

ACC 10000/125/365

117/PAT.

NOTES BY COL. SPICER

NOV. 1944

FILE

11/1/67

MINUTE SHEET No. 2

DATE

PAGE

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND

No. 785016

1474

FILE

117/PAT.

MINUTE SHEET No. /

DATE.

PAGE.

Nov 19.

Ex. Please see necessary action taken at home! L

Nov 21.

Office 2 days later no action taken! LDirector

1. This matter has been taken in hand by the Adv. Echelon in association with 5/Army. The number of patriots involved is 800.
2. I am satisfied that this is being done.
3. Action has been taken.
4. Action has been taken.
5. Action has been taken.
6. Count A. di ROBICANT will produce a family tree b-day.
7. Three Screening Agencies are forward at the present time - two in the Florence area & one in the ANCONA area. With regard to para (f) it was felt some two months ago that the ground in the rear areas was stubborn & unprofitable. No substantial number of further volunteers was expected, & the M.I.I.A. (as it was then called) was asked to disband the Agencies. They can, of course, be reconstituted at any time.

P.O. Naguib

22 Nov 44

(1) Thakyan

Major (4) Carl having the screening Agency file please.

1473

Notes by Colonel SPICER

Ref: 117/PAT

24 November 1944.

Decisions by Vice President on Thursday evening, 23 November.

1. Advanced Detachment to be abolished, but to remain as a skeleton staff, as approved, until such time as Patriots Branch officers are assigned to V and VIII Armies. This to be discussed with both V and VIII Armies.
2. Enquiry into camp officers V Army, obtain names, guarantee of possibility of continuity of service and stability of assignment to Patriot camp officers to be found for VIII Army.
3. What can Armies do to scrounge and hold in readiness in all forward areas supplies, such as clothing, food etc. for camps now, apart from what scrounging we can do at the back. Essential that these camps should be prepared and held ready rather than wait for the Patriots to arrive into a bare, cold and empty camp.
4. Transport. Director to go into this with DRAGE, and to make arrangements for disposal of all cars except such as can be handed on to Patriot Representatives.
5. Decision arrived at in conference not considered satisfactory, that there can only be two stages, one as now, to complete evacuation of Northern Italy. Essential that at least there should be planning for mobile moving forward of these camps to hypothetically the line of the Po. *in Western Army as well with H H I. A.*
6. Director has promised to return to the point of Patriots to remain with *in Western Army as well with H H I. A.*
7. 5 Q.M.'s. will be required in all, one for each camp. Enquire whether or not V and VIII Armies can supply these Allied ranks. 1033 Forms etc.

1. Advanced Detachment to be abolished, but to remain as a skeleton staff, as approved, until such time as Patriots Branch officers are assigned to V and VIII Armies. This to be discussed with both V and VIII Armies.
2. Enquiry into camp officers V Army, obtain names, guarantee of possibility of continuity of service and stability of assignment to Patriot camp officers to be found for VIII Army.
3. What can Armies do to scrounge and hold in readiness in all forward areas supplies, such as clothing, food etc. for camps now, apart from what scrounging we can do at the back. Essential that these camps should be prepared and held ready rather than wait for the Patriots to arrive into a bare, cold and empty camp.
4. Transport. Director to go into this with DRAGE, and to make arrangements for disposal of all cars except such as can be handed on to Patriot Representatives.
5. Decision arrived at in conference not considered satisfactory, that there can only be two stages, one as now, to complete evacuation of Northern Italy. Essential that at least there should be planning for mobile moving forward of these camps to hypothetically the line of the Po.
6. Director has promised to return to the point of Patriots to remain with ~~the~~ *in Italian Army as unit with M H S. A.*
7. 5 Q.M.'s. will be required in all, one for each camp. Enquire whether or not V and VIII Armies can supply these Allied ranks. 1033 Forms etc.

To: Major Sir P.M. MAGNUS,
Executive Director,
Patriots Branch.

22 November 1944.

1. As I have instructed you during the last week, I wish a complete and comprehensive directive drawn up of the future working of the Patriots Branch in all its detail.

2. This will be best covered by an overall directive, which will refer to Appendices which will be attached.

3. These Appendices will cover, for instance, such items as:

- (a) Employment of Patriot Representatives
- (b) Issue of Certificates
- (c) I.N.P.C.
- (d) Disposal of Italian volunteers in Army areas
- (e) Reports by Patriot Representatives
- (f) Reemployment of Patriots etc.

and the hundred and one items of detail which I do not propose to schedule here, but which should be easily available in your office.

4. I think your main overall directive should run more or less on the lines of regional control in military government section (Ref. 30/1/PAT of 18 July), together with the new points which have been envisaged at meetings - particularly yesterday - and by myself in my discussions which have mostly taken place in front of you, and of which you should have adequate notes.

5. It is now already very clearly laid down, subject to confirmation by the Chief Commissioner, that, in brief, the future activities of the Patriots Branch will be as follows:

- (a) The establishment of proper camps from east to west, whether in buildings or in tents.
- (b) The reception of these Patriots and their WIFE and all its branches, which may be enumerated by you, such as clothing, food, baths, cigarettes, certificates, and interviews by recruiting committees.
- (c) Italian Red Cross clinics, and such other points as you may usefully think of.
- (d) Absorption and dispersal.

These again, in their turn, will require working out in accurate detail, and I do not wish any point of detail to be overlooked. The system, if to be efficient, must be quite foolproof, so that any new officer going into a camp may have at his finger tips the whole of Patriots Branch organisation and activity ready as a child's guide on which he can operate.

- (a) Employment of Patriot Representatives
- (b) Issue of Certificates
- (c) I.M.P.C.
- (d) Disposal of Italian volunteers in Army areas
- (e) Reports by Patriot Representatives
- (f) Recruitment of Patriots etc.

and the hundred and one items of detail which I do not propose to schedule here, but which should be easily available in your office.

4. I think your main overall directive should run more or less on the lines of regional control in military government section (Ref. 30/1/PAT of 18 July), together with the new points which have been envisaged at meetings - particularly yesterday - and by myself in my discussions which have mostly taken place in front of you, and of which you should have adequate notes.

5. It is now already very clearly laid down, subject to confirmation by the Chief Commissioner, that, in brief, the future activities of the Patriots Branch will be as follows:

- (a) The establishment of proper camps from east to west, whether in buildings or in tents.
- (b) The reception of these Patriots and their WILFIRE in all its branches, which may be enumerated by you, such as clothing, food, baths, cigarettes, certificates, and interviews by recruiting committees.
- (c) Italian Red Cross clinics, and such other points as you may usefully think of.
- (d) Absorption and dispersal.

These again, in their turn, will require working out in accurate detail, and I do not wish any point of detail to be overlooked. The system, if to be efficient, must be quite foolproof, so that any new officer going into a camp may have at his finger tips the whole of Patriots Branch organisation and activity ready as a child's guide on which he can operate.

6. You may use such assistance as the Patriots Branch has at your disposal to accomplish this most important work, but I do expect of you a very thorough, clear-cut and unequivocal response. On your work in this respect to a great extent will depend the future reputation and standing of the Patriots Branch which must have a great effect on the whole of the grave dissatisfaction in Italy, in the Press, on the part of the Government, on the part of the Patriots themselves, and in the world itself, in regard to the manner in which they are being handled.

I admit that at present all the detail is not clear, but if you wait until every detail is clear, we shall wait till kingdom comes, and this is why

2.

I am anxious for you to get down to this matter at once. The longer it is delayed, the longer will be the practical application of our ideas, although some of them, as in the first place drawn up by you, may require alteration later.

7. I wish to approach the whole matter from the point of view that the Patriots Branch is at present divided into two echelons, A.C. Echelon, consisting of myself as Director, with you as my Chief Executive Officer and all the present staff, together with an Advanced Echelon, consisting of Major DRAGE with a considerably reduced staff, and not including Sgt. STODOLSKA who is only temporarily attached.

8. The functions of this Advanced Echelon will be absorbed from all intelligence work, and their duties will be solely restricted to keeping me closely informed by frequent tours and visits to the camps or reception centres which the Patriots enter as to the conditions of the camps, the manner in which the many points of essential detail and patriot organization are dealt with in the camps, with comments and suggestions for their improvement. On no account, however, will such officers give any direct orders within the camps, since such camps will be entirely under the executive command of V and VIII Army A.M.C.

9. Any correspondence between the Patriots Branch in an advisory capacity will be made by the Director personally to the C.O., V or VIII A.M.C.

10. Transport for the Patriots Branch will also have to be revised by you, and will require a special article. It is no good issuing drivelling orders which mean nothing and which cannot be carried out.

11. Storekeepers or Q.M.S., not necessarily of that rank, will have to be provided for each camp, and I cannot believe that anything but a central store at FLORENCE, which will be the main depot, will be efficient, from which there may be issues to the other camps, and at which such stores as are issued may be drawn and stored in advance.

12. My idea of the Advanced Echelon, if indeed it is to continue, should be reduced in regard to Allied personnel as follows:

O.C. Advanced Echelon	
1 Q.M.S.	
1 A.T.S. or Civilian or F.A.M.I. Stenographer Clerk	

and, above these Allied details, such other Italian personnel as may be necessary, to include such personnel as drivers.

waited
Two cars should be added to this Advanced Echelon, one of which should preferably, in my opinion, be a Jeep. I do not understand incidentally why a Jeep is the best form of vehicle in ROME; the Jeep would be far better employed at Advanced Echelon. The car used here for Patriots Branch should be a locally requisitioned car, of which I understand we are already in possession. *We surely only can justify one car here in Rome.*

13. There is a great deal more which I could write on this subject, but perhaps not at this stage usefully, and I very much hope that you will do your

intelligence work, and their names will be kept secret to keep the camps or reception centres which the Patriots enter as to the conditions of the camps, the manner in which the many points of essential detail and patriot organization are dealt with in the camps, with comments and suggestions for their improvement. On no account, however, will such officers give any direct orders within the camps, since such camps will be entirely under the executive command of V and VIII Army A.M.C.

9. Any correspondence between the Patriots Branch in an advisory capacity will be made by the Director personally to the O.C., V or VIII A.M.C.

10. Transport for the Patriots Branch will also have to be revised by you, and will require a special article. It is no good issuing driving orders which mean nothing and which cannot be carried out.

11. Storekeepers or Q.M.S., not necessarily of that rank, will have to be provided for each camp, and I cannot believe that anything but a central store at FLORENCE, which will be the main depot, will be efficient, from which there may be issues to the other camps, and at which such stores as are issued may be drawn and stored in advance.

12. My idea of the Advanced Echelon, if indeed it is to continue, should be reduced in regard to Allied personnel as follows:

O.C. Advanced Echelon
 1 Q.M.S.
 1 A.I.S. or Civilian or F.A.M.I. Stenographer Clerk

and, above these Allied details, such other Italian personnel as may be necessary, to include such personnel as drivers.

Two cars should be added to this Advanced Echelon, one of which should preferably, in my opinion, be a Jeep. I do not understand fundamentally why a Jeep is the best form of vehicle in ROMS; the Jeep would be far better employed at Advanced Echelon. The car used here for Patriots Branch should be a locally requisitioned car, of which I understand we are already in possession. *We surely hope we can just buy one here in Rome.*

13. There is a great deal more which I could write on this subject, but perhaps not at this stage usefully, and I very much hope that you will do your best to get something concrete out on these lines within a very short space of time. I am quite confident that this should take priority over your other work.

A.G.B. / 12/4/44 / 10/4/44
 R.C.B. SPICER,
 Colonel,
 Director,
 Patriots Branch.

Notes on Colonel SPICER's MeetingSaturday Nov. 18.

1. Handling of 300 Patriots expected from EMILIA Region, in regard to accommodation, feeding, clothing, dispersal etc. for immediate and undivided attention of Major MAGNUS.
2. Reference 36/PAT of 30 October, para.9. Firm report from Maj. MAGNUS as to whether the payment of patriot representatives has and is being carried out regularly by Regional Commissioners. (Copy of 36/PAT attached for Major MAGNUS).
3. LUSH Pamphlet, para.4 - Handing in of Arms. Lieut. Di LORETO to quote the actual terms and derivations of the above law.
4. LUSH Pamphlet, para.9 - Patriot Committees. Lieut. Di LORETO and Miss LUTTMAN-JOHNSON to send letter calling a report from all areas concerned as to the number of committees which have been set up.
5. "Commissione Nazionale Patriotica". Col. FAVA to draw up a list of the members whom he considers the Director would like to meet.
6. I.N.P.C. Sig. A. Di ROBILANT to produce family tree.
7. General BROWNING's Memorandum C.19 of 23 July, para.(a). Maj. MAGNUS to let the Director know the position in this regard, also to clarify para.(f) which seems to be somewhat obscure.

Distribution: Major MAGNUS
Lieut. Di LORETO
Col. FAVA
Sig. A. Di ROBILANT

Addendum to NotesFriday Nov. 17.

Suggested maximum of Advanced Detachment:

Officer in charge
S.Q.M.S. ~~Chief Clerk~~ *Chief Clerk*
~~1 Translator~~
1 Typist *(both hands)*
1 Driver

1 Patriot Liaison Officer }
1 Patriot Rep. (Military) } to be discussed with
1 Patriot Rep. (Civil) } *Sig. Di ROBILANT.*
Conte

Colonel SPICER's NotesThursday Nov. 16 :Interviewed Lieut. DI LORETO, Col. FAVA,
Sig. VILMA and Sig. BALBI.

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 within the Italian Army. Italian General Staff and M.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 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 difficult 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 (FLORENCE)	Maj. MACINTOSH
No.10 Detachment, No.1 Special Force (SIENA)	Capt. GIBSON

1497

I wish to make contact with all the O.C.'s. of these Special Forces.

10. I.N.P.C. 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.

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 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 difficult 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 (FLORENCE)	Maj. MacINTOSH
No.10 Detachment, No.1 Special Force (SIENA)	Capt. GIBSON

1487

I wish to make contact with all the O.C.'s. of these Special Forces.

10. I.N.P.C. 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. FAVA
Capt. Di ROBILLANT

0709