the Corps of Volunteers of Liberty who have proved their ability, bravery and patriotism in the fight for national liberation. This provision tends to elevate the spirit of the national army of the new Italy in the atmosphere of liberty regained by conquest and of a renewed national solidarity.

The Italian Government will find the necessary finance to ensure to each demobilised partisan immediate help and the necessary assistance for the return to production activities, and to civil life of the nation of the volunteers of Liberty.

ROME 12 May 45

1107

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Annexure "B" to 49/PAT of 13 May 45.

Ref: 6/12 B/CA. 13 May 45

TO: Major General R. CADORNA,
Chief of Army General Staff,
Italian Army.

Dear Sir,

I have discussed the matter of the Government's declaration on the absorbtion of partisans into the Army and Police Forces with the Chief Commissioner, Admiral Stone. He has expressed the view that it would be better for you to receive any instructions as to the publication of the Government's Declaration in the North of Italy solely from the Minister of War.

I should observe that in any event no publication in Military Government territory should be made without the prior consent of the local A.M.G. authorities.

Yours truly,

G.R. DEJOHN, Brig.,
V Corps Section.

Copy to: Patriots Branch
(Attn. Lt. Col. Craig.

5322

Il Governo Italiano approva:

I° Una immediata larga e organica integrazione delle forze regolari di polizia con elementi tratti dalle unità Partigiane, tale che quantitativamente e qualitativamente essa divenga la più sicura garanzia e difesa di rinnovati ordinamenti democratici. Detta integrazione non costituisce un provvedimento di carattere transitorio, perchè il Governo la considera come una delle misure tendenti a immettere nuove energie, provate nella lotta di liberazione nazionale, in tutti gli organismi e nella vita dello Stato.

2° Una pronta e organica immissione nelle unità dell'esercito regolare di forze partigiane e di quadri militari tratti dal Corpo Volontarie della Libertà e che abbiano dato prove di capacità, di valore e di amor patrio nella lotta di liberazione nazionale. Questo provvedimento tende ad elevare lo spirito dell'esercito nazionale della nuova Italia, nel clima della riconquistata libertà e della rinnovata solidarietà nazionale.

Il Governo Italiano fornisce i mezzi finanziari necessari ad assicurare ad ogni partigiano smobilitato un aiuto immediato e l'assistenza necessaria alla riammissione dei Volontari della Libertà nell'attività produttiva e nella vita civile della Nazione.

Roma, lì 12 maggio 1945

5321

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

sitorio, perchè il Governo la considera come una delle misure tendenti a immettere nuove energie, provate nella lotta di liberazione nazionale, in tutti gli organismi e nella vita dello Stato.

2° Una pronta e organica immissione nelle unità dell'esercito regolare di forze partigiane e di quadri militari tratti dal Corpo Volontarie della Libertà e che abbiano dato prove di capacità, di valore e di amor patrio nella lotta di liberazione nazionale. Questo provvedimento tende ad elevare lo spirito dell'esercito nazionale della nuova Italia, nel clima della riconquistata libertà e della rinnovata solidarietà nazionale.

Il Governo Italiano fornisce i mezzi finanziari nesessari ad assicurare ad ogni partigiano smobilitato un aiuto immediato e l'assistenza necessaria alla riammissione dei Volontari della Libertà nell'attività produttiva e nella vitacivile della Nazione.

Roma, lì 12 maggio 1945 5321

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

31

10 MAY Recd 49/

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Unauthorised Units

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, AC (MMIA)

SD/95

7 May 45

TO : A.F.H.Q.
H.Q. 2 DISTRICT

INFO : A.C. for Patriots Branch

Patriot Labour Force att 331 Tn Stores Sec LEGHORN

1. Ref your G-5 letter CJM/irf of 1 May 45 and 2 District letter 1388 Q.1 of 26 Apr.

2. The patriots stated to have been organised by 5 Army Brit Incr into the above labour force - strength approx 250 vide 2 District letter 1388 Q.1 of 19 Mar - are not the responsibility of the Italian Army but should be dealt with under the terms of AFHQ letter AG 400/033G.E.G.-O of 13 Jan 45 under normal procedure for patricts and dispersed if not accepted into the Italian Army by the screening agencies.

3. This action should be taken as soon as possible and in any event before 18 May in view of the terms of AFHQ signal FX 70793 of 5 May.

J.M. Glade
for Major-General, A-Cl
MMIA.

Copy to : MMIA LO c/o PENBASE
MMIA LO HQ 2 District

Internal : A Q/68
Q1 Q/1/5
Q(AE) ST
LAB

fd

5320

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Patriot Labour Force att 331 Tn Stores Sec LEGHORN

1. Ref your G-5 letter CJM/irf of 1 May 45 and 2 District letter 1388 Q.1 of 26 Apr.

2. The patriots stated to have been organised by 5 Army Brit Incr into the above labour force - strength approx 250 vide 2 District letter 1388 Q.1 of 19 Mar - are not the responsibility of the Italian Army but should be dealt with under the terms of AFHQ letter AC 400/033G.E.G.-C of 13 Jan 45 under normal procedure for patriots and dispersed if not accepted into the Italian Army by the screening agencies.

3. This action should be taken as soon as possible and in any event before 18 May in view of the terms of AFHQ signal FX 70793 of 5 May.

F36 of 121/Pat

F.. of 94/6

J.M.G. Gladen.
for Major-General, A-G
MMIA.

Copy to : MMIA LO c/o PENBASE
MMIA LO HQ 2 District

Internal : A Q/68
Q1 Q/1/5
Q(AE) ST
LAB

5320

fd

See F46 of 94/Pat

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1112

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

7 MAY Recd 49

COPY RECEIVED RIGHT

FROM: AFHQ agd NAMED CITE FROM 051265 B

TO : AMLA SECRET

INFO: ALCOA
LB J GF

REF : FX 70877

79

YOUR SD/26 OF 1 MARCH (.)

PLAN FOR FORMATION OF I T A L I A N TROOPS WAS
CANCELLED (.) STRENGTH 4000. 3000. 2500.. 2000
CITE PROBABLY BE CHANGED WITHIN INCREASED
ALLOCATION TO C A R A B I N I E R I

(/) PLEASE STATE IF OF TO BE CHANGED

DD DISTRIBUTION:

Action Copy: SD/26/2
A
Q
PT
Patriot Branch

5319

Jv 6 May 45

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

95

7124 7 May 45

93

FWOA of 105/PAT

Publicity Branch

321

A.P.

Lt Col F. CRAIG

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

14

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

PATRIOTS

Originator's Reference: FX 71329
Date Time of Origin: MAY 052140B

Message Centre No: D/9802
Date Time Rec'd: MAY 060930B
Precedence: OP PRIORITY

FROM: FREEDOM SIGNED SACMED DTUS FRGCT

TO: MAIN S ARMY INFO ALCOM 15 ARMY GROUP REAR 8 ARMY MGIA

SECRET

INFO-ACTION

SECRET. - not rec'd.

Your U 979 of 04 not to all.

Formation of patriot RECCE Battalion cancelled. Disposal of patriots of 28 GARIBALDI Brigade and LIBERO Band will be effected through Patriots Branch of ALCOM except for individuals wishing to join Italian Army. Letter will be enlisted through normal Italian brigade agency.

HEADQUARTERS
16 MAY 1945
A. C.

DIST

INFO-ACTION: Patriots Br
" " Land Forces S/C 2
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
File

See F 92

5317

SECRET

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

5

5 MAY Recd 49

12

SECRET/ URGENT/ OPERATIONAL

3104

FROM : MMLA

TO : AFHQ

INFO : EXEC COM
CIVIL AFFAIRS SEC
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Date 04/1/43 Time

REF : SD 2655

SECRET

REF MSG IT MMLA REFERS TO G3 OMG 3 APR (.) SUBJECT EXPENDING FORMATION OF FIVE PATRIOT REGIMENTS (.) IN VIEW OF CESSATION OF OPS IN I T A L Y RECOMMEND THAT ABOVE UNITS BE N O T FORMED BUT THESE PATRIOTS TREATED IN NORMAL MANNER BY PATRIOT BRANCH AC (.) CEILING COULD BE USED FOR CD REG IF DESIRED (.) THIS SIGNAL AGREED AC WHOM WE HAVE STATED THAT INDIVIDUALS STILL WISHING TO JOIN THE ARMY WILL TO BE GIVEN PREFERENCE TO DO SO (.) IN THIS CONNECTION THERE ARE AT THIS TIME 30000 AVERAGE DEMOBILIZABLE PERSONNEL WHO ARE SUBJECT OF SEPARATE SIGNAL.

PRECEDENCE Important

AUTHENTICATED

Internal : MA to COS
G(Trg)
A
Q
Org B.
File : SD/26/2

OMG

Ops 8056

5316

See F 93

1116

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

91

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
A.C. 304
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

1 May 1945

Ref : 49/PAT

Subject : Enlistment of Volunteer Specialists into Italian Army.

To : V Army - G 5 Section
A.M.G. VIII Army.
: H.Q. PIEDMONT Region (attention Regional Patriot Officer)
: H.Q. LOMBARDIA " " " " "
: H.Q. VENETIA " " " " "
: H.Q. LIGURIA " " " " "
: H.Q. EMILIA " " " " "
: H.Q. TUSCANY " " " " "

90

The attached copy of Land Forces Sub Commission Letter n. 110 of 30 April 45 is forwarded for your information.

A.P.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Deputy Director,
Local Govt.Sub Com.

F315

/mlc.

323-330

947

Received 1/49

SECRET

SUBJECT: Enlistment of Volunteer Specialists Into Italian Army (BR-ITI's).

LAND FORCES SUB COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.) R O M E
TEL: 489081 Ext. 533
A 110
30 April 45

TO : Ministry of War.

1. Authority is given for the direct enlistment into the Italian Army by Military Districts or Screening Detachments Types A & B of volunteers, of whatever class, who are qualified in the specialist trades shown in Appendix 'A'.

2. Volunteers enlisted will be despatched under arrangements of the nearest MMIA LO as follows :-

From 5 and 8 Army Areas	To 802 BRD
From South of Army Boundaries	To nearest of 802, 803 and 804 BRD's

3. Volunteers of these trades enlisted in the Army Areas, if required immediately in units in 228 and 231 Administrative Divisions, or in Combat Groups, may be posted direct, under the direction of the competent Territorial HQ, provided they are to fill a vacancy on W.E. Administrative Divisions will pass back details of such posting to 802 BRD, Combat Groups to RTC ICF.

4. You are requested to send to MMIA a weekly return (marked Volunteer specialists) of men enrolled into the Italian Army in this way, showing trades and where the men have been sent.

5. Orders for enrolment of volunteers into RTC ICF stand (vide our A 114 of 24 April). 314

6. The instructions contained in your 205059/11 Gabinetto of 27 February will continue to apply for volunteers other than the specialists listed in Appendix 'A'.

7. Owing to the urgent need of specialists, particularly of the mechanical trades, you are requested to take all steps to encourage the recruiting of such volunteers.

8. This instruction does not apply to US-ITI units as the personnel ceiling has already been exceeded.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

TO : Ministry of War.

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W Priestley Colonel
for Major General
M.M.I.A.

DISTRIBUTION: See reverse.

Sgt Stoddart
Can be have 8 more copies
for the other 2 RTC's and HQ Sqn
IND

ek

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY TO:
AFHQ for G3 Org and Cl (Br)
C.G. 15 Army Group
C.G. 5 Army
5 Army British Increment
8 Army
1 District
2 District
3 District
HQ Allied Commission
Patriots Branch, A.C.
All REU's
All MMLA LO's.

INTERNAL: M.A. for CGC
G(S)
X
SCNE
Q2
REIE
ST

116

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Appx 'A' to MMA letter
A 110 of 30 April 1945.

LIST OF SPECIALISTS.

Apparecchiatori telegrafonici	Electricians (Signals)
Armaioli	Armourers and armourer mechanics
Artificieri	Ammunition examiners
Aiutanti di sanita	Medical orderlies
Autieri meccanici	Driver mechanics
Aiuti radiologi	Radiographer
Autieri radiotelegrafisti	Driver operators
Autieri	Drivers
Autieri conduttori di mezzi cingolati	Carrier Drivers
Carpentieri	Carpenters
Carrozzieri	Coach builders
Centralinisti (genio)	Switchboard operators (signals)
Cifratori	Cipher operators
Disegnatori	Draughtsmen
Elettricisti	Electricians
Fabbri	Blacksmiths
Falegnami (da banco)	Joiners
Infermieri	Nursing orderlies
Interpreti	Interpreters
Lamieristi	Sheet metal workers
Lattonieri	Plumbers
Macchinisti	Machinists
Maniscalchi	Farriers
Meccanici di precisione	Instrument mechanics
Meccanici elettricisti	Electrical mechanics
Meccanici ferroviari	Railway mechanics
Meccanici mot.per autoveicoli	Vehicle mechanics
Meccanici per materiali dei Collegamenti	Instrument mechanics
Meccanici per motopompe	Engine fitters I.C. & pumps
Minatori	Miners
Montatori (Capi tecnici)	Armament artificers
Montatori per macchine a vapore	Engine fitters (S.R.)
Motocilisti	Motorcyclists
Muratori	Masons
Operai di artiglieria	Gun fitters
Panettieri	Bakers
Pontieri	Bridging engineers
Radiomontatori	Instrument mechanics (Signals)
Radiotelegrafisti (altre armi)	Wireless operators (other arms)
Radiotelegrafisti (genio)	Wireless operators (Signals)
Rivettatori	Riveters
Saldatori autogeno	Welders (acetylene)
Saldatori elettrici	Welders (electric)
Specializzati per il tiro	Technical Assistant (Artillery)
Telegrafisti(altre armi)	Line operators (other arms)

5313

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Autieri conduttori di mezzi cingolati	Carrier Drivers
Carpentieri	Carpenters
Carrozzieri	Coach builders
Centralinisti (genio)	Switchboard operators (signals)
Cifratori	Cipher operators
Disegnatori	Draughtsmen
Elettricisti	Electricians
Fabbri	Blacksmiths
Falegnami (da banco)	Joiners
Infermieri	Nursing orderlies
Interpreti	Interpreters
Lamieristi	Sheet metal workers
Lattonieri	Plumbers
Macchinisti	Machinists
Maniscalchi	Farriers
Meccanici di precisione	Instrument mechanics
Meccanici elettricisti	Electrical mechanics
Meccanici ferrovieri	Railway mechanics
Meccanici mot.per autoveicoli	Vehicle mechanics
Meccanici per materiali dei Collegamenti	Instrument mechanics
Meccanici per motopompe	Engine fitters I.C. & pumps
Minatori	Miners
Montatori (Capi tecnici)	Armament artificers
Montatori per ma cchine a vapore	Engine fitters (S.R.)
Motociclisti	Motorcyclists
Muratori	Masons
Operai di artiglieria	Gun fitters
Panettieri	Bakers
Pontieri	Bridging engineers
Radiomontatori	Instrument mechanics (Signals)
Radiotelegrafisti (altre armi)	Wireless operators (other arms)
Radiotelegrafisti (genio)	Wireless operators (Signals)
Rivettatori	Riveters
Saldatori autogeno	Welders (acetylene)
Saldatori elettrici	Welders (electric)
Specializzati per il tiro	Technical Assistant (Artillery)
Telegrafisti(altre armi)	Line operators (other arms)
Telegrafisti(genio)	Line operators (Signals)
Telescriventisti	Operators (keyboard)
Topografi (ufficiali)	Survey officers
Tornitori	Turners
Tubisti (idraulici)	Pipe fitters
Verniciatori	Painters
Vulcanizzatori	Vulcanisers

5343

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

485

105

89

KG - file H.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT :- Italian Patriot Bands

HQ MAAF
HQ EIGHTH ARMY GRP
M 680/1 SDI

16 Mar 45

CG 15 ARMY GP (8)

Copy :- AFHQ
CG FIFTH ARMY (for Brig Ingr)
NAIA ROME

Main : G(O) GSI(OL) X
Rear : G NAIA RO

Ref your 1605/SC/57/G-3 SDI dated 16 Mar 45. no trace

1. The proposed TE for an Italian Patriot Band is agreed in principle.

2. It is considered, however, that the tasks which these units will be called upon to carry out will be more comprehensive than was assumed by MAIA when compiling the proposed TE. For example, they may often be called upon to act in a role of normal infantry, and hold a sector of the line, as, in fact, the 28 GARIBALDI BDE is at present doing. For this reason it is proposed that the TE should be altered in certain respects (detailed in Appx 'A' etc) to conform more closely to the WE of an Inf Bn in an Italian Combat Gp.

3. As regards signals equipment, it is considered that a scale approximately two thirds of that of an Italian Inf Bn should be authorised.

5312

4. If this TE is approved, do you wish a proposed G 1098 to be submitted by this HQ through Ord channels?

5. Finally, it is strongly urged that approval be given to the temporary loan of a BSU for equipping Patriot Units during the period of their fmn, as proposed in this HQ letter M 1202 G dated 4 Mar 45.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Copy :- AFHQ
CG FIFTH ARMY (for Pol. Unit)
MMIA MCAB

Main : G(O) G3R(OI) X
Rear : Q MMIA MO

no trace

Ref your MMOB/30/37/G-3 CSM dated 16 Mar 45.

1. The proposal TO for an Italian Patriot Band is agreed in principle.

2. It is considered, however, that the tasks which these units will be called upon to carry out will be more comprehensive than was assumed by MMIA when compiling the proposed TE. For example, they may often be called upon to act in a role of normal infantry, and hold a sector of the line, as, in fact, the 28 GARIBALDI BDE is at present doing. For this reason it is proposed that the TE should be altered in certain respects (detailed in Appx 'A' refd) to conform more closely to the TO of an Inf Bn in an Italian Combat Gp.

3. As regards signals equipment, it is considered that a scale approximately two thirds of that of an Italian Inf Bn should be authorised.

5312

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5. Finally, it is strongly urged that approval be given to the temporary fun of a TAT for equipping Patriot Units during the period of their ini, as proposed in this HQ letter M 1202 G dated 4 Mar 45.

Copy Pol Branch for info

T G Hawkesworth
Lt Col
Lt Gen
GOC
EIGHTH ARMY

Encl/

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CONFIDENTIAL

Appx 'A' to M 680/1 3DG
Dated 18 Mar 45

DETAILS OF SUGGESTED ALTERATIONS TO THE PROPOSED WE OF A PATRIOT UNIT

1. Weapons

Add Bren guns - 36
Pat.A - 12
Mortars 2 in - 12

2. Transport

Under HQ Pl

Add Lorries 3 ton 4 x 2 GS - 2

Under Signals Pl

Add Truck 15 cwt 4 x 2 GS - 1

The additional 3 ton lorries are suggested as it is not considered that the transport shown on the proposed WE is sufficient to enable the unit to maintain itself when operating in an independent role.

The additional 15 cwt truck is to carry signals equipment.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1125

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Copy

394

SUBJECT:- Italian Patriot Bands

SECRET

HQ 15 ARMY GROUP (CS)
APO 512 U.S. ARMY
1 x G/30/57/G-3 SOI
10 Apr 45

CO ALSOS MISS (for Brit Increment)
APO [illegible] U.S. ARMY

[illegible]

Ref your letter ref AG 370.722/GMC SCI-C dated 22 Feb 45 and my ltr. Ref your letter ref [illegible] dated 6 Mar 45.

1. [illegible] comment on the formation of reconnaissance corps from patriot bands are agreed. It is also agreed that patriot units should be employed as required by the Army Comd and at present would not be considered to be an integral part of the Italian combat ops.

2. There are, however, strong arguments in favour of producing a TO&E establishment from the point of view of the future of the Italian Army. It is appreciated that these units vary in size, but where the total strength is less than the approved TO, the TO need be implemented in part only, to be determined by Army Comd. The identity of each patriot band would by this means be preserved. It is considered therefore, that the principle of a TO&E establishment should be accepted.

3. The ops proposed by SACMED in conjunction with each TO&E are as appx "A" att. In compiling this list it was assumed that the role of the units would be

(a) Close recce

(b) Light patrol work

(c) Liaison with partisans and civilians

(d) Occupation of positions abandoned by the enemy

(e) Guides

(f) Road demolitions

It will be noted that only personal weapons are included in the scale of equipment. It is for consideration whether weapons such as LMG, PIAT and 2" mortar are required. Further, the very limited scale of TOE equipment would appear to limit considerably unit mobility and intercourse with senior and adjoining Fmns.

4. Ops of personnel would be under Army arrangements.

5311

...../2

i i 2 6

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

899

5. Will you please forward your comments on the proposed SCAP to reach this HQ by 20 Mar 45.

E.L. MILLER, Col.,
For Major General,
Chief of Staff.

5310

1127

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(Italian Personnel)

(Proposed) ...

Serial Number		Bn HQ	Coy HQ	HQ Pl	Signals Platoon	Total HQ Coy	Coy HQ	HQ Pl	Three Recce Pl each	Total Recce Coy	Total Recce Bn	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
	(i) Personnel											
1	C.O.(Lt-Col or Maj)	1									1	
2	2 i/c (Maj or Capt)	1									1	
3	Adjt (Capt or Sub Ltenn)	1									1	
4	I.O. (Sub Ltenn)	1									1	
5	Quartermaster (Subn)	1									1	
6	Interpreter (Subn)	1									1	
7	M.O. (Subaltern)	1									1	
8	Sergeants		1			1	1			1	5	
9	Subalterns		1	1	2		1		1	4	25	
10	Warrant Officer		1								1	
11	Cpls		10	3	13		2		3	11	37	
12	OR		34	26	60		16		24	88	532	
13	Total all ranks	7	1	48	30	78	1	20		28	104	606
	(ii) Weapons											
14	Revolvers	7	1	1	2	3	1	1		1	3	36
15	Rifles			33	22	55		11			11	99
16	SMGs			12	7	19		7		27	81	372
17	Pistols, signal				9	9						9
	(iii) Transport											
18	Motor cycles			2	7	9					2	17
19	Car 5 cwt 4 x 4			1		1						1
20	Truck 3 cwt and 15 cwt							1			1	4

Off	30
OR	470
Total	500
MC	17
Vehs	12

Four Recce Coys each

...../6

1128

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
	(iii) Transport (Contd)											
21	Truck 15 cwt tower	1		1							1	
22	Lorry 30 cwt or 3 ton	2		2		1		1			6	
	Total Vehs excl MCs	4		4		2		2			12	

SECRET

SUBJECT:- Induction of Italian Patriots into the ITALIAN Army.

Main HQ EIGHTH ARMY,
M 1202 G.

Tele Extn : 45.

4 Mar 45.

A.F.H.Q.

Rear Army.

C of S.
G.S.I.
G.S.I. (CL).
G (SD).
X.

Reference your AG 091.711/083 GCT-O of 22 February.

1. The principle of inducting Italian patriots into the ITALIAN ARMY, both as individuals and as fighting units, is welcomed.

2. It is suggested, however, that the proposed formation of Reconnaissance Companies of approximate strength 500 will probably not be the most practical and efficient way of making use of the patriot bands which the Army is likely to meet.

3. Patriot bands vary in numbers, and the strength of each band is largely derived from the personal allegiance of its members to the leader. Where a band numbers more than 500 it is, of course, a practical proposition to reduce the number to within the suggested establishment of 500. Where, however, a band is smaller in number than 500, it is thought that it will prove extremely difficult to organise it on to the establishment, as difficulties are likely to arise in the amalgamation of bands and, more particularly, in the choice of the leader.

4. Moreover, it is considered that by making the Reconnaissance units part of a Gruppo a great limitation will be placed on the uses to which the Patriot units can be put. In many cases they will of course be of value to the Gruppo and should be used with them. There are, however, a number of independent roles to which patriot units are suited, and for which they would not be available if incorporated within a Gruppo. Further if there were a sudden breakthrough it might be necessary to leave the Gruppi behind and to employ Patriot Units exclusively with other formations.

5. It is suggested, therefore, that while Patriot Units are inducted into the ITALIAN ARMY the method of doing this should be left more flexible than that set out in your letter.

6. The following proposals are therefore made :-

(a) That a ceiling of personnel should be given to each Army.

1129

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Reference your AG 091.711/083 GCT-O of 22 February.

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5. It is suggested, therefore, that while Patriot Units are inducted into the ITALIAN ARMY the method of doing this should be left more flexible than that set out in your letter.

6. The following proposals are therefore made :-

(a) That a ceiling of personnel should be given to each Army. This can be roughly the same as that envisaged in your letter, (namely 1500 for EIGHTH ARMY), provided that the BANDA MAIELLA and 'F' FORCE, who already have establishments, do not count against this ceiling. If it is ruled that they shall count, then the ceiling should be raised from 1500 to 2500 to allow for the induction of further patriot units, who will be met as the advance proceeds.

(b) That a ceiling of equipment for use by patriots when inducted should be given to each Army. A suggested ceiling is shown at Appendix "A".

...../2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

(c) That within these ceilings each Army should, at its discretion, be able to form independent units of the ITALIAN ARMY for use on its front. It should further be at the discretion of the Army either to place these units under command the Gruppi, or to employ them as independent units of the ITALIAN ARMY under command of other formations.

(d) That a small adm HQ of British Officers be formed to organise the equipping of Patriot Units as they are inducted into the ITALIAN ARMY. Suggested size of such an HQ is at Appendix "B".

7. This flexible system will have many advantages and is in accordance with practical experience. It is pointed out that whereas "F" RECCE and the BANDA MADELLA have been used as independent units under command British and Polish formations 28 GARIBALDI BDE is at present being used by the Army as an integral part of CREMONA GRUPPO.

Lieutenant-General,
GOC EIGHTH ARMY.

JCS/WAS

5356

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Appendix "A" to M 1202 G
dated 4 Mar 45

CEILING OF EQUIPMENT FOR PATRIOT UNITS

1. The following ceiling of equipment is based on a ceiling of Personnel of 1500. If this ceiling is altered, the equipment ceiling can be altered in proportion.

2. The suggested ceiling has been worked out roughly on the basic that the Patriot Units will most resemble in their organisation an ITALIAN Infantry Bn less its Support Coy. Experience has shown that Patriots can rapidly organise themselves into Rifle Coys. It is not considered, however, that, without considerable training (for which there is no time), they could master the weapons and equipment of the Support Coy. An increase of TMGs has been suggested on the advice of the BLU with CREMONA GRUPPO, and because Patriots have shown themselves adept with this weapon when on patrol.

3. CLOTHING AND NORMAL EQUIPMENT.

Equipment for three Infantry Bns on the same scale as contained in "Normal Equipment List for Italian Combat Troops" amended to conform with British Scales when necessary. (Authy AFHQ/6442/QAE of 18 Jan 45).

4. VEHICLES AND WEAPONS.

Motor Cycles	45
Cars 2 str 4 x 2	3
Cars 4 str 4 x 2	3
Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2	45
Trucks 15 cwt 4 x 2 Water	3
Lorries 3 ton 4 x 2 GS	24
Trailer 15 cwt, 2 whd Water 180 gal	3
Carriers Universal	9
Cars Lt Recce	9
Pistols	75
Rifles .303 in	1245
Carbines Machine Thompson, .45 in	480
Guns Machine Bren, .303 in	144
PsIAT	42
OML Morter 2 in	27

5. SIGNALS EQUIPMENT.

Equipment for 3 Bns as set out in "Scale for Infantry Bn for an Italian Combat Gp" as amended by Amendment No. 1 (SET. 136/1 of Sep 1944).

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Appendix "B" to M 1202 G
dated 4 Mar 45

BLU FOR EQUIPPING PATRIOT UNITS.

1. The following small BLU is suggested to carry out the equipping of Patriot Units as they are inducted into the ITALIAN ARMY. The BLU will also be responsible for replacing equipment for such Patriot Units as operate independently and not under command a Gruppo.

2. It is pointed out that neither PTLA nor the BLUs have sufficient staffs to carry out this equipping, and that owing to language difficulties it would be impracticable to expect any British HQ to carry it out without outside assistance.

3. PERSONNEL.

DAA & QMG	1
Staff Capt	1
Ord Capt	1
LOs	2
RQMS	1
Sjt Clerk	1
Clerks	4
Dvrs	4
	15

4. TRANSPORT.

15 cwt	1
Jeep	1
Utilities	2
	4

5304

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

1134

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Copy

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

22 February 1945

AG 091.711/083 GCT-O

SUBJECT : Italian Patriots

TO : President, Allied Commission
FOR: Land Forces Sub-Commission, MMIA

1. Reference is made to recent correspondence between Allied Commission, 15 Army Group, yourselves, and this headquarters on the subject of the disposal of the increasing numbers of Italian Patriots at present being encountered in the Army area.

2. A general policy is hereby established for the induction of Italian Patriots into the Italian Army as individuals to fill the 48,000 deficiency under the present ceiling.

3. In order, however, to make the most advantageous use of the fighting capabilities of the Patriots and with the object of preserving to the greatest possible extent the esprit - de - corps which is so outstanding a feature of the Patriot bands, the present organisation of the Italian Army will be adjusted to permit the formation of further combat forces in the form of Reconnaissance Companies to operate, one, with each of the five Italian Gruppi. It is suggested that these Reconnaissance Companies should have an approximate strength of 500, and should be formed of Patriots comprising their own bands under their own officers.

4. If, after operational experience of the Reconnaissance Companies formed under paragraph 3 above has been gained, it is considered desirable to form further units of a similar nature to operate with other Allied formations, the necessity for an increase in ceiling to cover the estimated future intake of Patriots will be reviewed.

5. The present Patriot bands fighting with the armies will not be disbanded but will continue to operate with their present formations, i.e. 'F' Recce Squadron with Fifth Army and BANDA PATRIOTA MAIELLA with Eighth Army.

6. In order to implement the policy outlined in paragraph 3, it is desired that your recommendations on the following points be submitted to this headquarters for consideration at the earliest possible date :-

(a) Proposed organisation, agreed by the Italian Ministry of War, into which the Reconnaissance Companies should be formed to operate most efficiently.

(b) A proposed WE for the Reconnaissance Companies and a suggested scale of equipment, having regard at the same time to existing shortages of British equipment.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER: (Sgd) C.W. CHRISTEMBERRY.

1135

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Translated by A.V.

FROM : HQ. AC. Patriots Branch
TO : DR. CRAGNANI Pasquale, Via Facella al Rettifilo 6, Napoli.
REF : 49/PAT.
DATE : 22 March 45.

81

You are informed that your letter has been forwarded to the Ministry of War for the necessary action.

A.P

Lt.Col. F. CRAIG,
Director, Patriots Branch.

/m.°g.

337

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 49/PAF. 22 March 1945.

Al : Dr. GRAGNANI Pasquale,
Via Facella al Rettifilo No 6,
NAPOLI.

Si comunica che la sua lettera e' stata trasmessa al Ministero della Guerra per il seguito di competenza.

A.P.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

AbV/mfg.

1137

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

97

Translated by A.V.

FROM: HQ. AC. PATRIOTS BRANCH
TO : MINISTRY OF WAR
REF : 49/PAT.
DATE: 22 March 45
SUBJECT : Dott. GRAGNANI Pasquale

86

The attached letter of Dr. GRAGNANI Pasquale applying for his call to the Colours is forwarded for the necessary action.

Lt.Col. F. CRAIG,
Director, Patriots Branch.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

8th

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 49/PAT. 22 March 1945.

Oggetto: Dr. GRAGNANI Pasquale.

Al : Ministero della Guerra, Roma.

8L

Si trasmette, per competenza, l'unita istanza del Dr. GRAGNANI Pasquale, intesa ad ottenere il suo richiamo alle armi.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Director,
Patriots branch.

AMCV/mfg.

5300

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

354

/49

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Tel: 735

Ref: 3207/69/EC

15 March 1945.

16 MAR. 1945

SUBJECT: Enrolment of Patriots.

TO : Civil Affairs Section.
Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA)

Int. 82

With reference to the copy of questionnaire which was enclosed with my letter 3207/55/EC dated 3 Mar 45, I have now received a reply to this questionnaire and enclose a copy for your information.

E Thorden
Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE
APO 394

The F.F.I. do not constitute, in themselves, a homogeneous group. They were formed from the parties of different " maquis" which remained voluntarily mobilized.

This party itself, although animated by an ardent desire to fight, was heterogeneous, taken from "maquis" who were not all animated by the same spirit.

Some, grouped under the command of active or reserve Officers, had done it out of pure patriotic ideal; others animated by an equal patriotic spirit, were grouped according to political affinities.

Among them, undesirable elements, in fact not very numerous, had inevitably infiltrated themselves but were gradually eliminated. These F.F.I. who did not join the Army, have been sent back home. It is not certain that they have surrendered all their arms.

I.- The F.F.I. units have been assigned, in regular formations, to the Atlantic front, as well as to the Army of General Delattre de Tassigny, or the Division of General Billotte. They remained under command of their F.F.I. Chiefs whenever those were confirmed in their ranks; nevertheless the Minister remains responsible for any transfer.

2.- An F.F.I. unit may be at the command of Army Officers whenever the transfers within the officers personnel leads an Officer of the Regular Army to assume its command, or when elementary units are included within tactical groupments under command of active service officers.

3.- Yes, in this way they have contracted an individual obligation. The State has not undertaken any commitment as to how-their units would be made up, this can be regarded as under the common law.

4.- They follow the common law. The "cadres" are sent to Officers Schools if necessary, or given courses.

5.- None

6.- Those who did not enlist for the duration of the war had to give in their arms.

7.- There have been in the F.F.I. undesirable elements either from the point of view of common law, or as regards their "patriotic attitude"; people who joined the F.F.I. to redeem their past; they were referred to Common Tribunals.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

8.- The Patriots have been dressed and fed by their proper means (purchases, spoils of war, compulsory confiscation of existing stocks, requisitions more of less summary) until the moment when the Military authorities attended to their needs.

9.- The Army has accepted all the applications which have been presented.

10.- They have an F.F.I. Identity Card which is replaced by the regular Army Identity Card after their enlistment.

11.- They have the benefit of Military pension laws and grants.

12. - They are looked after in military hospitals the same as members of the Regular Army.

13. - Yes, after confirmation of their ranks. They may be reduced a lower rank than they held in the insurrectional period.

14. - Yes.

15.- Those F.F.I. who have not joined the Army went back to their homes without any other advantage than a demobilization bonus.

16.- The C.L.L. under the provisions of the Ordnance of Algiers which delt with them, had only the object of assuring municipal life between the liberation and the moment when the Municipal councils of pre-1939 would have been epurated.

As soon as the Municipal Councils started again, the C.L.L. were supposed to cease to function. This ordinance has not been fulfilled and the C.L.L. still continue to administrate the country.

17.- About 100.000./.

[redacted]
AFO 394

[redacted]

AG/Pat.

4 March 1945

SUBJECT: Patriots - Induction and Processing.

TO: Chief of Staff.

83

1. In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter dated 2 Mar 45, Reference 3207/58/AG, there are set out below the present arrangements which are being carried out to meet the points that you raise.

2. Patriot Centers have been set up, one with each of 5th and 8th Armies and one in Florence. The purpose of these centers is to carry out as far as possible the documentation, rehabilitation, and dispersal of Patriots. With each of these centers there is an Italian Army screening agency (15 All ranks) allotted by A.M.G.I.S. and an Italian Representative of the Ministry of Occupied Territory. The latter has the duty of assisting the U.S. officers posted to these centers in reclothing and finding employment for those Patriots who have no homes to return to. Some are found employment with the Allied Armies as labour gangs and some are being utilized by the Armies in operational roles. (These are only in the Patriot centers during the times they are at rest). The screening agencies enrol Patriot volunteers to be absorbed into the Italian Army as individuals or in groups, as in the case of the Recce Battalions (see Para 3). While in some cases parties of Patriots have been sent down the line to reinforcement centers for training, A.M.G.I.S. are unable to give a guarantee that they will be kept in their formed bodies, although every endeavour is made to keep friends together. This principle has been agreed by the Italian Ministry of War.

3. To regularize the position of those groups which are used in the lines operationally it has been recommended by A.M.G.I.S. to A.F.H.Q. that they be formed into reconnaissance battalions and allotted to the five Combat Groups. A meeting was held on 2nd Feb to discuss this proposition. It has been agreed by A.F.H.Q. in principle and the war establishment is before that Headquarters for approval before final implementation is authorized. (A copy of the establishment is attached at Appendix "A").

4. With regard to the length of time that a Patriot remains in the camps prior to his formal induction into the Italian Army, this can be estimated at approximately fourteen days but it is very largely dependent on the availability of transport to carry the recruits to their destination. It is well appreciated that quick handling of those volunteering for the Army is important and wherever possible and circumstances allow the men are moved more quickly. Those groups that are being used operationally only remain in the camps for such time as they are at rest, which, of course, depends entirely on the instructions of the operational commander.

5296

5. There are no other proposals for absorbing Patriots as formed bands into the Italian Army, although A.F.H.Q. has stated that if the five Recce Battalions prove successful and if operations warrant, they will be prepared to apply to Combined Chiefs of Staff for an increase in the Italian [illegible]

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

as possible the documentation, rehabilitation, and dispersal of Patriots.

With each of these centers there is an Italian Army screening agency (35 all ranks) allotted by A.M.G.O. and an Italian representative of the Ministry of Occupied Territory. The latter has the duty of assisting the A.M.G. officers posted to these centers in reclothing and finding employment for those Patriots who have no homes to return to. Some are found employment with the Allied Forces as labour gangs and some are being utilised by the Armies in operational roles. (These are only in the Patriot centers during the times they are at rest). The screening agencies assist Patriot volunteers to be absorbed into the Italian Army as individuals or in groups, as in the case of the Legge Battalions (see Para 3). While in some cases parties of Patriots have been sent down the line to reinforcement centers for training, A.M.G.O. are unable to give a guarantee that they will be kept in their formed bodies, although every endeavour is made to keep friends together. This principle has been agreed by the Italian Ministry of War.

3. To regularise the position of those groups which are used in the lines operationally it has been recommended by A.M.G.O. to A.F.H.Q. that they be formed into reconnaissance battalions and allotted to the five Corps Groups. A meeting was held on 20 Feb to discuss this proposition. It has been agreed by A.F.H.Q. in principle and the war establishment is before that Headquarters for approval before final implementation is authorised. (A copy of the establishment is attached at Appendix "A").

4. With regard to the length of time that a Patriot remains in the camps prior to his formal induction into the Italian Army, this can be estimated at approximately fourteen days but it is very largely dependent on the availability of transport to carry the recruits to their destination. It is well appreciated that quick handling of those volunteering for the Army is important and wherever possible and circumstances allow the men are moved more quickly. Those groups that are being used operationally only remain in the camps for such time as they are at rest, which, of course, depends entirely on the fluctuations of the operational situation.

5296

5. There are no other proposals for absorbing Patriots as formed bands into the Italian Army, although A.F.H.Q. has stated that if the five Legge Battalions prove successful and if operations warrant, they will be prepared to apply to Combined Chiefs of Staff for an increase in the Italian Army ceiling in order that similar Legge Battalions may be formed and allotted to Allied Divisions.

6. With regard to the future, on entering northwest Italy the overriding principle will be to disperse Patriots as soon as it is possible by absorption into the normal civil population but if they are willing to volunteer into the Italian Army as soldiers they will be accepted, subject, of course, to the final ceiling allowing of further numbers being recruited.

[signature]

W. M. [illegible], Brig.
VP Ch Section.

Copy to: Land Forces Sub-Commission.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

191

Tel Ext 341

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

LWS/el

Ref. 3207/52/AC

2 March 45

2 MAR 1945

SUBJECT: Patriots' Induction and Processing

TO : GOC, Land Forces Subcommission (MMIA)
VP, Civil Affairs Section

1. Your attention is invited to the attached copy of a memorandum -- and in particular to the last sentence thereof -- from the Acting President, Mr. Harold Macmillan, on the subject of Patriots.

2. Will you please prepare for this office a memorandum showing the following:

a. The current average length of stay in Patriot camps: that is, the time that elapses between the Patriot's arrival at a camp and his formal induction into an official military or other recognised unit.

b. The status of action as outlined in your minutes of the meeting held at MMIA on 26 February and convened to discuss the proposed organization, etc., of Patriot RECCE units.

c. Any other proposed or active measures that are being taken to officially absorb Patriots into controlled groups.

3. May this matter please be treated with the utmost urgency?

For Chief Staff Officer
to Executive Commissioner

F.W. Stewart Maj

To : Patriots

W. A.S Dollard, Major
C. A Sec
2 Mar '45

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

191

Tel Ext 341

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

LWS/el

Ref. 3207/52/AC

2 March 45

-2 MAR 1945

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b. The status of action as outlined in your minutes of the meeting held at MMIA on 26 February and convened to discuss the proposed organization, etc., of Patriot RECCE units.

c. Any other proposed or active measures that are being taken to officially absorb Patriots into controlled groups.

3. May this matter please be treated with the utmost urgency?

To : Patriots

W. A. S Dollard, Major
C. A. Sec

2 Mer 45

L. W. Stewart
for Chief Staff Officer
to Executive Commissioner

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY

1st March, 1945

Chief Commissioner.
(Copy to Executive Commissioner).

I learn that last month Count Carandini, when calling at the British Foreign Office, declared that patriots were not absorbed into the Italian army, but put into concentration camps where they remained for a considerable time. Only a few had been taken out of the camps and put into the Army, and these men had been scattered over various units. These men constituted a valuable element and if they could be kept in their units, they would be a useful fighting force, whereas in concentration camps they lost their morale and might ultimately prove a source of difficulty.

Of course I know that this is out of date now and that it is to be the policy to introduce patriots into the Italian army to fill as far as possible the 42,000 existing vacancies under the present ceiling, and to form reconnaissance companies of a strength of 500 each from patriot bands, but Count Carandini hits the nail on the head in stressing the value of getting the patriots through the camps as quickly as possible. I should be glad to know what arrangements are now being made to this end, in order that I may report them to the Foreign Office.

Harold Macmillan

5294

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

221

5 MAR Recd/49

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Tel: 735

Ref: 3207/55/HC

3 March 1945

SUBJECT: Enrolment of Patriots.

TO : Civil Affairs Section
Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA)

1. Attached hereto is copy of the questionnaire which was handed to a French Liaison Officer before his departure for France in order to obtain answers from the appropriate representative of the French Government.

2. The Liaison Officer has not yet returned with the answers, but from the French Representative to Allied Commission we have received the attached copy of letter dated 24 February 1945, with its enclosure, which, whilst not constituting a direct answer to the questionnaire, does have some bearing upon it.

E Thorden
Chief Staff Officer,
for Executive Commissioner.

Encl:
As above

To: Patriots

W.G.S. Dolland, Maje
CA Sec
4 March '45

See F66

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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49/

81

FOR ACTION AMG EMILIA REGION

2850 3 March 1945 PRIORITY

IN CLEAR PD

81

PARA ONE PD REFERENCE YOUR EASY SLANT ONE FOUR TWO OF THIRD MARCH PD

PAR H TO FOR ACTION AMG EMILIA REGION FROM HQ AFCOM CITE ACPAT PAREN

PARA TWO PD MAJOR BOND SHOULD REPORT THIS BRANCH FIFTH MARCH

Patriots Branch

321 D.P

Lt.Col. F. CRAIG.

5292

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

105

3 MAR Recd

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

807

PATRIOTS

Originator's Reference: B/142

Date Time of Origin: MAR

Message Centre No: D/3969

Date Time Rec'd: MAR 030915A

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: ALG EMILIA REGION

TO : HQ AFHQ

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED.

76

Reference your letter A9/PAT dated 28 February 45 cite ACPAT Major R C BOND nominated Patriots Officer this Region. If required to report by 5 March 45 please signal instructions.

DIST

ACTION: Patriots Br
INFO: A/President
Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
File 2
Float

ACTION

Sec 27

Reply

Major Bond should report to Br Branch on 5 Mar.

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
FORCES

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Mice of the French Representati..
APO 394

Rome, February 24th 1945
JN/SM

TO : OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

SUBJECT: Enrolment of Patriots.

In reference to your letter February 8th No.3207/003 this Office has requested the proper authorities in Paris to answer the questionnaire dealing with enrolment of Patriots known in France as F.F.I. (Forces Francaises de l'Interieur).

While no answer could yet be expected from France at this early time, this Office has endeavoured to make some researches in the official files of the French Embassy as well as questioning some officers just recently back from France.

This result of this work is forwarded to you for your information pending the official answer from Paris.

P/I. Jehan de Hous, Lt
Assistant.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the French Representatives
APO 394

Rome, February 24, 1945

ENROLMENT OF FRENCH PATRIOTS

Forces Francaises de l'Interieur

French Government's Decrees.

I. - DECREE OF SEPTEMBER 19th, 1944.

1) The F.F.I. are considered as part of the French Army and, thus, submitted to the general rules of the military organisation and discipline. They are under the Minister of War's sole authority. The F.F.I. units, when in operations, are made up in detachments which, during these operations, are under a command appointed by the President of the Government, Chief of the Army. The other units, which are not in operations, are, within each military district, under the orders of the military Commander of the District.

2) The present F.F.I. Units will be immediately regrouped either into Infantry march Battalions or, as far as possible, into equivalent units in the other services and arms. The present F.F.I. Officers will become the basic Officers of those Units.

3) As soon as they are trained and equiped, the Units thus constituted will be:

a) either assigned, in keeping their actual formation, to the existing large units;
b) or made up as new large units.

5289

II. - DECREE OF SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1944.

1) Any man who has been voluntarily fighting the enemy, and thus accomplished, during the fight for liberation, acts of war, either with fighting units or with special services, belongs to the F.F.I.

(204)

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

2) The fact of belonging to the F.F.I. is checked by a military authority appointed by the Minister of War. Each man concerned will be given a certification mentioning the date at which he joined the F.F.I. as well as relating the actions in which he took part.

3) As soon as any part of the territory is liberated, no further recruiting for the F.F.I. can be made in that area.

4) Members of F.F.I. while in service can enlist voluntarily for the duration of the War. If not, they are sent back home on temporary leave up to the time when their class will be called up.

5) From the day when they join the Army, members of the F.F.I. are granted the benefit of all rights and advantages given to all members of the Army whether regular or reserve, as regards ranks, promotion, invalidity allowances, decorations and honors.

On a certain date, fixed by a ministerial decision for each formation, the men's pay an F.F.I. will be replaced by the normal pay and this without any right to restoration or readjustment of pay. The so-called assimilated ranks give the right to an equivalent pay.

6) The assimilated ranks in the F.F.I. are registered by decision of the Minister of War who takes into consideration the commands actually assumed and the services given in the fight for liberation.

7) Further dispositions will deal with the admission within active service of those who got an F.F.I. assimilated rank as well as of their promotion in the reserve.

The wounded F.F.I. are taken care of in military hospitals, ambulances and dispensaries in the same manner as regular army soldiers. It is difficult to find out how many F.F.I. have been absorbed by the Regular French Army:

a) a certain number of Independent F.F.I. Battalions are still in the vicinity of the Atlantic ports, still occupied by the Germans, and are part of the French Forces of the West, under command of General de Larminat.

b) some new large units (Infantry Divisions) have been made up mostly with F.F.I. taken either individually or in small groups formed on completion of their training.

5288

The number of those Divisions was, in October 1944, of 4 and later on increased to 10. However, at the present time, with the call up of the classes in France, it is more and more difficult to discriminate them.

c) General Delattre de Tassigny's Army has absorbed, from August to October 1944 approximately 40,000 F.F.I. men, keeping them in units (companies or battalions) which were associated with regular formations in each Division.

In conclusion, it is possible to estimate the number of F.F.I. who were kept in service to 200,000 men. There is no ceiling and the number is only restricted by the amount of arms and equipments which can be furnished by the Allies.

/.....

1153

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

The local Committees of Liberation are still functioning and retain their authority as long as elections have not taken place and municipal councils have not been elected.

QUESTIONNAIRE ON PATRIOTS FOR THE FRENCH
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ALLIED COMMISSION

1. Do the French enrol the Maquis in companies under Maquis officers ?

2. Do they enrol them in Maquis companies under regular army officers ?

3. Do they disregard Maquis companies and absorb them into the French Army recruiting them individually into the existing establishment ?

4. Do they recruit them into the existing establishment but earmark them as specially trained men ?

5. Do the Maquis have any special privileges ?

6. Are the Maquis disarmed when they arrive in liberated territory and if so how is this done ?

7. Are there Patriot Screening agencies to deal with volunteers and to differentiate between the real Patriot and those who have joined at the last moment to acquire preferential treatment ?

8. Is the clothing and feeding of Patriots a civilian or a military responsibility during the interim period before they are either recruited into the regular army or sent home as civilians ?

9. Does the French Army accept Patriot volunteers in large numbers or is there a fixed ceiling ?

10. Do Patriots carry any recognized identity documents which distinguish them from other armed bodies ?

11. What do the French authorities do with regard to the families or fallen Patriots ?

12. How are wounded Patriots treated ?

13. Are Maquis officers granted immediate Commissions ?

14. Are members of the Maquis paid ?

15. If Maquis are not absorbed into the French Army are any arrangements made for giving them employment ? If not, how are they disposed of ?

16. Is recognition given to the equivalent of C.L.N. ?

17. How many Maquis have been enrolled in the French Army ?

5291

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

26

Patriot - Brauch 44

SECRET

Subject: Italian Patriots

Land Forces Sub Com AC
(M.M.I.A.).

File No SD/25

1 March 45

A.F.H.Q. (3)

Copy to: G-3(Org) 15 Army Group. 68

Reference para 6 of your AG 091.711/083 GCT-O of 22 February 45.

1. Attached at Appendix "A" is copy of minutes of meeting held at HQ MMLA on 26 Feb with War Ministry representatives to discuss the implementation of your proposal to incorporate five Patriot Recce Bns into the ceiling of the Italian Army.

2. Attached at Appendix"B" is formal proposal for WE of units in suitable form for consideration of your War Establishment Committee should you desire. Each unit is organised into Bn HQ, a small HQ Coy which includes a signal detachment, and four rifle Coys, each of three platoons. The chief points of interest in the War Establishment are as follows :-

(a) simplicity
(b) Tpt has been kept to a minimum
(c) No weapons heavier than personal weapons have been included.
(d) War Ministry desire that unit 2nd i/c shall be a "regular" soldier. This is thoroughly supported.
(e) WT sets have NOT been included owing to difficulty of :-

(i) replacements including replacement of batteries and other spare parts. 5286

(ii) difficulty of training specialist operators etc. It is considered that communication between Combat Group and Recce Bn would be by WT provided by Combat Group, but communication between Recce Bn HQ and forward coys would be by :-
Flag
Helio
DR and/or runner.

1155
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

A.F.H.Q. (3)

Copy to: G-3(Org) 15 Army Group.

68

Reference para 6 of your AG 091.711/083 GOT-O of 22 February 45.

1. Attached at Appendix "A" is copy of minutes of meeting held at HQ MMIA on 26 Feb with War Ministry representatives to discuss the implementation of your proposal to incorporate five Patriot Recce Bns into the ceiling of the Italian Army.

2. Attached at Appendix "B" is formal proposal for WE of units in suitable form for consideration of your War Establishment Committee should you desire. Each unit is organised into Bn HQ, a small HQ Coy which includes a signal detachment, and four rifle Coys, each of three platoons. The chief points of interest in the War Establishment are as follows :-

(a) simplicity
(b) Tpt has been kept to a minimum
(c) No weapons heavier than personal weapons have been included.
(d) War Ministry desire that unit 2nd i/c shall be a "regular" soldier. This is thoroughly supported.
(e) WT sets have NOT been included owing to difficulty of :-

(i) replacements including replacement of batteries and other spare parts.

5286

(ii) difficulty of training specialist operators etc. It is considered that communication between Combat Group and Recce Bn would be by WT provided by Combat Group, but communication between Recce Bn HQ and forward coys would be by :-
Flag
Helio
DR and/or runner.

(f) No bicycles have been included as these are not normally included on a WE. Possibly 2 per coy may be necessary, but his will be examined in conjunction with other G.1098 proposals.

(g) No mules have been included as these are not included on a WE. It is felt however that four mules per Coy (total sixteen per unit) might very profitably be allotted from forward holdings.

Cont'd sheet 2/.....

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3. Reference para 4(k) attached minutes, it is recommended that no reinforcement holdings are allowed surplus to WE. If a unit falls below strength it may or may not pick up reinforcements locally; but if an authorised holding unit of say 10% had to be maintained in rear of Combat Group Areas it would mean that ardent recruiting from patriots already sent home would take place. These latter will have been, so to speak, disposed of. We do not want to have them back. We want to fill wastage in WE with those who are at large with arms in their hands thus bringing them under control, reducing their potential menace and " taking the heat out of the patriot problem.

4. Will 15 Army Group please comment to AFHQ on this matter.

J Bowring

Major General
M.M.I.A.

DISTRIBUTION.

Patriot Branch AC
A
Q
Spec Sec
S & P
} less Appendix "A"

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1158

SECRET

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, A.C. (MMIA)

SD / 26

28 Feb 45

MINUTES OF MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED ORGANISATION ETC OF PATRIOT RECCE UNITS HELD AT HQ M.M.I.A. ON 26 FEB 45

1. PRESENT

Lt-Col	Ingledew	MMIA Chairman
Col	Kerr	MMIA
Col	Pidsley	MMIA
Col	Noakes	MMIA
Major	Baumann	MMIA
Capt	Selby	MMIA
Major	Calabrini	MMIA
Lt-Col	Craig	Patriot Branch, A.C.
Lt-Col	Sampo	S.M.P.E.
Lt-Col	Grati	S.M.P.E.
Lt-Col	D'Agata	S.M.P.E.
Major	Holt	MMIA Secretary

2. OBJECT

It was explained that the object of the meeting was to discuss the method of implementation of AFHQs proposal to incorporate five Patriot bands approx 500 all ranks into the Italian Army as Recce Units on the basis initially of one per Combat Group.

3. ROLE

It was stated that the role of these units would be:

(a) close reconnaissance
(b) light patrol work
(c) liaison with partisans & civilians
(d) occupation of positions abandoned by enemy, etc.
(e) guides
(f) Minor demolitions

5285

4. AGREED ACTION

Action

The following action was agreed:-

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1. PRESENT

Lt-Col	Ingledew	MMIA Chairman
Col	Kerr	MMIA
Col	Ridsley	MMIA
Col	Noakes	MMIA
Major	Baumann	MMIA
Capt	Selby	MMIA
Major	Celabrini	MMIA
Lt-Col	Craig	Patriot Branch, A.C.
Lt-Col	Sampo	S.M.R.E.
Lt-Col	Greti	S.M.R.E.
Lt-Col	D'Angata	S.M.R.E.
Major	Holt	MMIA Secretary

2. OBJECT

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It was stated that the role of these units would be:

(a) close reconnaissance
(b) light patrol work
(c) liaison with partisans/civilians
(d) occupation of positions abandoned by enemy, etc.
(e) guides
(f) Minor demolitions

5285

4. AGREED ACTION

Action

The following action was agreed:-

(a) GMMM would submit detailed WE of unit (to be called Recce Bns) based on:

(i) Approx four inf coys, cc-ord Bn HQ and small sig det
(ii) personal arms and equipment only (NO mortars or LMGs)
(iii) one or two vehs per coy only, but proportion of m/cs and bicycles to be incl

S.M.R.E.

(b) No training would be given other than by Combat Gps themselves.

(c) Personnel would be enrolled into the Italian Army on the same basis as any other member of the Army, i.e. liable to Army discipline and liable to be sent where required.

S.M.R.E.

2070

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

		Action
(d)	To accept S.M.R.Es plan for temporary commissioning of officers and temporary promotion of same.	
(e)	MMIA would signal 15 Army Group asking for nomination of five existing patriot bands (incl names of leaders and locations of units) suitable for incorporation into Army.	M.M.I.A.
(f)	S.M.R.E. would withdraw five screening agencies from ceiling authorised which, when briefed by Ministry of War, would be sent to screen and organise the selected bands. Dol T (FIGUEIRE) would handle the detailed enrolment on behalf of Ministry of War.	S.M.R.E.
(g)	Recce Bns would be numbered and would NOT be known after their leaders who were liable to change or be killed. S.M.R.E. to submit.	S.M.R.E.
(h)	Equipment and clothing would be sent to Combat Groups.	M.M.I.A.
(i)	Badges and/or headgear. S.M.R.E. would submit recommendations.	S.M.R.E.
(j)	Pay would be as for Combat Groups.	S.M.R.E.
(k)	PWs would NOT be forwarded from CMSANO. The method of recruiting locally was discussed but MMIA would consult with Allied authority and advise Ministry of War.	M.M.I.A.

fs

DISTRIBUTION:

G-3(Org) A.F.H.Q.
G-3(Org) HQ 15 Army Group
Executive Commissioner A.C.
Patriot Branch, A.C.
M.A. to G.C.C.
2 i/c
A
Q

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(g) Recce Bns would be numbered and would not be... their leaders who were liable to change or be killed. S.M.R.E. to submit.

(h) Equipment and clothing would be sent to Combat Groups. M.M.I.A.

(i) Badges and/or headgear. S.M.R.E. would submit recommendations. S.M.R.E.

(j) Pay would be as for Combat Groups. M.M.I.A.

(k) Kits would NOT be forwarded from CMRANO. The method of recruiting locally was discussed but MMIA would consult with Allied authority and advise Ministry of War.

[signature]

fd

DISTRIBUTION:

G-3(Org) A.F.H.Q.
G-3(Org) HQ 15 Army Group
Executive Commissioner A.C.
Patriot Branch, A.C.
M.A. to G.C.C.
2 i/c
A
Q
Spec Sec

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Appendix "B" to MMIA letter
SD/26 dated / March 45

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

Subject: WE - Italian Recce Bn

Land Forces Sub Com AC
(M.M.I.A.).

FILE No SD/26(a)

/ March 45

AFHQ G-3 Org (For) (7 copies)

1. THE PROPOSAL

(a) Italian Recce Battalion

(b) New WE draft of which is attached

(c) Nil

2. EFFECT OF PROPOSAL

(a) Overall increase of 30 Italian Officers
470 Italian ORs
12 Vehicles (Br)
17 M/Cs (Br)

(b) Not applicable

(c) It is proposed to form five such units initially

(d) Overall increase

(e) Nil

(f) All Category A

(g) Yes, see para 3(a) below

3. REASONS FOR PROPOSAL

(a) In order to implement AFHQ's proposal to incorporate Patriot Bands as Recce Bns into the Italian Army vide para 6 of AFHQ letter AG 091.711/083 GCT-O of 22 Feb 5284

(b) See also MMIA covering letter forwarding this proposal reference SD/26 of 1 March 45.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1 March 45

AFHQ G-3 Org (For) (7 copies)

1. THE PROPOSAL

(a) Italian Recce Battalion

(b) New TO draft of which is attached

(c) Nil

2. EFFECT OF PROPOSAL

(a) Overall increase of 30 Italian Officers
470 Italian ORs
12 Vehicles (Dr)
17 M/Cs (Br)

(b) Not applicable

(c) It is proposed to form five such units initially

(d) Overall increase

(e) Nil

(f) All Category A

(g) Yes, see para 3(a) below

3. REASONS FOR PROPOSAL

(a) In order to implement AFHQ's proposal to incorporate Patriot Bands as Recce Bns into the Italian Army vide para 6 of AFHQ letter AG 091.711/083 GOT-O of 22 Feb 5284

(b) See also MMIA covering letter forwarding this proposal reference SD/26 of 1 March 45.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: AFHQ G-3 (Org)2 (Manpower)
AFHQ G-3 (Org)4

2078

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Appx "B" to MMIA letter
SD/26 dated / March 45

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

Subject: WE - Italian Recce Bn

Land Forces Sub Com AG
(M.M.I.A.).

FILE No SD/26(a)

/ March 45

AFHQ G-3 Org (Fpr) (7 copies)

1. THE PROPOSAL

(a) Italian Recce Battalion

(b) New WE draft of which is attached

(c) Nil

2. EFFECT OF PROPOSAL

(a) Overall increase of 30 Italian Officers
470 Italian ORs
12 Vehicles (Br)
17 M/Cs (Br)

(b) Not applicable

(c) It is proposed to form five such units initially

(d) Overall increase

(e) Nil

(f) All Category A

(g) Yes, see para 3(a) below

3. REASONS FOR PROPOSAL

(a) In order to implement AFHQ's proposal to incorporate Patriot Bands as Recce Bns into the Italian Army vide para 6 of AFHQ letter AG 091.711/083 GCT-O of 22 Feb

(b) See also MMIA covering letter forwarding this proposal reference SD/26 of 1 March 45.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFHQ G-3 Org (For) (7 copies)

1. THE PROPOSAL

(a) Italian Recce Battalion

(b) New WE draft of which is attached

(c) Nil

2. EFFECT OF PROPOSAL

(a) Overall increase of 30 Italian Officers
470 Italian ORs
12 Vehicles (Br)
17 W/Cs (Br)

(b) Not applicable

(c) It is proposed to form five such units initially

(d) Overall increase

(e) Nil

(f) All Category A

(g) Yes, see para 3(a) below

3. REASONS FOR PROPOSAL

(a) In order to implement AFHQ's proposal to incorporate Patriot Bands as Recce Bns into the Italian Army vide para 6 of AFHQ letter AG 091.711/083 GOT-O of 22 Feb 5283

(b) See also MMIA covering letter forwarding this proposal reference SD/26 of 1 March 45.

Major General
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: AFHQ G-3 (Org)2 (Manpower)
AFHQ G-3 (Org)4

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CM/ /

A RECCE BN
(Un Battaglione Esplorante)

(Italian Personnel)

(PROPOSED) W.E. (Organico di Guerra)

Offrs (Uff)	30
ORs (Sottuff e Truppa)	470
Total (Totale)	500
M.C. (Motocicli)	17
Vehs (Veicoli)	12

Sor. No. (Numero progressivo)	DETAIL (Descrizione)	Bn HQ (Comando del battaglione)	Coy HQ (Comando della compagnia)	HQ COY (Compagnia Comando)			Four Recce Coy each (Quattro Compagnie esplaratori ciascuna)					Remarks (Osservazione)
				HQ Pl (Platone Comando)	Signals Platoon (Platone collegamenti)	Total HQ Coy (Total compagnia comando)	Coy HQ (Comando della compagnia)	HQ Pl (Platone Comando)	Three Recce Pl each (Tre plotone esploratori ciascuna)	Total Recce Coy (Totale compagnia esploratori)	Total Recce Bn (Totale battaglione esploratori	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
1	(i) PERSONNEL (Personale)											
1	O.C. (Lt Col or Maj) (Commandante (Ten Col o Magg.)	1									1	
2	2 i/c (Maj or Capt) (Vice Commandante (Magg or Cap)	1									1	
3	Adjt (Capt or Subaltern) (Aiutante maggiore (Cap o subalterno)	1									1	
4	I.O. (Subaltern) (Ufficiale informatore (Subalterno)	1									1	
5	Quartermaster (Subaltern) (Ufficiale addetto ai materiali e rifornimenti (Subalterno)	1									1	
6	Interpreter (Subaltern) (Interprete (Subalterno)	1									1	5282
7	M.O. (Subaltern)	1									1	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Ser. No. (Numero progressivo)	DETAIL (Descrizione)	Bn HQ (Comando del battaglione)	Coy HQ (Comando della compagnia Comando)	(Compagnia Comando)			each (Quattro Compagnie esplasatori ciascina)				Total Recce Bn (Totale battaglione esploratori)	Remarks (Osservazioni)
				HQ Pl (Plotone Comando)	Signals Platoon (Plotone collegamenti)	Total HQ Coy (Totale compagnia comando)	Coy HQ (Comando della compagnia)	HQ Pl (Plotone Comando)	Three Recce Pl each (Tre plotone esploratori ciascuno)	Total Recce Coy (Totale compagnia esploratori)		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
1	(i) PERSONNEL (Personale)											
1	O.C. (Lt Col or Maj) (Commandante (Ten Col o Magg.)	1									1	
2	2 i/c (Maj or Capt) (Vice Commandante (Magg or Cap)	1									1	
3	Adjt (Capt or Subaltern) (Aiutante maggiore (Cap o subalterno)	1									1	
4	I.O. (Subaltern) (Ufficiale informatore (Subalterno)	1									1	
5	Quartermaster (Subaltern) (Ufficiale addetto ai materiali e rifornimenti (Subalterno)	1									1	
6	Interpreter (Subaltern) (Interprete (Subalterno)	1									1	5282
7	M.O. (Subaltern) (Ufficiale medico (Subalterno)	1									1	
8	Captains (Capitani)		1			1	1			1	5	
9	Subalterns (Subalterni)			1	1	2		1	1	4	18	
10	Warrant Officer (Maresciallo)			1							1	
11	NCOs (Sottufficiale)			10	3	13		2	3	11	57	
12	ORs (Truppa)			34	26	60		16	24	88	412	
13	Total All Ranks (Totale personale)	7	1	46	30	76	1	19	28	104	509	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

A RECCE BN (Cont'd)

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(j)	(k)	(l)	(m)	(n)
	(ii) Weapons (Armi)											
14	Revolvers (Pistole)	7	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	5	30	
15	Rifles (Fucili)			33	22	55		11		11	99	
16	SMGs (Moschetti an Automatici)			12	7	19		7	27	88	371	
17	Pistols, Signal (Pistole da Segnolaza)				9	9					9	
	(iii) TRANSPORT (Mezzi di trasporto)											
18	Motor cycles (Motocicli)			2	7	9		2		2	17	
19	Car 5 cwt 4 x 4 (Autovettura da esplorazione)			1		1					1	
20	Truck 8 cwt and 15 cwt (Autocarro leggeri)							1		1	4	
21	Truck 15 cwt Water (Autobotti)			1		1					1	
22	Lorry 30 cwt or 3 ton (Autocarri pesanti)			2		2		1		1	6	
	Total Vehs excl MCs (Totale veicoli escl motocicli)			4		4		2		2	12	

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

15	Rifles (Fucili)			33	22	55		11		11	99	
16	SMGs (Moschetti an Automatici)			12	7	19		7	27	88	371	
17	Pistols, Signal (Pistole da Segnalaze)				9	9					9	
	(iii) TRANSPORT (Mezzi di trasporto)											
18	Motor cycles (Motocicli)			2	7	9		2		2	17	
19	Car 5 cwt 4 x 4 (Autovettura da esplorazione)			1		1					1	
20	Truck 8 cwt and 15 cwt (Autocarro leggeri)							1		1	4	
21	Truck 15 cwt Water (Autobotti)			1		1					1	
22	Lorry 30 cwt or 3 ton (Autocarri pesanti)			2		2		1		1	6	
	Total Vehs excl MCs (Totale veicoli escl motocicli)			4		4		2		2	12	

WS

5281

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1170

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

192

SECRET

78

Tel Ext 341

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

LWB/ol

Ref. 3207/48/AG

1 March 45

2 MAR 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Patriots and Carabinieri

TO : Land Forces Subcommission (MMIA) and
Civil Affairs Section

789

1. Your attention is invited to attached copy of letter of Chief of Staff, AFHQ, on the subject of Italian Patriots and Carabinieri.

2. The Executive Commissioner requests that you submit your proposals in regard to paragraph 2 as soon as possible. Before these proposals are submitted it is presumed that the problem will be mutually discussed between Land Forces Subcommission (MMIA) and Civil Affairs Section.

J. W. Stewart Maj
Chief Staff Officer
To Executive Commissioner

TO: Patriots.

Please advise this section about the proposal in para 2 of the letter from the C.O.S. AFHQ.

W.G.S. Dorland, Major
C.A. Sec

2 March 1945

5280

SECRET

19

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY

SECRET

78A

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Chief of
Staff

SUBJECT: Italian Patriots and Carabinieri 20 February 1945

MEMO TO: Chief Commissioner, Headquarters, ALLIED COMMISSION

Reference ismade to your 3207/12/COS dated 16 January 1945.

1. The question of the disposal of the increasing numbers of Italian Patriots now being encountered in the Army area having been reviewed, a general policy is hereby established for the induction of Italian Patriots into the Italian Army as individuals to fill the current deficiency of approximately 48,000 under the present ceiling.

2. With the object, however, of making the most advantageous use of the fighting capabilities of the Patriots, the Land Forces Subcommission have been requested to submit recommendations to this Headquarters on a proposed organization for the formation of Reconnaissance Companies (comprising Patriots in their own bands), to operate with the existing five Italian Gruppi. The present patriot bands fighting with the Armies will continue to operate with their present formations.

3. Your request to raise the ceiling of 540 Italian Army by an addition of up to 100,000 cannot at this stage be entertained. If, however, after operational experience of the Reconnaissance Companies has been obtained, it is considered desirable to form further units of a similar nature to operate with other Allied formations, the necessity for an increase in ceiling to cover the estimated future intake of Patriots will be reviewed.

4. The present Carabinieri ceiling of 55,000 being now full, approval is being sought from the Combined Chiefs of Staff for a further increase to 65,000. Pending receipt of this approval, recruitment beyond the present figure of 55,000 cannot be authorized.

By command of Field Marshal ALEXANDER:

/s/ John Harding, Lt Gen.
/t/ JOHN L. Harding,
Lieutenant General,
Chief of Staff

DMR/mmc

5279

1969

SECRET

188

2 MAR Recd

S E C R E T

LAND FORCES SUB-COM, M.C. (MMIA)

SD / 26

69 28 Feb 45

MINUTES OF MEETING TO DISCUSS PROPOSED ORGANISATION ETC OF PATRIOT RECCE UNITS HELD AT HQ M.M.I.A. ON 26 FEB 45

1. PRESENT

Lt-Col	Ingledew	MMIA Chairman
Col	Kerr	MMIA
Col	Pidsley	MMIA
Col	Noakes	MMIA
Major	Baumann	MMIA
Capt	Selby	MMIA
Major	Calabrini	MMIA
Lt-Col	Craig	Patriot Branch, A.C.
Lt-Col	Sampo	S.M.R.U.
Lt-Col	Grati	S.M.R.U.
Lt-Col	D'Agata	S.M.R.U.
Major	Holt	MMIA Secretary

2. OBJECT

68

It was explained that the object of the meeting was to discuss the method of implementation of AFHQ proposal to incorporate five Patriot bands approx 500 all ranks into the Italian Army as Recce Units on the basis initially of one per Combat Group.

3. ROLE

It was stated that the role of these units would be:

(a) close reconnaissance
(b) light patrol work
(c) liaison with partisans civilians
(d) occupation of positions abandoned by enemy, etc.
(e) guides
(f) Minor demolitions

5278

4. AGREED ACTION

Action

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HELD AT HQ M.M.I.A. ON 28 FEB 45

1. PRESENT

Lt-Col	Ingleder	MMIA Chairman
Col	Kerr	MMIA
Col	Pidsley	MMIA
Col	Noakes	MMIA
Major	Baumann	MMIA
Capt	Selby	MMIA
Major	Colabrini	MMIA
Lt-Col	Craig	Patriot Branch, A.C.
Lt-Col	Sampo	S.M.R.E.
Lt-Col	Grati	S.M.R.E.
Lt-Col	Filipeta	S.M.R.E.
Major	Holt	MMIA Secretary

2. OBJECT

68

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5278

4. AGREED ACTION

Action

The following action was agreed:-

(a) S&SE would submit detailed ME of unit (to be called Recce Bns) based on: — S.M.R.E.

(i) Approx four inf coys, cc-ord Bn HQ and small sig det
(ii) personal arms and equipment only (NO mortars or LMGs)
(iii) one or two vehs per coy only, but proportion of m/cs and bicycles to be incl

(b) No training would be given other than by Combat Cos themselves.

(c) Personnel would be enrolled into the Italian Army on the same basis as any other member of the Army, i.e. liable to Army discipline and liable to be sent where required. — S.M.R.E.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

		Action
(d)	To accept S.M.R.E.s plan for temporary commissioning of officers and temporary promotion of same.	
(e)	MMIA would signal 15 Army Group asking for nomination of five existing patriot bands (incl names of leaders and locations of units) suitable for incorporation into Army.	M.M.I.A.
(f)	S.M.R.E. would withdraw five screening agencies from ceiling authorised which, when briefed by Ministry of War, would be sent to screen and organise the selected bands. Del T (FLORENCE) would handle the detailed enrolment on behalf of Ministry of War.	S.M.R.E.
(g)	Recce Bns would be numbered and would NOT be known after their leaders who were liable to change or be killed. S.M.R.E. to submit.	S.M.R.E.
(h)	Equipment and clothing would be sent to Combat Groups.	M.M.I.A.
(i)	Badges of /or headgear. S.M.R.E. would submit recommendations.	S.M.R.E.
(j)	Pay would be as for Combat Groups.	S.M.R.E.
(k)	Rifts would NOT be forwarded from CESANO. The method of recruiting locally was discussed but MMIA would consult with Allied authority and advise Ministry of War.	M.M.I.A.

fd

DISTRIBUTION:

G-3(Org) A.F.H.Q.
G-3(Org) HQ 15 Army Group
Executive Commissioner A.C.
Patriot Branch, A.C.

5277

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Dol 2 (FLORENCE) would handle the detailed enrolment on behalf of Ministry of War.

(g) Recce Lns would be numbered and would NOT be known after their leaders who were liable to change or be killed. S.M.R.E. to submit. — S.M.R.E.

(h) Equipment and clothing would be sent to Combat Groups. — M.M.I.A.

(i) Badges and/or headgear. S.M.R.E. would submit recommendations. — S.M.R.E.

(j) Pay would be as for Combat Groups. — S.M.R.E.

(k) Rfts would NOT be forwarded from CMSANO. The method of recruiting locally was discussed but MMIA would consult with Allied Authority and advise Ministry of War. — M.M.I.A.

fd

DISTRIBUTION:

G-3(Org) A.F.H.Q.
G-3(Org) HQ 15 Army Group
Executive Commissioner A.C.
Patriot Branch, A.C.
M.A. to G.C.C.
2 i/c
A
Q
Spec Sec

5277

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1176

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

SECRET

Ref : 49/PAT.

23 February 1945.

Subject: Regional Patriot Officer.

To : V.C. Veronese Region

: V.C. Emilia Region. ✓

Copy to 94/1

1. To deal with the Patriot problem in N. Italy it has been ruled that a Regional Patriot Officer, not below the rank of Major, be appointed in each Region.

2. This Officer will remain on the Regional Commissioner's staff, and be responsible to him.

3. The Patriot Officer will receive 14 days' preliminary training in Patriot problems at Patriot Centres already established. Such training will be arranged as soon as possible by Patriots Branch.

4. Will Regional Commissioners please forward to this Branch not later than Friday 2 March, the name of the Officer selected.

5. It is hoped to begin training on Monday 5 March.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

5276

831-2

1177

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref : 49/PAT.

28 February 1945.

Subject: Patriots enlisted into Italian Army.

To : HQ. 15 Army Group - G-5 Section.

1. A copy of AFHQ letter Secret AG 091.711/083 GCT-O. dated 22 February 1945 is forwarded here-with.

2. Enclosed, also, is the copy of a letter from Land Forces Sub Commission A.C. to the Ministry of War, reference SD/23, dated 25 February 1945, calling for a meeting, which Col. Montfort attended.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

G.R. UPTON,
Brigadier,
V.P.,C.A.Section.

/mfg.

1178

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 49/PAT. 26 February 1945.

Subject: Italian Patriots.

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

A copy of a statement made by Lt.Col.Fedeli on 24 Feb,45 is forwarded for your information in connection with AFHQ Secret letter ref A G 091.711/ /083 GET-O dated 22 Feb,45.

1
68

M.P.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

despatch + return to Royal Sweet

M.P

5274

/mfg.

456

1179

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ATTACHED TO LT.COL. P A D E L L I GAVE OF
24 FEBRUARY 1945.

I visited the "Amando" Formation at the beginning of February because in my Centre (Florence Patriots Centre) I had many patriots who were asking to return as partisans, to the front line(which is strictly forbidden by the rules of the Centre).

The formation strong of about 750 men was at the front in the sector Lizzano in Belvedere - Vidiatico and was engaged in war operations together with Allied units (on fixed position and on patrol duty).

I have had a very good impression of the band, both for discipline and fighting spirit).

Weapons : automatic weapons of all types.

Amando is a chief who has great authority with his men, he has been politically persecuted for many years and has passed several years in prison or in political concentration camps; he commanded a battalion of militiamen (red) during the civil war in Spain.

He was appointed Commander of his present formation by the United Command for the Emilia and Romagna regions of C.L.N. He began his activity by occupying the Carabinieri barracks of Pavullo with 15 men and disarming all Carabinieri and republican militiamen of the place.

He is surrounded by excellent collaborators on his staff, of which I wish to mention :

(a) The Vice Commander "Guido" (this one also is an old political victim and a habitual customer of houses of detention),

(b) "Mario il Modenese" (long detention in the prison of Castelfiore Emiliano), 5273

(c) "Angelo" a professor of philosophy who was acting Chief of Staff in the Unit,

(d) "Fullio" Brigade Commander (7 years at the Civitavecchia penitentiary),

(e) "The little father" , and many other.

1180

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The German Command offered a truce to Amando who refused it. The German message also specified that the Formation would have been allowed to exist on condition that they refrained from operating against German convoys.

From Amando's report it appears that his Unit killed at least 3.000 Germans and has executed very many fascist officials (amongst whom the prefect of Reggio).

Amando's attitude towards fascist militiamen was usually the following : to forgive the young ones and shoot on the spot the older ones, and those who had executive appointments. All capital sentences were passed by a regular War Court . Such Courts, when necessary, were also passing judgements on members of the Formation and quite a number of partisan chiefs and C.Os. were executed amongst whom a partisan brigade commander, charged with theft and with having ordered the shooting of about 20 former members of the public safety of Modena who had applied to entrance of the Unit.

Amongst other peculiarities of the formation is the poor state of health of the members. In Alleiano Belvedere a field hospital is in operation and there are very many cases of lung deseases (this is probably a consequence of the long operative cycle which the formation has endeavoured with all inevitable hardships).

Previous to a particularly hard clash which took place at Monte Sporino (three German Divisions attacked the Formation), the Unit had a strength of about 5.000 men.

Since that episode the Nazi authorities published a manifesto in which the annihilation of the "Amando" band was announced. "Amando" replied assuring the population that his Unit was still very strong and active.

The last day of my visit, Amando requested me to ask the Allied Authorities to give him organization and help him to send over the lines leaflets encouraging the formations formerly under his orders to revolt. I passed the request to Lt.Col. Di Nardo, Italian liaison officer with the 5th Army.

5272

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

I now hear that at present the formation (about 750 men) has been withdrawn from the lines disarmed and concentrated near Pesola.

It must be remembered that Armando does not only command these 750 men, but that he can father on both sides of the lines a considerable and non specified number of partisans who at the proper moment will all answer his call.

The situation of the Armando band is at present unsolved because these 750 men are now in Pesola, regimented by their chiefs but with no clear task. Such a situation can not be left to drag and should be resolved.

It is my opinion that there are three solutions:

1. Send the formation back through the lines and have it continue its guerilla actions on the rear of the German lines. Should this solution be accepted by the Chiefs it would have a moral drawback. The population still under German occupation would see these strong parties of patriots return, and would believe that the time of liberation is still very far away.

2. Transform the formation into a partisan battalion, with an officer of the Italian Army with very good knowledge of the partisans and their problems. The battalion could be employed in the area near Modena and Bologna, and there would also be the advantage that all the members know the area very well.

3. Send the formation to a training camp of the regular Army, trying to send small parties of partisans to the combat groups of the regular Army. This solution would be long and difficult because it would call for immediate recognition of partisan ranks, and there would probably be a certain hostility of the partisans to be separated after having been united for 5 or 7 months in their fight.

I must also point out that in the ranks of the formation an ill hidden discontent can be noticed arising from the operational standstill, while all partisans are convinced of the facility to proceed and liberate their families. On the other hand the partisans would not like any solution which would not allow them the satisfaction of returning with the first troops to the zones in which they fought so hard, suffered so many casualties and where they know they will find their homes burned down.

1182

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Dichiarazione rilasciata il 2 febbraio 1946 dal Ten Col Fedeli

Ho visitato la formazione "ARMANDO" ai primi del mese di febbraio. Ho visitato detta formazione perchè nel mio Centro (Centro raccolta patrioti, Firenze) avevo molti reduci di detta formazione che chiedevano di poter rientrare in linea (cosa proibita dalle disposizioni che vigevano per il Centro).

La formazione (circa 750 uomini) era in linea nel settore Lizzano in Belvedere - Vidiciatico e svolgeva servizio di guerra unitamente alle unità alleate (postazioni fisse e pattuglie).

La formazione mi ha fatto ottima impressione sia per disciplina che per spirito combattivo.

Armi : armi automatiche di ogni tipo.

ARMANDO è un capo che ha grande ascendenza sui suoi gregari; è un vecchio perseguitato politico; ha trascorso parecchi anni nei reclusori o al confino; è stato comandante di un battaglione milizianno durante la guerra di Spagna. E' stato nominato Comandante delle Formazione dal Comando unico Emilia e Romagna del C.L.N. Ha iniziato la sua attività occupando con una quindicina di uomini la Caserma di Pavullo e disarmando tutti i militi e carabinieri del luogo.

E' circondato da un complesso di ottimi capi tra i quali annovero : 5270

Il Vice Comandante "Guido"

(anche questo vecchio perseguitato politico e frequentatore di reclusori), "Mario di Modenese" (lunga permanenza nel reclusorio di Castelfiore Emiliano), "Angelo"

./.

1183

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

che ha funzionato come Capo di Stato Maggiore), "Tullio" comandante di Brigata (7 anni di reclusorio a Civitavecchia), "Piccolo Padre" ed altri.

Il Comando tedesco chiese ad Armando una tregua che venne rifiutata. In detta proposta tedesca era anche specificato che la formazione avrebbe potuto continuare a sussistere purchè non avesse attaccato le colonne tedesche.

Nella relazione del Comandante risultano uccisi non meno di 6.000 tedeschi e giustiziati numerosissimi gerarchi fascisti (tra i quali il Prefetto di Reggio).

L'atteggiamento tenuto da Armando verso i militi fascisti era in genere questo: graziare i giovani, fucilare sul posto gli anziani ew quelli che avevano mansioni di Comando e tutte le condanne capitali venivano prese in seguito a regolare Tribunale di guerra. Detti Tribunali funzionavano anche per i componenti la formazione e non pochi sono i casi di Capi e gregari partigiani fucilati per ordine di detti Tribunali ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ .
Tra i fucilati un Comandante di Brigata partigiano accusato di furto e di aver fatto fucilare una ventina di modenesi giunti in formazione per essere arruolati ma provenienti dalla Pubblica Sicurezza.

5269

Caratteristica della Formazione è tra l'altro lo stato sanitario poco buono dei componenti. Ad Alizzano Belvedere funziona un ospedale da campo con moltissimi casi di malattie polmonari tendenti a degenerare in casi specifici. (Questo è da attribuirsi al lungo ciclo operativo sostenuto della Formazione con i conseguenti disagi).

1184

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La Formazione ha raggiunto, prima di un fortissimo combattimento sostenuto a Monte Fiorino (nel quale ha sostenuto l'urto di ben tre Divisioni tedesche) una forza di circa 8.000 uomini. Dopo questo combattimento le Autorità naziste pubblicarono a Modena un manifesto annunciante l'annientamento della Formazione "Armando". A detto manifesto l'Armando rispose assicurando la popolazione che la sua formazione era tuttora forte ed operante.

L'ultimo giorno della mia visita Armando mi chiese di farmi interprete presso le Autorità Alleate del suo desiderio di inviare al di là delle linee con mezzi aerei manifestini incitanti alla resistenza le formazioni già da lui dipendenti e tuttora rimaste dietro le linee tedesche.

Trasmisi la richiesta al Ten.Col. di Stato Maggiore Di Marco , Ufficiale Italiano di collegamento presso la 5 Armata.

Mi giunge notizia che attualmente la Formazione (circa 750 uomini) è stata ritirata dalla linea e concentrata a Pescia, disarmata.

Bisogna però notare che Armando non comanda soltanto questi 750 uomini ma ha possibilità di raccogliere al di qua e al di là della linea un numero imprecisato ma notevole di partigiani che la momento opportuno accorreranno al suo appello.

1185

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La situazione della Banda Armando attualmente è quindi insoluta poichè questi 750 uomini si trovano in Pescia, inquadrati dai loro Capi ma senza un preciso compito; situazione che non si può prolungare per molto tempo e che quindi sarebbe necessario risolvere.

Le soluzioni a mio parere potrebbero essere tre :

1). - Far ripassare le linee alla formazione perchè ritorni a svolgere azioni di guerriglia nelle retrovie nemiche. Tale soluzione, se accettati dai capi, presenterebbe però un inconveniente morale: la popolazioni tuttora sotto l'occupazione tedesca vedrebbero rientrare questi forti nuclei di partigiani e potrebbero vedere ancora lontana l'ora della liberazione.

2). - Fare della Formazione un battaglione partigiano con affiancato un ufficiale dell'Esercito Italiano ottimo conoscitore dell'animo e dei problemi partigiani. ~~Ex~~ Il Battaglione potrebbe essere impiegato nel settore vicino a Modena e Bologna, avendo anche il vantaggio che tutti i componenti della Formazione sono ottimi conoscitore delle zone.

3). - Inviare la formazione in un campo di addestramento dell'Esercito regolare tentando di mettere i partigiani a piccoli nuclei in gruppi di combattimento dell'Esercito regolare. Soluzione lunga e difficile, in quanto comporterebbe l'immediata equiparazione dei gradi degli ufficiali e probabili resistenze dei partigiani a non rimanere uniti dopo tanti mesi di comune lotta. 5267

Debbo far presente che nelle file della Formazione af-

1186

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

fiora un malcelato malcontento per la stasi operativa; mentre tutti i partigiani sono convinti della facilità di procedere avanti e liberare le loro famiglie. D'altra parte i partigiani accoglierebbero assai malvolentieri una soluzione che togliesse loro la soddisfazione di entrare per i primi in quelle zone dove hanno duramente combattuto e lasciato tanti caduti e dove sanno di trovare le loro case bruciate.

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SECRET

26 (G) Rcd 1/29

69

SUBJECT: Italian Patriot Units

Land Forces Sub Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
SD/28
25 Feb 45

TO : Ministry of War

1. A.F.H.Q. has proposed that five "patriot" volunteer Reconnaissance Companies, each approx 500 all ranks, be accepted into the Italian Army and allotted on the basis of one per Combat Group. These units will therefore be a BRITI committment. Units will be recruited in bands under their own officers where suitable but personnel will be subject to Italian Army regulations in the same way as all other members of the Italian Army, i.e. personnel will elect to enrol for service wherever required by the army.

2. If, after operational experience, these units prove successful A.F.H.Q. will consider recommending to higher authority an increase in ceiling in order to take in similar Recce Coys for Allied Divs.

3. "F" Recce Sqn and Banda Maiella will remain att to present fmns and are not considered as within the present plan.

4. Before implementation is authorized of paras 1 to 3 above, will you please submit to this H.Q. at the earliest possible date

(a) proposed organization into which Recce Coys should be formed to operate most efficiently.

(b) a proposed WE for the Recce Coys and a suggested scale of equipment, bearing in mind the limitation of British equipment owing to other demands.

5. Will you please be represented at a meeting at MMIA HQ Conference Room at 1500 hrs 26 Feb to discuss as much of para 4 (a) and (b) as possible and to discuss other details viz

(a) Method of commissioning offrs

(b) Method of screening personnel

(c) Present locn of bands and to which gps it is recommended they should be sent after enrolement.

5265

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1. A.F.H.Q. has proposed that five "patriot" volunteer Reconnaissance Companies, each approx 500 all ranks, be accepted into the Italian Army and allotted on the basis of one per Combat Group. These units will therefore be a BR-ITI committment. Units will be recruited in bands under their own officers where suitable but personnel will be subject to Italian Army regulations in the same way as all other members of the Italian Army, i.e. personnel will elect to enrol for service wherever required by the army.

2. If, after operational experience, these units prove successful A.F.H.Q. will consider recommending to higher authority an increase in ceiling in order to take in similar Recce Coys for Allied Divs.

3. "P" Recce Sqn and Banda Maialla will remain att to present fmns and are not considered as within the present plan.

4. Before implementation is authorized of paras 1 to 3 above, will you please submit to this H.Q. at the earliest possible date

(a) proposed organization into which Recce Coys should be formed to operate most efficiently.

(b) a proposed WE for the Recce Coys and a suggested scale of equipment, bearing in mind the limitation of British equipment owing to other demands.

5. Will you please be represented at a meeting at MMIA HQ Conference Room at 1500 hrs 26 Feb to discuss as much of para 4 (a) and (b) as possible and to discuss other details viz

(a) Method of commissioning offrs

(b) Method of screening personnel

(c) Present locn of bands and to which gps it is recommended they should be sent after enrolement.

5265

J.M. Gambier-Parry
Major General
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: Patriots Branch A.C.)
A/Q)
Spec Sec)
Will you please be represented at meeting vide para 5.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

uc SECRET

7

A 24 FEB Recd / 44

PATRIOTS BR. 1031

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

AP 18

RHF/jwp

SECRET
AUTH: SAC, MT
Initials: RHF
22 February 1945

AG 091.711/083 GCT-O

22 February 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Patriots

TO: President, Allied Commission
FOR: Land Forces Sub-Commission, MMIA

Sec (59)

1. Reference is made to recent correspondence between Allied Commission, 15th Army Group, yourselves, and this headquarters on the subject of the disposal of the increasing numbers of Italian Patriots at present being encountered in the Army area.

2. A general policy is hereby established for the induction of Italian Patriots into the Italian Army as individuals to fill the 48,000 deficiency under the present ceiling.

3. In order, however, to make the most advantageous use of the fighting capabilities of the Patriots and with the object of preserving to the greatest possible extent the esprit - de - corps which is so outstanding a feature of the Patriot bands, the present organization of the Italian Army will be adjusted to permit the formation of further combat forces in the form of Reconnaissance Companies to operate, one, with each of the five Italian Gruppi. It is suggested that these Reconnaissance Companies should have an approximate strength of 500 and should be formed of Patriots comprising their own bands under their own officers.

4. If, after operational experience of the Reconnaissance Companies formed under paragraph 3 above has been gained, it is considered desirable to form further units of a similar nature to operate with other Allied formations, the necessity for an increase in ceiling to cover the estimated future intake of Patriots will be reviewed.

5. The present Patriot bands fighting with the armies will not be disbanded but will continue to operate with their present formations, i.e. 'F' Recce Squadron with Fifth Army and BANDA PATRIOTA MAIELLA with Eighth Army.

6. In order to implement the policy outlined in paragraph 3, it is desired that your recommendations on the following points be submitted to this headquarters for consideration at the earliest possible date:-

a. Proposed organization, agreed by the Italian Ministry of War, into which the Reconnaissance Companies should be formed to operate most efficiently.

b. A proposed WE for the Reconnaissance Companies and a suggested

5284

SECRET
SECRET

1190

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

scale of equipment, having regard at the same time to existing shortages of British equipment.

BY COMMAND OF FIELD MARSHAL ALEXANDER:

C. W. Christenberry

C. W. CHRISTENBERRY
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

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1191

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

67

1

FIGURES AVAILABLE FOR MONTH OF JANUARY, 1945.

	Date	It. Army	Employment	Repatriation.
Fifth Army Florence No.1 Detachment . . .	10/20 Jan.	147		108
Eighth Army No. 3 Detachment.		325		
AREZZO	15 "	-	4	-
AREZZO	11 "	14	2	2
GROSSETO	18 "	-	8	-
PERUGIA		189		
PESCIA	10/20 Jan.	40		1.011
PISA	9/15 "	-	52	3
	15/21 "	-	12	-
	21/29 "	5	18	4
PISTOIA	25/30 "	150	-	-
SIENA	2/8 "	200	-	-
	8/13 "	-	10	70
	13/25 "	c. 700	-	1
MARRADI Labour Camp...			560	
LIVORNO Labour Camp...			250	
TOTALS :		1.770	916	1.425

5263

1192

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref: 49/PAT. 6 February 1945.

Subject: Questionnaire.

To : C.O.S.

Suggested additions to Questionnaire to be put to French Maquis.

1. What do the French authorities do with regard to the families of fallen Patriots.

2. How are wounded Patriots dealt with.

3. Are Maquis Officers granted immediate Commissions.

4. Is recognition given to the equivalent of C.L.N.

5. What is done with regard to recompense for services rended.

6. What is the method of disarming.

F. CRAIG,
Lt.Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

Sent to MMIA.
6/2.
Ans

E992

1193

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 775016

1. Is the French enrol the Marquis in companies under Marquis officers ?

2. Do they enrol them in Marquis companies under regular Army officers ?

3. Do they disregard Marquis companies and absorb them into the French Army recruiting them individually into the existing establishment ?

4. Do they recruit them into the existing establishment but earmark them as specially trained men ?

5. Do the Marquis have any special privileges ?

6. Are the Marquis disarmed when they find themselves in liberated territory ?

7. Do Patriot officers keep their rank ?

8. Are there Patriot Screening agencies to deal with volunteers and to differentiate between the real Patriot and those who have joined at the last moment to acquire preferential treatment.

9. Is the clothing and feeding of Patriots during the interim period before they are either recruited into the regular army or sent home as civilians a civilian or a military responsibility ?

10. Does the French Army accept Patriot volunteers in large numbers or is there a fixed ceiling ?

11. Do Patriots carry any recognized identity documents which distinguish them from other armed bodies ?

1193

1194

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

852

49

Confidential

SUBJECT: Absorption of Patriots into Army

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
File No. S/G/19
5 Feb 45

TO : Major Gen. A.C.

Copy to: G of S SHAEF A.C.

Patriot Sub-Com, A.C. ←

1. Confirming conversation with Lt de [illegible] will you please forward to G of S Shaef, copy to Land Forces Sub-Com (M.M.I.A.), a short brief on how the Maquis are accepted into the French Army.

2. In order to assist you attached are some points requiring clarification.

[signature] Lt-Col

Major General
M. M. I. A.

WS

5260

1195

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Questionaire

The machinery for the recruiting of
French Patriots into the Army

1. Does the French Army recruit French Patriots by Bands or individually?
2. If by Bands, how are they absorbed into the Army?
3. Do Patriot officers keep their rank?
4. Are there Patriot Screening Agencies to deal with volunteers?
5. When Patriot bands find themselves in Liberated territory, are they disarmed?
6. Is the clothing and feeding of Patriots during the interim period before they are either recruited into the regular army or sent home as civilians a civilian or a military responsibility?
7. Does the French Army accept Patriot volunteers in large numbers or is there a fixed ceiling?
8. Do Patriots carry any recognized Identity documents which distinguish them from other armed bodies?

WB

5259

1196

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

841

Translated by J.D.M.

FROM : Centro Reclute e Rifordinamento Settore Tirrenico, Distaccamento No.1, I.M. 128.
TO : Col. FAVA, AG. Patriots Branch, ROME.
REF. : 128/VC Prot.
DATE : 21 January 45.
SUBJECT : Enlistment of Volunteers from 10 to 20 January 1945.

56A

Following my letter ref. 66/VC dated 10 inst., I wish to inform you that following to orders of General Sq. I have taken over the Corsetti detachment No.1 of Florence.

From 10 to 20 January 127 patriots have been enlisted, 147 of which from Florence and 40 from Pescia. Of the above 187 recruits 49 have been assigned to the 210 Infantry Division and 138 to the Combat Units.

By C.O. of the detachment

(signed) Det.Ord. Corsetti.

5258

/mdc.

041

Rest./49

J de R for transm
ans 5/2

CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIORDINAMENTO SETTORE TIRRENICO
Distaccamento N°1
=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=

Mess 5/2
J de R.

N°141/VO di prot. Posta Militare 179, lì 21 gennaio 1945

OGGETTO: Arruolamento volontari dal 10/1/45 al 20/1/45.=

= AL COLONELLO F A V A
A.C. "Patriot Branch"
ex Ministero delle Corporazioni
Via Veneto
ROMA

56

Seguito foglio n°68/VO di prot. in data 10 corrente comunico che in ottemperanza ad ordine del Comando "CERSETI", ho assunto il comando del Distaccamento "CERSETI" N°1 in Firenze.=

Dal 10 al 20 gennaio sono stati arruolati N°187 patrioti.- Di essi N°147 provenienti da Firenze, N°40 da Pescia; dei N°187 arruolati, 49 sono stati assegnati alla 210^ Divisione di Fanteria e 138 ai Gruppi di Combattimento.=

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO
(Ten.Col.Gino Zappelli)
Zappelli Gino

52257

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

ex Ministero delle Corporazioni
Via Veneto

ROMA

5b

Seguito foglio n°68/VO di prot. in data 10 corrente comunico che in ottemperanza ad ordine del Comando "CERSETI", ho assunto il comando del Distaccamento "CERSETI" N°1 in Firenze.=

Dal 10 al 20 gennaio sono stati arruolati N°187 patrioti.- Di essi N°147 provenienti da Firenze, N°40 da Pescia; dei N°187 arruolati, 49 sono stati assegnati alla 210^ Divisione di Fanteria e 138 ai Gruppi di Combattimento.=

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO
(Ten.Col.Gino Zappelli)

Zappelli Gino

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1199

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

801

Rcvd/44

Translated by J.D.R.

CIVICO BATTAGLIA D'ASSALTO-X-MAS SECTORE TIRRENO "GENOVA"

3rd Recruiting Agency.

24 January 1945.

Subject: Departure of Patriots.

To : A.C. Patriots Branch.

We attach the lists of the patriots that were enlisted during the week from 13 to 20 January. We will shortly forward the list of another 320 patriots who have been enlisted and are awaiting departure.

The patriots of the second list together with the 320 who will leave presently have been assigned to the Combat Groups "Cremona".

Il Comandante II Battaglione

Magg. CASALE

---

5 Patriots were recruited in Jesi and forwarded to Rome on 17 January 1945.

109 Patriots were recruited in Perugia and forwarded to the Combat Groups "Cremona" on 19 January 1945.

5256

1 FEB 1 FEB Recd

CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIGRDINAMENTO SETT : TIRRENICO (Ce.R.Se.Ti)

3^ Commissione arruolamento patrioti

P.M.Ib,li 24.I.I 45.

OGGETTO: Partenza patrioti.

All'ALLIED COMMISSION - Patriot Branch.

R O M A

^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Si inviano a codesta Commissione gli elenchi dei patrioti arruolati nella settimana dal I3 al 20 c.m. Si fa riserva di inviare in seguito gli elenchi di altri 3[illegible]0 patrioti, arruolati e in via di partenza. I patrioti di cui al II elenco rimanente sono 320 in quanto uno è stato arruolato dal Gruppo di Combattimento Cremona.

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO
(Magg. Corrado Casale)

Trans 1/2/45 JR

5255

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Comando Centro Raccolta e Riordinamento Settore Tirrenico

DISTACCAMENTO "CERSETI„ N. .....

DICHIARAZIONE

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

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— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Firma del volontario

Dati caratteristici:

— statura .....

— capelli (colore) .....

— occhi .....

— segni particolari .....

— specializzazione civile e militare:

.....

.....

G. MENAGLIA - ROMA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIORDINAMENTO SETTORE TIRRENICO (Ce.R.Se.Ti)

3^ Commissione Arruolamento Patrioti

P.M.16,li 17.I.1945.

ELENCO DEI PATRIOTI ARRUOLATI DALLA COMMISSIONE NELLA ZONA DI JESI E AVVIATI AL CENTRO RACCOLTA DI ROMA IN DATA 17.I.1945.

1. Costarelli Delso
2. Trasatti Elio
3. Trasatti Benito
4. Rossi Angelo
5. Castoro Ettore

52S4

1203

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Comando Centro Raccolta e Riordinamento Settore Tirrenico

DISTACCAMENTO "CERSETI„ N. .....

DICHIARAZIONE

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Dati caratteristici:

1204

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Firma del volontario

Dati caratteristici:

— statura .....

— capelli (colore) .....

— occhi .....

— segni particolari .....

— specializzazione civile e militare:

.....

.....

C. MENAGLIA - ROMA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

I59. Rien[illegible] Natale
I60. Rosati Francesco
I61. Corsi Carlo
I6[illegible]. Rosati Alfonso
I63. Rosati Mario
I64. Silvi Angelo
I65. Gianfermaggio Angelo
I66. Sinibaldi Leo
I67. Salvatore Piero
I68. Soli Siro
I69. Scirocchi Libero
I70. Tamburini Pietro
I71. Testa Vincenzo
I72. Tribolati Sesto
I73. Torti Nello
I74. Marendoni Bruno
I75. Carponi Italo
I76. Benedetti Feliciano
I77. Loli Nazzareno
I78. Accardi Ernesto
I79. Commodifiori Giuseppe
I80. Maccari Oris
I81. Fani Gino
I82. Baroni Guerrino
I83. Tassella Giovanni
I84. Maffei Enrico
I85. De Flamini Giulio
I86. Canuti Giorgio
I87. Carbonari Alfredo
I88. Giorgetti Liliano
I89. Ortesi Livio

5253

1206

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Comando Centro Raccolta e Riordinamento Settore Tirrenico

DISTACCAMENTO "CERSETI„ N. .....

DICHIARAZIONE

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

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— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Dati caratteristici:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Firma del volontario

Dati caratteristici:

— statura .....

— capelli (colore) .....

— occhi .....

— segni particolari .....

— specializzazione civile e militare:

.....

.....

G. MENAGLIA - ROMA

I 2 0 6

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

II7. Antonelli Marcello
II8. Salvini Augusto
II9. Proietti Francesco
I20. Montenovo Giovanni
I2I. Fusaia Fosco
I22. Gobetto Armando
I23. Cesaretti Domenico
I24. Compagniucci Luigi
I25. Luchetti Domenico
I26. Cruciani Stelio
I27. Bordoni Antonio
I28. Giuduci Nicola
I29. Pinti Augusto
I30. Angelini Ercole
I3I. Cerchiee Mario
I32. Baldini Gaetano
I33. Balille Eros
I34. Blasi Alfio
I35. Brumignani Elio
I36. Balducci Fernando
I37. Bocchini Alessandro
I38. Caponi Giobatte
I39. Castellini Alfredo
I40. Caprai Spartaco
I4I. Caprai Nazzareno
I42. Cingolani Ruggiero
I43. Celli Marcantonio
I44. Fittaioli Giuliano
I45. Fasciani Rinaldo
I46. Fasciani Ivo
I47. Fittaioli Italo
I48. Fusi Francesco
I49. Giovannini Marie
I50. Mangaaini Dionisio

5252

1209

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

I25. Luchetti Domenico
I26. Cruciani Stelio
I27. Bordoni Antonio
I28. Giuduci Nicola
I29. Pinti Augusto
I30. Angelini Ercole
I31. Cerchiee Mario
I32. Baldini Gaetano
I33. Balille Eros
I34. Blasi Alfio
I35. Brumignani Elio
I36. Balducci Fernando
I37. Bocchini Alessandro
I38. Caponi Giobatte
I39. Castellini Alfredo
I40. Caprai Spartaco
I41. Caprai Nazzareno
I42. Cingolani Ruggiero
I43. Celli Marcantonio
I44. Fittaioli Giuliano
I45. Fasciani Rinaldo
I46. Fasciani Ivo
I47. Fittaioli Italo
I48. Fusi Francesco
I49. Giovannini Mario
I50. Mangascini Dionisie
I51. Montelfiore Domenico
I52. Ponte Raoul
I53. Aus Luigi
I54. Ponti Alessandro
I55. Revesti GianCarlo
I56. Pienticelli Luigi
I57. Palembarini Decio
I58. Romagnoli Spartaco

5252

I 2 I 0

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Comando Centro Raccolta e Riordinamento Settore Tirrenico

DISTACCAMENTO "CERSETI„ N. .....

DICHIARAZIONE

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Dati caratteristici:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo)

.....

Firma del volontario

Dati caratteristici:

— statura .....

— capelli (colore) .....

— occhi .....

— segni particolari .....

— specializzazione civile e militare:

.....

.....

G. MENAGLIA - ROMA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

75. Pa aci Giuseppe
76. Battocchi Giuseppe
77. Oriani Italo
78. Dini Agostino
79. Volpi Sante
80. Zangarelli Emilio
81. Bugatti Mario
82. Tarini Mario
83. Bruciati Virgilio
84. Battaglia Giuseppe
85. Del Buono Diego
86. Pattaffi Giuseppe
87. Mischianti Italo
88. Massi Pasquale
89. Giovannini Alfredo
90. Cecchini Claudio
91. Del Buontromboni Marcello
92. Gobinei Mario
93. Orsini Bruno
94. Clama Amedeo
95. Bacchi Alfredo
96. Miglierati Antonio
97. Sgargetta Francesco
98. Borghi Alberto
99. Schicchi Mario
100. Terti Decio
101. Merosini Mario
102. Santopaolo Dario
103. Giudici Mario
104. Zampolini Vincenzo
105. Gublini Mario
106. Masciotti Nando
107. Marandoni Bruno
108. Santarelli Renzo
109. Compagnani Mario

5251

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

83. Bruciati Virgilio
84. Battaglia Giuseppe
85. Del Buono Diego
86. Patteffi Giuseppe
87. Mischianti Italo
88. Massi Pasquale
89. Giovannini Alfredo
90. Cecchini Claudio
91. Del Buontromboni Marcello
92. Gobinei Mario
93. Orsini Bruno
94. Clama Amedeo
95. Bacchi Alfredo
96. Miglierati Antonio
97. Sgargetta Francesco
98. Borchi Alberto
99. Schicchi Mario
100. Torti Decio
101. Merosini Mario
102. Santepaolo Dario
103. Giudici Mario
104. Zampelini Vincenzo
105. Gublini Mario
106. Masciotti Nanio
107. Morandoni Bruno
108. Santarelli Renzo
109. Capagnani Mario
110. Antonelli Orlando
111. Martellini Mario
112. Mazzoni Giusepe
113. Borioni Angelo
114. Ridolfi Persiano
115. Mattioli Mario
116. Formica Luciano

5251

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Comando Centro Raccolta e Riordinamento Settore Tirrenico

DISTACCAMENTO "CERSETI„ N. .....

DICHIARAZIONE

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

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— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Dati caratteristici:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

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— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Firma del volontario

Dati caratteristici:

— statura .....

— capelli (colore) .....

— occhi .....

— segni particolari .....

— specializzazione civile e militare:

.....

.....

G. MENAGLIA - ROMA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

32. Barretti Mario
33. Gazzaniga Pericle
34. Giacchi Ivo
35. Gabulli Gastone
36. Gustinelli Gualtiero
37. Guerri Altec
38. Menchi Quinto
39. Marcellini Alberto
40. Nardi Nazzareno
41. Narducci Ubaldo
42. Ascani Giorgio
43. Carletti Ivo
44. Beccafichi Giuseppe
45. Pennacchi Pasquale
46. Radicchi Secondo
47. Battazzi Vittorio
48. Mencaccini Bruno
49. Dalla Ragione Livio
50. Mencaccini Libero
51. D'Anna Agostino
52. Ormelli Luigi
53. Marsiglietti Antonio
54. Semmacal Prescillo
55. Eleonori Domenico
56. Peletti Sergio
57. Ciribilli Domenico
58. Carletti Sergio
59. Berardi Luigi
60. Parioli Ubaldo
61. Capaccioli Bruno
62. Sentinelli Luigi
63. Ranchini Lionello
64. Mariucci Emilio
65. Sgaravicci Arcangelo
66. Marietti Alfredo

5250

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

40. Nardi Nazzareno
41. Narducci Ubaldo
42. Ascani Giorgio
43. Carletti Ivo
44. Beccafichi Giuseppe
45. Pennacchi Pasquale
46. Radicchi Secondo
47. Battazzi Vittorio
48. Mencaccini Bruno
49. Dalla Ragione Livio
50. Mencaccini Libero
51. D'Anna Agostino
52. Omelli Luigi
53. Marsiglietti Antonio
54. Semmacal Prescillo
55. Eleoneri Domenico
56. Poletti Sergio
57. Ciritilli Domenico
58. Carletti Sergio
59. Berardi Luigi
60. Parioli Ubaldo
61. Capaccioli Bruno
62. Santinelli Luigi
63. Ranchini Lionello
64. Mariucci Emilio
65. Sgarevizzi Arcangelo
66. Mariotti Alfredo
67. Lucarini Nello
68. Cibai Agostino
69. Verini Vinicio
70. Peleri Mario
71. Pelegi Lazzaro
72. Nardi Lorenzo
73. Radicchi Secondo
74. Breganti Albert

5250

declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Comando Centro Raccolta e Riordinamento Settore Tirrenico

DISTACCAMENTO "CERSETI„ N. .....

DICHIARAZIONE

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

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— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Dati caratteristici:

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385 / Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo)

.....

Firma del volontario

Dati caratteristici:

— statura .....

— capelli (colore) .....

— occhi .....

— segni particolari .....

— specializzazione civile e militare:

.....

.....

G. MENAGLIA - ROMA

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIORDINAMENTO SETTORE TIRRENICO (Ce.R.SeTi.)

Commissione arruolamento patrioti

P.M.16,li 24.I.1945

ELENCO DEI PATRIOTI ARRUOLATI NELLA ZONA DI PERUGIA E AVVIATI AL GRUPPO DI COMBATTIMENTO "CREMONA" IN DATA 19.I.1945.

I. Pacciarini Alio
2; Beriesi Gino
3. Becciolesi Renato
4. Berberini Enzio
5. Bianchi Dante
6. Bocnafichi Sergio
7. Benedetti Lugi
8. Ciliberti Venanzio
9. Crecioni Nello
Io. Serbastrelli Amedeo
II. Ghezzi Giovanni
I2. Giannini Vittorio
I3. Ferrini Domenico
I4. Falchi Virgilio
I5. Gaggioli Ermanno
I6. Gustinucci Secondo
I7. Bernardini Sante
I8. Doloiani Dino
I9. Perugini Gualtiero
20. Masciarri Tommaso
2I. Zaganelli Gabrio
Ferri Furio
23. Nicasi Luigi
24. Chioli ALfonso
25. Fiordini Dino
26. Pierangeli Stelio
27. Taffinin Gienanni
28. Gambulli Settimio

5249

1221

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

2; Berlesi Gino
3. Boccialesi Renato
4. Borborini Edio
5. Bianchi Dante
6. Boccafichi Sergio
7. Benedetti Luigi
8. Ciliberti Venanzio
9. Crocioni Nello
10. Sorbastrelli Amedeo
11. Ghezzi Giovanni
12. Giannini Vittorio
13. Ferrini Domenico
14. Falchi Virgilio
15. Gaggioli Ermanno
16. Gustinucci Secondo
17. Bernardini Sante
18. Dolciani Dino
19. Perugini Gualtiero
20. Masciarri Tommaso
21. Zaganelli Gabrio
Ferri Furio
23. Nicasi Luigi
24. Chieli ALfonso
25. Fiordini Dino
26. Pierangeli Stelio
27. Taffinin Gienanni
28. Gambulli Settimio
29. Gatti Pietro
30. Rossi Giovanni
31. Bambini Amlete

5219

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Comando Centro Raccolta e Riordinamento Settore Tirrenico

DISTACCAMENTO "CERSETI„ N. .....

DICHIARAZIONE

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Dati caratteristici:

1223

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Il .....

di ..... e di .....

(arma e grado) .....

(classe di leva) .....

ai sensi del foglio n. 5385/Ord. data 26 luglio 1944, dello S.M.R.E.:

— è stato discriminato:

— riconosciuto pienamente idoneo moralmente e fisicamente ad essere incorporato in unità combattenti del R. Esercito Italiano;

— viene avviato in data ..... al .....

per vestizione e successiva assegnazione.

Gli sono state corrisposte n. ..... giornate di viveri.

..... (data) .....

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO

(bollo) .....

Dati caratteristici:

Firma del volontario

— statura .....

— capelli (colore) .....

— occhi .....

— segni particolari .....

— specializzazione civile e militare:

.....

.....

C. MENAGLIA - ROMA

1224

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1225

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

732

DOOU 49

61

SECRET

SUBJECT: Patriots

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
G/I/102/2
25 January 45

TO: Patriot Branch A.C. (6)

1. Herewith an illuminating and constructive report on an important angle of the Patriot problem.

2. My staff have already discussed with you the necessary action in connection with para V(d).

Major General
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: Chief of Staff
Political Section, A.C.
MMIA LO Eighth Army
MMIA LO Fifth Army
MMIA LO 1 District

5248

SECRET

REPORT ON A VISIT TO SIENA AND FLORENCE FROM 8 TO 13 JANUARY TO INVESTIGATE THE ITALIAN PATRIOT SITUATION

I. INTENTION

The object of my visit was to contact patriots, hear their views and complaints, and obtain a first hand impression of patriot psychology, in order to discover why hitherto so few patriots have joined the regular Italian army despite the facilities available.

II. METHOD

The methods adopted in every case were unofficial, friendly contacts where and whenever possible. NO Allied or Italian authority was advised of these visits and official contacts were strictly avoided. No question as to my identity was put by the patriots and needless to say, I expressed no opinions.

III. CONTACTS, SIENA

(a) During the morning of 8 Jan at SIENA the first opportunity of contacts with the Patriots there took the form of two lorry-loads of men, both young and old, all wearing the familiar red scarf and singing songs, which drove past me in the main street. I enquired from a passerby who these men were and what was their destination, and was informed that they were Patriots who had volunteered for combat service in the Italian Army.

A short time later I saw a young man wearing a red scarf standing by himself on a street corner. I approached him and asked him if any of his friends had joined up that morning. He replied that nearly all had done so and that he had tried but had been refused owing to the fact that wounds he had received while fighting the Germans in a band of Patriots had not properly healed up. He showed me his wounds. They were quite genuine. Of his own initiative he asked me to accompany him to the HQ of the band where, he said, he would show me round. I told him I was interested in Patriots and he asked me if I was a Communist. I explained that I was a British officer with a genuine interest in the Italian Patriot question.

I was taken to the HQ of the 1st Raggruppamento "Garibaldi" Patriot Div. Here several men gathered round me while many others were singing and shouting outside, all apparently very happy at the thought of joining the Army.

I was shown grim photos of the tortured bodies of Patriots who had been mutilated by German or Fascist soldiers. I saw a marble plaque on which were engraved the 200 names of all the members of the band who had been killed in fighting or shot in reprisals carried out by the Germans. I spoke with a young man of 20, a Battalion Commander, who had distinguished himself in combat and leadership, and who seemed to be the idol of many present, including a farmer of 50 who had been wounded three times in combat under the leadership of this youth. Both the Bn Comd and the farmer had been accepted into the Army that

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I eventually got in contact with the Band Leader. I was greatly impressed by this man, not so much because he had done much fighting and suffered under the Fascist rule, but because he had very sane, broad-minded views on all questions affecting the present situation.

He is a man of about 50. Nine years ago a Fascist Federal officer of SIENA denounced him to the authorities for Communist tendencies. He was imprisoned and only escaped from gaol during an Allied bombing raid on NAPLES in 1942. Ever since that day he has been actively fighting "the Nazi-Fascist", as he put it.

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III. (Contd)

(a) (Contd)

He told me there were 800 men in his band. The officers were all men chosen for their leadership and most of them had never held any commissioned rank in the Italian Army. He was quite frank about his Communist ideas and appreciated the reasons which governed the Policy of not allowing Patriot bands to be recruited into the Italian Army as a whole. He remarked quite spontaneously, "There must be one Italian Army representing the only power in Italy. I realize the difficulties and dangers of recruiting Patriot Bands, with all their different political "red hues", as whole units under their own officers. For this reason I have spoken to my men, told them to overcome this very strong clannish spirit and let their ardent desire to fight over-rule all. This they have done, Captain, and you can see for yourself how they are reacting."

(b) It was very evident from our conversation that the Patriots despise the Regular Army officers and are reluctant to serve under them. The reasons stated by the Leader were:-

(i) Italian officers either co-operated with the Germans or hid during the occupation, appearing as if by magic in dandy uniforms and polished boots to offer their services to the Allies and "threw a line" about their marvellous "resistance" during the enemy occupation.

The Patriots, on the other hand, chose the hard way and openly resisted, fought and died for their ideals. Many saw father, mothers or friends shot or carried off by the Germans.

(ii) The Patriots kept accurate lists of Italians, both military and civilian, who helped the Germans and were ardent Fascists. When the Allies arrived the Patriot Leader gave all possible information to Allied F.S.S. and C.I.C. To his horror and bitter disappointment some of these Fascists walk the streets of SIENA, while others are actually employed by the Allies.

Adolfo Barocchi - ex Federal officer and Fascist collaborator, the man who denounced the Siena Patriot Leader to the Authorities and had him imprisoned for 9 years, is now a free man somewhere in Rome.

(iii) No epuration in the Army. The same old "Gang" still in high places.

The Patriots hold the Allies in high esteem and are very grateful for the help given them during their period of combat behind the line. Although some of the Siena patriots handed in their arms with reluctance, their leader realised that it was a just and wise law laid down by the Allies.

General Berardi C.G.S. had not visited the 1st Raggruppamento Garibaldi at Siena, I asked the leader if Gen Berardi had been to Siena and he replied that the C of S had called on the "Amiata" Gp whose HQ is situated a few blocks further down.

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Berardi did not make any promises to the "Arista" band which, according to the speaker, had not found one single volunteer for the Army. They wanted to join as a band and keep their own officers.

(c) Summary

From contacts made the following facts are of great importance :-

(1) Bands differ in their political line - some are more "red" than others, and once in liberated territory, work separately.

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III. (c) (Cont'

(2) There is strict discipline in bands and leaders are chosen for their initiative and courage.
(3) Real Patriots are determined to fight the Germans and Fascists, even beyond the Frontiers of Italy.
(4) Bands are NOT subsidised from outside. Some, however, do get support etc. from the Communist section of the Italian Government.

Patriots will join the Italian Army 100% :-

(1) When their Band Leader gives them the word "go" (e.g. 1 Garibaldi, Siena)
(2) When they see epuration really hitting the Army.
(3) When they know that sooner or later they will meet their enemies in combat.

It is interesting to note that the 1 Garibaldi joined up almost to a man and that many of them were leaving their own homes in Siena.

I did not visit the "Amiata" Group as the Italian Army Screening Agency was established temporarily in their H.Q.

The Main Square was full of parents and friends seeing these Patriots off in Italian Army lorries. They were the first volunteers for the Italian Army I had seen and talked with, and they were very happy. In one small village near Siena every man volunteered for the Army that morning.

IV. CONTACTS FLORENCE

The next three days were spent in Florence. It was difficult at first to seek out the various Patriot HQs without bumping into Military Officials both Italian and Allied. Certain parts of the city, however, were very populated with the familiar "red scarved" youths and, when the opportunity presented itself, contacts were made in the street and later at the various HQs.

The first visit paid was to the Patriots Transit Camp in Via Montebello 68, run by AMG 5 Army. After a few minutes the band leader was called. He was a man of about 30 and, from the start of our talk, it was clear that he had definite grudge against the Italian Army and the treatment meted out to Patriots by the Allies. He informed us that none of his men wanted to join the Army unless they were kept in bands under their own officers and said that much bad feeling had been created in the place because some of his volunteers had been assigned to muleteer units and Labour Bns.

"We want to fight or find work", he said. "At the moment my men 5216 can't do either and after 14 days they are obliged to leave this camp. There is a lot of ill feeling amongst them and many are hungry and have no good clothes to wear.

When asked if Gen Berardi had visited them and what transpired he replied that at Xmas the C of S had paid them a visit. He made a speech, praising their brave efforts and pointing out that the Italian Army was proud of them - but he made no promises and his visit was a definite "flop".

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It was evident that this leader, with his personal views and complaints, was a stumbling block to any volunteer spirit amongst his men. It is also quite probable that his superiors in the Political world have issued certain instructions to him which control the whole movement and action of his band. One felt that, had there been a less "belshie" leader many of the Patriots would have volunteered for the Army a long time ago.

On 12 Jan a visit was paid to the HQ of the POTENTE Partisan Div. The "General" was away but a long and interesting talk was held with 2 i/c a man of perhaps 33, and his lady secretary who was a cultured woman with a broad-minded view on the whole Patriot problem.

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IV. (Cont'd)

The 2 i/c had been an exile from Italy for 10 years and had returned via France during 1942. Ever since that time he had actively opposed the Germans and Republican Fascists and later became a Regtl Comd in the Potente Div.

There had been several volunteers from his Div but the response had been poor. This was due, to a large extent, to the fact that the Italian Army Screening Agencies had not been able to answer many of the queries put to them by the Patriots, nor could they define clearly the Allied Policy governing their employment. Many patriots were "put off" at the sight of "gold braid and jack boots".

The following views were stated by the Div 2 i/c during our talk :-

(1) Combat Spirit lacking in the Italian Army.
(2) Italian Regular officers "the same old crowd" with no personal interest in the soldier.
(3) Very few Italian officers chose to side with the Partisans during the difficult days.
(4) Officers who co-operated with the Germans and Fascists while Partisans were fighting are now at large and some employed by the Allies.
(5) Patriots ask one thing. To be accepted for combat in the Italian Army. They cannot be happy in Labour or Muleteer Units.
(6) Some Patriots are being arrested and put in PW Camps by the Allies because they have no identity cards or documents. Many Patriots burnt all these to avoid possible reprisals by Germans against their families.

My personal impressions were that most of the "Potente" would volunteer for the Army, if handled properly.

There are about 2,600 possible volunteers in the Florence area. These consist of the following bands - Caiani, Sonnellie, Fanciulloni and Buovi.

The majority of the "Potente" have no fixed political views and are not assisted in any way by Political Parties - the leaders, however, may be.

On instructions from the C.L.N. all ex-partisans wear red scarves. A red scarf does not mean a communist.

V. PERSONAL VIEWS AND SUGGESTIONS

(a) All depends on the Band leader. If he says - JOIN UP - the men will do so at once.
(b) Patriots are of all political parties - majority do not know the definition of a communist.
(c) All real Patriots want to fight - and given the opportunity and guarantee - they will do so. However, they want to see epuration in the Army.
(d) Screening and recruiting Agencies should be dressed in Battledress and should be hand picked and well briefed. The existing personnel and activities of these agencies should be reviewed by Patriot Branch, A.C., who are the controlling authority and to whom this personnel has been handed over by the War Ministry as authorized.

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(e) Where the operational situation permits, Screening Agencies should operate well forward.

F.R. SELBY
Captain
G III (Int) MMIA

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May I be allowed to call the attention of the Patriots Branch to such a delicate matter, so that, in agreement with Italian Authorities, orders may be issued which will result in a larger contribution to the war effort of the partisans, who now more than ever wish to take part in the reconstruction of their country.

(Sgd.) Capt. M. CASILLI D'ARAGONA

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transmitted by J.D.T.

Rome.

To: AC Patriots Branch.

Date: 15th January, 1945.

Subject: Enlistment of Patriots.

Ref: 0022.

It is my belief that to obtain the highest possible number of partisans to enlist in the Italian Army is of paramount importance for the war effort.

I am under the impression that the recruiting policy used in the Fifth Army can be improved and so obtain a larger enlistment, as they themselves request. To this day and for over two months from the liberation of FORLI, only one small body of volunteers has left.

I am convinced that the recruiting Agency should be at the place where enlistment is to take place as soon as the operations will allow it. Enlistment must begin at once, and the partisans must be sent forthwith to the recruiting centres as soon as partisan units cease operation, whilst the units still maintain their formations and whilst the fighting spirit is still high. When time has elapsed, and the partisans have returned to civil life suffering disillusions and differences, their attitude changes and enlistments fall.

A matter often brought forth by partisan commanders is that concerning the army ranks, many of them have had no military experience and many were only corporals. To obtain military ranks is often the result of the desire for personal recognition, but in many cases it would be right to grant recognition to those who showed a real military and organising ability, and gallantry. In all such cases the recruiting agencies, in agreement with the Patriot Representatives, and upon recommendation of the Allied units at whose orders the partisan commanders operated, could recommend the commanders themselves for a commission in the Italian Army; such commission should never be of higher rank than captain.

Recommendations should be forwarded with great caution, considering both professional ability and political attitude, thus avoiding the fatal errors which have been made previously.

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All Patriot Branch: Hq / N.C. I O M A
Hq / ... U^ Group

Oggetto:
arruolamento partigiani
n. 0032

Trans 9/11
2 R.

Lo ottenere il massimo numero possibile di partigiani che nelle file dell'Esercito italiano continuino la lotta, mi sembra di precipuo interesse per la ultima fase della guerra.

Ho la impressione che fino ad ora, nella zona dalla L'Armata, si possa migliorare il sistema di arruolamento, in modo da ottenere un maggior concorso di partigiani, come ora stessi reclamano. Fino ad oggi, solo un censimento di pochi elementi è stato effettuato da Forlì, a distanza cioè di oltre due mesi dalla liberazione.

A mio avviso la Commissione deve essere nel posto dell'arruolamento il più presto possibile - compatibilmente con lo svolgimento delle operazioni- ed inviare il lavoro di arruolamento e le persone per i centri di raccolta, non appena le formazioni partigiane hanno cessato di operare, quando cioè è ancora in quelli la e quando ancora è vivo lo spirito combattivo.

Trascorso del tempo, e ritornati nella vita civile, e dopo le prime difficoltà rientrano lo stato d'animo muta. Se ci è lo stesso il battito d'arruolamento sia molto inferiore.

Una questione che spesso viene posta dai comandanti partigiani è quella dei gradi da rivestire nell'esercito: molti di essi non hanno mai prestato servizio militare, e molti non sono che semplici graduati. Il desiderio di ottenere la nomina ad ufficiale è spesso richiesta per ragioni di autovalorizzazione personale; ma in molti casi sarebbe giusto concedere un riconoscimento a chi ha dimostrato di aver capacità militari, organizzative e di coraggio. In tal caso le commissioni di arruolamento, d'accordo con i Patriot Representatives, e su proposta delle unità Alleate operanti che hanno impiegato tali capi, si potrebbe avviare la pratica per il riconoscimento di un grado militare (non oltre quello di subalterno). Le proposte dovranno esser avvalorate con tutte le annotazioni possibili e dal punto di vista della capacità professionale e dal punto di vista politico, ad evitare il ripetersi di errori che sono stati già fatti.

Su tale delicata questione mi permetto richiamare l'attenzione di codesto Comando, affinchè d'accordo con le Autorità italiane voglia emanare quei provvedimenti atti a consentire una migliore partecipazione alla guerra da parte dell'elemento partigiani che desidera ora più che mai concorrere al riscattarsi del proprio Paese.

15 Gennaio 1945

Magg.Gen.Carlo d'Aragona

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Lovett Reed/49 SECRET and URGENT.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief Commissioner

Ref: 3207/13/COS. 16 January 1945.

SUBJECT: Enrolment of Patriots in the Italian Army.

To : Supreme Allied Commander,
Allied Force Headquarters.

1. The disposal of patriots immediately on liberation has been a matter of constant consideration, and indeed anxiety, on the part of myself and my advisers for some months. Arrangements made to meet this extremely difficult problem, which were agreed upon last July by all parties concerned including members of Special Force and of the patriots themselves, have been partly successful: a new approach must now be made.

2. Hitherto our aim has been to make of the patriots, after liberation, good civilians: to rehabilitate them in their normal vocations: to give them preferential treatment in the matter of employment: to clothe them and to feed them insofar as supplies make it possible: to recruit them as individuals into the Italian Army: and to repatriate them to their homes if they are not found to be locals. Finally, our policy has been to disarm them.

3. Our reports from Allied Military Government officers, however, have shown that patriots expect better and different treatment. They are disillusioned at their reception. Those that have really fought in bands and companies have expressed the desire to continue the fight in the same formations. The meagre supplies of food and clothing that we have been able to give do not, in their opinion, fulfill the promises made to them by the Allied missions with whom they have been operating. The order to disarm is the final straw: they resent it and the majority of them disobey it. True, we have had no serious trouble so far but, in my opinion, a fundamentally different situation will arise when we get to the North with its more virile population and (estimated) 100,000 patriots in well organised bands.

4. The experience of the Allied Nations in Belgium, France and Greece have exposed the vital danger which threatens any government, be it military or indigenous, which has to face, in the initial stages of liberation, the presence of armed bands of men accustomed to living by force of arms alone, who are readily affected and enrolled into political organisations the object of which is to usurp the power of the legitimate government and to set up a government by force rather than through elective processes. 5243

5. We must, therefore, in this country endeavour to avoid the misuse of those bands of partisans who, armed with Allied rifles and equipment, provided with Allied food and money, encouraged by Allied officers, have aided the Allied war effort. Disrupted from their normal life with little chance of an easy return to civilian employment, in this country perhaps the only virile members of a defeated population, they find it easier and more attractive to retain the

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6. I believe that with patience and understanding we can overcome many of the material causes of disillusionment but attempts at wholesale disarmament will ever be a source of resentment and of resistance for a portion of these persons.

7. The offer to enlist individuals into the Italian Army under the normal conditions of recruitment for that Army, intended to meet the desires of those who wish to carry on the fight, have met with little success. From many Italian sources, from the patriots themselves and from members of the Italian Government, have come requests that they should be recruited into the fighting element of the

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Army in their patriot bands under their patriot officers so that the comradeship and loyalty displayed behind the lines may not be lost after liberation. I am now convinced that whether in fact they will join the Army in these circumstances or not, we must give them the opportunity to do so.

8. The technical objections to this course are well understood. In the very difficult task of reorganising the Italian Army the GOC, Land Forces Sub-Commission naturally dislikes the idea of forming special nuclei within that Army which might become political formations and which would be of doubtful value militarily. He must object to accepting men into the Italian Army on their own terms: he must resist the breaking up of existing Army units in order to fit in special bands. General Browning's objections are expressed in the enclosed proposed draft reply to the Italian Chief of Staff's letter attached.

9. I submit that we must consider accepting the principle of taking into the Italian Army patriot bands as units, in numbers not exceeding say that of a company, under their own existing officers. In my opinion the political, and indeed, administrative advantages, must outweigh the military objections, for by doing so we shall be going a long way to ensure the preservation of law and order in the North and the avoidance of political and civil strife. I would ask, therefore, for your earnest and urgent consideration that the principle be approved.

10. The numbers of the Italian Army within the present ceiling are fully committed to combat groups, security divisions and service units working for the Allies: the latter units comprise some 100,000 men. It is true that at present the Italian Army is 43,000 men short of establishment. On first impression, therefore, it would appear simple to absorb the patriots in bands into existing formations and so fill the establishment. In fact, however, there would be difficulties. The desire of the patriots to continue the fight would not be wholly met by absorption into internal security divisions or service units. They ask to join the combat groups. These groups are already organised and it would be difficult to absorb ready made patriot units into them. The formation of further combat groups is precluded at present by restrictions of ceiling and equipment. Nevertheless such are the advantages of wise employment of the patriots and such are the dangers of neglecting any opportunity that I would strongly recommend (a) immediate reconsideration of the ceiling of the Italian Army by an addition of up to 100,000 men, and immediate measures to form at least one and subsequently further combat groups: and (b) direction to the Italian War Ministry to recruit patriots in bands forthwith to fill the deficiency in establishment recorded above.

11. General Browning, with whom I have discussed the contents of this letter, regards the proposal as unwise from a purely military point of view. If, however, political considerations prevail over military considerations, he is prepared to do his best to overcome the practical difficulties in order to absorb patriot bands into composite units of the Italian Army provided that requisite equipment and clothing is forthcoming.

12. Our present policy towards the patriots is being attacked both in this country and in the Allied countries, particularly in the United States. We should not reject any opportunity to create, particularly in Northern Italy, an atmosphere of content and cooperation as against resentment, even hositility, towards the Allies. We must support the legitimate Italian Government. We know that there are many forces willing and prepared to upset this Government. The concession outlined above would have a tremendous effect, in my opinion, on the patriots now in German occupied Italy. It would make them, after

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13. Whatever, therefore, the technical difficulties of raising or adjusting the distribution of the ceiling may be: whatever the extra financial commitments (and we must remember that many millions of lira and many tons of supplies are

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already being poured into the patriot stores in the North), these should and must be overcome in order to give to the patriots what they think is their due reward and make them part of a responsible government rather than potential tools of disorder. This is a matter with an international, even a world-wide aspect and should not be judged, in my opinion, on the basis of local and parochial considerations of purely military exigiencies in this theatre of operations.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: Acting President, HQ AC
Sir Noel Charles
Mr. Alexander Kirk
G-5 Section, AHFQ
Land Forces Sub-Com
Political Section
CA Section
"A" File.

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SECRET

SUBJECT: Patriots

ALLIED COMMISSION
A. A. (A.C.) R O M E

Jan 1945.

TO : A. A. C. Broad (through A.D. the Minister for War)

1. GENERAL

Your letter [illegible] dated 4 Dec to Col. [illegible] has been passed to me. I realize that Col. [illegible] while admitting in no way whatever that a change in policy was desirable, agreed to receive a memorandum from you on the subject, which you have raised on more than one occasion recently. As you have written frankly, so do I.

2. EXISTING POLICY

As you are well aware, the existing policy was adopted last Summer after considerable discussion of both the military and political aspects, both for now and post-war, by all authorities concerned including patriot leaders. After decision by high Allied authority this policy was stated in AFHQ Letters G/19 of 23 July 44 with amendment CS/G/19 of 30 Nov 44. I need hardly say that the whole matter has been continuously watched ever since by all Allied authorities concerned - particularly in view of the tragic occurrences in Greece.

3. REASONS FOR POLICY

While a large number of factors affected the problem, among the main ones are the following:-

(a) There can be only one official Italian army and its prestige and authority must be maintained and enhanced both for now and post-war.

(b) 'Private armies' of patriots or anyone else within liberated territory would not only undermine the authority of the official Italian army but would be the seeds of grave potential trouble in the future.

(c) Patriot bands (who undoubtedly have widely different political views) as complete bands would:-

(i) tend to create political "nuclei" within the army, to the detriment of the policy that the army is above politics and with possible serious post-war repercussions.

(ii) be of doubtful value militarily. The bands are not all composed of trained soldiers. Though they may be useful guerrillas, they would require training in British weapons, platoon and company tactics, etc. before being suitable for absorption into the (British armed) combat troops. The leaders of the bands would, in most cases, have to be replaced by regular officers which would cause resentment in the bands.

(iii) mean accepting the bands on their own terms instead of ours. A real "patriot" should be patriotic enough to accept what the Allies order in order to contribute his maximum to the war effort and the liberation of Italy, without causing difficulty to the Allies.

(iv) mean that existing official army units would have to be broken up in order that the bands may replace them. Apart from the military

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(c) Patrolling patriots (who undoubtedly have widely different political views) as complete bands would:-

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(iii) mean accepting the bands on their own terms instead of ours. A real "patriot" should be patriotic enough to accept what the Allies order in order to contribute his maximum to the war effort and the liberation of Italy, without causing difficulty to the Allies.

(iv) mean that existing official army units would have to be broken up in order that the bands may replace them. Apart from the military and psychological effect of such a procedure on an army unit, widespread application would unhinge and destroy the basic homogeneity of the army.

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The developments in GREECE of E.L.A.S. prove conclusively the wisdom of the Allied policy in ITALY and no change in that policy can be accepted which might bring ITALY one step nearer the state of affairs in GREECE.

COMMENTS on Para. 2 - 5 of FX/CF of 8 Feb.

4. Your paragraph 1.

(a) I do NOT accept your contention that there is a paradox.

(b) You imply that men called up come into the army unwillingly.

(c) While some bands may be willing to come into the army as bands on their own terms, my information from a variety of sources is that the reason why we have secured for the army only a few hundred patriots out of the thousands available in liberated territory is that:-

(i) patriots do not find inclined to change their free and easy life for the more circumscribed life of a soldier.

(ii) as soon as their town or village is liberated they want to go home. They would be unable, at any rate immediately, to do so if they enlist in the army.

(iii) enlistment is strongly discouraged by many of their leaders who realize that once their men are enlisted they (the leaders) become non-entities without power instead of reasonably important people.

(d) Your statement that "those who are anxious to fight encounter difficulties when attempting to join the army" is NOT a fact. Screening agencies have been set up and any patriot is at liberty to join the army if he wishes. These agencies have had little work, due entirely to the patriots own decision as to what they are prepared to do.

5. Your paragraph 2.

(a) The solution has already been decided by the Allies, taking into account all the factors involved.

(b) The fact that only a few patriots have enlisted and many have evaded the call-up (which is the law of the land) does not invalidate the solution or prove it wrong.

(c) The potentially large number of patriots in the North was a factor that was taken into account in framing the patriot policy. Failure to continue with that policy as NORTH ITALY is liberated can only accentuate the military and political difficulties and dangers mentioned above.

6. Your paragraph 3.

(a) Apart from belittling the patriot effort, there has been a tendency to give undue prominence to it, at the expense of the good work done by the official Italian army. It is largely for this reason that let by considerable more notification has been given in the press and elsewhere to the doings of the army and its valuable aid to the Allied war effort.

(b) The matter of provision of food, clothing, etc. for patriots is, as you know, a complex problem, affected by a number of factors such as availability of supplies, shipping, etc. As you also know, supplies for the Italian army are very short. The Allies have no inexhaustible reservoir which can be tapped to provide supplies on demand by all and sundry.

(c) Any patriot can enter the Army provided he is suitable. NOT "only a small number" - see also my para 4 (d) above.

(d) While appreciating the value of "links of affection and comradeship", see my remarks in 3 (c) above. Presumably the patriot should put his country above self, no matter what his nationality.

(e) As regards your para. 3 (b) see my para. 4 (c) above. Judging by results of enlistments, the patriots will only come in on their own terms.

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7. Your para. 4.

(a) I am in agreement with much of that you say. Undoubtedly, the patriots have given valuable aid to the Allied cause and to I.M.A.

(b) I am doubtful of your assessment of the unanimity of the bands as regards the political aspect. The danger here is as stated in my para. 3 (c) (i) above.

(c) The real point at issue is whether patriots shall be permitted to enter the army en bande or as individuals. In this connection see my para 3 (c) above.

8. Your paragraph 5.

Vide also my para. 3 (b) above - you doubtless appreciate that:-

(a) Disarmament is part of the policy laid down by High Allied authority.

(b) In view of the unfortunate state of affairs between Italy and the ALLIES during recent years and the fact that fascism and anti-Italian feeling has not yet been completely eliminated, it is essential, on the grounds of security alone if for no other reason, to make very sure that Italians crossing the line are what they say they are.

(c) With the best will in the world, issues of clothing, food, etc. can only be issued as authorised and not indiscriminately to all and sundry - see also my para. 4 (b) above.

9. Your summary

(a) I have commented already on most of this and would add only the following remarks:

(i) It is the Allied policy NOT to permit the existence of another armed force apart from the army (see my para. 3 (b) above). Hence the procedure laid down for patriots.

(c) Patriots must be considered as civilians till they are officially enrolled into the Italian army.

(d) The whole matter of formation of mountain units was fully considered recently by High Allied authority. In theory, there is something to be said for the idea - in practice the difficulties of producing and maintaining fully equipped mountain organizations on a different establishment to combat groups, combined with those of keeping even the combat groups up to strength, have rendered the proposition impracticable. No useful purpose can be served by reopening the question, particularly at a time when the Italian army is some 42,000 short of its authorized establishment and difficulties are being encountered to make up that shortage, which is mainly in essential service units.

(e) All contact with patriot forces in the north must be through H.Q. 15th army group and NOT direct.

10. CONCLUSION.

(a) You will have seen from above that I am in virtually complete disagreement with your memorandum.

(b) I am constrained to say that I think it is based on false premises and on incorrect views of the problem as a whole.

(c) No departure from the patriot policy laid down by higher authority can be permitted.

(d) In connection with all the above, the really important thing at the moment is that Allied policy, the authority of the Italian Government and the law of the land, shall be upheld by:-

(i) strict adherence to the patriot policy laid down.

(ii) obtaining the necessary soldiers for the Italian Army by

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security alone if for no other reason, to make very sure that Italians crossing the line are what they say they are.

(c) With the best will in the world, issues of clothing, food, etc. can only be issued as authorised and not indiscriminately to all and sundry - see also my para. 6 (b) above.

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(b) I am concerned to see that I think it is based on false premises and an incorrect view of the problem as a whole.

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(i) strict adherence to the patriot policy laid down.

(ii) obtaining the necessary soldiers for the Italian Army by ensuring effective call-ups and non-evasion of their duty by all men of military age.

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Norton Gilchrist
A.A.I.A.

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TRANSLATION

FROM: S.I.S.S.S.

Ref: 84/08

TO : Col. SIDNEY MAIA

Date: 2 Jan 45

SUBJECT: Patriots

1. Introduction

In Italy today, the following paradox exists:-

Those who are forced to go into the army, are admitted.

Those who are anxious to fight encounter difficulties when attempting to join the army.

The latter are the Patriots.

2. The problem of the Patriots has lately acquired extraordinary proportions and very shortly it will be imperative to find a solution.

In fact:-

Thousands of Patriots have for some time now lived in liberated Italy and over three thousand have recently crossed the line because they were attacked by whole German Divisions.

Nearly 100,000 Patriots will become available when Northern Italy is liberated.

3. Policy of the Allied authorities and wishes of the Patriots.

(a) The Allied Authorities have shown a tendency to:-

- disperse these formations giving the Patriots the impression that their support to the war of liberation is of little account,
- not provide adequately and immediately to the vital necessities (food, billets, clothing) of those who crossed the line,
- allow only a small number of Patriots - always isolated men - to re-enter combatant units of the army.

Thus those links of affection and comradeship formed in partisan groups, in the midst of the struggle and continued risks, are broken, links which, bearing in mind Italian character, are so very important to the performance of their ground.

(b) On the other hand the Patriots most ardently desire to continue to fight the Germans, whenever possible, maintaining their present formation.

4. Psychology of the Patriots.

- They have the profound conviction, which is even backed by Allied recognition, that they have given everything for the Allied and national causes and expect therefore a moral and material treatment corresponding to the risks they have taken so far.

- They are first class combatants chosen by hazards and privations of a difficult war,

- They represent all parties. During the Partisan war politics have never been made, both chiefs and followers having only one thought, that of fighting for the common cause.

- among the chiefs there are numerous regular army and reserve officers as well as improvised commanders who, with their courage and organizing ability,

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- They are first class combatants chosen by hazards and privations of a difficult war,
- They represent all parties. During the partisan war politics has never been made, both chiefs and followers having only one thought, that of fighting for the common cause.
- Among the chiefs there are numerous regular army and reserve officers as well as improvised commanders who, with their courage and organizing ability, have won the esteem and consideration of their followers.
- The mass of the followers is sound and their only desire is that of continuing to fight against the Germans. Once they are absorbed by the army they will become soldiers with all the qualities common to the Italian soldiers enhanced by an ideal.
- Every advantage is therefore to be gained by taking these men into the regular units of the army including, naturally, officers of proven capacity, tact and energy. These Patriots would promptly regain order and discipline and

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would give Italian units a marked impulse in their fighting spirit.

- If, on the other hand, these youths were left to themselves and their immediate necessities (food, billeting and clothing) not provided for it is to be surmised that they would become easy prey of the more dangerous elements willing to hide their arms and later to employ force in order to enforce their reasonings.

5. Treatment given in many cases to Patriots who have recently crossed the lines.

- Immediate disarmament, incorporation into coloured units, long marches even under the rain, extended questioning (treatment almost equal to that given to P.O.W.),

- no moral or medical assistance (patriots arrive from over the line with scabbies and other infective diseases),

- no issue of clothing to replace their rags or to protect the men against the hardships of winter,

- inadequate feeding (patriots receive the same ration as civilian refugees which is totally inadequate),

- Italian military authorities can do nothing to alleviate these sufferings of the patriots because, unfortunately, they have no availability of food, clothing or means of transport.

SUMMARY

Bearing in mind that:-

- it is in the common interests that Italy should remain a peaceful country and that no alteration of the internal order should take place in the rear of the operating army,

- that the existence of another armed force apart from the army would create a dangerous competition between the said armed forces,

- it would be a real shame, from an operational point of view, to waste so much precious material particularly suitable for mountain warfare,

It is considered advisable that the following measures be taken:-

- that the patriots be treated, the moment they cross the line, as true and proper combatants for the Allied cause and not as suspects:

- that suitable patriots reception camps be formed behind the line where the patriots may find a suitable and comfortable equipment (blankets, food, clothing, sick bay, baths, etc.) in order to give these men, who have suffered so much and who arrived starved and naked, a minimum of comfort:

- that the formation of these patriot groups into regular army units led by capable and safe officers, be allowed:

- that, according to Allied directives, studies be started at once in order to organize the immediate enrollment and cadre of the northern Italy patriots when the armies advance.

Since most of the men are natives of the mountainous regions or men who have fought for a long time in the mountains these studies could be based, for example, on the policy of organizing Alpini battalions or at least troops equipped for mountain warfare. These units could be grouped in such a way as to constitute one or more main units to operate in the mountains or to

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Since most of the representatives of the mountainous regions or men who have fought for a long time in the mountains these studies could be based, for example, on the policy of organizing Alpini regiments or at least troops equipped for mountain warfare. These units could be grouped in such a way as to constitute one or more main units to operate in the mountains or to be allotted, for employment, to Allied Divisions for patrol or guide duties.

Once the enrollment plan has been established, SACMED could contact the Military Aid, of the Partisan Forces of the North in order to prearrange the carrying out of the plans and when the regions of northern Italy are liberated.

The Chief of Staff
(Sgd) P. SCOCCIMARRO

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File 121/12/YAT.
Copy to 49/FAT.

DISPOSAL OF PATIENTS

Date	Area	Army	Employment	Repa
2/8 Jan.	Siena	200		
31 Dec/10 Jan.	Detach.No.1	31		
29/31 Dec.	Detach.No.5	102		
18 Nov.	Perugia	80		
18 Nov.	Grosseto	15		
30 Nov.	Viterbo	0.80		
3 Dec.	Fuscara	-	50	-
6 Dec.	Pescia	200		700
15 Dec.	Florence	75	115	71
28 Dec.	Florence	516		
2 Jan.	Pisa	-	52	-
		1299	247	771

copy to Col Pidley WO 204/83
Pages 191.

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14 JAN Recd 105

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Translated by J.D.H.

From : Recruiting Agencies - Detachement n°1

Ref. 5E/VC

To : Col. DATA - Patriots Branch R C M P

55 10 January 1945

Following our letter 47E/VC dated 31 Dec. 1944; I wish to inform you that upon orders of "CE.R.SE.TI." H.Q's having been appointed to a different post, I passed the Command of the Detachement to Lt. Col. ZAFFILLI Ciro.

Since 31 December, 31 Patriots have been enlisted, 3 of which from Lucca, 21 from Florence, and 7 from Pescia.

Of the 31 enlisted Patriots, 29 have been assigned to the 210th Infantry Division, and 2 have been sent to the Rome "CE.R.SE.TI." for further assignement to Combat Unit.

THE COMMANDER OF THE DETACHEMENT
(signed) Enrico SANSONE.

mil c.

5236

1254

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Trans 13/1 R. 56A

CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIORDINAMENTO SETTORE TIRRENICO
Distaccamento N°1
=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=.=

N°68/VO di prot. Posta Militare 179, li 10 gennaio 1945

=AL COLONELLO F A V A
A.C. "Patriot Branch"
ex Ministero delle Corporazioni
Via Veneto
554 R O M A
~~237~~

Seguito foglio N°478/VO in data 31/12/44, comunico che in data odierna, in seguito ad ordine avuto dal Comando "CE.R.SE.TI", essendo stato destinato ad altro incarico, ho ceduto il comando del Distaccamento al Ten.Col.Zappelli Gino.-

Dal 31 dicembre ad oggi sono stati arruolati complessivamente N°31 patrioti.- Di essi 3 provengono da Lucca, 21 da Firenze e 7 da Pescia.-

Dei 31 arruolati 29 sono stati assegnati alla 210^ Divisione di Fanteria e 2 sono stati avviati al Comando "CE.R.SE.TI" di Roma per la successiva assegnazione ai Gruppi di Combattimento.=

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO
(Ten.Col.Enrico Sansone)
E. Sansone

5235

1255

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Stelle

14 JAN Recd 1105

55

Translated by F. de P.

Recruiting Agency Detachment No 1.

No 478/70

31 Dec 44

Subject Enlistment of Volunteers.

To A.C. Patriots Branch.
(attention of Col Fava.)

Following our letter ref. 402/70 dated 20 inst.

Detachment No 5, who according to Col Spicer's directions and in agreement with Capt Limbert, is at my orders and is detached at Lucca-

Since 20 December 102 patriots have been enlisted, 10 from Lucca, 72 from Pescia and 20 from Florence.

Of the 102 enlisted patriots, 38 have been assigned to the 210 Infantry Division and 64 have been sent to Co.R.Se.Ft. H.Q. in Rome for further assignment to fighting units.

The Commander of the Detachment,

Ten Col Enrico Zamone.

5234

1256

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

54)

13 JAN Recd 1945

CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIORDINAMENTO SETTORE TIRRENICO
Distaccamento N°1

N°478/VO.di prot. Posta militare 179;lì 31.12.1944

Trani 13/1/45 R.

O G G E T T O:Arruolamento volontari.=

AL PATRIOT BRANCH
(Col.Fava)
A. C.
ex Ministero delle Corporazioni
- Via Veneto - R O M A

Seguito foglio 402/VO.in data 20 corrente.

Il Distaccamento n°5,che giusta le disposizioni avute dal Colonnello Spicer lavora sotto la mia direzione,d'accordo col Capitano Limbert,trovasi dislocato a Lucca.

Dal 20 dicembre ad oggi sono stati arruolati complessivamente n°102 patrioti.Di essi:10 provengono da Lucca,72 da Pescia,20 da Firenze.

Dei 102 arruolati,n°38 sono stati assegnati alla 210^ Divisione di Fanteria e n°64 sono stati avviati al Comando "Ce.R. Se.Ti."di Roma per la successiva assegnazione ai gruppi di combattimento.=

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO
(Ten.Col.Enrico Sansone)

5933

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

54

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref: ~~2[illegible]~~ 49/PAT. 27 Dicembre 1944.

Oggetto: Reclutamento Patrioti.

Al: Ten.Col. Tensone, Recruiting
Agency No. 1, FIRENZE.

Si prega la S.V. di voler far conoscere settimanalmente il numero dei Patrioti complessivamente arruolati da Lei Sua Commissione e da quella del Magg. De Alfino, indirizzando la lettera al Col. Favo, Ufficiale di Collegamento, Patriota Br. ach.

Con l'occasione di prega di porre il massimo interesse nel delicato incarico affidatole in modo da ottenere il numero più alto possibile di arruolati.

K.G.B. SPICER
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots B

AV/mfs.

5232

264

1258

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Translated by AV.

FROM : HQ. AC. Patriots Branch
TO : Lt.Col.Sansone,
Recruiting Agency N.1,
FLORENCE.
REF/49 105/PAT.
DATE : 26 Dec.44
SUBJECT: Recruiting patriots.

Please send a weekly report on the number of Patriots totally recruited by your Agency and Maj Alfaro's, and addressed the letter to Col. Fava, Liaison Officer, Patriots Branch.

I take the opportunity to beg you to put the greatest care in the delicate task entrusted to you so as to obtain the highest as possible number of recruits.

R.G.B. SPICER,
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

/mfg.

5231

264

1259

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
AFO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref: 49/PAT. 27 Dicembre 1944.

Oggetto: Reclutamento Patrioti.

Al: Magg. CASALI, Recruiting Agency No.3
FORLI.

Si prega la S.V. di far conoscere settimanalmente il numero dei Patrioti arruolati dalla Sua Commissione, indirizzando la lettera al Col. Fava, Ufficiale di Collegamento, Patriots Branch.

Con l'occasione si prega di porre il massimo interesse nel delicato compito affidatole in modo da ottenere il numero più alto di arruolati.

R.G.B. SPICER,
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

5230

AV/ [illegible].

(265)

1260

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Translated by A.V.

FROM : HQ. AC. Patriots Branch
TO : Maj. CASALI, Recruiting Agency No.3, FORLI.
Ref 49/105 PAT.
Date : 26 Dec 44.
Subject: Recruiting Patriots.

Please send a weekly report on the number of patriots recruited by your Agency, addressing the letter to Col. Fava, Liaison Officer, Patriots Branch.

I take the opportunity to beg you to put the greatest care in the delicate task intrusted to you so as to obtain the highest possible number of recruits.

V.

R.G.B. SPICER,
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

/mfg.

5229

(265)

1261

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref: 43/PAT. 23 December 1944.

Subject: Patriot Volunteers for Italian Army.

To: Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(L.F.S.A.C.)

47

Further to your T3/G/19 of 5 Dec.
Sgt. Sumone who heads the Recruiting Agency in Florence is hard at work trying to obtain recruits at the two Patriot Centres in Florence and Fescia. There is, however, an extreme reluctance on the part of Patriots, to join the Italian Army and is meeting with very little success.

He is fully aware that the HQ of the 610 Division is in Florence and has in fact already sent a batch of some 40 men to that HQ.

R.C.B. SEIGER,
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

BMD/afg.

5228

252

1262

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

121

COPY

5227/3

Dec. 13

MIA LO

British Increment, V Army

Telephone: Lightning Rear 163

TO: MIA H.Q.

Subject: Partisans in the Florence Area.

Today I had an interview of Gen. CERICA of Delegazione 'T' on the subject of partisans in the Florence area. He is going up to Rome in a few days time to discuss the situation with the Ministry of War, and he will contact Major Bateman.

He gave me a very complete picture, but I am only sending information which seems to have some bearing on the enlistment of the partisans into the Italian Army.

Gen. CERICA states that the great majority of the partisans are most unwilling to join the regular Italian forces in the normal way. (48 have enlisted out of 1100 here, for example). He ascribes this to various factors:

1. They do not feel inclined to change the free and easy life of a partisan for the circumscribed life of a normal soldier.

2. As soon as their town or village is liberated they will want to go home, and they will be unable to do so if they enlist now.

3. They resent very much the indifference (sometimes discourtesy and hostility) with which they are received in our lines. They take this as a sample of what they are to expect if they join the Italian Army.

They are encouraged in all these sentiments by their leaders, a small part of whom are genuine political fanatics, but most of whom realise that once their men are enlisted in the army in the normal way, they themselves, from being important people, will become military nonentities in view of their lack of experience of normal military commands. Hence they vigourously counteract any persuasion or urging on the part of those (like Gen. CERICA) interested in getting the partisans into the Italian Army where their combat experience would be useful.

5227

1263

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

51B

The leaders would be quite willing to bring the men into the Army as units which they themselves would command. The absurdities which this would involve have already been pointed out to the leaders here.

Gen. CERICA has his own proposals for dealing with the situation and he will put these forward to the Ministry of War. Partisans are situated in this area at the moment as follows.

At Florence	600	partisans	from	Modena Division
	250	"	"	B.O.B.
Total	850			
At Pistoia	500	"	"	Lucenca and Modena Div.
At Lucca	500	"	"	Gruppi Brigata EST.
At Pencia	115	"	"	Various formations above.
TOTAL	1965			

In the mountains around Apuania there are 1,400 partisans, at present led by PIETRO - of whom Gen. CERICA declares to be the very best type to be found among partisan leaders. A German Division has been sent to round them up and PIETRO states that within the next ten days he will be obliged to withdrew his men into our lines. This will bring the total number of partisans located in this area up to 3,365.

If these 1,400 can be kept apart from the others, inview of the disposition of their leaders we may get some good material for reinforcements from their ranks.

It has been proposed to bring the Pistoia Group of 500 into Florence. This would be a very bad move, in view of the fact that this city is seething with political unrest, to such an extent that the retention here of the already existing group of 850 is unwise even from the point of view of the possibility of their spreading discontent among Italian soldiers employed by the Allies.

A.M. NEWTON Capt
MEDIA LO Brit. Incr. V ARMY

5226

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394.
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ext. 374

Ref: 49/95/P.B.
Copy to 110/P.B.

18 December 1944.

Subject: Patriots for absorption into the Italian Army.

To: Major S.T. TILLOCH,
No.1 Special Force.

49

In reply to your 15/4/174 dated 16 December, I have discussed with H.Q.M.I.A. the overall total of patriots who can be absorbed into the Italian Army.

It would be fair to quote to your E.L.O. an approximate figure of 30,000.

for P.N.
R.G.B. SPICER,
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

PMB/ajl.

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1265

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Copy from 11RIPAT 49

LS/4/174 16th December 1944

To: Director,
Patriots Branch,
Allied Commission.

From: Major E.L. Tulloch,
No. 1 Special Force.

One of our British Liaison Officer with Italian Patriot bands in the Appenines has signalled this H.Q. asking for the numbers of Partisans who can be absorbed into the Italian Army.

It is particularly necessary for this officer to be able to quote some figure to the leaders of the bands in his district, as for reasons of security and supply, he is obliged to reduce the strengths of the bands and is endeavouring to persuade the surplus to cross the lines into A.O.T.

We would be obliged if even an approximate figure could be quoted.

signed E.L. TULLOCH,
Major,
for Commander, R.T.V.P.,
Comd. No.1 Special Force.

5224

/mfs.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1266

47 48

Colonel SICHR's Notes

Thursday Nov.16: Interviewed Lieut. Di LORETO, Col. FAVA, Sig. VILLA and Sig. BARBI.

1. Italian Army want Patriots to join their ranks so long as ceiling permits.

2. Patriots not willing to do so as individuals, but wish to continue as Patriot units fighting with the Italian Army. Italian General Staff and A.M.I.A. say no.

3. There is, however, a band of 650 with VIII Army, actually fighting at VIII Army's request. They call themselves the "Brigata Garibaldi Marchegiana". They are being issued with supplies and with ammunition by VIII Army, but beyond this are not recognised as a fighting unit.

4. Arms. Serious menace to law and order not only now, but a great menace to Italian general security when Allies have left.

The Extreme Left are, without doubt, not surrendering arms. Non-political bands and military bands are doing so.

5. Militia. The danger of this idea is that it would seem to be tantamount to starting another Fascist militia.

6. Welfare Camps. For rehabilitation, clothing, hot baths and a short period of good meals and even a cigarette would fit these men out for their future life, and this is a point which should be pressed. No Patriot, however, should be given such facilities unless he has handed in arms.

7. Certificates. There is a grave delay in issue which must be tackled. It is taking from 30 to 90 days before these Certificates are issued. PERUGIA is a bad place in point. Certificates have not yet been issued at all in this area. Meanwhile the Patriot is more or less a vagrant.

8. Patriots who are soldiers, but who have deserted their units and come from the North, and whose residences are in MILAN, VENICE, etc., are a peculiarly difficul problem. Their absorption is one that does not seem to have been given serious attention.

9. We are working in close collaboration with the following Special Forces:

No.1 Special Force (ROME)	Maj. TULLOCH
No.15 Detachment, No.1 Special Force (GHURKHAS)	Maj. MacINTOSH
No.10 Detachment, No.1 Special Force (SIENA)	Capt. GIBSON

5993

I wish to make contact with all the O.C's. of these Special Forces.

10. I.R.P.B. Region IV have three Patriot Committees at work in regard to the issue of "General Alexander" Certificates, since the matter has apparently been totally neglected in Region IV to date. This is not a national committee, but was an ad hoc system introduced by Col. McCAFFERY in view of Region IV's failure to take action.

1267

...fighting with the Italian Army. Italian General Staff and A...I A. say no.

3. There is, however, a band of 650 with VIII Army, actually fighting at VIII Army's request. They call themselves the "Brigata Garibaldi Marchegiana". They are being issued with supplies and with ammunition by VIII Army, but beyond this are not recognised as a fighting unit.

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The extreme Left are, without doubt, not surrendering arms. Non-political bands and military bands are doing so.

5. Militia. The danger of this idea is that it would seem to be tantamount to starting another Fascist militia.

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9. We are working in close collaboration with the following Special Forces:

No.1 Special Force (HOUSE)	Maj. BULLOCH
No.15 Detachment, No.1 Special Force (FLORENCE)	Maj. MacINTOSH
No.10 Detachment, No.1 Special Force (SIENA)	Capt. GIBSON

5993

I wish to make contact with all the O.C's. of these Special Forces.

10. A.M.G. Region IV have three Patriot Committees at work in regard to the issue of "General Alexander" Certificates, since the matter has apparently been totally neglected in Region IV to date. This is not a national committee, but was an ad hoc system introduced by Col. McCARTHY in view of Region IV's failure to take action.

Certificates generally will require careful approach, and Italian representatives are of opinion that the "General Alexander" Certificate has been carelessly issued. They wish, therefore, to review all cases, particularly in regard to relations of those Patriots who have been killed and to Patriots who have themselves been mutilated, and to issue a Certificate which will carry with it some pecuniary advantage.

Distribution: Major MAGNUS
Lieut. Di LORETO
Col. PAVA
Capt. Di ROSILANT

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1268

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

53C .5 DIC Rec'd
L9 Brns

SUBJECT: Patriot Volunteers for Indian Army

LAND FORCES SUB-COM. A.C.
(L.M.I.A.)
File No. 15/G/19
5 Dec 44

TO : PATRIOT BRANCH H.Q.

Will you please say what action has been taken on this HQ letter 15/G/19/b of 20 Nov as it is understood from the War Ministry that so far no one has as yet reported to HQ ELO Div for enlistment.

V.M. Inglekar Lt-Col
for Major General
L. M. I. A.

1269

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

-1 DEC Recd

SECRET

Subject:- Patriots Volunteers for ITALIAN ARMY.

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

TS/G/19b
30 Nov 44

Patriots Branch, A.C.

Attached find copies copies of this Hq letters TS/G/19 of 30 Nov and TS/G/19a of 30 Nov.

Will you please take action on para 4 of TS/G/19 of 30 Nov.

L. M. Singleton

Lt Col.,
General Staff,
M.M.I.A.

-1 DEC neca

SECRET

Subject:- Patriot Volunteers for ITALIAN ARMY

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

TS/G/19
30 Nov 44

Ministry of War

1. Attached for information is copy of this HQ letter of 22 Nov, ref TS/G/19, addressed to Patriots Branch, A.C.

2. In amplificiation of the above letter it is stressed that:-

(a) No guarantee can be given to patriots as to the type of unit or employment to which they will be assigned. This will depend on their individual qualifications and vacancies existing at the time. Patriots may be posted to Combat Groups, BR-ITI or US-ITI Service Units, or Guard Bns or Internal Security Divs, as directed by this HQ according to the requirements of the moment in the same way as other reinforcements.

(b) Under no circumstances will groups or patriots or bands under their own officers be posted together to a unit. This is in keeping with the policy agreed between GOC, MMIA, Patriots Branch, A.C., and FE The Minister for War.

3. It has come to the notice of GOC, MMIA, personally, that the War Ministry recently submitted verbal proposals contary to the above policy with regard to the group of patriots from FLORENCE(270) and the group from PISTOIA(400). These proposals can NOT, of course, be entertained.

4. I am instructed to state that information on these groups has been passed to Patriots Branch, AC with the request that personnel be processed in the normal way by the screening agencies based on FLORENCE. Those men who are accepted into the Army will be handed over to HQ 219 Div., FLORENCE, who will assign them to units in Fifth Army.

L. W. Ingleden.
Lt Col.,
General Staff,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- Patriots Branch, AC.
MMIA LO with Fifth Army
AG
S & T
MOT

5220

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(a) No guarantee can be given to patriots as to the type of unit or employment to which they will be assigned. This will depend on their individual qualifications and vacancies existing at the time. Patriots may be posted to Combat Groups, BR-ITI or US-ITI Service Units, or Guard Bns or Internal Security Divs, as directed by this HQ according to the requirements of the moment in the same way as other reinforcements.

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4. I am instructed to state that information on these groups has been passed to Patriots Branch, AC with the request that personnel be processed in the normal way by the screening agencies based on FLORENCE. Those men who are accepted into the Army will be handed over to HQ 21C Div., FLORENCE, who will assign them to units in Fifth Army.

L. M. Englehen.
Lt Col.,
General Staff,
M.M.I.A.

Copy to:- Patriots Branch, AC.
MMIA LO with Fifth Army
AC
S & T
Mov
SD/42
SD/50

5220

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

1272

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY -1 DEC Recd

SECRET

SUBJECT: Absorption of Italian Patriots into Italian Army.

Land Forces Sub-Com. A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)
TS/G/19
21 Nov 44

To : Patriots Branch

With reference to paragraph 2 of letter 15/2/75.

We shall be pleased to absorb the partisans referred to via the following procedure :

(a) When the partisans have been assembled at collecting point or points, advise this Mission and transportation will be provided for their transfer to a military camp.

(b) At the camp they will be all screened and processed and dispositions made accordingly.

(c) They will be incorporated into either combat units, in the branch of service for which they are best suited in which case they will receive proper training and eventually join an operational outfit, or they may be sent to service units working for the Allies.

These partisans cannot therefore be "incorporated intact" into the Italian Army but must adhere to the above procedure for absorption into the Army.

5219

(Sgd) H P PACINI, Capt
Major General
M.M.I.A.

Copy to: SD/42

1273

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

- 1 DEC Recd

16

SECRET

Subject:- Patriot Volunteers for ITALIAN ARMY

Land Forcew Sub Com., A.C.
(M.M.I.A.)

TS/G/19a
30 Nov 44

Ministry of War

Copy to:- HQ, AAI
HQ, AC
Navy Sub Comm, AC
Air Forces Sub Comm, AC
Patriots Branch, AC.

MMIA LO NAPLES
" " 5 Army
" " 8 Army
" " 1 District
" " 3 District

7A

Ref MMIA letter C/19 of 23 Jul para 3(c).

Where, in certain cases, the enlistment centre is forward (i.e. in AAI area), it will be the responsibility of MMIA to arrange either through Allied or Italian channels for personnel so accepted into the Army to be moved from enlistment centre to the units to which personnel have been assigned. Transportation remains the responsibility of Patriots Branch, AC until personnel are duly enlisted.

5218

L. M. Ingleden Lt-Col
for Major General,
M.M.I.A.

1274

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Tel. 489081
Ext.620

25 November 1944.

Ref: 49/PAT

Subject: Italian Patriots Serving with the Allies.

To: Policy and Propaganda Services,
P.W.B.

First of all I must apologise for the delayed reply to your letter of 17 November 44, which, however, has been as you know dealt with telephonically.

I see no objection whatsoever to the publication of your article as it stands, without exception.

Will you be good enough to note that my name is spelt STOCKER.

R.G.B. Stocker Colonel.

R.G.B. STOCKER,
Colonel,
Director,
Patriots Branch.

5217

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Rec'd NOV 17 2 I
msg.

49

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
FORMATION AND CENSORSHIP SECTION
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH
ITALIAN THEATRE HEADQUARTERS
P.W.B. UNIT No. 12 U.S.A.P.O. 512

To: Colonel Spoinel, Patriots Branch, A.C.
From: Policy and Propaganda Services, P.W.B.
Date: 17th November 1944

Subject: Italian patriots serving with the Allies

An abridged article has been prepared for publication in the Florence newspapers, with a view to encouraging more Italian patriots to volunteer to serve with the Allies. Would you kindly let us have your comments. The matter is of some urgency as we have asked our Florence office to hold the article until we can give them further instructions.

Lawrence Kitchener
LT. COL. KITCHENER

SECM. Col. Speed.

INITIAL	DATE
TH	

Nov 24.

1276

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

[illegible]

Vera Division F.A.T., Florence.

[illegible]

Florence 24 November 1944.

A group of 320 members of the "A. Mussolini" Brigade, comprising the commander, has been recently formed and has now left the province. The men of this group, some time ago expressed a wish to return to work for the Allies, in whatever condition. [illegible] and now, whilst on the battle taken by the Allied infantry [illegible] which has been retaken. [illegible] organized in Italy to a formation of [illegible], was destined [illegible] in Romagna [illegible] to the front line. The [illegible] were trained, given a field-kitchen, [illegible], and were equipped with all the necessary tools, for carrying out their duties on [illegible]. Work has to be carried on in the [illegible] of the front. Work [illegible] every day, [illegible] all members [illegible] very often under fire [illegible] every difficulty. Here, [illegible] which render such work less difficult and comparatively [illegible] safe. The only satisfaction [illegible] can derive in this [illegible] which come from the knowledge that in this manner they are [illegible] their country. And it is exactly [illegible] which renders these men, [illegible] lack of every extraneous satisfaction which renders them [illegible] who have agreed to continue the fight under such conditions, [illegible] worthy of esteem.

Here is the text of a letter sent by the leader of the [illegible] under Test to Gen. Lemnitz who is the Allied officer [illegible] instrumental in organizing this remnant.

"Dear Lemnitz,

We have not yet succeeded in completely organizing [illegible], but we have here what in a few days we should have every-[illegible] to perfect order. Good conditions are essential [illegible], and all [illegible] in Florence, such as accepting this work, [illegible] will be in good part [illegible] and view it as a condition of [illegible] this new life of which the ordinary [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] be afraid because nearly all of them belong to the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

1277

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We need still more clothing and boots. I hope also that you will take an interest in this matter.

I intend to this new life two functions before boredom discourages them in their idle life in the towns.

My fraternal greetings

yours

Ernesto Vorel "

This is why I am sending you these letters, but it is not in a spirit of dejection of the difficulties concerning the question of [illegible] on the front.

This is clearly shown by the exact manner in which the men of the group have accepted their new life.

If for many the return to the civil life of which they fought during the long months in the countryside was full of perils has appeared tiresome and difficult, and if for many the former friends [illegible] too easy consideration of the natural [illegible] have been destroyed, there is still the possibility of [illegible] that for some will really count active and [illegible] they are given a chance to return to a work normal [illegible] which should only be the ordinary concern, in the mind and heart of all, the only objective to effect.

A [illegible] wish to contribute to this work to the benefit of [illegible] inclined to exchange their arms for tools, [illegible] will do right in [illegible] Vittorio Veneto).

[illegible] volunteers will share the [illegible] lot [illegible] Italian [illegible] who are giving their help and often their life with the object of ending the war.

1278

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

[illegible]
[illegible]

Una formazione partigiana è ripartita per il fronte.

Firenze 14 novembre 1944.- Un reparto di recente costituzione, formato da 320 partigiani delle brigate A. Biancoshini reduci del fronte appenninico, è partito in questi giorni per il fronte.
Gli uomini che lo compongono avevano a suo tempo espresso la volontà di ritornare a lavorare per gli Alleati, a qualsiasi condizione; ora mercè il pronto intervento delle Autorità militari Alleate, il loro desiderio ha trovato la sua realizzazione.
Tale reparto, costituito per la prima volta in Italia direttamente dai quadri di una formazione partigiana, è stato destinato all'opera di rastrellamento delle strade essenziali al fine del rifornimento delle prime linee del fronte. Gli uomini sono stati equipaggiati ed hanno avuto in dotazione cucine da campo, infermeria, corpo sanitario e tutta l'attrezzatura necessaria per lo svolgimento della loro attività come reparto autonomo. Opera dura, ma ilare che si prospetta per i componenti del reparto, da eseguirsi in qualsiasi condizione di tempo e molto spesso sotto il fuoco dell'artiglieria nemica; mancano qui quelle condizioni che rendono il lavoro meno difficile e sicuramente piacevole. L'unica soddisfazione che ne deriva è quella che viene dalla coscienza di compiere, anche in questo caso, il proprio dovere verso la patria. Ed è appunto la mancanza di ogni soddisfazione esteriore che fa sì che gli uomini, che hanno accettato di proseguire la lotta anche in queste condizioni, ci appaiano particolarmente degni di stima.
Riproduciamo il testo della lettera inviata dal comandante del reparto Ernesto Nenci al capitano Gilbert che è l'ufficiale alleato che ha provveduto all'organizzazione del nuovo unità.

" Sig. Capitano Gilbert, 5243
Non siamo ancora riusciti ad organizzare completamente il campo, però siamo certi che in pochi giorni ancora ci metteremo tutti in perfetto ordine. Le condizioni per il vitto sono ottime e lei può comunicare a tutti i partigiani che si trovano a Firenze che accettando il lavoro si possono trovare bene, il tutto sta nella volontà di accettare questa nuova vita che in fondo non deve far paura alla grande maggioranza dei partigiani essendo quasi tutti di condizione operaia.
Ho piena fiducia che riusciremo e se qualcuno lascierà il campo non sarà certo per le condizioni attuali, bensì perchè già stanco e sfiduciato; quindi per questo la colpa non si può

mirico, è partito in questi giorni per il [illegible]
Gli uomini che lo compongono avevano a suo tempo espresso la volontà di ritornare a lavorare per gli Alleati, a qualsiasi condizione; ora, perciò il pronto interessamento delle Autorità militari alleate, il loro desiderio ne trovato la sua realizzazione.
Sarà il primo reparto, costituito per la prima volta in Italia direttamente dal Governo di una formazione partigiana, a essere destinato all'opera di rastrellamento delle strade e quindi al fine del riconoscimento delle mine nel fronte. Gli uomini sono stati equipaggiati di tutto punto in tutte quelle cose di campo, infermeria, corpo sanitario e tutte l'attrezzature necessarie per lo svolgimento della loro attività come reparto autonomo. Opera ardua, quella che si prospetta per i componenti del reparto, da eseguirsi in una lenta condizione di tempo e molto spesso sotto il fuoco dell'artiglieria nemica; nonostante ad alcune condizioni che rendono al lavoro meno difficile e contribuire proficuo. L'unico scopo che anima chi vi opera è quello di assolvere un sacrificio, ancora in questo modo, al proprio dovere verso la patria. Ed è appunto questo che fa sì che gli uomini, lontani da ogni considerazione retributiva, che fa sì che gli uomini, che hanno accettato di proseguire la lotta ancora in questa condizione, ci appaiono particolarmente degni di stima.
Riproduciamo il testo della lettera inviata dal comandante del reparto Ernesto Venni al capitano Lambert che è l'ufficiale alleato che ha provveduto all'organizzazione della nuova unità.

5213

" Cap. Capitano Lambert,
Non siamo ancora riusciti ad organizzare completamente il campo, però siamo certi che in pochi giorni saremo al mettere tutti in perfetto ordine. Le condizioni per il vitto sono ottime e lei può comunicare a tutti i partigiani che si trovano a Firenze che accettando il lavoro si possono trovare bene, il tutto sta nella volontà di accettare questa nuova vita che in tanto non certo per la paura alla grande maggioranza dei partigiani essendo quasi tutti di condizione operaia.
Ho piena fiducia che riusciremo e se qualcuno lascierà il campo non sarà certo per le condizioni attuali, bensì perchè già stanco e sfiduciato; quindi per questo la colpa non si può dare al lavoro.
Ho detto sopra che riusciremo e fino a Bologna ne sono certo. Ci occorrono ancora capi di vestiario e scarpe; spero anche in questo accontentarci per il loro interessamento.
Faccio appello a questa nuova vita per i nostri partigiani prima che l'ipocondria li scorraggi nell'ozio della città.
Distintamente la saluto
Ernesto Venni

Lettera scarna, come si vede, ma vi è in essa una coscienza precisa di quali che sono i difficili problemi inerenti la questione dei partigiani reduci dal fronte.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

La prova di questo [illegible] appunto nella [illegible] con le quali gli uomini del reparto hanno affrontato la nuova vita.
Se per molti patrioti il ritorno alla vita civile, immediato nei luoghi ove nella vita di ogni giorno come pieno di pro prese, si è rivelato [illegible] facile e difficile, se molte loro speranze, nate da una considerazione troppo facile dei problemi della guerra moderna, sono state frustrate, vi è in questa possibilità di riprendere un lavoro ricchioso ma veramente costruttivo, un mezzo per ricondurre la propria esistenza su un piano di normalità e soprattutto di effettiva utilità al paese; ciò che oggi, al di sopra di ogni questione particolaristica, dovrebbe essere, nella mente e nel cuore di ognuno, l'unico scopo da raggiungere.

Se altri patrioti pensano di contribuire con questo lavoro al bene dell'Italia; se sentono di poter cambiare le armi che hanno e si valorosamente impugnato con gli arnesi da lavoro, possono rivolgersi al Capitano Hibbert (dentro profughi, via della scala 66).

I volontari divideranno la stessa sorte di tutti coloro, Italiani o Alleati, che stanno dando la loro opera e spesso la vita allo scopo di vincere la guerra.

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1281

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MSC 4 NOV Recd

49

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
AFO 394

AC/14601/59/PS

3 November 1944

SUBJECT : CC.RR.

TO : Patriots Branch.

1. Reference your 49/Pat dated 14 October 1944.

2. The information concerning 3000 CC.RR. in Piemonte, who are believed to have joined patriot bands, has been passed to the Commanding General CC.RR. Orders have been issued for the return of these men to the CC.RR. when the territory is liberated.

	INITIALS	DATE
	P.D.	

FJW/jwf

Frank J. Wilson WMT.

JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission

5211

1282

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MSC 19 OCT hecd

HEADQUARTERS
ANG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

12th October 1944.

108/2

SUBJECT: Volunteers at Siena.

TO: H.Q., A.C.C. - Patriots Branch.
Attn: Col. McCarthy.

Reference our 108/2 dated 6 October on above subject, copy to you, herewith copy of a report submitted to this Headquarters by Ten. Col. Sansone, Il Comandante del Distaccamento.

For the Commanding General:

/ H.D. Kellyman Capt.
E.B. [illegible],
Colonel, U.S.A.,
Chief of Staff,
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

/hdp

SEEN.	INITIALS.	DATE.
Col. Mc. CARTHY		
Maj. Mac [illegible]	R.D	
Maj. DRACE		
Capt. SALVADORI		
Lt. LAVA		
[illegible] C.		

N.A.

5210

1283

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

TRANSLATION

19 OCT Recd

COLLECTING STATION AND REORGANIZATION OF THE TYRRENIC AREA

Detachment No. 1.

PM 175 - 11 October 1944.

Ref. No. 122.

Object : Volunteers at Siena.

To the Command of the 5th Army.

I reply to the letter reference 108/2 of the 6th October which I received only yesterday -

The knowledge I have about this question would have surely excluded that the news of the possibility of a re-employment of 800 partisans at Siena was correct.

However in order to have more elements to answer I went in that town and after having spoken with Lt. Colonel CROCI of the "Monte Amiata collecting" station and with "Viro" leader of the released Lavagnini Band (communist), I confirm that the news concerns only the possibility of a re-employment of partisans with their leaders that must be assigned in a single group.

The leader of the detachment

Lt. Col. Enrico SANSONE;

1284

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPIA

CENTRO RACCOLTA E RIORDINAMENTO SETTORE TIRRENICO
Distaccamento No. 1
.....

No.122. di prot. P.M. 179 li 11 ottobre 1944

AL COMANDO DELLA 5 ARMATA

OGGETTO: Volontari a Siena.

Rispondo al foglio 107/2 in data 6 corrente pervenutomi soltanto ieri.

La conoscenza che ho della questione mi avrebbe portato senzaltro ad escludere che la notizia relativa alla possibilita' di arruolare 800 partigiani a Siena fosse esatta.

Tuttavia per avere migliori elementi di risposta mi sono recato stamane in quella citta' e dopo avere conferito col Maggiore Maglietta dell'A.C.C., col Ten. Col. Croci del Raggruppamento "Monte Amiata" e col Com.te Viro della disciolta banda Lavagnini (comunista) confermo che la notizia si riferisce solo alla possibilita' di arruolamento dei partigiani da destinare ad unico reparto assieme ai loro capi.

IL COMANDANTE DEL DISTACCAMENTO
(Ten. Col. s.S.M. Enrico Sansone)

5208

1285

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH
APO 394

Ref: 49/PAT

14 October 1944.

Subject: Deserters from the Carabinieri.

To: Vice President,
Civil Affairs Section.

It is reported that in PIEDMONTE 5,000 Carabinieri have deserted with their arms to Patriot Bands.

If this turns out to be true, is it possible to make arrangements to take these people back into the Carabinieri when we finally overtake them?

C.D. McCARTHY,
Colonel,
Patriots Branch.

5207

1286

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

D.C. 18 OCT Recd

SUBJECT: Italian Troops in YUGOSLAVIA.

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E
TS/G/31
6 Oct 44

TO : AFHQ.

Copy to: ACC (further to MMIA letter TS/G/31 of 4 Oct)
2 Dist MMIA LO 2 Dist
3 List Ministry of War

Ref Force 140 signed G(o) 147 of 2 Oct not to all.

1. This HQ will accept back into the Italian Army such members of the Garabaldi Div ex Balkan Islands as are considered suitable.

2. Will you please authorize 3 List to arrange with Italian Mil HQ Apulia and Lucania (Bari) that after being registered and the necessary leave period completed these personnel report to Italian Combat Force Rft Depot 3 miles west of Alife (M2404) for enrollment into the Italian Combat Force.

3. Will the Italian Ministry of War please report Nos accepted to the Italian Combat Force Rft Depot, copy to this HQ.

	INIT.	
Maj. M...		
...		
...		
...		
...		
...	No Action	RPS.

Maj Gen
M M I A

Copy:- 2 i/c
HQ
Spec Sec

HEADQUARTERS
8 OCT. 1944
A. C. C.

Subject: Absorption of Hospitals into Italian Army Medical Services.

Military Mission
Italian Army,
R O M E
A9/7

6 Oct 44

To: MINISTRY OF WAR

1. Approval is given, subject to conditions stated in para. 2, for absorption into the Italian Army Medical Services of the personnel, buildings and all medical equipment of the following hospitals :-

(a) Ospedale "S.Gallo" FLORENCE (present beds 328)

Staff - Officers 20, Nursing Sisters 30, ORs 120 - Total 170

(b) Ospedale "Monte Olivato" (present beds 106)

Staff - Officers 11, Nursing Sisters 17, ORs 28 - Total 56

2. This approval is subject to the following conditions :-

(a) Personnel have been screened and approved by a screening Agency.

(b) The ceiling of 8,000 Medical Corps in Category 1, to include all officers, nursing sisters and men employed in the Medical Services is not exceeded.

(c) The Italian Area Medical Director has contacted the Allied Medical Authorities and ascertained that the buildings are not required for Allied use.

(d) Personnel who do not belong to the recognised Italian Armed Forces are transferred to civil or other hospitals.

(e) The hospitals and all military personnel are regularised within the Army and correctly carried on the Records and Order of Battle.

3. These units will remain under command 5th Army and 210 Division as long as they are situated in 5th Army Area. They will thereafter revert to command of Italian G.H.Q.

5295

F J Noakes

F.J.NOAKES Lt.Col.
For Major General.
M. M. I. A.

FJN/hh

Copy to:- AFHQ
HQ AAI

1287

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1. Approval is given, subject to conditions stated in para. 2, for absorption into the Italian Army Medical Services of the personnel, buildings and all medical equipment of the following hospitals :-

(a) Ospedale "S.Gallo" FLORENCE (present beds 328)

Staff - Officers 20, Nursing Sisters 30, ORs 120 - Total 170

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Staff - Officers 11, Nursing Sisters 17, ORs 28 - Total 56

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(c) The Italian Area Medical Director has contacted the Allied Medical Authorities and ascertained that the buildings are not required for Allied use.

(d) Personnel who do not belong to the recognised Italian Armed Forces are transferred to civil or other hospitals.

(e) The hospitals and all military personnel are regularised within the Army and correctly carried on the Records and Order of Battle.

3. These units will remain under command 5th Army and 21C Division as long as they are situated in 5th Army Area. They will thereafter revert to command of Italian G.H.Q.

5295

P.J.NOAKES Lt.Col.
For Major General.
M. M. I. A.

FJN/hh

Copy to:- AFHQ
HQ AAI
5th Army
HQ ACC
MMIA LO 5th Army
MMIA LO 8th Army
MMIA LO 1 District

G.
SI.
Med.

I 2 8 8

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

USC 8 OCT Rcvd

09

Patrick A.

GOVERNO MILITARE ALLEATO
QUARTIER GENERALE
DELLA QUINTA ARMATA

6 ottobre 1944

108/2

Oggetto: Volontari a Siena.

Al : Sig. D.I. SARACENO.

1. Siamo stati informati dal Quartiere Generale A.C.C. che al fine di 500 volontari a Siena che desiderano arruolarsi nel Esercito Italiano. Questa informazione è stata data al Quartiere Generale, A.C.C. del Comitato Italiano Centrale per i Patrioti.

2. Comprendo che lei è stato in Siena e maneggiato la questione di reclutamento. In che stato questo rapporto, ed credo firmato che questa è una causa di un gruppo politico che desidera arruolarsi nel Esercito, soltanto sotto i suoi capi, ecc, come è stabilito, e Instructio.

3. Vi prego investigare questo rapporto e consultarmi la base di questa faccenda.

Per il generale comandante:

D.R.S. Kibbe.
Capt. Gen. Staff Corps,
G-2 & S.
A.C.C. Fifth Army.

Copia a:

F.B.I.A.: Fifth Army.
S.S.: Region VIII.
Maj. A.C.C. - Intrigia Branch.

/lmp

SECT.	INITIALS	DATE
Col. [illegible]		
Maj. [illegible]		
Maj. [illegible]		
Capt. [illegible]		
Col. FA [illegible]		
C. C.		

HEADQUARTERS
7 OCT 1944
A. C. C.

52 5

49

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
G.S. & I.S. SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH
APO 394

3 October 1944.

SUBJECT : Recruiting of Volunteer Patriots into the Italian Army.

TO : Colonel C.B. Mc CARTHY, Director Patriots Branch H.Q. A.C.C.

1. The plan which had been prepared for the recruiting of volunteer patriots for the Italian Army has been superceded by one improvised in the field.

2. The former plan called for a Screening Agency made up of Italian Army personnel (3 officers and 7em/ors) who would be responsible to contact and recruit all Italian patriots who desired to join the Italian Army. A Patriot Camp Organization, composed of Italian Army personnel who previously had been patriots (12 officers and 60 em/ors), would be responsible for the establishment and maintenance of transit camps near every corps and army roadhead and army railhead (8th Army area), for the reception of all volunteer patriots recruited, and for their safe conduct to an Italian Army induction center in Rome.

3. It was impossible to carry forth the latter half of this plan since there was a complete lack of material and equipment necessary for the establishment of these camps (eight in all). Therefore, the Director of the Patriot Camp Organization along with two of his staff officers was permitted to return to Rome.

52@3

4. The new plan was briefly this:

a. The Screening Agency was to act in the dual capacity. They would tour the various towns and villages and seek out the patriots who wished to enlist into the Italian Army.

b. Complete lists of patriots and their location would be furnished this Agency by AMG 8th Army.

c. The Agency would work from the rearward areas, forward. Hence the entire 8th Army area was divided into three sectors. The first ran along and up to a line paralleling the river Metauro. The second to the

1290

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1. The plan which had been prepared for the recruiting of volunteer patriots for the Italian Army has been superceded by one improvised in the field.

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5283

4. The new plan was briefly this:

a. The Screening Agency was to act in the dual capacity. They would tour the various towns and villages and seek out the patriots who wished to enlist into the Italian Army.

b. Complete lists of patriots and their location would be furnished this Agency by AMG 8th Army.

c. The Agency would work from the rearward areas, forward. Hence the entire 8th Army area was divided into three sectors. The first ran along and up to a line paralleling the river Metauro. The second to the river Foglia and the third was all the land North, beyond.

d. [illegible] volunteers were recruited in a large enough number (50 to 100) they would be advised by the Agency where they were to collect themselves at an appointed hour. They would then be Transported by truck (Italian Army) to a railhead (Chiaravalle), where they would board a train for an Italian Army induction center (Rome). They would each be given 3 days ration (Scale 38 c) which would be drawn from the nearest ration dump (11 AIR).

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e. Information such as to their number, time of departure and probable arrival would be sent by the Director of the Agency to Patriots Branch Headquarters and to the Ceresti in Rome. One of the volunteer patriots would be appointed as group leader and charged for the orderly conduct of the men during transit.

f. In order that the Agency would not be caused any unnecessary delays in the discharge of their duties, all interested offices were informed of its presence (FSS Jesi, AMG Jesi, 228th Italian Division Headquarters Jesi, P.C. Ancona Province AMG, 8th Army AMG Main and Rear, Refugee Branch 8th Army AMG Rear, 81 area Ancona, Movements Ancona, RTO 8th Army Railhead Chiaravalle, 11 DID Chiaravalle, NMIA 8th Army Rear, NMIA L.O. 228 Italian Division Headquarters Jesi).

g. Available transport numbered in one truck (½ - ton) and three automobiles. Fuel and rations would be drawn through the Italian military in Jesi.

h. Vehicle permits to circulate in 8th Army area were obtained from AMG 8th Army Rear. Approved 8th Army identity cards for all(both civilian and military personnel), were obtained from the 228th Italian Division in Jesi.

i. Agency Headquarters has been established at Via S. Francesco No. 3 in Jesi during its stay in that sector. They can be reached by phone by calling Jesi 114. The Signal address is 228 Italian Division Headquarters Jesi.

RICHARD A. DI DONATO
1st Lieut. C.E.

5292

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AMG EVACUATION CAMPS - 25 Sept. 44

Camp	Location	Commandant	Italian C.C.
No. 1 AMG EC (10 Corps FMA)	AREZZO map ref R 2932	Lieut.W.S.Trent	Ten. G.Maga
No. 2 AMG EC (13 Corps FMA)	FIGLINE map ref Q 9651 (125 FMA)	Lieut.J.A.Hall	Ten. T.Totti
No. 4 AMG EC (1 Can Corps FMA)	PESARO map ref S 1281	Lieut.G.R.Bell	Ten.F.Previato
No.11 AMG EC (5 Corps FMA)	MORCIANO map ref R 928621 (210 FMA)	Lieut.J.D.C.Murphy	Cap.S.Bevilaqua
No.12 AMG EC (Army RdHead)	MONDOLFO map ref S 302640	Capt.J.F.G.Snell	Cap.F.Leone
No.13 AMG EC (Army RdHead)		Capt.L.Hewitt-Taylor	Ten.F.Mazzacuva

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ACC Camps.

No. 3 AMG EC (Rhd)	CHIARAVALLE map ref S 450450	Capt.C.A.G.Moore	
" 20 " " (Arezzo Rhd)	CASTIGLION FIORENTINO map ref R 305200 area	Major J.Dufour	
" 21 " " (Assisi Rhd)	S.MARIA DEGLI ANGELI map ref W 855855		
" 22/23 " (Ancona)	TORRETTE map ref S 5547	Major B.White	

5291

* 2 mls. passed Pontassieve.
Q 9369

1294

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

4 OCT Recd
1SC. Patriot Branch
O U 9887

SUBJECT: Italian Troops in YUGOSLAVIA.

MILITARY MISSION
ITALIAN ARMY
TS/G/31
4 Oct 44

To : A.C.C.

1. Force 140 has reported that Balkan Air Force is arranging to evacuate approx 1000 Italian tps ex KEFALLINIA and ZANTE who wish to fight the Hun. Comd is APOLLONIO. Radio states that port will be notified later but it will probably be Taranto or Brindisi approx 15 Oct.

2. Will you please accept action on para 1 above as these personnel do NOT belong to Italian Army in Liberated Italy. M.M.I.A. will however accept into the Army such personnel as are considered suitable and it is suggested that you move to the East Coast one of the three rearward screening agencies which are under your control and at present working for the Patriot Branch.

3. Will you please inform this HQ of Nos of personnel found suitable together with locn when tpt arrangements will be made this end with a view to incorporating these volunteers into one of the Gruppo di Combattimento.

A. M. Gransheden Lt-Col
Maj Gen
M M I A

Copy to: 2 i/C
AQ
Spec Sec

5200

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

3519

HEAD QUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
E.C. & M.T. SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH
APO 394.

Ref. 49/PAT
2 Oct 44.

TO : N.M.I.A. (For attention Lt.Col.Ingledew).

With reference to your letter of 29th Sept.,ref. PS/9/19, the following points arose at a conference held on 30 Sept. in Lt.Col.Ingledew's office. This was attended by Col. Mc Carthy and Lieut. Di Loreto.

1. Col.Mc Carthy stated that on 2nd or 3rd Oct.50 Patriot volunteers were expected to arrive in Rome by train. Thereafter about 150 a week could be expected but it is extremely difficult to make an estimate.

2. It was agreed that Patriots Branch would inform NMIA on each occasion of :
   a. Numbers expected.
   b. Date, time and place of departure.
   c. Expected date, time and place of arrival in Rome.

3. It was confirmed that on arrival at the recruiting centre the patriots would come on to Italian Military rations.

4. Col. Mc Carthy said that on the East Coast there was one forward screening agency under N.M.I.A.. Also that there were two forward screening agencies in Florence now functioning as one. It was agreed that N.M.I.A. would see that the three back-ward screening agencies were given alternative employment and held in readiness to be sent into forward areas, possibly in a loop frogging manner at the request of Patriots Branch ACC. Otherwise no Italian officers or O.R.s were being employed.

5. Col. Mc Carthy stated that the hiring of seven civilian vehicles for screening agencies had been sanctioned by the Italian Patriot Committee and were this not a military commitment.

6. Lt.Col. Ingledew agreed that N.M.I.A. would ask the liaison officers to 5th and 8th Armies to visit every new and then the screening agencies in their area and report on what they were doing.

7. Lt.Col. Ingledew stated that, depending on numbers, N.M.I.A. would make every endeavour [illegible]

5199

The following points arose and were noted.

Lt.Col.Ingledew's office. This was attended by Col. Mc Carthy and Lieut. Di Loreto.

1. Col.Mc Carthy stated that on 2nd or 3rd Oct.30 Patriot volunteers were expected to arrive in Rome by train. Thereafter volunteers were expected to arrive in Rome by train. Thereafter about 150 a week could be expected but it is extremely difficult to make an estimate.

2. It was agreed that Patriots Branch would inform M.M.I.A. on each occasion of :

a. Numbers expected.
b. Date, time and place of departure.
c. Expected date, time and place of arrival in Rome.

3. It was confirmed that on arrival at the recruiting centre the patriots would come on to Italian Military rations.

4. Col. Mc Carthy said that on the East Coast there was one forward screening agency under M.M.I.A.. Also that there were two forward screening agencies in Florence now functioning as one. It was agreed that M.M.I.A. would see that the three back-ward screening agencies were given alternative employment and held in readiness to be sent into forward areas, possibly in a leap frogging manner at the request of Patriots Branch AFHQ. Otherwise no Italian officers or O.R.s were being employed.

5. Col. Mc Carthy stated that the hiring of seven civilian vehicles for screening agencies had been sanctioned by the Italian Patriot Committee and were this not a military commitment.

6. Lt.Col. Ingledew agreed that M.M.I.A. would ask the liaison officers to 5th and 8th Armies to visit every now and then the screening agencies in their area and report on what they were doing.

5199

7. Lt.Col. Ingledew stated that, depending on numbers, M.M.I.A. would make every endeavour to arrange for recruits to go to recruiting centres in forward areas e.g. Bologna, if possible.

8. It was agreed that Patriot Branch would later, after further discussion with the Italian National Patriot Committee, draft an instruction to be agreed by M.M.I.A. concerning the new procedure as outlined in this letter and in the letter under reply.

C.D. Mc CARTHY,
Colonel,
Patriots Branch.

Copy to : Major Drage
Col. Fava
Lieut.Di Loreto.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E

TS/G/19

29 Sep 44.

Patriots Branch,
RC and MG Section, A.C.C.

At a short conference held 28 Sep at MMLA offices, attended by Col. C.D.MC CARTHY, it was re-affirmed

1. That volunteer patriots would be accepted into the Italian Army in reasonable numbers provided they are not in formed bands. In this connection it is the responsibility of

(a) Patriot Branch A.C.C. to advise number of volunteers and location.

(b) MMIA to arrange transportation from location to nearest Depot within 12 hrs of receiving notification vide 1(a) above.

2. That the six Army screening agencies strength of each 4 offrs 6 O.R's should remain three forward and three until 15 Oct if required. If they are found to be NOT pulling their weight, they will be temp withdrawn but available to be sent forward again at short notice if necessary.

3. That the non-military teams org by the Italian Patriot Committee should remain in existence and that no assistance in the way of rations, tentage, tpt etc should be provided from Italian Army resources or sources under MMIA control.

4. That no member of the Patriots Branch A.C.C. should communicate direct with the Italian Ministry of War. Such communications should be conducted by MMIA.

- The Italian War Ministry has been informed of this policy.

5198

(signed) S.M. Ingledew

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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4. That no member of the Patriots Branch A.C.C. should comunicate direct with the Italian Ministry of War. Such communications should be conducted by MMIA.

- The Italian War Ministry has been informed of this policy.

5198

(signed) S.M. Ingledew

Major General
M M I A

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

35A

HEAD QUARTERS
FIFTH ARMY (A) DETACHMENT
A. P. O. 464.

ref. no/file.

To : A.F.H.Q. (For attention
Lt.Col.Ingledew.)

2 Oct 44.

With reference to your letter of even ref.no. dated 19 Sept. the following met in Rome at a conference held on 29 Sept. in Lt.Col.Ingledew's office. This was attended by Col. Mc Carthy and Major. Di Donato.

1. Col. Mc Carthy stated that on 2nd or 3rd Oct. Patriot volunteers were expected to arrive in Rome by truck. Thereafter about 150 a week could be expected but it is extremely difficult to make an estimate.

2. It was agreed that Patriots Branch would inform A.F.H.Q. on each occasion of :

a. Numbers expected.
b. Time and place of departure.
c. Expected date, time and place of arrival in Rome.

3. It was confirmed that on arrival at the recruiting centre the patriots would come on to Italian military rations.

4. Col. Mc Carthy said that on the West Coast there was one forward screening agency under A.F.H.Q.. Also that there were two forward screening agencies in Florence now functioning as one. It was agreed that A.F.H.Q. would see that the three forward screening agencies were given alternative employment and held in readiness to be sent into forward areas, possibly in a leap frogging manner at the request of Patriots Branch A.F.H.Q. Otherwise no Italian officers or O.R.s were being employed.

5. Col. Mc Carthy stated that the hiring of seven civilian vehicles for screening agencies had been sanctioned by the Italian Patriot Committee and were thus not a military commitment.

5197

6. Lt.Col. Ingledew agreed that A.F.H.Q. would ask the liaison officers to 5th and 8th Armies to visit every now and then the screening agencies in their area and report on their

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016
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7. Lt.Col. Ingledew stated that, depen
M.M.I.A. would make every endeavour to arran
go to recruiting centres in forward areas e.g.
possible.

8. It was agreed that Patriot Branch would
further discussion with the Italian National Pat
draft an instruction to be agreed by M.M.I.A. conc
procedure as outlined in this letter and in the let
reply.

Copy to Major Hogg
Col Lowa
Lieut Fi Lovato

C.D. Mc CARTHY,
Colonel,
Patriots Branch;

1300
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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To : M.M.I..A.(for attention Col. Ingledew.)

Ref. 49/PAT.

1 Oct 44.

With reference to your letter od 29th Sept., ref. TS/G/19, the following points arose at a conference held on 30 Sept. in Lt. Col. Ingledew's office. This was attended by Col. Mc Carthy and Lieut. ~~&~~ Di Loreto.

1. Col. Mc Carthy stated that on 2nd or 3rd Oct. 50 Patriot volunteers were expected to arrive in Rome.by train. Thereafter about 150 a week could be expected.

2. It was agreed that ~~Lt. Di Loreto~~ would inform ~~Major Butterworth of M.M.I.A.~~ on each occasion of:-

a. Numbers expected.
b. Date, time and place of departure.
c. Expected date, time and place of arrival in Rome.

3. It was confirmed that on arrival at the recruiting centre the patriots would come on to Italian Military rations.

4. Col. Mc Carthy said that on the East Coast there was one screening agency under M.M.I.A.. Also that there were two screening agencies in Florence now functioning as one. Otherwise no Italian officers or O.R.s were being employed.

5. Col. Mc Carthy stated that the hiring of seven vehicles for screening agencies had been sanctioned by the Italian Patriot Committee.

6. Lt. Col. Ingledew agreed that M.M.I.A. would ask the liaison officers to 5th and 8th Armies to visit every now and then the screening agencies in their area and report on what they were doing.

7. Lt. Col. Ingledew stated that, depending on numbers, M.M.I.A. would make every endeavour to arrange for recruits to go to recruiting centres in forward areas e.g. Bologna , if possible.

5196

8. It was agreed that M.M.I.A. would ~~watch~~ the three backward screening agencies ~~and ensure that they were fully employed~~ and hold ~~them~~ in readiness to be sent into forward areas, possibly in a leap frogging manner, ~~where they were needed.~~

9. It was agreed that Patriot Branch would later, after further discussion with the Italian Patriot Commission, draft an instruction to be agreed by M.M.I.A. concerning the new procedure as outlined in this letter and in the letter under reply.

1301

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9. It was agreed that Patriot Branch would later, after further discussion with the Italian Patriot Commission, draft an instruction to be agreed by M.M.I.A. concerning the new procedure as outlined in this letter and in the letter under reply.

C.D. Mc CARTHY,
Colonel,
Patriots Branch.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MSC -
30 SEP Recd

CONFIDENTIAL

MILITARY MISSION ITALIAN ARMY
R O M E

TS/G/19
29 Sep 44

Patriots Branch,
RC and MG Section, A.C.C.

At a short conference held 28 Sep at MMIA offices, attended by Col C.D. MCARTHY, it was re-affirmed

1. That volunteer patriots would be accepted into the Italian Army in reasonable numbers provided they are not in formed bands. In this connection it is the responsibility of

(a) Patriot Branch A.C.C. to advise number of volunteers and location.

(b) MMIA to arrange transportation from location nearest Depot within 12 hrs of receiving notification vide 1(a) above.

2. That the six Army screening agencies strength of each 4 offrs 6 O.R's should remain three forward and three back until 15 Oct if required. If they are found to be NOT pulling their weight, they will be temp withdrawn but available to be sent forward again at short notice if necessary.

3. That the non-military teams org by the Italian Patriot Committee should remain in existence and that no assistance in the way of rations, tentage, tpt etc should be provided from Italian Army resources or sources under MMIA control.

4. That no member of the Patriots Branch A.C.C. should communicate direct with the Italian Ministry of War. Such communications should be conducted by MMIA.

- The Italian War Ministry has been informed of this policy.

5195

J.M. Gregson H-Cl

Major General
M M I A

SEEN. INITIALS

1303

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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5195

J. M. Gregson
Major General
M M I A

SEEN.	INITIAL
Col. Mc. CARTHY	
Maj. MAGNUS	
Maj. DRAGE	
Capt. SALVADORI	

1304

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Declassified E.O 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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

Subject : Screening Agencies.

Ref.

24 Sep. 44.

To : General Browning, M.M.I.A.

Copy to : Col. Fava
Major Drage
Major Magnus

I have just returned from Florence and the position about screening agencies at present is as follows:-

1. Screening Agencies in Florence.

There are two screening agencies in Florence consisting altogether of five officers and fifteen other ranks. These will serve the Fifth Army area and are actually starting today to recruit up to 1,000 men for the new 6th Division. These men, as you know, are being taken back to Benevento by C.I.L. transport and are drawing from AMG in Florence sufficient rations to cover the journey and to cover also time spent in Florence and Florence barracks before the journey commences.

2. The third screening agency consisting of three officers and eight other ranks arrived in Ancona yesterday and is starting to operate in the Eighth Army area immediately. Lt. Di Loreto, of our office here, meets them today and is fixing up their itinerary.

3. Di Loreto is also organising in conjunction with the Italian Patriot Committee the handling of the camps for Patriots in the Eighth Army area.

4. We arranged with Col. Pidsley that three Eighth Army representatives should start work at once in the back areas and I presume they are already atarted. Can you let me know if there is any difficulty about their work.

C. D. Mc CARTHY.
Colonel.
Patriots Branch.
R.C. & M.G. Section.

(i) Patriots in FLORENCE and Siena should be recruited into the Italian Army on the spot.

(ii) Cars were to be hired at the expense of the Italian Government and screening agents would cover the areas of AVEZZANO and VITERBO for recruits.

(iii) 20 to 30 cars were to be hired in Florence at the expense of the Italian Government to be used by Screening Agents in that area.

P.M. Magnus

Major

Sir P.M. Magnus
Major.

13. General Berardi has stated: -
Two points have been decided.
1. The immediate recruiting of patriots in Florence and Siena.
2. Arrangements is to be made for the recruiting of patriots in AVEZZANO and VITERBO. is to be and held ready upon call.

5193

I concur with the above and added remarks.

(Signed) General Berardi.
20/9/44.

1306

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P.M. Magnus

Major

Sir P.M. Magnus
Major.

13. General Berardi ~~Bas~~ stated: -
Two points have been decided.
1. The immediate recruiting of patriots in Florence and Rome.
2. Arrangements to be made for the recruiting of patriots in AVEZZANO and VITERBO. to be ~~and~~ held ready upon call.

5103

I concur with the above and added remarks.

(Signed) General Berardi.
20/9/44.

Note: Remarks in ink additions made by General Berardi.

20/9/44

1307

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1308

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 49/PAT.

19th Sept.,44.

MINUTES OF A MEETING CALLED TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SCREENING AGENTS AND RECRUITING OF PATRIOTS.

Present :

General BERARDI - Chief of Staff of the Italian Army.
Col. PALLAVICINI
Col. FAVA
Lt.Col. SAMPO
Lt.Col. BARNABO'
Major CASALE
Major STURCHIO
Lt. VILLA.

Major Sir P. MAGNUS - Patriots Branch
Col. PIDSLEY - MMIA
Major BOWMAN - "
Capt. SELBY
Lt.Col. JANZEN - Patriots Branch.
Lt. DI LORETO - " "

5192

1. Major Magnus opened the meeting by asking Lt. Di Loreto to give details of the present situation as regards the areas south of the armies.

2. Lt. Di Loreto explained that the screening agents working in this area had produced a negligible number of recruits for the Italian Army.

3. Maj. Magnus pointed out that in his opinion the reason for this failure was largely a lack of transport.

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Major Sir P. MAGNUS - Patriots Branch
Col. PIDSLEY - MMIA
Major BOWMAN - "
Capt. SELBY
Lt.Col. JANZEN - Patriots Branch.
Lt. DI LORETO - " "

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2. Lt. Di Loreto explained that the screening agents working in this area had produced a negligible number of recruits for the Italian Army.

3. Maj. Magnus pointed out that in his opinion the reason for this failure was largely a lack of transport.

4. General Berardi stated that in his opinion the lack of recruits was due also to : -

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1309

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(a) The necessary rations and clothing not being forthcoming.

(b) Too much time being allowed to elapse between the arrival of the allied armies and the calling in of recruits.

(c) In agreement with Major Magnus re the lack of transport

He added that Patriot enthusiasm sould not be allowed to die down. If they were dissolved and allowed to go home it was difficult to recall them. He suggested that they sould be recruited as soon as the allied armies arrived and immediately put into camps on army rations.

5. Major Magnus asked General Berardi whether, in view of the fact that transport and suitable rations were now available, he approved a further effort being made to collect recruits in the areas South of the armies, despite the lapse of time.

6. General Berardi gave his full approval to this but stated that the Lazio area should be left out, as an ordinary call-up was in operation there, during the period of recruiting and movement.

7. General Berardi discussed rations for Patriots. Major Magnus explained that refugee rations were on a better scale than civilian rations, though not so good as the military rations. General Berardi said he was satisfied with this.

5191

8. TRANSPORT.

(a) Major Magnus asked General Berardi whether he would authorise the hiring of cars by the Italian Government to be used by the screening agents. This would help to ensure that everyone wanting to join the Italian Army in country districts would have a fair opportunity of doing so.

(b) General Berardi agreed to give this authorisation. In addition, he suggested :

(i) - That the three screening agents for the back areas should come to Rome and receive the new instructions as soon as possible.

(ii) - That the areas should be taken in turn using all the cars in one area at one time.

1310

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(i) - That the three screening agents for the back areas should come to Rome and receive the new instructions as soon as possible.

(ii) - That the areas should be taken in turn using all the cars in one area at one time.

(iii) - That the first area should be AVEZZANO.

Major Magnus agreed.

this in consideration of the lack of transport.

. /.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(c) Col. Pidsley said that M.M.I.A. had wired I District giving authority to Col. Sampo to enlist up to 1000 recruits in one batch f for the Italian Army and to utilise CIL trapsport to move these recruits to VAIRANO.

(d) Major Magnus stated that in Florence, Adv. HQ. Patriot Branch had 20 to 30 cars available for hire provided the Italian Government was prepared to pay 300-400 lire a day each for the hire. In addition tothis, the AMG were allowing the drivers one meal a day. General Berardi said that he agreed to the hire of these cars by the Italian Government.

(e) The question of transport for camps was raised. It was decided to postpone any discussion on patriot camps until next meeting at 1700 hours that afternoon.

9. It was suggested that manifestos shouled he nailed up in the back areas dealing with recruiting for the Italian Army and that the press should publish manifestos also. Major Magnus asked to be allowed to discuss this with PWB and PRO.

5190

10. RECRUITING.

Col. Pidsley said that MMIA wanted good recruits. The present system was obviously not satisfactory. They were therefore sending an officer to Florence where with the Adv. Patriot Banch, he would look into the situation. It was proposed to recruit on the spot up to 1000 men if the screening Agents could pass that number. These men would immediately be enlisted into the Italian Army. Col. Pidsley stated that a special effort for transport might have to be made for this large number but normally CIL trucks would be used. Patriots were soldiers from the day of enlistment; therefore they would receive CIL rations. Col. Pidsley added that the 1000 must be got to the railhead before 23rd Sept. as after that date there might be no trains available.

11. Major Magnus stated that plans for handling recruits in the Rome areas covered the period

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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10. RECRUITING. 5196

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11. Major Magnus stated that plans for handling recruits in the Rome areas covered the period 25th September to 25th October. After this, the situation would again be reviewed. General Berardi approved this.

12. SUMMARY.

It was agreed that:

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

8. MEZZI DI TRASPORTO.

(a) Il Maggiore Magnus chiede al Gen. Berardi se sia disposto ad autorizzare il noleggio di automezzi da parte del Governo Italiano per essere usati dai Commissari di reclutamento. Ciò darebbe la garanzia che ognuno che voglia raggiungere l'Esercito Italiano nei settori di dislocamento possa avere agevole occasione di farlo.

(b) Il Gen. Berardi si dichiara disposto a dare tale autorizzazione e, a complemento, suggerisce:
(i) Che i tre Commissari di reclutamento per le zone arretrate debbano venire a Roma per ricevere le nuove istruzioni appena possibile;
(ii) Che le operazioni nelle zone vengano svolte a turno, zona per zona, adoperando tutti gli automezzi in una sola zona nello stesso tempo; L'ordine di comunicazione della Commissione
(iii) Che la prima zona sia quella di Avezzano. (3) mezzi

Il Maggiore Magnus si dichiara d'accordo.

(c) Il Col. Pidsley informa che MMIA ha telegrafato al primo Distretto dando facoltà al Col. Sempo di reclutare 1000 coscritti in un gruppo per l'Esercito Italiano e di utilizzare i mezzi di trasporto C.I.L. per trasferire queste reclute a VAIRANO.

(d) Il Magg.Magnus dichiara che a Firenze l'Ufficio staccato del Patriots Branch ha da venti a trenta automezzi disponibili per il noleggio, sempre chè il Governo Italiano sia disposto a pagare 300-400 lire al giorno per ciascun mezzo a titolo di nolo. Inoltre A.M.G. darebbe agli autisti un pasto al giorno. Il Gen. Berardi dichiara che egli è d'accordo per il noleggio di tali automezzi da parte del Governo Italiano.

(e) E' sollevata la questione dei mezzi di trasporto per gli accampamenti. Si decide di rinviare ogni discussione sugli accampamenti dei Patrioti alla prossima riunione di questo pomeriggio alle ore 17.

5189

9. Si suggerisce di affiggere manifesti nelle zone delle retrovie in merito al reclutamento per l'Esercito Italiano e di far pubblicare degli appelli analoghi sulla pubblica stampa. Il Maggiore Magnus chiede di poter discutere tale questione con P.W.B. e P.R.O.

10. RECLUTAMENTO

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(ii) Che le operazioni nelle zone vengano svolte a turno, zona per zona, adoperando tutti gli automezzi in una sola zone nello stesso tempo;
(iii) Che la prima zone sia quella di Avezzano.

Il Maggiore Magnus si dichiara d'accordo.

(c) Il Col. Pidsley informa che MMIA ha telegrafato al primo Distretto dando facoltà al Col. Sempo di reclutare 1000 coscritti in un gruppo per l'Esercito Italiano e di utilizzare i mezzi di trasporto C.I.L. per trasferire queste reclute a VAIRANO.

(d) Il Magg.Magnus dichiara che a Firenze l'Ufficio staccato del Patriots Branch ha da venti a trenta automezzi disponibili per il noleggio, sempechè il Governo Italiano sia disposto a pagare 300-400 lire al giorno per ciascun mezzo a titolo di nolo. Inoltre A.M.G. darebbe agli autisti un pasto al giorno. Il Gen. Berardi dichiara che egli è d'accordo per il noleggio di tali automezzi da parte del Governo Italiano.

(e) E' sollevata la questione dei mezzi di trasporto per gli accampamenti. Si decide di rinviare ogni discussione sugli accampamenti dei Patrioti alla prossima riunione di questo pomeriggio alle ore 17.

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9. Si suggerisce di affiggere manifesti nelle zone delle retrovie in merito al reclutamento per l'Esercito Italiano e di far pubblicare degli appelli analoghi sulla pubblica stampa. Il Maggiore Magnus chiede di poter discutere tale questione con P.W.B. e P.R.O.

10. RECLUTAMENTO

Il Col. Pidsley dice che MMIA desidera buone reclute. Il sistema attuale naturalmente non è soddisfacente. Perciò si intende mandare un ufficiale a Firenze il quale esaminerà la situazione presso quell'ufficio staccato del Patriot Branch. Si è proposto di reclutare sul luogo fino a 1000 uomini se i Commissari di reclutamento sono in grado di vagliare un tal numero. Questi uomini verrebbero immediatamente reclutati nell'Esercito Italiano. Il Col. Pidsley dichiara che prevedibilmente dovrà essere fatto uno sforzo speciale per il trasporto di un numero così grande di uomini, ma normalmente verrebbero usati gli autocarri dell'8a Armata. Dal giorno del loro reclutamento i Patrioti entrano nel novero dei soldati e perciò essi riceveranno da allora le razioni

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CIL. Il Col. Pidsley soggiunge che i 1000 uomini devono raggiungere il capolinea ferroviario prima del 23 settembre, in quanto dopo tale data può darsi che non vi siano treni disponibili.

11. Il Maggiore Magnus dichiara che i piani per il reclutamento nelle zone di Roma abbracciano il periodo dal 25 settembre al 25 Ottobre. Successivamente la situazione sarà di nuovo esaminata. Il Gen. Berardi approva.

12. RIEPILOGO

Si conviene che: e di Siena

(i) I Patrioti di Firenze devono venir reclutati nell'Esercito Italiano sul posto.

(ii) Automezzi sono da noleggiarsi a spese del Governo Italiano ed i Commissari di reclutamento svolgeranno le loro operazioni nelle zone di Avezzano e Viterbo.

(iii) Da 20 a 30 carri sono da noleggiarsi a Firenze a spese del Governo Italiano per essere usati dagli agenti di reclutamento in quella zona.

Roma, 18 settembre 1944

A/ B] Il Generale Berardi ha riepilogato dicendo:
di aver trattato le questioni:
1°] immediata esecuzione reclutamento patrioti a Firenze e a Siena;
2°] predisposizioni per il reclutamento patrioti ad Avezzano e a Viterbo per ogni passo presenti e darvi esecuzione quando verrà autorizzato.

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Si conviene che: e di Siena

(i) I Patrioti di Firenze devono venir reclutati nell'Esercito Italiano sul posto.

(ii) Automezzi sono da noleggiarsi a spese del Governo Italiano ed i Commissari di reclutamento svolgeranno le loro operazioni nelle zone di Avezzano e Viterbo.

(iii) Da 20 a 30 carri sono da noleggiarsi a Firenze a spese del Governo Italiano per essere usati dagli agenti di reclutamento in quella zona.

Roma, 18 settembre 1944

A/ B] Il Generale Berardi ha risposto dicendo:
di voler trattare le questioni:

1°] immediata esecuzione reclutamento patrioti a Firenze e a Siena;

2°] predisposizioni per il reclutamento patrioti ad Avezzano e a Viterbo per esser pronti a darvi esecuzione quando verrà autorizzato.

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Confermo il verbale con le aggiunte da me apportate a penna.

20/9 - 44

Gen. B Berardi.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

I 3 I 8

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Dic 43 — 31A

E' stata convocata una riunione per discutere la questione delle Commissioni di Vaglio e Reclutamento di Patrioti.

Erano presenti:

Il Generale BERARDI, Capo di Stato Maggiore dell'Esercito Italiano.

Col.	PALLAVICINO
Col.	PAVA
Ten.Col.	SANPO
Ten.Col.	BARNABO'
Magg.	CASALE
Magg.	STURCHIO
Ten.	VILLA

Magg. Sir.	P.MAGNUS	- Patriots Branch
Col.	PIDSLEY	- MMIA
Major	BOWMAN	- "
Capt.	SELBY	
Ten.Col.	JANZEN	- Patriots Branch
Sten.	DI LORETO	- " "

1. Il Magg. MAGNUS apre la seduta, invitanto il Ten.Di Loreto a dare particolari sulla presente situazione nei riguardi delle zone a Sud delle Armate.

2. Il Ten. Di Loreto spiega che le Commissioni di Vaglio operanti in questa zona hanno dato un numero trascurabile di reclute per l'Esercito Italiano.

3. Il Maggiore Magnus rileva che, a suo parere, la ragione di questo insuccesso sta prevalentemente nel difetto di mezzi di trasporto.

4. Il Generale Berardi dichiara che, a suo parere, la mancanza di reclute è da attribuirsi:

   (a) Al difetto di fornitura delle necessarie razioni e del vestiario; 5187

   (b) All'eccessivo lasso di tempo lasciato trascorrere tra l'arrivo delle Armate Alleate e la chiamata delle reclute. Soggiunge che non si dovrebbe lasciar smorzare l'entusiasmo dei Patrioti. Se le Bande dei Patrioti vengono sciolte e i componenti vengono mandati a casa, è difficile richiamarli. Egli rappresenta l'opportunità di reclutarli immediatamente all'arrivo delle Armate Alleate e di riunirli subito in accampamenti con vettovagliamento dei soldati regolari.

(c) → 1) Concorda col magg Magnus nel difetto di mezzi di trasporto

5. Il Maggior Magnus chiede al Generale Berardi se, in vista del fat-

Ten. VILLA

Magg. Sir. P.MAGNUS - Patriots Branch
Col. PIDSLEY - MMLA
Major BOWLAN - "
Capt. SELBY
Ten.Col. JANZEN - Patriots Branch
Sten. DI LORETO - " "

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   (c) +) Concorda col magg Magnus nel difetto di mezzi di trasporto

5. Il Maggior Magnus chiede al Generale Berardi se, in vista del fatto che ora sono a disposizione i mezzi di trasporto e accantonate razioni, è d'accordo che sia fatto un altro tentativo di reclutamento nelle zone al Sud delle Armate, malgrado il tempo trascorso.

6. Il Generale Berardi dà la sua piena approvazione al riguardo, ma dichiara che si dovrebbe tralasciare la zona del Lazio, in quanto ivi sono in corso ordinarie operazioni di leva.

7. Il Generale Berardi discute in merito alle razioni per i Patrioti. 2) durante il periodo del reclutamento. Del Valle
   Il Maggiore Magnus chiarisce che le razioni per i profughi vengono corrisposte in misura più larga di quelle per i borghesi, pur non raggiungendo la misura delle razioni militari. Il Gen. Berardi dichiara di essere con ciò soddisfatto.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PATRIOTS BRANCH

Ref : 49/PAT.

19th Sept., 44.

MINUTES OF A MEETING CALLED TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SCREENING AGENTS AND RECRUITING OF PATRIOTS.

Present :

General EMILARDI - Chief of Staff of the Italian Army.
Col. PALLAVICINI
Col. FAVA
Lt.Col. SAMPO
Lt.Col. BARNABO'
Major CASALE
Major STURCHIO
Lt. VILLA.

Major Sir P. MAGNUS - Patriots Branch
Col. PIDSLEY - MMIA
Major BOWMAN - "
Capt. SMILEY
Lt.Col. JANTZEN - Patriots Branch.
Lt. DI LORETO - " "

5186

1. Major Magnus opened the meeting by asking Lt. Di Loreto to give details of the present situation as regards the areas south of the armies.

2. Lt. Di Loreto explained that the screening agents working in this area had produced a negligible number of recruits for the Italian Army.

3. Maj. Magnus pointed out that in his opinion the reason for this failure was largely a lack of transport.

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OF SCREENING AGENTS AND RECRUITING OF PATRIOTS.

Present :

General BERARDI - Chief of Staff of the Italian Army.
Col. PALLAVICINI
Col. FAVA
Lt.Col. SAMPO
Lt.Col. BARNABO'
Major CASALE
Major STURCHIO
Lt. VILLA.

Major Sir P. MAGNUS - Patriots Branch
Col. PIDSLEY - MMIA
Major BOWMAN - "
Capt. SMILEY
Lt.Col. JANSEN - Patriots Branch.
Lt. DI LORETO - " "

5186

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2. Lt. Di Loreto explained that the screening agents working in this area had produced a negligible number of recruits for the Italian Army.

3. Maj. Magnus pointed out that in his opinion the reason for this failure was largely a lack of transport.

4. General Berardi stated that in his opinion the lack of recruits was due also to : -

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(a) The necessary rations and clothing not being forthcoming.

(b) Too much time being allowed to elapse between the arrival of the allied armies and the calling in of recruits.

(c) In agreement with Major Magnus re the lack of transport

He added that Patriot enthusiasm could not be allowed to die down. If they were dissolved and allowed to go home it was difficult to recall them. He suggested that they could be recruited as soon as the allied armies arrived and immediately put into camps on army rations.

5. Major Magnus asked General Berardi whether, in view of the fact that transport and suitable rations were now available, he approved a further effort being made to collect recruits in the areas South of the armies, despite the lapse of time.

6. General Berardi gave his full approval to this but stated that the Lazio area should be left out, as an ordinary call-up was in operation there, during the period of recruiting and movement.

7. General Berardi discussed rations for Patriots. Major Magnus explained that refugee rations were on a better scale than civilian rations, though not so good as the military rations. General Berardi said he was satisfied with this.

5185

8. TRANSPORT.

(a) Major Magnus asked General Berardi whether he would authorise the hiring of cars by the Italian Government to be used by the screening agents. This would help to ensure that everyone wanting to join the Italian Army in country districts would have a fair opportunity of doing so.

(b) General Berardi agreed to give this authorisation. In addition, he suggested :

(i) - That the three screening agents for the back areas should come to Rome and receive the new instructions as soon as possible.

(ii) - That the areas should be taken in turn using all the cars in one area at one time.

(iii) - That the first area should be

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(ii) - That the areas should be taken in turn using all the cars in one area at one time.

(iii) - That the first area should be AVEZZANO.

Major Magnus agreed.

This in consideration of the lack of transport

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(c) Col. Pidsley said that M.M.I.A. had wired I District giving authority to Col. Sampo to enlist up to 1000 recruits in one batch f for the Italian Army and to utilise CIL trapsport to move these recruits to VAIRANO.

(d) Major Magnus stated that in Florence, Adv. HQ. Patriot Branch had 20 to 30 cars available for hire provided the Italian Government was prepared to pay 300-400 lire a day each for the hire. In addition tothis, the AMG were allowing the drivers one meal a day. General Berardi said that he agreed to the hire of these cars by the Italian Government.

(e) The question of transport for camps was raissed. It was decided to postpone any discussion on patriot camps until next meeting at 1700 hours that afternoon.

9. It was suggested that manifestos should be nailed up in the back areas dealing with recruiting for the Italian Army and that the press should publish manifestos also. Major Magnus asked to be allowed to discuss this with PWB and PRO.

10. RECRUITING.

Col. Pidsley said that MMIA wanted good recruits. The present system was obviously not satisfactory. They were therefore sending an officer to Florence where with the Adv. Patriot Banch, he would look into the situation. It was proposed to recruit on the spot up to 1000 men if the screening Agents could pass that number. These men would immediately be enlisted into the Italian Army. Col. Pidsley stated that a special effort for transport might have to be made for this large number but normally CIL trucks would be used. Patriots were soldiers from the day of enlistment; therefore they would receive CIL rations. Col. Pidsley added that the 1000 must be got to the railhead before 23rd Sept. as after that date there might be no trains available.

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11. Major Magnus stated that plans for handling recruits in the Rome areas covered the period

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was prepared to pay 300-400 lire a day [illegible] for the hire. In addition tothis, the AMG were allowing the drivers one meal a day. General Berardi said that he agreed to the hire of these cars by the Italian Government.

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11. Major Magrus stated that plans for handling recruits in the Rome areas covered the period 25th September to 25th October. After this, the situation would again be reviewed. General Berardi approved this.

12. SUMMARY.
It was agreed that:

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and Siena

(i) Patriots in FLORENCE should be recruited into the Italian Army on the spot.

(ii) Cars were to be hired at the expense of the Italian Government and screening agents would cover the areas of AVEZZANO and VITERBO for recruits.

(iii) 20 to 30 cars were to be hired in Florence at the expense of the Italian Government to be used by Screening Agents in that area.

P.M. Magnus

Major

Sir P.M. Magnus
Major.

13. General Berardi stated:-
Two points have been decided.
1. The immediate recruiting of patriots in Florence and Siena.
2. Arrangements to be made for the recruiting of patriots in Avezzano and Viterbo - and to be held ready upon call.

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(Signed) General Berardi.
20/9/44.

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Screening Agents in that area.

P.M. Magnus

Major

Sir P.M. Magnus
Major.

13. General Berardi stated:-
Two points have been decided.
1. The immediate recruiting of patriots in Florence and Rome.
2. Arrangements to be made for the recruiting of patriots in Reggio and Viterbo - and to be held ready upon call.

5183

(Signed) General Berardi.
20/9/44.

Note: Additions in ink made by General Berardi before signing

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Partigiani Pat

28A

EXTRACT FROM THE CORRIERE DI FIRENZE - 15-9-44

AVVISO AI PATRIOTI E PARTIGIANI

NOTICE TO PATRIOTS AND PARTISANS :

Following the notice published yesterday in this paper the Patriots and Partisans who wisch to enter the Italian army must present Lt. Col. Niccoli either the diploma given then by Gen. Alexander or an attestation signed by the commander af the Patriots.

A.C. of S.

GEN.	INITIALS	DATE
Col. Mc. [illegible]HY		
Maj. M[illegible]		
[illegible] DRAGE		
[illegible]		
[illegible]		
C. C.		

5182

Memo to Colonel C.D. McCarthy - Director Patriots Branch

Report on conclusion of yesterday's meeting held at 1720 hours — 1845 hours.

TRANSPORT — None available from Italian army sources
Report on number of hidden trucks found near Orvieto will be had today p.m.
Possibilities are fairly good.

SUPPLIES — Consolidated list is being drawn up. It is believed that all items can be drawn from Italian QM in both Bari and Naples. As for blankets, there are none.

PERSONNEL — Complete except for 3 more Camp Comandants, which should be arrived at today.

NOTE : I spoke to Major Casale (Chief of screening agency #3). He has his men ready to leave. He has transport.

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SUGGESTION : I leave with the screening agency Monday. & take along with me the HQ staff of the Patriot Camps organization also. We

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SUPPLIES — Consolidated list is being drawn up. It is believed that all items can be drawn from Italian QM in both Bari and Naples. As for blankets, there are none.

PERSONNEL — Complete except for 3 more Camps Commandants, which should be arrived at Today.

NOTE : I spoke to Major Casale (Chief of screening agency #3). He has his men ready to leave. He has Transport.

5181

SUGGESTION : I leave with the screening agency Monday. I take along with me the HQ staff of the Patriot Camps organization also. We leave one or two Patriots representatives from the staff behind to procure supplies and send them North. Meanwhile, I'll get things started, best I can.

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

To: M.M.I.A. for General Browning
Copy to : Political Section.

Ref. 19/PAT

Subject: Screening Agencies

16 September 44.

1. I was able to discuss with Mr Bonomi yesterday the problem of enlisting volunteer Patriots into the Italian Army.

2. I said to Mr Bonomi that I was concerned at the extremely small number of volunteers coming forward from the Patriots since it did not seem worth while to keep up a special screening organisation, and a camping organisation, unless we were going to have more recruits to handle.

3. I explained that the arrangements had been in full force everywhere on the West coast, and would start in full force next week on the East coast. Subject to any special remarks which the Committee may have to make, I suggested that the whole thing should stop at the end of October since, by then, the bands in the Apennines would have been liquidated and, presumably, the bands north of the Apennines would not wish to come to Rome.

4. I cited what happened in Florence a few days ago when we were told that there were 1,200 Patriots who wished to join the Army. Major Arago, who was in Florence, was immediately able to produce sufficient transport to bring these men back in returning lorries direct to Rome. Only 20 presented themselves for the journey.

C. D. Mc CARTHY.
Colonel.
Patriots Branch.
M.C. & M.G. Section.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
G.O. & M.G. SECTION
PATRIOTS BRANCH
APO 394

SECRET

25

MEMORANDUM

14th August 1944.

SUBJECT : Movement of Patriot Volunteers from Army Areas into the Italian Army.

REMARKS.

(1) It is impossible to say how many volunteers there will be. At present the numbers are very few, but the organisation outlined below is designed to take care of a variable flow which might for a short period amount up to several hundred per day.

(2) These volunteers who are accepted have to be moved from Corps and Army Areas back to the main Italian Army Recruiting Centres which are now at BARI and CHIETI. It is possible that the latter centre will, at a later date, be moved forward to [redacted].

(3) Accepted volunteers will come on the M/E of the Italian Army for rations and etc., when they arrive at Recruiting Centres.

SCREENING AGENTS (Italian Army).

(4) These screening agents will operate in Army Areas under orders from Fifth and Eighth Armies and select suitable recruits from Patriot volunteers on the lists of A.M.G.

(5) It has been agreed by C.M.I. Eighth Army that a part of their F.S.S. Screening Agency should be set up at Corps roadheads. This in effect means that possible rejections will not be shipped back to Army Roadhead and therefore the necessity of dealing with such rejections and arranging further shipments forward again will not occur.

(6) Accepted volunteers will be given a ticket to the effect that they will be taken on the strength of one of the enlisted centres, BARI or CHIETI, as soon as they reach these centres.

5179

MEANS OF TRANSPORT FOR MOVING RECRUITS/PATRIOTS.

(7) The means of transport will be along the main Army channels (see attached appendix from Corps Areas) to Army Roadheads and Railheads by returning M.T. and by rail where possible.

(8) At present there are three main routes, the East coast route from Pole Corps, the central route from 10 and 13 Corps and the West coast route from Fifth Army.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

(1½) It is impossible to say how many volunteers there will be. At present the numbers are very few, but the organisation outlined below is designed to take care of a variable flow which might for a short period amount up to several hundred per day.

(2) Those volunteers who are accepted have to be moved from Corps and Army Areas back to the main Italian Army Recruiting Centres which are now at ROME and GRIMPI. It is possible that the latter centre will, at a later date, be moved forward to [redacted].

(3) Accepted volunteers will come on the R/S of the Italian Army for rations and etc., when they arrive at Recruiting Centres.

SCREENING AGENCY (Italian Army).

(4) These screening agents will operate in Army Areas under orders from Fifth and Eighth Armies and select suitable recruits from Patriot volunteers on the lists of A.M.G.

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(6) Accepted volunteers will be given a ticket to the effect that they will be taken on the strength of one of the enlisted centres, ROME or GRIMPI, as soon as they reach these centres.

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MEANS OF TRANSPORT FOR MOVES BETWEEN PATRIOTS.

(7) The means of transport will be along the main Army channels (see attached appendix from Corps Areas) to Army Roadheads and Railheads by returning M.T. and by rail where possible.

(8) At present there are three main routes, the East coast route from Polo Corps, the central route from 10 and 13 Corps and the West coast route from Fifth Army.

(9) Requests for road movement along these routes will be made to R.A.S.C., M.T., Officers by C.A.O's, in forward areas and by Camp Commandants of Patriot Camps in Areas further back. R.A.S.C., M.T. officers will call up parties as convenient and arrange for their movement to the next destination.

(10) Requests for rail movement will be to 'Movements' with whom details, giving numbers, should be arranged on the day prior to the move.

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(14) If C.A.C's can at any place arrange for volunteers to be moved under separate arrangements they should do so provided Corps have screened the men.

CAMPS AND ASSEMBLY AREAS.

(12) There will be required to take care of returning volunteers, and, depending on conditions existing from time to time, one such area may be needed in each corps area, at each Boatboad and at each Railhead.

(13) They can be located near Refugee Camps so that the Allied Officer supervising the latter can also supervise the former.

(14) They must come under control of the Army in whose area they are working.

(15) Whenever possible an Italian barracks or other public building should be used if the Sub-Area Commander can at locate.

(16) Tentage, Blankets and cooking utensils must be drawn from various sources. The Refugee Ration Scale will apply and rations can be collected by the refugee issue.

(17) Italian Officers can act as Camp Commandants under the general supervision mentioned above. General duty men to be paid as civilians by A.M.G. can be found from Patriots who need employment.

1334
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1335

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

13 SEP Recd

SECRET

SUBJECT: Patriots - Italian Army Screening Agencies

Army Sub Commission (MIA)
N. G. A. C. C.
R G E F
TS/C/19
13th Sept 44

MIA LO 5 Army

Copy to: MIA LO 5 Army
MIA LO 1 Dist
AFC Patriot Branch

1. Col Pidaley and Capt Selby attended a meeting at the Patriot Branch, AFC on 10 Sept 44 at which the general opinion was expressed that the SCRE (MIA) agencies for screening and enlisting patriot volunteers laid down in letter (of 23 Jul) were not working properly.

2. The following particular points were made.

(a) para 2 (a) The agency sent to 5 Army had been returned to Base and was idle.

(b) para 2 (b) The agencies generally tended to put obstacles in the way of certain patriot volunteers, to be ignorant of conditions laid down and that they had political partialities.

(c) para 2 (f) The agencies for back areas had completely failed in their duties.

It was decided that Patriot Branch would take up the points, would redouble its efforts to get the show running.

2. It must be clearly understood that screening agencies in Army areas operate under the control of Army AG officers and that the evacuation of volunteers, the administration of staging camps and the feeding of personnel are a Patriot responsibility. MIA LO's are not in any way responsible for Patriots. Furthermore no mutual arrangements will be made nor will any agreements be reached by MIA LO's and the Patriot Branch AFC.

5177

CCS	INITIALS	DATE
Col [illegible]		
Maj [illegible]		
[illegible]		
[illegible]		
[illegible]		
[illegible]		
CGI[illegible]		

Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

13 SEP Recd MSC.

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT:- Screening Detachments

Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
H. . A.C.C.
R O M E.
TS/G/19
12 Sep 44

War Ministry

Copy to:- HQ EIGHTH ARMY
Patriots Branch A.C.C.
MMIA LO REAR EIGHTH ARMY
MMIA LO 1 District

Ref our letter G/19 of 23 Jul 44, not to all, instructing you to send three Italian Army detachments to the combat zone for screening and enrolling suitable Italian patriot volunteers into the Italian Army.

1. On or after 15 Sep 44 (date will be agreed by EIGHTH ARMY), Lieut DA LORETO U.S. Army of Patriot's Branch A.C.C. will accompany Col SANTUCCI's det from ROME to Rear HQ EIGHTH ARMY (MMIA LO Lt Col MORIARTY) to re-commence work in EIGHTH ARMY area.

2. Please alert the det and its tpt to be ready as from 15 Sep 44 to report to HQ A.C.C., pick up Lieut DA LORETO and move to Rear HQ EIGHTH ARMY.

ASC

for Major General
Army Sub Commission ACC
M M I A

Copy internal to :- G(Int)

5176

1336

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

NMIA LO 1 District

Ref our letter G/19 of 23 Jul 44, not to all, instructing you to send three Italian Army detachments to the combat zone for screening and enrolling suitable Italian patriot volunteers into the Italian Army.

1. On or after 15 Sep 44 (date will be agreed by EIGHTH ARMY), Lieut DE LORETO U.S. Army of Patriot's Branch A.C.C. will accompany Col SARTORI's det from ROME to Rear Hq EIGHTH ARMY (NMIA LO Lt Col MORIARTY) to re-commence work in EIGHTH ARMY area.

2. Please alert the det and its tpt to be ready as from 15 Sep 44 to report to Hq A.C.C., pick up Lieut DE LORETO and move to Rear Hq EIGHTH ARMY.

for

Major General
Army Sub Commission ACC
N M I A

ABC

Copy internal to :- G(Int)

5176

SEEN.	INITIAL	DATE.
Col. Mc. [illegible]HY		
Maj. MAG[illegible]		
Maj. DRAGE		
Capt. SILVADORI		
Col. FAVA		

1337

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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

Phone 478183

22

NEF/mrd

Ref /783/16/CA.

3 September 1944

Dear Murchie :

The problem presented by the officers and men of the Italian Army on Elba has been under consideration since my return from my visit there. M.M.I.A. is not at all keen to do anything about it, As far as they are concerned these people are on a civilian status. Naturally, the Italian Army will undoubtedly look into it, but presently I have not been able to get them stirred up. If the situation presents any serious difficulty, please let me know and I will have another try at it.

Sincerely yours,

NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive Commissioner.

5173

1339

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SUBJECT: Italian Military in Elba

18 AUG Recd

18 AUG Recd

49

Army Sub Commission (MMIA)
H.Q. A.C.C.
ROME
I/103/2
18 Aug 44

E.C. & W.C. Section H.Q. A.C.C.

Copy to: Patriot Branch A.C.C.

1. The ex-soldiers of the old Italian Army on Elba referred to in the Report under reference are civilians until called up in the new Italian Army. It is probable that they will not be called to the colours for some time owing to the reduction of the ceiling for the new Italian Army.

2. It is suggested that A.C.C. may send a screening agency from the Parties available to the Patriot Branch to recruit volunteers if A.C.C. desires to remove some of them from the Island.

CGL.

W.K. Selby. Capt
for Maj Gen
Army Sub Commission

Phone 27

1340

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

M E M O R A N D U M

1) Each Agency will be supplied with a car and a truck.

2) As soon as the localities to be visited for recrutement of volunteers from among the Patriot bands are known, the Agencies will procede by car to said localities in order to contact the local elements and fix the enlisting date.

3) The enlisted personnel will be conveyed by motor transport to Office N° 1 of the 8th Army, where each enlisted men, if accepted, will be given a pass to the receiving depot.

4) Receiving depots will be set up by the 8th Army H.Q. in agreement with the Commander of the Screening Agency.

5) The receiving depots will be guarded by sentinels, to be furnished by the Italian Commands.

6) The enlisted men will be transported from the receiving depots to the troop concentration camps at Cerseti and Cerga by British motor transport returning empty from the 8th Army line.

7) Those enlisted men destined for Cerseti will be transported by the 8th Army only as far as the railway terminals of Terni, Civitacastellana, etc.

8) The Italian Command will furnish the escort for the motor transport conveying the volunteers.

9) The rations for the travel and during the stay at the receiving depots will be furnished by 8th Army H.Q.

10) 8th Army H.Q. will not supply rations from the railway terminals (see 7) to the troop concentration camp of Cerseti.

11) The 8th Army H.Q. requests that A.C.C. (Col. Mc CARTHY) submit suggestions regarding these points, after agreement with the Italian War Ministry.

(Suggested by Col. MORIARTY - AMG (MMIA) 8th Army 5173

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

4th August 1944

MEMORANDUM.

Ref. 49/ /PAT

Subject: Enlistment of Patriots from Army Areas into the Italian Army.

1. It is impossible to say how many volunteers there will be. At present the numbers are very few, but the organisation outlined below is designed to take care of a variable flow which might for a short period amount up to several hundred per day.

2. As previously arranged, volunteers from genuine Patriot bands will be screened by the official Italian screening parties in forward areas and if accepted given a ticket to say that they will be taken on the strength of one of the enlisted centres Rome or Chieti as soon as they reach these centres.

3. Accepted volunteers will not come on the ration strength of the Italian Army till accepted at enlistment centres: so they will be fed on Italian refugee scales and the procedure for obtaining rations should, it is suggested, be the same as for refugees.

4. The means of transport to enlistment centres will be along the main Army channels from corps areas to Roadheads and Railheads by returning m.t. and by rail where possible.

5. It will be necessary to have tented camps or billetting areas near Roadheads. M.M.I.A. has no tentage so this must come from Allied Sources, if tented camps are required. Otherwise billetting areas can presumably be taken over under orders of sub-area commanders. Maximum use of permanent accommodation will be made stock of canvas available. Allied Sources are very limited.

6. Staff for handling this accommodation will be formed from Italian troops already with 5th and 8th Army. Small permanent staff, balance patriots. This Italian Staff will be detailed by 5th and 8th Army as required and directed ACC/AMG as necessary.

5172

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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5172

Colonel
Patrior Branch A.C.C.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SECRET

HANDLING OF ITALIAN PATRIOT VOLUNTEERS.

The initial outlay of the scheme for the handling of patriot volunteers into the Italian Army is outlined in the attached memorandum dated 4th August 1944. This has now been agreed in principle by A.A.I. and M.M.I.A. and the method of physical operation is shown in Appendix A.

G.S.I. 8th Army have been consulted and they have agreed that a screening agency will be set up at Corps Roadhead for the purpose of carrying out this work. This in effect means that rejections will not be shipped back to Army Roadhead and therefore the necessity of dealing with such rejections and arranging for their shipment forward again will not occur.

As will be seen in Appendix A, a complete L. of C., parallel with that of the Army, will have to be set up for each Corps. In effect this means that for each Corps one camp will be necessary, for each Army Roadhead one camp and for each Army Railhead one camp. Appendix A. clearly sets forth the position as it will be in 8th Army area.

Camp Locations - Several Refugee Camps have been inspected and there is adequate space adjoining such Refugee Camps for the setting up of the Patriot Camps.

Equipment - It is felt that tentage must be made available from some source but bivouacs would suffice. Cooking utensils etc. can be obtained from Army Quartermasters in the areas.

Rations - It has been agreed that the patriots shall be fed on the same scale as that laid down for refugees. This ration scale has been examined and is considered adequate.

Personnel - Each Camp to be commanded by an Italian officer as Camp Commandant, with a small Staff of Italian soldiers, the general duty men to be made up into a permanent staff of patriots (these patriots will not be drawn from those volunteering to join the Army).

It is felt that in view of the large number of camps, it may be necessary to establish that in the British area a British officer should be in the field to supervise the running of the camps, likewise an American officer in American area.

Transport - It has been agreed that transport required for backwards shipment of patriots will be supplied by army sources. The method of obtaining same is quite simple. The Camp Commandant liaises daily with the nearest C.R.A.S.C., notifying him of the numbers for [illegible] C.R.A.S.C. will automatically instruct his returning

1343
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Transport - It has been agreed that transport required for backwards shipment of patriots will be supplied by army sources. The method of obtaining same is quite simple. The Camp Commandant liaises daily with the nearest C.R.A.S.C., notifying him of the numbers for shipment each day. C.R.A.S.C. will automatically instruct his returning transport accordingly. (This is the method by which refugees are moved from the forward areas to railhead).

Transport for the daily collection of rations will not be necessary as these can be arranged to be collected by the refugee vehicle and by a liaison between the two Camp Commandants.

August 11th 1944.

1344
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MEMORANDUM

Suggested scheme for the handling of patriots who have been accepted for enlistment into the Italian Army .

I) It is proposed to establish three tented camps : one at road or rail head 5th Army , one at road or rail head 8th Army and a central camp in the vicinity of Rome .

Each camp would be commanded by an Italian officer whose rank should not be less than that of major and if possible he should speak English. He would be assisted by a very small staff of Italian soldiers . The balance of the camp staff for general maintenance , cooking , ~~hygiene~~ hygiene etc. being recruited from patriots . Those patriots would remain as a permanent staff and so would at all times be fully conversant with the administration. The two road head camps will require I.000 pieces of canvas each , and the Rome camp 2.000 pieces for tents. It is understood that those pieces are available from Italian Army sources but permission for their release must be given by M.M.I.A.

2) For the purpose of feeding the patriots they would be treated as refugees and the procedure for obtaining the rations would be the same as that laid down for refugees i.e. - In forward areas rations are drawn from Army supply points direct, in AMG areas through the AMG , in the Rome area from ACC sources .

5170

3) Handing procedure

After patriots have been sorted they would be transported by returning empty transport in the corps areas to road or rail head camps . They would be onward transported to the Rome camp either by GT transport in the L of C areas or by rail .

[illegible] would not only tend to maintain the patriots

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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5170

3) Handing procedure

After patriots have been sorted they would be transported by returning empty transport in the corps areas to road or rail head camps . They would be onward transported to the Rome camp either by GT transport in the L of C areas or by rail .

4) The inauguration of this scheme would not only tend to maintain the patriots in a happy state of mind , but it will also facilitate the keeping of complete records of all those enlisted into the Army .

1346

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEAD QUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. Section
APO 394

4th Aug. 1944

INFORMATION

Ref. 49/ /R&T
Subject : Enlistment of Patriots from Army areas into the Italian Army.

1. It is impossible to say how many volunteers there will be. At present the numbers are very few , but the organisation outlined below is designed to take care of a variable flow which might for a short period amount up to several hundred per day .

2. Volunteers from genuine Patriot bands will be screened by Italian officers in forward areas and if accepted given a ticket to say that they will be taken on the strenght of one of the enlisted centers Rome or Chieti as soon as they reach these centers .

3. The means of transport to enlistment centers will be along the main Army channels from corps areas to Roadheads and Railheads by returning M.T. and by rail .

4. Accepted volunteers will not come on the ration strength of the Italian Army till till they reach the enlistment centers : so they will be fed on Italian refugee scales and the procedure for obtaining rations should,it is suggested, be the same as for refugees.

5. It will be necessary to have tented camps & billeting areas near Roadheads and one near Rome . If M.M.I.A. can release tentage from Italian Army this might be preferable depending on the loadhead is . Otherwise a billeting area could presumably be taken over under orders from sub-areas commanders .

6. Staff for handling Patriots volunteers for the camps will be found partly from the Italian Army with 8th Army and partly , it is suggested, from other patriots provided they can be paid and fed from Italian Army sources . In any case this staff will be operated by the Italian Army and therefore come under command of 5th or 8th Army ; they can be directed by AOC/ AMG as necessary .

7. If the above is agreed in principle by M.M.I.A. and A.A.I. , it is suggested that a meeting be held to discuss details with say 8th Army and the results of this meeting be examined in Rome as between A.A.I. , AOC and the Italian Army S.M.R.E.

5169

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 745046

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7. If the above is agreed in principle by M.M.I.A. and A.A.I. , it is suggested that a meeting be held to discuss details with say 5th Army and the results of this meeting be examined in Rome as between A.A.I. , ADC and the Italian Army S.M.R.E.

5169

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778506

1349

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
M.C.& M.G. Section
APO 394

4th Aug. 1944

MEMORANDUM

Ref. 49/ /PAT

Subject : Enlistment of Patriots from Army Areas into the Italian Army .

1. It is impossible to say how many volunteers there will be. At present the numbers are very few, but the organisation outlined below is designed to take care of a variable flow which might for a short period amount up to several hundred per day .

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6. Staff for handling this accomodation will be formed from Italian troops already with 5 and 8 Army . Small permanent staff, balance Patriots . This Italian Staff will be detailed by 5 and 8 Army as required and directed AMG/[redacted] as necessary .

7. MMIA agree in principle with the above . If AAI agree also , it is suggested that a meeting be held to discuss details with 5 and 8 Army , the results of this meeting to be examined in Rome as between AAI, AMG and MMIA.

5169

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Ref. 49/ /PAT

Subject : Enlistment of Patriots from Army Areas into the Italian Army .

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Ries

Colonel
Patriot Branch AGS

1350

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

MEMORANDUM

Suggested scheme for the handling of patriots who have been accepted for enlistment into the Italian Army .

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2) For the purpose of feeding the patriots they would be treated as refugees and the procedure for obtaining the rations would be the same as that laid down for refugees i.e. - In forward areas rations are drawn from Army supply points direct, in AMG areas through the AMG , in the Rome area from ADC sources .

3) Handing procedure
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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1352

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

Subject:- Enlistment of Patriots from Army Areas into the Italian Army

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M.M.I.A)
ROME

G/19
4 Aug 44

Col McCARTHY

Ref your MEMORANDUM 49/ /PAT of 4 Aug 44:-

1. Suggested redraft herewith.

2. Points are:-

Your Paras 3 & 4.

(a)Suggest it is better to transpose these.

Your para 5.

(b)MMIA have no tentage.

(c)You don't need a tented camp or billeting area near ROME. The enlistment centre is at ROME. We should reduce all such installations(and so overheads)to a minimum.

Your para 6.

(d)Surely 5 Army must contribute their quota of staff for the patriot coming back by their route ?

(e)We can NOT "pay and feed patriots from Italian Army sources". As I have said throughout and as is shewn in your paras 2 & 4, the patriot is a CIVILIAN till he reaches the enlistment centre.

Your para 7.

(f)MMIA must be in on the final ROME meeting, NOT S.M.R.E. unilaterally.

L. Brownjohn

Maj Gen
Army Sub Comm, ACC

cc/

5166

1353

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Your para 5.

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(e)We can NOT "pay and feed patriots from Italian Army sources". As I have said throughout and as is shown in your paras 2 & 4, the patriot is a CIVILIAN till he reaches the enlistment centre.

Your para 7.

(f)MMIA must be in on the final ROME meeting, NOT S.M.R.E. unilaterally.

L. Browning

Maj Gen
Army Sub Comm, ACC

cc/

5166

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

14 AUG Recd

Subject:- Enlistment of Patriots from Army Areas into the Italian Army

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M.M.I.A)
ROME

G/19
4 Aug 44

Col McCARTHY

Ref your MEMORANDUM 49/ /PAT of 4 Aug 44:-

1. Suggested redraft herewith.

2. Points are:-

Your Paras 3 & 4.

(a)Suggest it is better to transpose these.

Your para 5.

(b)MMIA have no tentage.

(c)You don't need a tented camp or billeting area near ROME. The enlistment centre is at ROME. We should reduce all such installations(and so overheads)to a minimum.

Your para 6.

(d)Surely 5 Army must contribute their quota of staff for the patriot coming back by their route ?

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Maj Gen
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cc/

5165

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Maj Gen
Army Sub Comm, ACC

cc/

5165

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1357

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

49

25

REGION FOUR REGION FIVE AMG FIVE ARMY AMG EIGHT ARMY

ACC MAIN
1560

9

SECRET
ROUTINE
PATRIOTS BRANCH

ITALIAN SCREENING AGENCIES IN VERY SMALL NUMBERS ARE GOING FORWARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENLISTING PATRIOT VOLUNTEERS FOR SERVICE IN THE ITALIAN ARMY FD PAREN TO REGION FOUR REGION FIVE AMG FIVE ARMY AMG EIGHT ARMY FROM ABLE CHARLIE CHARLIE MAIN PAREN THEY MAY BE PROVIDED WITH PETROL FOR CARRYING OUT THEIR DUTIES

MMIA
RC AND MG SECTION } INFO

5164

8 AUG Recd 49

SUBJECT:- Handling of Italian Patriot Volunteers. SECRET

for Maj Drage
Sqn Pass to main staff
on his return Lt

Army Sub Commission, ACC
(M M I A)
Rear H Q EIGHTH ARMY.
MM/100

4 Aug 44.

Memorandum for Col. T. McCarthy, A C C

1. The successful operation of the Commission set up to select volunteers for the Italian Army from patriots now located in the Army area depends largely on certain assistance, principally in transport, which can only be found from EIGHTH ARMY sources.

2. This paper is prepared at the direction of D A & Q M G, EIGHTH ARMY, to express his view that, before commitments can be accepted on the method and measure of such assistance, it is essential that a detailed and practical scheme be worked out in consultation with the Staff and Service branches affected, and submitted for consideration and possible modification by H Q EIGHTH ARMY.

3. In formulating the scheme; allowance must be made for the following factors :-

(a) Until formally enlisted into the Italian Army at Rome or Chieti, against pari passu demobilisation of an equal number of older men now serving, volunteers, whether ex soldiers or not, count in all respects as civilians. This particularly affects rations and control of movement. A M G interested.

(b) The Italian Commission must have its own means of transport to reach the patriots in their towns and villages, often remote and difficult of access. The extent to which it can be allowed to move in forward operational areas must also be defined.

(c) G S I EIGHTH ARMY must be consulted as to how and where their security requirements for screening and control of movement can be met.

5163

(d) An agency must be set up at an agreed point or points on the Army L of C, where selected volunteers can be

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

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(c) G S I EIGHTH ARMY must be consulted as to how and where their security requirements for screening and control of movement can be met.

(d) An agency must be set up at an agreed point or points on the Army L of C, where selected volunteers can be concentrated and held ready for evacuation in Down Maint traffic. Gen. Tomaselli, (I F A HQ), should be able to supply the personnel for this, in whole or part.

(e) How will volunteers be transported to these points from their present locations, fed and disciplinarily controlled during the process of evacuation.

(f) Some agency must receive the volunteers at an agreed point where they are discharged from Army traffic, and arrange for their further control and evacuation.

/2.

1359

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

216

4. Conditions in Polish Corps area are again different from those obtaining in the area West of the Appennines, and a parallel scheme will have to drawn up to cover No.3 Commission's activities in that area.

Lt-Col.G.S.
M M I A Rear H Q EIGHTH ARMY.

Copies to:-

DA & QMG Main EIGHTH ARMY
S C A O Main EIGHTH ARMY
G S I Main EIGHTH ARMY
D D S T Rear Eighth Army
Army Sub Commission, ACC
Al Sig Generale Tomaselli, (I F A HQ) (2)

5162

1380

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1361

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

-7 AUG Recd PATRIOTS BR 2498

ARMY FORM G-2156 (8mm)

MESSAGE FORM

Register No.

Call Srl No. Priority Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY

FROM (A) Originator: HQ REGION 5 AMG | Date-Time of Origin: 041800

— OFFICE DATE STAMP. —

For Action

TO HQ ACC

(W) For Information (INFO)

Message Instructions — CR —

Originator's No. G-403

REFERENCE YOUR 814 SECRET . ITALIAN OFFICERS SHOULD VISIT

AQUILA CHIETI PESCARA TERAMO AND ASCOLI

ACTION

THIS MESSAGE MAY BE SENT IN WRITTEN BY ANY MEANS EXCEPT [illegible] IN CLEAR TO ENEMY HANDS. THIS MESSAGE MAY NOT BE SENT IN CIPHER

UNLESS IT IS ABLE TO BE INTERCEPTED OR TO DECIPHERED

ORIGINATOR'S INSTRUCTIONS DEGREE OF PRIORITY

Time | System | Op.

THI or TOR

Time clears

Dist

(Act) Patriots Br 2

(Inf) ACC 1

File 1

Float 1

2nd 061846

5161

Signature: L.D. Gaskill

HEADQUARTERS 7 AUG 1944 A. C. C.

T 3 6 2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
P. C. & M.G. Section
APO 394

5th Aug. 1944

Ref. : 49/ 22/PAT

Subject : Enlistment of Patriots from Army Areas into the Italian Army.

To : Army Sub-Commission (Att. Maj.Gen. Browning)

Further to interview this morning with Brig.Ritchie A.A.I.
In principle the contents of the memo are agreed , subject of course to
a) the agreement of Brig. Bastion and
b) agreement of the final meeting : see para 7 of memorandum.
Attached please find a further re-draft of the memorandum showing further suggestions made by Brig. Ritchie.

B. L. Drage
Major,
Patriots Branch.
P.C. & M.G. Section.

BLD/lmb

5160

1363

21

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C.A.M.G. Section
APO 394

4th Aug. 1944

MEMORANDUM

Ref. 49/ /PAT

Subject : Enlistment of Patriots from Army Areas into the Italian Army .

1. It is impossible to say how many volunteers there will be. At present the numbers are very few, but the organisation outlined below is designed to take care of a variable flow which might for a short period amount up to several hundred per day .

2. As previously arranged , volunteers from genuine Patriot bands will be screened by the official Italian screening parties in forward areas and if accepted given a ticket to say that they will be taken on the strength of one of the enlisted centers Rome or Chieti as soon as they reach these centers .

3. Accepted volunteers will not come on the ration strength of the Italian Army till accepted at enlistment centers : so they will be fed on Italian refugee scales and the procedure for obtaining rations should, it is suggested, be the same as for refugees .

4. The means of transport to enlistment centers will be along the main Army channels from corps areas to Roadheads and Railheads by returning m.t. and by rail where possible .

5. It will be necessary to have tented camps or billeting areas near Roadheads. MMIA has no tentage so this must come from Allied Sources , if tented camps are required . Otherwise billeting areas can presumably be taken over under orders of sub-area commanders. Max. use of permanent accomadation will be made stock of canvas available. Allied sources are very limited .

6. Staff for handling this accomodation will be formed from Italian troops already with 5 and 8 Army . Small permanent staff, balance Patriots . This Italian Staff will be detailed by 5 and 8 Army as required and directed ACC/AMG as necessary .

7. MMIA agree in principle with the above . If AAI agree also , it is suggested that a meeting be held to discuss details with 5 and 8 Army , the results of this meeting to be examined in Rome as between AAI, ACC and MMIA.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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Colonel
Patriot Brnch ACC

I 364
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

SUBJECT: Patriots.

4 AUG Recd 5/8/44

T O P S E C R E T

Army Sub Commission, (MMIA)
H.Q. ACC

ROME.

G/19
3 Aug 44.

Political Section, ACC (Mr. CACCIA)

file C&Ter

Your remarks on my letter of 1 Aug -

1. ORIGIN.

Yes. I realise that this is normal practice and expresses the Italian Government's feelings.

BUT

2. CONTENT.

It is not the Allied policy and the Italian Government should be under no illusions.
Patriot activity is of course part of the war effort of ITALY. On the other hand, it is AAI (BGS Ops) who control and maintain liaison with bands North of the line. The Minister for War does not really come into the picture till the bands are over-passed by our advance and the personnel are then available to him as volunteers or conscripts for the official Italian Army. The Patriot is a civilian to all intents and purposes till he is officially enlisted as a soldier again by the M. of. W.

The last sentence is NOT correct. It should read :

....."fighting as volunteers in the ranks of the regular Italian Army or as individuals for special purposes authorised by the Allies."....

There are no special Patriot units used by us (as far as I know) South of the line, though individuals may be used as guides, scouts, reconnaissance personnel or couriers beyond the line etc.

3. CONCLUSION.

5158

I think the patriot policy is perfectly clear to those who deal with patriots. The only reason I wrote my letter of 1 Aug was that: -

(a) the Council of Ministers did not seem clear on it.

(b) we should not let such a vague statement stand, so as to prevent muddle in dealing with Patriots and disappointment or disillusionment later on.

1365

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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J. Browning

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

tvs.LB.
3-.c.

copy to: Patriot Branch, ACC (Col. McCARTHY.)

1366

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1367

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1. Origin. - This, I think, was part of an official communique published in accordance with normal practice after a Cabinet meeting to record publicly what the Government had discussed, decided etc.

2. Content.- Is not the last sentence the only objectionable one from your point of view ? And surely even that can be interpreted to fit in with your requirements.

H.A.C.

1368

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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

1 August 1944

Ref/49/ /PAT.

Subject: Enlistment of Patriots in Regia Aeronautica.

To : H.Q. A.M.G. Fifth Army (attn Col. Mayne)

Reference your H.Q. letter 100/1 of 20th July 1944, please find enclosed copy of telegram sent July 23th concerning the initiative taken by the Italian Air Ministry for the enlistment of patriots in the REGIA AERONAUTICA.

Reference your para 5, one mission organised by the Italian Ministry of War was whose duty is to collect the Patriots willing to enlist in the Italian Army left Rome on July 27th to report to H.Q. A.M.G. Fifth Army.

P.P.
for C. D. Mc CARTHY
Colonel
Patriots Branch
R.C. & M.G. Section

5176

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OUTGOING MESSAGE

TO: AMG 5 ARMY AMG EIGHT ARMY RC REGION FIVE RC REGION EIGHT RC REGION NINE

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER NO:

FROM: ACC MAIN CLASSIFICATION: SECRET

REFERENCE No: 1931 PRECEDENCE ROUTINE

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: 28 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: PATRIOTS BRANCH

REFERENCE DIRECTIVE THREEZERO SERGE EIGHT SIERRA PETER ABLE TORAY DATED TWO FOUR JULY PD PAREN TO AMG FIVE ARMY AMG EIGHT ARMY RC REGION FIVE RC REGION EIGHT RC REGION NINE FROM ACC MAIN PAREN PLANS PAREN FOR RETURNING ITALIAN AIR FORCE PATRIOTS TO THE SERVICE AND CIVILIAN LIFE ARE IN HAND IN CONJUNCTION WITH AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION AND ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY

Authenticated by

Originator's Signature

DISTRIBUTION:

RC REGION FOUR
RC ROME REGION
SECRETARY GENERAL
ADMIN SECTION
ECONOMIC SECTION
POLITICAL SECTION
ARMY SUB COMMISSION
NAVY SUB COMMISSION
AIR FORCE SUB COMMISSION
CIVIL AFFAIRS BRANCH
DISPLACED PERSONS SUB COMMISSION
ITALIAN REFUGEES BRANCH
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
PWB ATTN MR RAINER
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
LABOUR SUB COMMISSION

5155

1369
Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

REFERENCE DIRECTIVE TIRSEARO SIRONE EIGHT STRONE PETER ABLE TOMMY DATED TWO FOUR JULY FD PAREN TO AND FIVE ARMY AND EIGHT ARMY RC REGION FIVE RC REGION EIGHT RE REGION NINE FROM ACC MAIN PARENT PLANS FOR RESURGING ITALIAN AIR FORCE PATRIOTS TO THE SERVICE AND CIVILIAN LIFE ARE IN HAND IN CONJUNCTION WITH AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION AND ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY

Authenticated by_____

Originator's Signature

DISTRIBUTION:

RC REGION FOUR
RC ROME REGION
SECRETARY GENERAL
ADMIN SECTION
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ARMY SUB COMMISSION
NAVY SUB COMMISSION
AIR FORCE SUB COMMISSION
CIVIL AFFAIRS BRANCH
DISPLACED PERSONS SUB COMMISSION
ITALIAN REFUGEES BRANCH
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH
FWD ATTN MR RAINER
PUBLIC SAFETY SUB COMMISSION
LABOUR SUB COMMISSION
NUMBER ONE SPECIAL FORCE
O S S
ADV AAI SCS OPS
MAIN AAI G SD
MAIN AAI DCAO
MAIN AAI DCMG
MAIN AAI DAG

5155

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1371

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

24 JUL Recd

R.

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
APO 464 U.S. ARMY

20th July 1944.

108/1

SUBJECT: Italian Army.

TO : H.Q., A.C.C. (Attn: Colonel McCarthy).

1. Reference is made to this H.Q. letter 108/1 of 15th July urging that something be done immediately to hasten the extension of recruiting and other Italian Army activities in newly occupied areas.

2. Today there called at this H.Q. an officer of the Regia Aeronautica sent up from the Air Ministry in Rome to register, pay and generally look after all members of the service found in Livorno Province. He was also provided with notices advising all who required information about the service to apply to him, and giving his address.

As he complained of transport difficulties, these notices have been sent out to C.A.Cs to be posted in all communes in the Province.

3. The officer states that others were being sent by the Air Ministry to Pisa and Siena.

4. Such initiative on the part of the Air Ministry is welcomed and this Headquarters would be greatly helped in the task of dealing with patriots and Italian soldiers if the same help was given by the War Ministry in the most forward Provinces.

5. It is strongly recommended that the War Ministry be urged to take similar action and that this Headquarters be advised of any developments.

If representatives are sent up it is requested that they inform A.M.G. of their whereabouts.

For the Commanding General:

E B Mayne

E.B. MAYNE. 5154
Colonel, U.D.F.,
Chief of Staff,
A.M.G. Fifth Army.

Copy to:

R.C. & M.G.S.
A.M.G. 8th Army.
Army Sub-Commission.

*Attached copy of notice.

1372

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AFB ATLANTA ATLANTA FOR BENSON AAB DIVO ATLANTA FOR ATLANTA

ACC MAIN

SECRET

1168

PRIORITY

21

PATRIOTS BRANCH

PLEASE NOTIFY LOCALITIES WHERE ARE GATHERED ARMS SURRENDERED BY PATRIOTS PD PASSU TO AFB ATLANTA FOR BENSON AAB FIVE ATLANTA FOR DATE ZERO ACC MAIN PASSU ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE TO HAVE THEM COLLECTED AT FEDERAL ARSENAL QUANTITIES

Nelle sue riunioni di sabato 15 e lunedì 17 il Consiglio dei Ministri ha ascoltato una relazione del Ministro della Guerra sullo sforzo militare del Paese per la partecipazione alla guerra.

Il Ministro ha riferito sulla situazione presente dell'Esercito, sul problema dei quadri e della indispensabile loro epurazione e selezione, sull'ammissione dei volontari nelle file dell'Esercito nonchè sul necessario collegamento tra l'Esercito e le bande di patrioti.

Il Consiglio ha approvato la relazione del Ministro della Guerra e lo ha esortato a proseguire nello sforzo intrapreso.

Il Consiglio, facendosi interprete dei sentimenti del Paese e fidando negli Alleati per superare le difficoltà di ordine materiale che segnano i limiti dello schieramento in linea di truppe italiane, ha esaminato le forme concrete per intensificare l'apporto delle nostre armi alla guerra di liberazione.

In particolare il Consiglio ha deliberato di valersi dello spirito volontaristico diffuso nel Paese, e particolarmente vivo nelle regioni via via liberate, per mettere a disposizione ai fini della causa comune il maggiore numero di combattenti.

5152

Il Consiglio dei Ministri dopo avere poi discusso ampiamente le possibilità di aiuto a tutte le forme di resistenza nelle regioni occupate, ha riconosciuto che le bande armate di partigiani le quali lottano contro l'invasore tedesco devono essere considerate come parte integrante dello sforzo di guerra della Nazione. Per questo

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 778046

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1374

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1375

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

49
29 'UL Recd R.

Patriots Br.

7280

HEADQUARTERS REGION IX
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

Reference:- R.IX/35/HQ/2

25th July 1944.

Subject:- Patriots.

To:- H.Q., Allied Control Commission,
R.C. & M.C.Section.

Reference your Signal Message 814 dated 22 Jul 44.

1. Until this Region is established in its own territory, no definite programme can be given of towns to be visited by parties of the Italian Army.

2. For planning purposes however, visits may be made to this Headquarters at ORVIETO.

QUARTER
29 AUG 1944
A. C. C.

H.H.S.HARTLEY,
Lieut Colonel,
EXECUTIVE OFFICER.

W [illegible] (Pads of 100) 5/43 MP 210428 51 6716

27 JUL Recd

ARMY FORM C 2136 (Large) **MESSAGE FORM** R — Register No. 10

Sri. No.	Priority	Transmission Instructions

ABOVE THIS LINE FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY.

FROM (A) Originator: [illegible] AAI ADV — Date-Time of Origin. — Office Date Stamp →

For Action.

FIFTH ARMY

TO

(W) For Information (INFO)

MAIA

Message Instructions: GR

Originator's No: C-3972

REF G-19 OF 25 JULY (.) UNDERSTAND APPLICATION FOR PATRIOTS OF BACKGROUND

[illegible] UNDER AT SOL DECOI TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE OPERATIONS HAS BEEN MADE

IN A CORPS (.) REQUEST THIS NOT POSSIBLE AS IT RUNS COUNTER TO POLICY ALREADY

AGREED (.) NO OBJECTIONS TO INDIVIDUALS BEING SENT BY YOU AS GUIDES ETC OR

RETURNING THROUGH OUR LINES TO COORDINATE PATRIOT MOVEMENT WITH YOUR ADVANCE

Copy to ACS for Col McCarthy by H.S.

5150

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Originator's No 0-3972

REF G.19 OF 23 JUNE (.) UNDERSTAND APPLICATION FOR PATRIOTS OF BACKUPFARMTO

[illegible] WHETHER LT COL OTCI TO PARTICIPATE IN FUTURE OPERATIONS HAS BEEN MADE

BY 4 CORPS (.) DOUBT THIS NOT POSSIBLE AS IT RUNS COUNTER TO POLICY ALREADY

AGREED (.) NO OBJECTIONS TO INDIVIDUALS BEING USED BY YOU AS GUIDES ETC OR

RETAINING THROUGH ENEMY LINES TO COORDINATE PATRIOT MOVEMENT WITH YOUR ADVANCE

Copy to ACC for Col McCarthy by H.S.

5150

This message may be sent AS WRITTEN by any means except WIRELESS.	If liable to be Intercepted or to fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CIPHER.	Originator's Instructions. Degree of Priority.	Time	System	Op.
			THI or TOR		
			Time Cleared		
Signed.	Signed.				

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

Notes on the enlistment of Patriots into the Italian Army.

1. The strength of the present Italian Army is fixed by the Allies and must not be exceeded.

2. All Italian men in liberated Italy between certain ages (at present 20 - 30) are liable for military service.

3. The registration and enlistment of men of military age is effected in the usual way by proclamation. ROME is the most northerly area as yet affected. Other liberated areas will be included as normal conditions return.

4. As younger men are taken into the Army, a corresponding number of older men are demobilised.

5. Patriots (and others) encountered in newly liberated areas, even though they may be wearing uniform or have been former members of the Italian Army are NOT now soldiers and must remain as civilians for all purposes until re-enlisted by proper authority.

6. Patriots should normally remain in their own homes until the calling up proclamation is made applicable to that area. Patriots of military age who volunteer to join (or rejoin) the Italian Army, and who have either no home or no occupation in forward areas may be screened by Italian Military Agencies in Allied Army areas and, if accepted, sent through refugee channels to Army Screening Centres (at Present ROME and CHIETI). If rejected by the Army Screening Agencies they then remain "refugees."

5179

7. In very exceptional circumstances Patriots over military age may be treated as in para 6, if it is considered that their services would be of outstanding use to the Army.

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bm.MP.

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

49 24 JUL Recd

2.

SUBJECT: - Italian Military Personnel from enemy occupied ITALY.

Army Sub Commission, A.C.C.
Main HQ MTIA

ROME.

G/19
23 Jul 44.

Ministry of War

Copy to: HQ AAI.
SMRE
~~Adv HQ Army Sub Com. SALERNO.~~
Army Sub Com LO NAPLES
" " " " 5 Army.
" " " " 8 Army.
A.C.C. Patriot Section.
Navy Sub Com. A.C.C.
Air Forces Sub Com.A.C.C.

HQ ACC
Army Sub Com LO:
1 District.
2 District.
3 District.
~~4 District.~~
5 Corps HQ

1. Certain arrangements have been made, in agreement with the Patriots Branch at ACC, with a view to enlisting into the Italian Army at the earliest possible moment, Patriots encountered in newly-liberated areas who volunteer for such enlistment.

2. These arrangements which are in effect an extension of the provision of MMIA 1 ster, G/19 of 3 June (and are to be read as such) are as follows: -

(a) The Ministry of War will at once send a Screening Agency (not exceeding 4 officers and 8 men) to join the AMG officer dealing with the re-settlement of Patriots at HQ of each 5th Army, 8th Army, and Polish Corps.

(b) The Screening Agencies will interview volunteers as required by the AMG officer. They will decide whether these can be accepted within the number that the Ministry of War consider can be absorbed from time to time without detriment to the cohesion and efficiency of the existing Army.

(c) Those accepted will be given a pass authorising them to be passed back (through refugee channels) to the nearest Italian enlistment centre for immediate enlistment.

(d) The Agencies will travel and operate as required by the AMG officer concerned inside the Army areas concerned and within the terms given them by the Ministry of War.

(e) These Agencies will move forward in accordance with the advance of the Armies concerned.

(f) In order to deal with Patriots who are still waiting in Areas behind Army rear boundaries, the Ministry of War will detail and hold in readiness at ROME three similar Agencies which will be available to visit centres and operate as required by the Patriot Branch of ACC. These Agencies

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A.C.C. Patriot Section.
Navy Sub Comm., A.C.C.
Air Force Sub Comm., A.C.C.

~~4 District.~~
5 Corps HQ

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2. These arrangements which are in effect an extension of the provision of MMIA 1 ction, G/19 of 3 June (and are to be read as such) are as follows: -

(a) The Ministry of War will at once send a Screening Agency (not exceeding 4 officers and 5 men) to join the AMG officer dealing with the re-settlement of Patriots at HQ of each 5th Army, 8th Army, and Polish Corps.

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(c) Those accepted will be given a pass authorising them to be passed back (through refugee channels) to the near st Italian enlistment centre for immediate enlistment.

(d) The Agencies will travel and operate as required by the AMG officer concerned inside the Army areas concerned and within the terms given them by the Ministry of War.

(e) These Agencies will move forward in accordance with the advance of the Armies concerned.

(f) In order to deal with Patriots who are still waiting in Areas behind Army rear boundaries, the Ministry of War will detail and hold in readiness at ROME three similar Agencies which will be available to visit centres and operate as required by the Patriot Branch of ACC. These Agencies will be disbanded as soon as the area has been "cleared" or the normal enlistment-up Agency is established by proclamation.

3. Other men of military age, including Patriots and volunteers who have not been accepted for immediate enlistment, will remain as civilians until called upon to register (or re-register) for service in the ordinary way.

tvs. WP.

J. Browning
Major General,
Army Sub Comm., A.C.C.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

CONFIDENTIAL

6

49 of 1
R

2.4 JUL Recd

AIG ACC FOR MCCARTHY

AND FIVE ARMY FOR HUBS

REF ID: 5080

JULY 23/2212

90/23

CONFIDENTIAL

PRIORITY

CITE: 169

REFERENCE IS MAT SECRET 03934 OF 22 JULY. AND FIVE ARMY PARTIES SHOULD REPORT TO WELLSITE TWELVE: ONE TO DIOSSATO AND OTHER TO LIVORNO. CITE GUS 169

HEADQUARTERS
24 JUL 1944
A. C. of S.

AAC Bn
(Air) Tac Recon Sqdn (Sep)
(Inf) A/C.
Tac (Air)
Recon

5147

CONFIDENTIAL

JULY 24/0825

1383

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

AMG FIVE ARMY AMG EIGHT ARMY REGION FOUR REGION FIVE REGION EIGHT REGION NINE
BGS OPS ADV AAI MAIN AAI FOR BRIG RITCHIE

ACC MAIN

866

24

RESTRICTED

ROUTINE

PATRIOTS FRANCH

REFERENCE AAI ADV CABLE NUMBER ZERO DASH THREE NINE THREE FOUR OF TWENTY TWO JULY FD PAREN TO AMG FIVE ARMY AMG EIGHT ARMY REGION FOUR REGION FIVE REGION EIGHT REGION NINE BGS OPS ADV AAI MAIN AAI FOR BRIG RITCHIE FROM ACC MAIN PAREN DELETE WORD APOSTROPHE ANY APOSTROPHE BETWEEN WORD APOSTROPHE IMMEDIATELY APOSTROPHE AND APOSTROPHE PATRIOTS APOSTROPHE IN SECOND LINE

5146

1 a 49 23 JUL Recd

4

MESSAGE FORM. 2

From : H.Q., A.A.I. ADV. Date-Time of Origin 21/22-7-43

To : 5 ARMY FOR AMG 8 ARMY FOR AMG

Info.: 4, 5, 8 and 9 REGIONS.

Originator's No. O - 3934

FOLLOWING DESPATCHED BY AAI AFTER AGREEMENT WITH COL MC CARTHY (.)

IN ORDER TO ENLIST IMMEDIATELY ANY PATRIOTS WHO VOLUNTEER FOR SERVICE WITH THE REGULAR ITALIAN ARMY ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE BY MMA TO SEND OUT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS PARTIES AS FOLLOWS TWO TO AMG FIVE ARMY FOUR TO AMG EIGHT ARMY AND SIX FOR USE OF REGIONS (.) EACH PARTY WILL CONSIST OF ITALIAN OFFICERS AND MEN WHO ARE MEMBERS OF ITALIAN REGULAR ARMY AND NOT CONNECTED WITH PATRIOT BDES (.) REGIONS AND SCMUS SHOULD TELEGRAPH TO HQ AOC WHAT TOWNS PARTIES SHOULD VISIT (.) DETAILS OF SCHEME WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY BUT MEANTIME AMG/AOC CAN START COLLECTING LISTS OF VOLUNTEERS ON FOLLOWING CONDITIONS FIRST NO PRESSURE MUST BE EXERTED ON PATRIOTS TO VOLUNTEER SECOND IT MUST BE EXPLAINED TO ALL VOLUNTEERS THAT IF THEY ARE ACCEPTED THEY WILL BE SENT BACK TO ROME OR ELSEWHERE FOR SERVICE WITH ITALIAN ARMY AS REQUIRED BY THE ARMY

Copy to: BGS (Ops) Adv AAI.
Brig. Ritchie, Main AAI by ELS.

5145

This message may be sent by any means ~~.....~~ wireless.

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands this message must be sent BY CIPHER.

Priority TOO ___B

TWI ___B

1384

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785046

REGULAR ITALIAN ARMY ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE BY AMIL TO SEND OUT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS PARTIES AS FOLLOWS TWO TO AMG FIVE ARMY FOUR TO AMG EIGHT ARMY AND SIX FOR USE OF REGIONS (.) EACH PARTY WILL CONSIST OF ITALIAN OFFICERS AND MEN WHO ARE MEMBERS OF ITALIAN REGULAR ARMY AND NOT CONNECTED WITH PATRIOT REPS (.) REGIONS AND SCAUS SHOULD TELEGRAPH TO HQ ACC WHAT TOWNS PARTIES SHOULD VISIT (.) DETAILS OF SCHEME WILL BE PUBLISHED SHORTLY BUT MEANTIME AMG/ACC CAN START COLLECTING LISTS OF VOLUNTEERS ON FOLLOWING CONDITIONS FIRST NO PRESSURE MUST BE EXERTED ON PATRIOTS TO VOLUNTEER SECOND IT MUST BE EXPLAINED TO ALL VOLUNTEERS THAT IF THEY ARE ACCEPTED THEY WILL BE SENT BACK TO ROME OR ELSEWHERE FOR SERVICE WITH ITALIAN ARMY AS REQUIRED BY THE ARMY

Copy to: DCS (Ops) Adv AAI.
Brig. Ritchie, Main AAI by HLS.

5145

This message may be sent by any means ..... wireless.

If liable to be intercepted or fall into enemy hands this message must be sent IN CYPHER.

Priority TOO___B
TWI___B

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

1386

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

#9 23 JUL Recd

R.

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. 464 U.S. ARMY

SECRET

15th July 1944.

108/1

Replies already at AAI file Chester

Subject: Recruiting for Italian Army.

To : H.Q., A.C.C. attn. Col. McCarthy.

1. In handling Patriot groups on this side of the line AMG is much handicapped by the absence of any machinery by which suitable young men who are keen to contribute to the struggle against the Germans can be enlisted into the Italian Army. The declared policy is to encourage such enlistment but CAOs report unanimously a sense of great frustration when they have to reply to candidates for enlistment that no facilities exist in practice.

2. At present this Headquarters knows of no centre where recruits can be enlisted nearer than Rome, a distance of 300 kilometres from the battle areas, nor is there any sign of recruiting centres being set up further North. It is clearly impracticable to send would-be recruits down there to enlist.

3. It is appreciated that the problem is complicated by the imposition of a top limit to the establishment of the Italian Army, but it is urgently requested that something be done immediately to set up some machinery by which recruits can at least be registered in forward areas even though it is impossible to guarantee immediate equipment and training.

4. If some such step is not taken quite soon it will be necessary to recommend a revision of the policy that patriots should be encouraged where of suitable age and type to enlist in the Italian Army, since it is agreed by all that one of the things to be avoided in the handling of them is the non-fulfilment of promises.

E.B.MAYNE,
Colonel,U.D.F.
Chief of Staff.
AMG FIFTH ARMY.

Copy to:
RC and MG Section.
Army Subcommission.
AMG Eighth Army.

/KR

1387