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Repatriation

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Repatriation: Vinci, Fontana, Cippico, Etc..
Dec. 1943 - Feb. 1945

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

REPATRIATION OF ITALIAN
OFFICIALS FROM UNITED STATES

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: P/2/3.1

3 February 1945

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Officials
from the United States.**TO :** G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters
Copies to: U. S. Political Advisor
British Resident Minister

1. With reference to G-5 Section's Memorandum No. G-5: OIA.33-15 dated 23 December 1944 and previous correspondence on the subject of repatriation of Italian Officials from New Market, Virginia, there has now been received a memorandum from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding former Consul General Arrivabene, who was a member of the group of Italians interned at New Market.

2. A copy of this memorandum is attached herewith for your information.

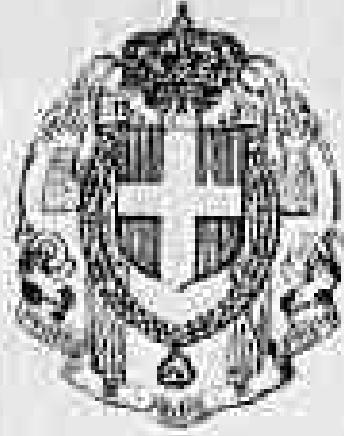
For the Chief Commissioner:

2945

WILLIAM H. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

1 Encl: Copy of memo No. 6/289/136 dtd 27.1.45

CONFIDENTIAL



6/289/136

*Ministero degli Affari Esteri**Confidential*MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, with reference to their Memorandum N. 5/76 of January 8th, inform that former Consul General ARRIVABENE was a member of the group of Italian diplomats and employees interned at New Market and in whose repatriation the Ministry had occasion to interest in the past the Allied Authorities.

The latter informed (letter n. 241 of October 30th.) that they would consent to the repatriation conditionally to the Italian Government's assuring that some internees, amongst whom figured ARRIVABENE's name, be subjected to police supervision or to restrictions in their movements in order to guarantee that they could not undertake any activity contrary to the Allied war effort.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs therefore informed the Ministry of Interior that ARRIVABENE had landed in Italy, with a view to their taking the necessary measures.

At the same time the High Commissioner for the sanctions against fascism issued a warrant for his arrest on the charge of past political activities.

Consul General ARRIVABENE has been placed by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in the retired list on August 1st. 1944.

Rome, 27th January 1945

2984

21.45 hrs
23/1/44

Message by Telephone for ^{Scott} ~~Mr. Scott~~ from Brig.
Dunlop's Office.

The 18 Italian Officers due to arrive by sea
to Naples today have duly been contacted.

Will transport to take them to Rome be provided
by H.Q. or does Mr. S. wish Southern Region to
arrange transport. Does he want accommodation to
be obtained for these officers in Naples or will
they be moved tomorrow.

These officers will have to be disembarked
very early ~~tomorrow~~ therefore will ^{Scott} ~~Mr. Scott~~ contact
Brig. Dunlop's Office as early as possible tomorrow
to let them know what he wants done

M. J. P. A.
Duty Officer

2983

SECRET

Pol. Sec. 15
6400ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/BMR/jjjr

G-5: 014.33-15

23 December 1944

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Officials from U.S.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394

1. Copy of memorandum dated 20 Dec. 44 from the U.S. Political Adviser's Office is forwarded for your attention.

2. The approximate date to be given to the Italian Government to enable them to make the necessary arrangements is 8 Jan. 45. It will be appreciated if it can be pointed out that as the date of arrival is naturally connected with convoy movements, as few people as possible should be informed of it.

For the Acting Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

HEADQUARTERS
24 DEC 1944Incl:
as above.B. Ryan 7/c
T. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel.2
171

2982

SECRET

December 20, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Asst. Chief of Staff,
G-5 Section.

SUBJECT: Return to Italy of Group of 18 Italian
Officials formerly interned in the
United States.

1. Reference is made to letter dated November 21, 1944 from Political Section, A.C., to G-5 (Ref. 241).

2. The Department of State has now advised this office that these Italian officials departed from the United States within the past week by surface vessel. They are travelling to Naples under War Department Order IJ-558-YN. Mr. Arrivabene is included in the group.

3. The Department of State assumes that the Italian Foreign Office will arrange for the reception of these officials and adds that it is considered that they left the Department's custody upon leaving the United States.

4. It will be appreciated if G-5 will bring the substance of the foregoing information to the attention of the Allied Commission for transmission to the Italian Government with the request that this office be informed of the action taken. Security regulations will govern disclosure of arrival date, but presumably the Italian Government should be given an approximate time to the end that they may make appropriate preparations.

For the Deputy United States
Political Adviser:

T. S. Estes

Copies to:

G-2 (CI)
British Resident Minister.

2981

3623

R 2257/10 BERNE 17 10 1606

ESTERI ROMA =

664 LEGAZIONE SVIZZERA WASHINGTON INFORMA CHE RIMPATRIO GRUPPI
FONTANA E ARRIVABENE AVVERRA PROSSIMI GIORNI a BERIO

Dist

Action - Liaison Div Ital Govt
Info - Pol Sec

FROM: BERN
DATE: 9 Dec 44

SUBJECT: *Repat of Ital from U.S.A.*
group

No. 664: Swiss Leg in Washington informs me that ~~Fontana~~ and Arrivabene will arrive in the next few days.

BERIO

2980

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 241

21 November 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters,
Copies to: British Resident Minister,
U. S. Political Adviser.

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Officials from New Market,
Virginia.

1. Reference is made to memorandum No. G-5: 014.33-15 dated 26 October 1944 with which was enclosed a memorandum on the above subject from the U. S. Political Adviser dated 25 October 1944.

2. It was requested that an urgent reply to the above subject be requested of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and on November 16 G-5 Section (Captain Slaughter) was advised by telephone that the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to the repatriation of all the individuals interned at New Market including Signor Fontana. A memorandum No. 6/1062/452 dated 18 November 1944 now has been received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs which confirms the information previously given G-5 Section and provides the additional data requested in G-5 Section's memorandum under reference.

For the Chief Commissioner:

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

Encl:
cy mm 6/1062/452; 18 Nov 44.

Copies to:
U. S. Representative, A.C.I.
British High Commissioner

2979

C O P Y

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

6/1382/452

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.S.

Reference is made to Memorandum No. 241 dated October 30th of the Political Section A.S. concerning the repatriation of a group of officials and employees interned at New Market, Virginia.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to suggest the Political Section with the following:

a) - In view of the reopening in the near future of the Italian Representation in Washington, and considering that all the affairs connected with the protection of Italian interests in the United States will be conducted by the said representation, it appears advantageous to appoint General General Fontana to the Swiss Legation, and he will therefore return to Italy with the rest of the interests.

b) - The Italian Government are not in possession of information which justifies the disaffection of the Allied Authorities towards the persons named in paragraph (b) of Memorandum No. 241 of the Political Section, and namely:

Federico DE BELLERANDE
Antonio MANTUA
Ubaldo RUSSI
Antonio ARRIVABENE
Paolo VALENTI
Gennaro FICCHARELLA
Andrea LOMBARDI.

Nevertheless, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs assure that the people in question will be kept under such surveillance as to guarantee that they will not engage in any activity inimical to the Allied war effort and to the security of the Italian State.

As regards Consul General Arrivabene who, as previously stated, has been placed on the retired list and has therefore ceased to belong to the personnel of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, - the Italian Government have no interest whatsoever in his repatriation. Should the United States Government agree, the decision as to whether return or remain in the United States as private citizen could be left to Signor Arrivabene, who can no longer be considered as State employee in active service.

c) - Here under are given all personnel data concerning the persons due to repatriate:

2948

Francesco TORTORA	Consul General in Tunis, born in Italia 1.4.1885 - diplomatic passport n. 2815 issued in Rome 15. 7. 1937. Family residing at Italia (Napoli).
Vittorio MAZZINI	Consul in Tunis, born in Roma 27.1. 1919 - diplomatic passport n. 985 issued Rome 15.7.1937. Family residing at Napoli (in Spain).
Federico de BELLIARDI	Vice Consul at Algiers. Service passport No. 74011/1 issued Rome 14.3.38. Family residing at Roma (in Tunisia).
Domenico RICCIARDI	Chancellor at the Consulate General in Tunis, born in Naples 28.11.1909. Service passport No. 68198/1 issued Rome 17.3.40. Family residing in Rome.
Roberto ROSSETTI	Employee at the Consulate General in Tunis, in Tunis at Tunis. Service passport No. 74011/1 issued in Rome 14.3.37. Family residing in Rome.
Antonio AMBROSIO	Consul General at Algiers (now retired), born at Mantova 20.6.1896; diplomatic passport No. 1164, issued Rome 7.10.37. Family residing at Mantova.
Vittorio D'AMICO	Vice Consul in Algiers. Service passport No. 831912 1 issued Rome 17.3.38. Family residing at Perugia.
Alessandro BIANCHI	Chancellor at the Consulate General in Algiers. Born at Rome 28.1.1903. Service passport No. 828335 issued Rome 10.10.1937. Family residing in Rome.
Luigi SACCIARDI	Employee at the Consulate General in Algiers; born at Olginetto 1.4. 1905.
Andrea BIANCHI	Employee at the Consulate General in Algiers; born at Marigliano 14.11.1906; Service passport No. 828926/13. Family residing at Bracciano (Napoli).

2977

Giovanni ACCORTI

Personal data unknown by the Ministry.

Luigi BATTISTO

Employee of the Consulate General in
Algiers; born at Versailles 14.8.28
Service passport no. 95143/1 issued
Paris 28.6.1940.

Luigi VALLI

Employee of the Consulate in Genoa;
born at Santa Lucia del Molo (Genoa)
no. 18.7.1904; finally residing in
Genoa.

Eugenio VITTORELLI

Employee of the Consulate in Genoa;
born in Genoa 17.11.1905.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs is not in possession of personal data
of Signor Meloni, Signor Gelli Gredi, Signor Proietti and Signor Tesoro
who were employed at the Italian Legation in Genoa, and were eventually
accredited to the group of officials by initiative of the United States
authorities.

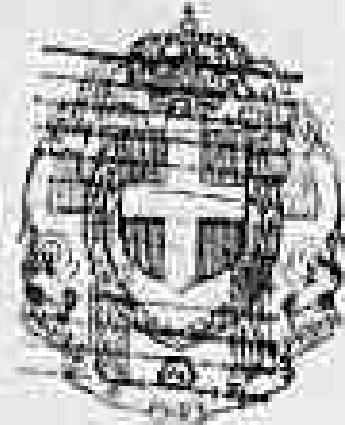
d) - The Italian Government trust that, based on the information hereby
given, appropriate steps will be initiated by the Allied Authorities
concerned for an early resumption of the above named.

/s/ G. B. B.

Rome, 19th November, 1944

(2001)

2976



6/1062/452

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

Reference is made to Memorandum N°.241 dated October 30th of the Political Section A.C. concerning the repatriation of a group of officials and employees interned at New Market, Virginia.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to acquaint the Political Section with the following:

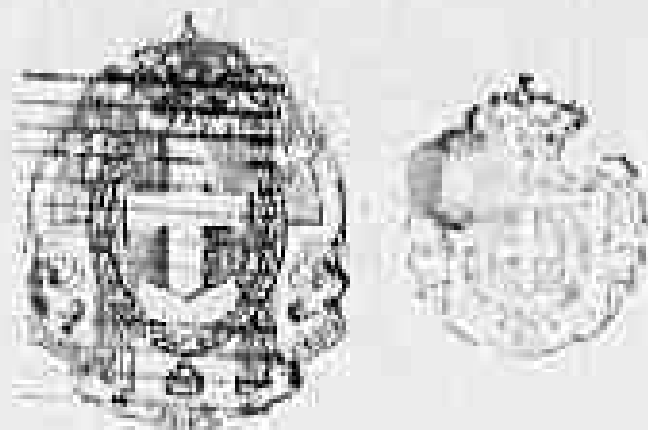
a) - In view of the reopening in the near future of the Italian Representation in Washington, and considering that all the affairs connected with the protection of Italian interests in the United States will be conducted by the said Representation, it appears superfluous to appoint Consul General Fontana to the Swiss Legation, and ^{he} will therefore return to Italy with the rest of the internees.

b) - The Italian Government are not in possession of information which justifies the diffidence of the Allied Authorities towards the persons named in paragraph (b) of Memorandum N°.241 of the Political Section, and namely:

Federico DE BELLEGARDE
Antonio SALAFIA
Umberto ROSSI
Antonio ARRIVABENE
Paolo VALENZI
Gessano PIETRABISSA
Andrea LOMBARDI.

Nevertheless, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs assure that the people in question will be kept under such surveillance as to guarantee that they will not engage in any activity inimical to the Allied war effort and to the security of the Italian State.

As regards Consul General Arrivabene—who, as previously stated, has been placed on the retired list and has ²⁹⁷⁵ ceased to belong to the personnel of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, - the Italian Government have no interest whatsoever



- 2 -

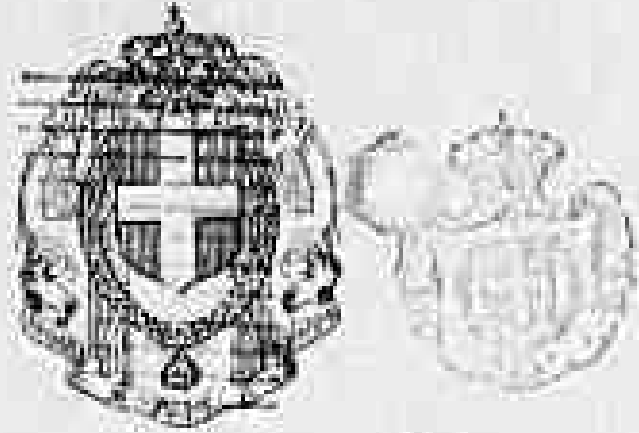
Ministero degli Affari Esteri

in his repatriation. Should the United States Government agree, the decision as to whether return or remain in the United States as private citizen could be left to Signor Arrivabene, who can no longer be considered as State employee in active service.

c) - Here under are given all personnel data concerning the persons due to repatriate:

Franco FONTANA	- Consul General in Tunis, born in Imola 1.4.1895 - diplomatic passport n.2815 issued in Rome 15.7.1937. Family residing at Imola (Forlì).
Vittoriano MANFREDI	Consul in Tunis, born in Rome 27.1.1910 - diplomatic passport n.995 issued Rome 15.7.1937. Family residing at Lerici (La Spezia).
Federico de BELLEGARDE	Vice Consul at Biserta. Service passport n°.740191/1 issued Rome 14.3.38. Family residing at Sanigallia (Ancona)
Domenico BOCCHETTO	Chancellor at the Consulate General in Tunis, born in Naples 28.11.1903. Service passport n°.981928/1 issued Rome 17.4.42. Family residing in Rome.
Umberto ROSSI	Employee at the Consulate General in Tunis, in force at Gabes. Service passport n°.740230/1 issued in Rome 30.12.27. Family residing in Rome.
Antonio ARRIVABENE	Consul General at Algiers (now retired) born at Mantova 20.6.1896; diplomatic passport n°.1164, issued Rome 7.10.37. Family residing at Mantova.
Vittorio D'ADDATO	Vice Consul in Algiers. Service passport n°.531912/1 issued Rome 17.9.36. Family residing at Perugia.
Alessandro CULTRERA	Chancellor at the Consulate General in Algiers. Born at Noto 23.10.1896. Service passport n°.292385 issued Rome 10.12.1933. Family residing in Rome.

./.



- 3 -

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Luigi CACCIATORE

employee at the Consulate General in Algiers; born at Folignano 4.4.1903

Andrea LOEBARDI

Employee at the Consulate General in Algiers; born at Marigliano 14.11.1906; Service passport n° 505986/13. Family resident at Brusciano (Napoli).

Giovanni CICCOTTI

personal data unknown by the Ministry

Luigi BOSINCO

Employee at the Consulate General in Algiers; born at Marseilles 12.8.22 Service passport n° 951145/1 issued Rome 22.3.1940

Paolo VALENTI

Employee of the Consulate in Oran; born at Santa Lucia del Mela (Messina) 18.7.1904; Family residing in Rome.

Bassano PIETRABISSA

Employee of the Consulate in Oran; born in Rome 17.11.1885

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs is not in possession of personal data of Signor Salafia, Signor Degli Eredi, Signor Progetti and Signor Tesoro who were employed at the Italian Red Cross in Oran, and were eventually accredited to the group of officials by initiative of the United States authorities.

d) - The Italian Government trust that, based on the information hereby given, appropriate steps will be initiated by the Allied Authorities concerned for an early repatriation of the above named.

Rome, 18th November, 1944.



2973

16 November 1944
1400 hrs.

Captain Slaughter called from AFHQ to say that an immediate reply was required to G-5 014.33-15 of October 26, 1944 re: Repatriation of Italian Armistice Commission officials in the U.S.A.

By request of a member of the Economic Mission, Pontana (who was originally to assist in the Swiss Legation) is now supposed to accompany the others returning.

The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs should be informed that the delay is causing inconvenience in concluding the arrangements. The State Department proposes to have them leave within the next week.

Captain Slaughter requests that we call him back this afternoon, after contacting the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

is afternoon,
fairs.

Saint Martin's Capt.
H. C. Wright
assn. as a rule

24

2972

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

URGENT

Ref : 241

MEMORANDUM TO: Italian Ministry of
Foreign Affairs, Rome.

30 October 1944

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Ambulance Commission
Officials interned at New Market, Virginia.

Reference is made to your Memoranda No. 6/286/140 dated August 15, 1944, and No. 6/322/151 dated August 23, 1944 on the above subject.

The Department of State has requested the Allied Commission to bring urgently to the attention of the Italian Government the following matters for the most immediate action:

(a) The Swiss Legation in Washington has at no time indicated a need for additional assistance in conducting its affairs in connection with the protection of Italian interests. Officials in Bern, in response to an informal inquiry, made no indication that additional assistance was needed by its legation in Washington.

The Department of State suggests that the Italian Government should approach the Swiss Government requesting information as to the possibility of the use which could be made of Fontana by the Swiss Legation, and be guided by the decision made by the Swiss Government.

The Department of State has indicated its willingness to examine any proposal arising from an agreement which might be reached between the Italian and Swiss Governments on the question of the employment of Fontana in the Swiss Legation at Washington.

(b) The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in its memorandum referred to above states that General Antonio Arrivabene has been placed on the retired list and "on his return to Italy" will not resume his work with the Ministry.

It is also stated that the following persons will resume their work as officials and employees of the Ministry: Macchi, Manfredi, de Pellegrini, Rocchetto, Rossi, d'Addato, 2971
Cultore, Cacciatori, Lombardi, Cicchetti, Rosino, Pietrabissa
and Valenti. In its memorandum 5/322/151 of August 23, the Italian

- 2 -

Ministry of Foreign Affairs modifies the request that it made in its memorandum 6/286/140 of August 15 that Degli Eredi Salafia, Tesoro and Proietti be permitted to accompany Fontana to Washington to work under him in the Swiss Legation, by pointing out that it would be preferable that these four individuals be included in the list of employees to be repatriated.

Of the above named persons, the following are regarded by the Allied Military Authorities as undesirable persons for repatriation on grounds of military security:

Frederico de BELLEGARDE
Antonio SALAFIA
Uberto ROSSI
Antonio ARRIVABENE
Paolo VALENTI
Bassano PIETRABISSA
Andrea LOMBARDI

Nevertheless, the Allied Military Security authorities have agreed to permit the repatriation of these persons provided that the Italian Government will furnish formal assurance that they will be under such surveillance or so restricted in movement as to guarantee that they will not engage in activities inimical to the Allied war effort.

c. It is requested that the Italian Government furnish personal data, such as date and place of birth, number date and place of issue of passport, family in Italy with addresses, career and official appointments of the following named persons which will greatly facilitate their repatriation:

Franco Fontana
Vittoriano Manfredi,
Frederico de Belegarde
Domenico Bonanetto
Uberto Rossi
Antonio Arrivabene
Vittorio d'Addato
Alessandro Coltrera
Luigi Cacciatori
Andrea Lombardi
Giovanni Cicchetti,
Luigi Rosinco
Bassano Pietrabissa
Paolo Valenti
Antonio Salafia
Giuseppe Degli Eredi
Luigi Proietti
Antonio Tesoro

2970

- 2 -

- 3 -

(d) The urgency of the necessity of immediate reply by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the above subjects cannot be overemphasized. It is suggested that the case of Mr. Fontana be treated apart from the repatriates, should the acquisition of the required information concerning him cause delay in furnishing the required replies regarding the rest of the group. Based on the reply which the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs makes to the matters raised in the previous paragraphs, appropriate action will be initiated in conjunction with the military authorities of Allied Force Headquarters for the immediate repatriation of this group.

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

2969

*Pol Sec**1655*

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/BMR/as

G-5: 014.33-15

26 October 1944

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Officials from USA.

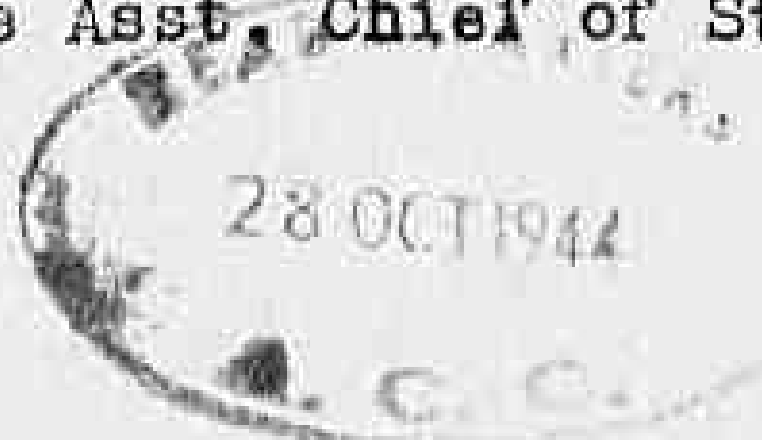
TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394.

Reference is made to your Political Section's memorandum
#241 of 31 August.

Memorandum from US Political Adviser dated 25 Oct 44 is
attached and it is requested that a reply to this be forwarded
urgently to this Section. Attention is directed to para 3(d)
of attached memorandum.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

Incl:
as above



B. Jackman
T. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel

2968

COPY

POLITICAL ADVISER
to the
ALLIED COMMANDER IN CHIEF MEDITERRANEAN THEATER

URGENT

October 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5 (Attention:
Lt. Col. T.B. Jackman)

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Armistice Commission Officials
Interned at Shenvalee.

1. Reference is made to ACC memorandum No. 241 dated 31 August, 1944 and your letter, G-5: 014.33-15 dated September 9, 1944.

2. Since the receipt of the above mentioned memorandum the Department of State has requested this office to approach the Italian Government through ACC to ascertain from that Government further information regarding the case of the Italian Armistice Commission now in the United States.

3. On the basis of that memorandum under reference and the instruction from the Department of State, it is requested that ACC bring urgently to the attention of the Italian Government the following matters for the most immediate action.

(a) The Swiss Legation in Washington has at no time indicated a need for additional assistance in conducting its affairs in connection with the protection of Italian interests. Officials in Bern, in response to an informal inquiry, made no indication that additional assistance was needed by its Legation in Washington.

The Department of State suggests that the Italian Government should approach the Swiss Government requesting information as to the possibility of the use which could be made of Fontana by the Swiss Legation, and be guided by the decision made by the Swiss Government.

The Department of State has indicated its willingness to examine any proposal arising from an agreement which might be reached between the Italian and Swiss Governments on the question of the employment of Fontana in the Swiss Legation at Washington.

(b) The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in its memorandum referred to above states that Consul General Antonio Arrivabene has been placed on the retired list and "on his return to Italy" will not resume his work with the Ministry.

It is also stated that the following persons will resume their work as officials and employees of the Ministry: Messrs. Manfredi, de Bellegarde, Bocchetto, Rossi, d'Addato, Cultrera, Cacciatori, Lombardi, Ciccotti, Bosinco, Pietrabissa and Valenti. In its memorandum 5/322/151

of August 23,

2967

-2-

of August 23, the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs modifies the request that it made in its memorandum 6/286/140 of August 15 that Degli Eredi Salafia, Tesoro and Proietti be permitted to accompany Fontana to Washington to work under him in the Swiss Legation, by pointing out that it would be preferable that these four individuals be included in the list of employees to be repatriated.

Of the above named persons, the following are regarded by the Allied Military Authorities as undesirable persons for repatriation on grounds of military security:

Frederico de BELLEGARDE
Antonio SALAFIA
Umberto ROSSI
Antonio ARRIVABENE
Paolo VALENTI
Bassano PIETRABISSA
Andrea LOMBARDI

Nevertheless, the Allied Military Security authorities have agreed to permit the repatriation of these persons provided that the Italian Government will furnish formal assurance that they will be under such surveillance or so restricted in movement as to guarantee that they will not engage in activities inimical to the Allied war effort.

c. It is requested that the Italian Government furnish personal data, such as date and place of birth, number date and place of issue of passport, family in Italy with addresses, career and official appointments of the following named persons which will greatly facilitate their repatriation:

Franco Fontana
Vittoriano Manfredi,
Federico de Belegarde
Domenico Bocchetto
Umberto Rossi
Antonio Arrivabene
Vittorio d'Addato
Alessandro Cultrera
Luigi Cacciatori
Andrea Lombardi
Giovanni Ciccotti,
Luigi Bosinco
Bassano Pietrabissa
Paolo Valenti
Antonio Salafia
Giuseppe Degli Eredi
Luigi Proietti
Antonio Tesoro

2966

-3-

(d) The urgency of the necessity of immediate reply by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the above subjects cannot be overemphasized. It is suggested that the case of Mr. Fontana be treated apart from the repatriates, should the acquisition of the required information concerning him cause delay in furnishing the required replies regarding the rest of the group. Based on the reply which the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs makes to the matters raised in the previous paragraphs, appropriate action will be initiated in conjunction with the military authorities of Allied Force Headquarters for the immediate repatriation of this group.

For the U.S. Political Adviser:

/s/ C. Offie
C. Offie

Copies to:

Office of British Resident Minister
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

2965

SECRET

September 11, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5 Section, AFHQ

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Officials from New Market, Virginia.

1. Reference is made to G-5's memorandum of September 8, 1944 (G-5: 014.38-15) inquiring as to the present status of the matters raised in memorandum no. 241 of August 31 from the Political Section of the Allied Control Commission on the above subject.

2. The proposal in paragraph numbered one of the Italian Foreign Office memorandum enclosed with the Political Section memorandum under reference, for Consul General Fontana to be authorized to work with the Swiss Legation in Washington in order to assist with that Legation's protection of Italian interests in the United States, has been referred to the State Department. You will be informed when a reply is received.

3. Concerning the general question of repatriating to Italy the other members of the group interned at New Market, Virginia, G-2 Section of AFHQ some time ago expressed definite objection to repatriation of some of these people and the matter now is the subject of pending correspondence involving G-2, AFHQ, the State Department and the War Department in Washington. You will be informed of the final results of this correspondence.

For the United States Political Adviser

C. Office
C. Office

Copies to: British Resident Minister
Political Section, ACC.

2964

COPY

August 26, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Murphy

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Armistice
Commission Officials interned at Shenvalee.

I discussed informally today with Major A. R. Bennett in G-2 (C.I.) the substance of the Department's No. 55, August 21, concerning repatriation of the group of Italian Armistice Commission Officials interned at Shenvalee.

Background.

You will recall that of the group of 18, Minister Bombieri has recently been returned to Italy by air and that G-2 has expressed specific objections to the repatriation of 7 of the group; Arrivabene, Bellegarde, Salafia, Rossi, Valenti, Pietrabissa and Lombardi.

We informed the Department on April 29 (telegram No. 1393 attached) that there was no specific objection to the others in the group if they were cleared by appropriate security officials in Washington.

The Department then took up the matter with the War Department which cabled AFHQ for advice. G-2 replied on May 12 along lines similar to our telegram No. 1393 to the Department (G-2's telegram No. F-45003 attached).

It appears obvious that the Department has not been able to obtain the War Department's concurrence to override the G-2 objections.

On May 31, G-2 AFHQ sent a letter to G-2, War Department, outlining its views in detail and explaining its specific objections to the 7 individuals principally in question (copy attached).

G-2 also has in its files a copy of a report sent to it by the War Department, prepared by Franklin C. Gowan of the Department's Special Division, after interviewing the Shenvalee group last November. (Copy of conclusion attached). His concluding remarks tend to support some of the G-2 views as to the super Fascist character of the 7 individuals principally objected to, and doubts regarding the sincerity of their professed conversion.

On August 21 we informed the Department (Telegram No. 172 attached) that Arrivabene, who, I believe, is the ranking member of the remaining group, is among the Italian Foreign Service Officials put on the retired list by the Bonomi Government because of "connection with Fascism" according to a confidential report to the Advisory Council on August 11 by Captain Stone.

- 2 -

In a letter dated May 2, 1944, Sam Reber expressed himself as believing the G-2 position is "utterly ridiculous", saying that "the advantages of returning a few individuals in my opinion far outweigh the disadvantages unless, of course, there are one or two well-known Fascists in the group in which case their return would never have been approved".

G-2 Views on Points Raised in the Department's Telegram of August 21.

Concerning the first and second paragraphs of the Department's telegram of August 21, G-2 has no real concern about any of this group being sent to North Africa after possible repatriation. Their clearance would be necessary for any such assignments and, therefore, they feel there is no point in seeking from the Italian Government such assurances in this matter as suggested by the Department.

The idea raised in the last paragraph of the Department's telegram requires a policy decision which will have to be made above the level of Major Bennett and myself. His opinion and that of his colleagues in the Counter Intelligence Section is that it would be definitely unwise to repatriate the 7 persons to whom they have objected specifically under any circumstances. This is not so much for security reasons now, which the progress of the war has minimized to a large extent, but on policy grounds. Major Bennett says their records show this group of seven to be among the worst type of die-hard Fascists. He feels that as long as any Italians are interned by the Allies these men should be among them. He believes that their return to Italy as free men would cause considerable questioning of the sincerity of our anti-Fascism.

I pointed out to Major Bennett that these Italians were somewhat different from regular run of internees since they were diplomatic officials whose return had been asked by the Badoglio Government. On this, he said that while they had diplomatic "Cover" they actually had operated in North Africa as nothing more than propaganda and espionage agents for the Fascists and Germans.

As for shifting to the Italian Government the responsibility for any further restraint upon their freedom of movement that might be considered necessary, as suggested by the Department, he expressed the opinion that their espionage activities which he felt justified their continued internment, would not constitute any offense for which they could be tried or held by the Italian Government.

Major Bennett also pointed to the principle which so far has governed repatriation of any Italians - that is that they will make a contribution to the war effort here. This principle is based on the reasoning that provision of transport to bring Italians back here is not justified unless they will contribute to the war effort. G-2 is convinced that these persons can make no such contribution.

2962

- 3 -

(This general policy was reaffirmed in a memorandum from Colonel Hill-Dillion to the Office of the British Resident Minister, AFHQ, on August 23, in a case concerning 5 other Italians. He said: "We consider it most illogical and undesirable that internees be released and repatriated at this stage of the war. Policy is that entry into Italy be permitted only for the benefit of the war effort, and while individuals against whom there is no personal objection on other grounds are being refused entry it seems inappropriate to consider repatriating the above-named").

Conclusions and Recommendations.

With G-2 admitting that security reasons do not matter much now, the repatriation of these people boils down to the policy question of whether or not it is wise to return such characters to Italy at this time. The people who have been passing on repatriation matters here so far - G-2 (C.I.) - believe they should not be returned; the State Department is most anxious to return them. I suggest, therefore, that if you want to act without further reference to the Department, you might discuss the matter with Colonel Hill-Dillion and if agreement is not reached, that the question might be a proper one for action by the Political Committee.

However, I recommend that the policy question might again be put up to the Department with a suggestion that if they want to press the matter to the highest level at AFHQ now, we first approach the present Italian Government to see if in view of their Fascist record it really wants back these men requested by the Badoglio Government in its early confused days, particularly in the light of the purge measures being undertaken against Fascist Foreign Office officials.

Draft telegram to the Department is attached in case you approve this suggestion.

G. D. H.

GDH/ET

2961

August 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Murphy

I discussed informally today with Major A. R. Bennett in G-2 (C.I.) the substance of the Department's No. 55, August 21, concerning repatriation of the group of Italian Armistice Commission officials interned at Shervalen.

You will recall that of the group of 19, Minister Bombieri has recently been returned to Italy by air and that G-2 has expressed specific objections to the repatriation of seven of the group --Arrivabene, Bollegarde, Salafia, Rossi, Valenti, Pietrabissa and Lombardi. We informed the Department that there was no specific objection to the others if they were cleared by appropriate security officials in Washington.

Now, as regards the specific point raised in the Department's no. 55.

G-2 has no real concern about any of this group being sent to North Africa after possible repatriation. Their clearance would be necessary for any such assignments and, therefore, they feel there is no point in seeking from the Italian Government such assurances in this matter as suggested by the Department.

The idea raised in the last paragraph of the Department's telegram requires a policy decision which will have to be made above the Major Bennett level. His opinion and that of his colleagues in the Counter-Intelligence Section is that it would be definitely unwise to repatriate the seven persons to whom they have objected specifically under any circumstances. This is not so much for security reasons, which the progress of the war has minimized to a large extent, but on policy grounds. Major Bennett says their records show this group of seven to be among the worst type of die-hard Fascists. He feels that as long as any Italians are interned by the Allies these men should be among them. He points out that their return to Italy would cause raised eyebrows among the Italians who knew their past.

I pointed out to Major Bennett that these Italians were somewhat different from regular run of internees since they were diplomatic officials whose return had been asked by the Badoglio Government. On this, he said that while they had diplomatic "cover" they actually had operated in North Africa as nothing more than propaganda and espionage agents for the Fascists and Germans. As for shifting to the Italian Government the responsibility for any further restraint upon their freedom of movement that might be considered necessary, as suggested by the Department, he expressed the opinion that their espionage activities which he felt justified their continued internment, would not constitute any offensive for which they could be tried or held by the Italian Government.

Major Bennett

2960

-2-

Major Bennett also pointed to the principle which so far has governed repatriation of any Italians --that is tht they will make a contribution to the war effort here. This principle is based on the reasoning that provision of transport to bring Italians back here is not justified unless they will contribute to the war effort. G-2 is convinced that these persons can make no such contribution.

With G-2 admitting that security reasons do not matter much now, the repatriation of these people boils down to the policy question of whether or not it is wise to return such characters to Italy at this time. The people who have been passing on repatriation matters here so far --G-2 (C.I.), believe they should not be returned; the State Department is most anxious to return them. I suggest, therefore, that you might discuss the matter with Colonel Hill-Dillon and if agreement is not reached, that the question might be a proper one for action by the Political Committee.

A copy of G-2's letter to the War Department of May 31, explaining their specific objections to the seven individuals concerned is attached, along with an excerpt from a State Department report ending to back up some of the G-2 conclusions.

C.D. Horner

GDH:mnj

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff - A-2

B-389.506/80-C

31 May 1944

SUBJECT: Italians Interned at Shervalco, New Market, Va.

TO : A C of S, G-2 War Dept., Washington, D. C.

1. Further to our signal F 49927 dated 24 May 1944, and in reply to your W 36596 dated 15 May 1944.

2. This Section is opposed in principle to the return to Italy of former members of the Italian Armistice Commission in French North Africa. It is considered that as they were arrested at a time when they were undoubtedly working against us, and have had no opportunity to come under the influence of the events leading to the collapse of Italy, the nature of their previous employment renders them a potential danger to the security of our forces in Italy if set at liberty at the present time. It is felt that their case is quite distinct from that of "career" consular staffs in neutral countries, as to whose loyalty we have had the opportunity of judging from their behaviour over the past 6 months. It should be added that the Direction de la Securite Militaire shares our view.

3. In view of the request of A.C.C., the repatriation of BOMBIERI only is approved, subject to the conditions of our Signal F 45003 dated 12 May 1944.

4. ARRIVABENE, was first Italian Consul in Algiers and then in charge of the Armistice Commission. Direction de la Securite Militaire have information confirmed by our own files that he did not act as a Consul in the proper sense, but a collector of intelligence for the Germans. He employed Arabas as well as Europeans for this work, which covered airports and fortifications. His means of communications were persons aboard Italian ships calling at Algiers, and Italian Air Line crews. He was one of the original Fascists, a standard-bearer in the March on Rome, and a personal friend of Mussolini (he boasted that they used the affectionate "tu" in conversation). His record in Algiers, apart from the many indications of espionage, is that of an excessively violent individual, a heavy-drinker, and gambler. One of his succession of mistresses was a security suspect. He is alleged to be a cocaine addict. He was guilty of considerable black market currency dealings, and he offended against black-out and similar regulations in a flagrant and provocative manner. He was proud of his reputation as a Fascist "man of actions."

5. The other six individuals to whom specific objection is raised are known to have assisted ARRIVABENE in his extra-consular activities and his subsequent work for the Germans through the Italian Armistice Commission.

BRENGARDE was known to be in touch with two suspected Axis agents, of whom one was arrested by the French and the other escaped to the Germans at the time of the Allied invasion. 91 3

-2-

LOMBARDI was probably ARRIVABENE's right-hand man. He was in relation with the Fascio in Algiers before the war.

PIETRABISSA, who was at Oran, had suspect relations, and Direction de la Securite Militaire have evidence indicating that he ran agents through the Casa degli Italiani.

ROSSI, SALAFIA and VALENTI are listed as suspects by Direction de la Securite Militaire, and our records confirm that they did work for ARRIVABENE. They are known to be loyal admirers of Arrivabene, and to be completely under his influence. ROSSI was one of his attaches; SALAFIA was secretary to the Armistice Commission at Oran, and VALENTI the Chancellor of the Consulate (but actually an employee of the Armistice Commission).

6. So far, these individual objections are based largely on such information as is available from the French. This information is considered reasonably reliable and is in part confirmed from our own sources. Before anyone, whether one of the above named or not, can be finally approved or otherwise, with the exception of BOMBIERRI, further information is required in accordance with our Signal F45003 dated 12 May. It is emphasized, however, that even if examination of individual cases should not reveal specific personal objections, this Section is still opposed to the repatriation at the present time on general security grounds.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2:

J. A. CROWLEY
Lt. Colonel, GSC
G-2 (C.I.) Section

2937

EXCERPTS from Report to Department of State by Franklin C. Gowan,
Special Division, dated November 4, 1943, after interview with
Shenvalle Group.

REMARKS.

In connection with the comments made by Minister Bombieri and
Consuls General Arrivabene and Fontana mentioned above, it should
be borne in mind that quite obviously they must have enjoyed to an
unusual degree the particular confidence of Mussolini and his Foreign
Minister Ciano, or else they would not have been assigned to
Northern Africa, which played such an important part in Italy's
relations with France. One may surmise that these men were the
principal and active heads of the Italian Fifth Column throughout
Algeria and Tunisia. For many years when one commented in Italy
on that country's diplomatic and consular representatives, one heard
that its officers stationed in Tunisia and Algeria had been especially
picked for their complete loyalty to Fascist ideals and all-round
political ability and diplomatic shrewdness. These considerations
might be taken into account with regard to any reassignments which
these officers may receive if they are returned to Italy. It would
not appear desirable to lend encouragement to their being reassigned
to Northern Africa or elsewhere in the Mediterranean area or Portugal
until after the war.

The probability is that all these men are actually in favor of
the Badoglio Government, if only for expediency, but there is
necessarily no evidence to prove it except their own statements.
It is not likely that in their present circumstances they would do
or say anything that might jeopardize their chances of being re-
patriated.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APG 394

Ref 241

31 August 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5, Allied Force Headquarters;
Copies to: British Resident Minister,
U. S. Political Advisor.

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Officials from New Market, Virginia.

There is enclosed a memorandum on the above subject from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated August 15, 1944, and a further memorandum dated August 25, 1944, correcting the previous one.

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

Encls:

ISFA memo 6/386/140; 15 Aug 44;
ISFA memo 6/388/151; 23 Aug 44.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 894

Ref 2841

31 August 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5, Allied Force Headquarters;
Copies to: British Resident Minister,
U. S. Political Advisor.

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Officials from New Market, Virginia.

There is enclosed a memorandum on the above subject from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated August 13, 1944, and a further memorandum dated August 23, 1944, correcting the previous one.

WILLIAM W. SCOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

Encls:

USPA memo 6/286/140; 15 Aug 44;
USPA memo 6/282/151; 23 Aug 44.



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

6/322/151

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION, A.C.C.

Reference is made to memorandum n.6/286/140 dated August 15th inst., concerning the group of officials and employees as yet interned at New Market, Virginia.

In paragraph 4 of the said memorandum, it was suggested that Messrs. Degli Eredi, Salaffia, Tesoro and Proietti be authorized to follow Consul General Fontana to Washington and be appointed to the staff of the Swiss Legation in Washington (Italian Interests Section).

Modifying the above suggestion, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs begs to point out that it would seem preferable to include the said personnel (Degli Eredi, Salaffia, Tesoro and Proietti) in the list of the employees to be repatriated.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs would appreciate an early reply concerning the matter. *C. G. B.*

2953

Rome, August 23, 1944.



R. MINISTERO

DEGLI

AFFARI ESTERI

Nr. 6/286/140.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POLITICAL SECTION

Reference is made to past correspondence on the subject and more recently to Mr. Reinhardt's letter dated March 30th, 1944.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to draw the attention of the Allied Control Commission on the great interest the Ministry takes in the release of the group of officials and employees still interned at the Shenvalee Hotel, New Market, Virginia.

After the recent repatriation of Minister Bombieri, the following are still at New Market:

Franco Fontana, Vittoriano Manfredi, Federico de Bellegarde, Domenico Bocchetto, Umberto Rossi, Antonio Ar-rivabene, Vittorio d'Addato, Alessandro Cultrera, Luigi Cacciatori, Andrea Lombardi, Giovanni Ciccotti, Luigi Bosinco, Bassano Pietrabissa, Paolo Valenti, Antonio Salaffia, Giuseppe Degli Eredi, Luigi Proietti, Antonio Tesoro.

In this connection it is pointed out:

1. - The Swiss Legation which, as is known, has taken over the protection of Italian Citizens and interests in the United States, is in this respect overwhelmed with work and lacks a suitable staff to carry it out. In order to meet the situation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs suggest the

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

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241
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In this connection it is pointed out:

1. - The Swiss Legation which, as is known, has taken over the protection of Italian Citizens and interests in the United States, is in this respect overwhelmed with work and lacks a suitable staff to carry it out. In order to meet the situation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs suggest the possibility of authorizing Consul General Fontana to work with the Swiss Legation in order to assist with the affairs connected with Italian citizens in the United States. Should

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R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

the Allied Authorities agree to this proposal, Consul General Fontana could reach Washington direct from New Market.

2. - Consul General Antonio Arrivabene has, by recent provision, been placed on the retired list and therefore on his return to Italy will not resume his work with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he being no longer on the staff.

3. - Messrs. Manfredi, de Bellegarde, Bocchetto, Rossi, d'Addato, Cultrera, Cacciatori, Lombardi, Ciccotti, Bosinco, Pietrabissa, Valenti, on their return to Italy would resume their work and would be utilized as other officials and employees of the Ministry.

4. - Those mentioned in Mr. Reber's letter, dated April 13th, ult., namely, Degli Eredi and Salaffia (employees of the Italian Red Cross), Tesoro and Proietti (motor-drivers), are practically on Consul General Fontana's staff and could follow him to Washington to continue to work, under him, at the Swiss Legation. Should this not be possible, they could repatriate with the others.

In view of the above considerations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hopes that the A.C.C. will kindly approach the competent Allied Authorities with a view to obtaining the repatriation of these Italian officials and employees, who for so long have been interned and separated from their families, as speedily as the present circumstances allow.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in thanking the

provision, been placed on the return to Italy will not resume his work with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he being no longer on the staff.

3. - Messrs. Manfredi, de Bellegarde, Bocchetto, Rossi, d'Addato, Cultrera, Cacciatori, Lombardi, Ciccotti, Bosinco, Pietrabissa, Valenti, on their return to Italy would resume their work and would be utilized as other officials and employees of the Ministry.

4. - Those mentioned in Mr. Reber's letter, dated April 13th, ult., namely, Degli Eredi and Salaffia (employees of the Italian Red Cross), Tesoro and Proietti (motor-drivers), are practically on Consul General Fontana's staff and could follow him to Washington to continue to work, under him, at the Swiss Legation. Should this not be possible, they could repatriate with the others.

In view of the above considerations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs hopes that the A.C.C. will kindly approach the competent Allied Authorities with a view to obtaining the repatriation of these Italian officials and employees, who for so long have been interned and separated from their families, as speedily as the present circumstances allow.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in thanking the A.C.C. for their kind intervention will appreciate a reply concerning this matter. *Calb*

Rome, August 15th, 1944.



Repatriation

241

May 22, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: U. S. Political Advisor, Allied Force Headquarters.

Reference is made to Mr. Reinhardt's letter of April 29, 1944, concerning the repatriation of Italian officials now interned in the United States. A further communication on the subject has been received from the Italian Foreign Office requesting information regarding the return to Italy of the Foreign Service officials and employees at present in New Market, Virginia, and El Golia, Algeria. The Ministry refers to its earlier communications giving the lists of the officials and setting forth the reasons which, in its opinion, require that priority be given to Signor Bombieri's repatriation. The Ministry adds that in this connection it had also suggested that his journey should take place by air.

The communication concludes with an urgent request that the latter's return be expedited.

Samuel Reber
Vice President, Allied Control Commission

2950

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POLITICAL SECTION.

With reference to former communications on the subject, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs would much appreciate up-to-date information as to the return journey to Italy of the foreign service officials and employees at present interned in New Market, Va, U.S.A. and at El Golea, Algeria.

A complete list of said officials is to be found in the Ministry's Memorandum n. 624 of February 17th, last, when it was also suggested that Signor Bombieri and Signor Tortorici were in a position to give full information as to the number of employees at present in North America and North Africa respectively.

Moreover, with letter n. 1979, dated April 6th ult., addressed to Mr. Reber there were set forth reasons which required that priority be given to Signor Bombieri's repatriation; in this connection it was also suggested that his journey should possibly take place by air. This Ministry takes the opportunity to reiterate the urgency of Minister Bombieri's presence in Italy at this moment, and should be grateful for all that the Political Section, A.C.C., would find possible to do in the matter. *K*

SALERNO, 17 MAR 1944

With reference to former communications, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs would much appreciate up-to-date information as to the return journey to Italy of the foreign service officials and employees at present interned in New Haven, Va, U.S.A. and at El Golea, Algeria.

A complete list of said officials is to be found in this Ministry's memorandum n. 924 of February 17th, last, when it was also suggested that Signor Bombieri and Signor Tortorelli were in a position to give full information as to the number of employees at present in North America and North Africa respectively.

Moreover, with letter n. 1979, dated April 3th ult., addressed to Mr. Deber there were set forth reasons which required that priority be given to Signor Bombieri's repatriation; in this connection it was also suggested that his journey should possibly take place by air. This Ministry takes the opportunity to reiterate the urgency of Minister Bombieri's presence in Italy at this moment, and should be grateful for all that the Political Section, A.C.C., would find possible to do in the matter. *K*

BALMHO, 17 MAC 1944

2973

Handwritten notes:
11/20/44
17/20/44
17/20/44

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APO 394

U.S. ARMY

April 13, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Royal Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs

FROM: Political Section, Allied Control Commission

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Officials from United States

With further reference to Mr. Reinhardt's note of March 30, concerning the repatriation of Italian officials and employees in the United States, the Political Section has been informed by the Department of State that all of the persons named in the second paragraph of the Memorandum under reference are Italian diplomatic and consular officers, with the exception of

Giuseppi de Gli-Eredi (Degli-Eredi) and Antonio Salafia, who are employees of the Italian Red Cross;

Antonio Tesoro, who is chauffeur for General Biagini;

Luigi Proiecti (Proietti) who is chauffeur for Admiral Salza.

It is further stated that other civilian personnel of the Italian Armistice Commission is in North Africa, according to available information.

Samuel Reber, Vice President,
Political Section, Allied Control
Commission.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Civil Affairs Office

April 10, 1944.

TO: Political Section, Allied Control Commission, Naples. ✓

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Officials.

With reference to Mr. Reinhardt's memorandum of March 30, 1944, concerning the proposed arrangements for repatriation of a group of Italian officials from the United States, the Department of State has now informed this office that all of the persons named in the second paragraph of the memorandum under reference are Italian diplomatic and consular officers, with the exception of:

Giuseppi de Gli-Eredi (Degli-Eredi), and Antonio Salafia, who are employees of the Italian Red Cross;

Luigi Proctti (Proietti), who is chauffeur for Admiral Salza;

Antonio Tesoro, who is chauffeur for General Biagini.

The Department further states that other civilian personnel of the Italian Armistice Commission is in North Africa, according to its information.

H. J. L'Heureux

H. J. L'Heureux,
Acting Chief Civil Administrator.

Copy to:

Office of British Resident Minister.
Military Government Section, AFHQ.
G-2 Section, AFHQ.

29.7

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

December 30, 1944

MEMORANDUM

TO: Political Section, Allied Commission
SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Group from
New Market, Virginia.

There is attached hereto a paraphrase of a
message addressed to the Office of the United States
Political Adviser at Caserta.

This message is transmitted to the Political
Section for its information only.

29-6

[Signature]

PARAPHRASE

The following is a paraphrase of a telegram from the Department to the Office of the United States Political Adviser, AFHQ, dated December 19.

Reference your message No. 1459 of November 22, midnight and previous. Under War Department shipment order No. IJ-558-YN, eighteen persons of the group of Italians at New Market, Va. left the United States by ship for Naples within the past week. Arrivabene does not know how the Foreign Office feels about his repatriation and about him personally.

It is assumed that the Foreign Office will be appropriately informed and that arrangements will be made for the proper representatives of the Italian Government to meet the repatriates. From the time this group leaves the United States the Department feels that such group is no longer in the custody of the Department.

STETTINIUS

2943

December 30, 1944

MEMORANDUM

TO: Political Section, Allied Commission
SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Group from
New Market, Virginia.

There is attached hereto a paraphrase of a message addressed to the Office of the United States Political Adviser at Caserta.

This message is transmitted to the Political Section for its information only.

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It is assumed that the Foreign Office will be appropriately informed and that arrangements will be made for the proper representatives of the Italian Government to meet the repatriates. From the time this group leaves the United States the Department feels that such group is no longer in the custody of the Department.

STETTINIUS



per file
Nr. 6/617/270

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION, A.O.C.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, referring to a previous note on the subject, shall be grateful if the A.O.C., will inform them if they consider the present circumstances sufficiently favourable to justify a renewal of their request of repatriation of Count Tristano Alvisi Ciprico, First Secretary of Legation, at present P.O.W. in Australia. *EM*

Rome, September 27th, 1944.



*A.C. repeated to Farnesi what
L.S. had already told him i.e. that it
was no use raising the question of
CIPRICO repatriation, see letter 4.15/1000
from Rts. no. dated 29/5/44 -*

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44*

*Provisional*

Nr. 6/20 '121.

*Fale**1944**Ministero degli Affari Esteri*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.C.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, referring to previous exchange of views on the subject, beg to recall the attention of the A.C.C. on the opportunity of repatriating Count Tristano Alvisè Cippico, first Secretary of Legation, at present P.O.W. in Australia.

Count Cippico, whose loyalty to the Italian Government is above suspicion, should be recalled to service at this Ministry where he would be particularly useful owing also to his perfect knowledge of English.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs would beg the A.C.C. to kindly approach the competent Allied Authorities in order to obtain that Count Cippico's repatriation be effected at the earliest possible date.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs would greatly appreciate an early reply on the matter. *LCB*

Rome, 14th August 1944.





prev. pl.
Nr. 6/244/120.

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.C.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to call the attention of the Allied Control Commission on the case of Vice Consul Pietro Quirino TORTORICI, at present interned in the Hotel Trasports Tropicaux, El Golea - Algeria.

The above mentioned official, whose loyalty to the Italian Government is above suspicion, should be recalled to service at this Ministry. Furthermore, the fact that he has been interned since November 1942 in a zone unhealthy for Europeans, would seem reason enough for his urgent repatriation.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs would therefore be very grateful to the Allied Control Commission if they would approach the competent Authorities in order to obtain the repatriation of Vice Consul Tortorici at the earliest possible date.

Rome, 14th August, 1944.



C. B.
2940

This is a copy of a memo which (as I have failed to inform you by telephone!) was taken personally by Mr. Peter.

It is referred to in 69 750 of 24 February, which you sent to me for reference -

Miss Kelley Martin

Mr. Peter Smith this HAZ

My version

26/2

2959

BEST COPY POSSIBLE

M E M O R A N D U
FOR THE
POLITICAL SECTION (A.C.C.)

124
Reference is made to letter of February 1st from Mr. H.J. l'Hereux, Acting Chief Civil Administrator, to the Political Section (A.C.C.) informing that both the British and American Governments and the French Committee of National Liberation have no objection to the repatriation of the officials of the Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs captured or interned by Allied Military forces in the course of the war.

The officials concerned and their respective addresses, on or about October 1943, were:

- H.E. Count Luigi Orazio Vinci Gigliucci, Ambassador, P.O.W. in Australia
- Count Tristano Alvise Cippico, Secretary of Legation, P.O.W. in Australia
- Minister Enrico Bombieri, interned at Hotel Ingleside Staunton, Va. U.S.A.
- Consul General Antonio Arrivabene, interned at Hotel Ingleside, Staunton, Va. U.S.A.
- Consul General Franco Fontana, interned at Hotel Ingleside, Staunton, Va. U.S.A.
- Consul Vittoriano Manfredi, interned Hotel Ingleside, Staunton, Va. U.S.A.
- Vice Consul Pietro Quirino Tortorici, interned Hotel Transports Tropicaux, El Golea, Algeria

Moreover there ought to be, both in French North Africa and in Staunton, Va., a certain number of employees of this Ministry. Unfortunately their names are not known at the present time but it is suggested that Signor Bombieri and Signor Tortorici be approached in order to secure a complete list of those to be included in the repatriation.

In connection with the matter, the following points are made:

- a) H.E. Count Vinci has been appointed Italian Ambassador to Argentina (see Memorandum of this Ministry of Jan. 30 N.528 and telegram to the Italian Embassy in Buenos Ayres of Jan. 30) and is therefore not to be included in the repatriation plan.
- b) the same applies to Consul General Fontana whom it is proposed to appoint Consul General in Buenos Ayres in place of the present Consul General Vincenzo Tasco whose recall was verbally suggested some time ago by the Political Section (A.C.C.).

-2-

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would be grateful to the Political Section A.C.C. if it could receive in due course a complete list of the returning officials and employees. It shall also appreciate if the Political Section (A.C.C.) will be so good as to approach the competent Allied Authorities with a view to their granting Signor Fontana the necessary facilities to proceed to Buenos Ayres where his presence would, it is considered, be particularly helpful towards an improvement of the situation existing within the Italian colony. It is suggested in this connection that, to avoid delay, Signor Fontana may proceed directly by air to Argentina.

A timely reply on this matter would be appreciated in order that the necessary communications and instructions be sent to Signor Fontana.

Signor Fontana was Consul General in Chicago, Ill. from 1937-1939.

SALERNO, February 17, 1944

2953

(1)

J/Cdr. Hopkins.

Roberti is sure the I.F.O. had been informed that both VINCI and Secretary CIPPICO were interned in Australia! Is it worth while checking on this?

(signed) J. M. Pearson,
Major.

(2)

Mr. Halford.

Recd.
15 JUN 1944

I am afraid I sent this paper on without referring to our file. I now see that VINCI is everywhere referred to as being interned in Australia (last reference is Mr. Caccia's letter No. 350/385 of 9.2.44 to Mr. Makins).

Is it possible that he has been moved to a camp in India, or have the F.O. made a mistake?

Would you kindly let us know, returning this paper?

Wells

Political Section,
15.6.44.

J/ Cdr. Hopkins.

2936

I am enquiring of the F.O.

[Signature]
15/6/44

27/5/44

Junior Commander Hopkins,

At Mr. Caccia's request, I recently enquired of the Foreign Office what had been happening in connexion with the repatriation of Count Vinci, the Italian Ambassador designate to Argentina.

2. The Foreign Office have now replied that they still await the views of the Government of India where Vinci is interned as a Prisoner of War. If the Government of India see no objection to his release and repatriation, the War Office will be asked to arrange transport.

3. Will you be so good as to pass this on to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs?

9.6.44

[Handwritten signature]
9/6/44

Major Pearson

2955

Wd. you kindly do this and let
us have the paper back? LHM 13/6

JHG
11/4

Office of the British Resident
Minister at Allied Force H.Q.,
5, rue Professeur Curtillet,
Algiers.

41/5/1500.

To: Political Section, Allied Control Commission.

From: British Resident Minister's Office.

Subject: Proposed repatriation of Count Tristram Cippico.

Reference: Your Cable to A.P.H.Q. No. PB3 8666 of
18th February.

Fargo 106N

Count Cippico who is a prisoner of war in Australia was one of the officials listed in your cable under reference whose repatriation you reported the Italian Government as having requested. We have now been told that the Government of Australia consider his release undesirable because he is anti-British and consorts with rabid Fascist elements in the camp. From what we ourselves know personally of Count Cippico we think that the report of his being Fascist-minded is extremely likely. h

2. You will probably not wish to return any reply to the Italian Government.

June 5 - Action deferred pending receipt of reply re Vinci - when nature of AR reply to FO's 3093 of 19 May can be decided - jmf.
29th May, 1944.

Copies to:-

C-5
U.S. Political Adviser.

2934

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

1° 3093

44C
SFC

Mr. Halifax is telephoning to
FD (and others) to see the progress

about Vinci, before the end of 19 MAR 1944

about Vinci

AAC 24/5

Dear Caccia,

May I call your attention once more on the
question of the repatriation of Ambassador Vinci and
First Secretary Cippico?

Following Memorandum N. 224 of February 17th
last, both you and Reber were so good as to inform me
that the repatriation of all foreign service officials
and employees, captured or interned in the course of
this war, would take place in the near future.

However, although nearly three months have
elapsed since then, there is as yet no definite infor-
mation as to the progress of Vinci's and Cippico's return
journey from Australia. Vinci's presence here is all
the more urgent because, as it is possible that the
situation in Argentina might become clarified at any
moment, it would be the Italian Government's desire to
have him available so as to be able to send him without
delay to Buenos Aires where, as you know, the conditions
prevailing within the Italian colony and our interests
throughout the country require the presence of an able
and experienced Ambassador.

I would, therefore, be particularly grateful
if you could let me know when the arrival of Vinci and
Cippico is to be expected.

Yours truly,
R. MINISTERO

0851

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

Dear Caccia,

May I call your attention once more on the question of the repatriation of Ambassador Vinci and First Secretary Cippico?

Following Memorandum n. 624 of February 17th last, both you and Fisher were so good as to inform me that the repatriation of all foreign service officials and employees, captured or interned in the course of this war, would take place in the near future.

However, although nearly three months have elapsed since then, there is as yet no definite information as to the progress of Vinci's and Cippico's return journey from Australia. Vinci's presence here is all the more urgent because, as it is possible that the situation in Argentina might become clarified at any moment, it would be the Italian Government's desire to have him available so as to be able to send him without delay to Buenos Aires where, as you know, the conditions prevailing within the Italian colony and our interests throughout the Country require the presence of an able and experienced Ambassador.

I would, therefore, be particularly grateful if you could let me know when the arrival of Vinci and Cippico is to be expected.

Harold A. Caccia Esq.,
Vice President
Allied Control Commission,
Political Section.
M A P I E S.

Very truly yours
R. P. L. *[Signature]*

Fontana

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APO 394

May 31, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Royal Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs
FROM: Political Section, Allied Control Commission.

There is quoted below a message received from Signor
Fontana for His Excellency, Marshal Pietro Badoglio:

(Undated)

"Have received today from the Legation of Switzerland
here announcement my nomination as Consul General in Buenos
Aires. I thank Your Excellency for great proof of confidence
given me and shall exert every effort towards being equal to
the arduous task entrusted to me. Shall leave as soon as the
State Department has provided means of transportation."

2932

Office of the
UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

May 26, 1944

TO: Samuel Haber, Esquire
Vice President, Allied Control Commission,
Political Section,
Naples

SUBJECT: Message to Badoglio from Fontana.

The Department has transmitted the following message for
Badoglio from Fontana.

"Have received today from the Legation of Switzerland
here announcement my nomination as Consul General in Buenos
Aires. I thank your Excellency for great proof of con-
fidence given me and shall exert every effort towards being
equal to the arduous task entrusted to me. Shall leave
as soon as the State Department has provided means of
transportation."

For the American Political Adviser:



G. F. Reinhardt

223

May 16, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: U.S. Political Advisor, Allied Force
Headquarters.

SUBJECT: Signor Fontana's Appointment to Buenos Aires.

Reference is made to the Memorandum of May 5 from the Office of the U.S. Political Advisor concerning the appointment of Signor Fontana as Italian Consul General in Buenos Aires. The Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs states that its Mission in Buenos Aires had telegraphed on April 27 through its Embassy at Madrid stating that the Argentine Government had already recognized the appointment of Signor Fontana as Consul General. Under the circumstances the Italian Government is of the opinion that further instructions are not needed by Signor Fontana and requests that he may be permitted to proceed at the earliest possible moment.

An indication of the expected date of Signor Fontana's arrival in Buenos Aires would be appreciated in order that the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires may be informed.

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

c.c. Office of U. S. Representative on the Advisory
Council for Italy

2930

SR
May 15, 1944.

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE ARGENTINE
GOVERNMENT OF SIGNOR FONTANA THE ITALIAN CONSUL GENERAL DE-
SIGNATE TO BUENOS AIRES.

The Italian Foreign Office has in its possession a telegram from the Italian Embassy at Madrid dated May 3, 1944, repeating telegram No. 84 of April 27 from the Italian Charge D'Affaires at Buenos Aires which reports that the Argentine Foreign Office has recognized the appointment of Signor Fontana in the place of Signor Tasco (the present Italian Consul General at Buenos Aires).

J. Wesley Jones.

2929

Most recent VINCI
RP with Mr. Caccia
ULL
2/7

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

N° 2925

Salerno, 12 MAG 1944

Dear Reber,

referring to my letter of April the 7th, I would appreciate very much to have some recent news about the arrangement of Fontana's travel to Buenos Aires in order to communicate our Chargè d'Affaire in Argentina, who has asked for it, the aproximate date of his arrival there.

Very sincerely yours

R. Fumel

Samuel Reber, Esq.,
Vice President
Allied Control Commission
N a p l e s

2928

Fontana

May 11, 1944.

223

Sir:

I have been informed that the telegram of instructions for the newly-appointed Consul General in Buenos Aires, Signor Fontana, has been delivered to him. The Department of State, however, has received a telegram dated April 21 from the American Embassy in Buenos Aires to the effect that the Italian Embassy there is in a quandary as to how to proceed in view of the present abstention from official contact with the Government of Argentina. I have been requested to suggest that it might be desirable that interim instructions be issued to Signor Fontana enabling him to undertake his duties in some capacity that will not require official recognition on the part of the Argentine Government. This step is proposed in order that Signor Fontana may assume his consular functions with as little delay as possible when the situation as regards the Government of Argentina is clarified.

I am, Sir,

Sincerely yours,

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

His Excellency,
Don Renato Prunas,
Secretary General, Royal Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

2923

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Civil Affairs Office

May 5, 1944

TO: Samuel Reber, Esquire
Vice President, Allied Control Commission,
Political Section,
Naples

SUBJECT: Fontana's appointment to Buenos Aires.

The Department of State has informed this office in a telegram dated May 2, that the message for Fontana, transmitted with your memorandum of about April 10 - our copy of which appears to have been transferred with other files to the Office of the U.S. Member on the Advisory Council for Italy in Naples - is being delivered via the Swiss Legation to him. The Department states, however, that according to a telegram dated April 21, from the American Embassy in Buenos Aires, the Italian Embassy there is in a quandary as to how to proceed in view of the present abstention from official contact with the Government of Argentina.

The Department therefore requests that the desirability of issuing Fontana interim instructions to proceed to Argentina in some capacity that will not require official recognition be suggested to the Italian Government. This step is proposed in order that Fontana may assume his consular functions with little delay when the situation with Argentina is clarified.

For the U.S. Political Advisor

C. Offie

2926

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APO 394

U.S. ARMY

April 10, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Civil Affairs Section, Allied Force Headquarters.

Reference is made to Mr. Reinhardt's communication of March 30, 1944, concerning the appointment of Signor Franco Fontana as Italian Consul General in Buenos Aires.

The Italian Foreign Ministry would be grateful if the following instructions from Marshal Badoglio could be communicated to Fontana. The Ministry adds that instructions have already been sent recalling Signor Tasco.

"I am glad to inform you of your appointment as Consul General in Buenos Aires, to which post you should proceed as soon as possible.

"Your duties as regards the Italian community there will be to unite about you the entire Colony, which has been divided, dispersed and disillusioned by what has happened in these last years; to inspire in them a sense of serene faith in the certain revival of our country; to recreate in them a higher sense of duty and of obligation, that all without distinction should feel at the present time, to collaborate with the representative of the Royal Government for the collective good of all Italians who are living far from their homeland."

Samuel Reber
Vice President, Allied Control Commission
Political Section

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI
— — —

Salerno, April 7, 1944.

Dear Reber,

Many thanks for having informed me of
Mr. Reinhardt's communication concerning Consul General
Fontana.

I am very glad that the Department of State
has no objection to his appointment at Buenos Ayres and I
am sure his presence there will be useful in uniting that
large and important Italian colony.

Here enclosed is a telegram of instructions
for Fontana and I will be much obliged if you will have it
forwarded at the earliest possible moment.

As you will have already seen, we have
informed the Chargé d'Affaires in Buenos Ayres of Signor
Tasco's recall to Italy.

Very sincerely yours,

R. Rumel

Samuel Reber, Esq.,
Vice President
Allied Control Commission
Naples

2924

Encl.

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

TELEGRAMMA

7 Aprile, 1941

Consolo Generale FRANCO FONTANA
Shenvalee Hotel
New Market, Va.

Sono lieto comunicarle sua nomina a Consolo Generale
a Buenos Ayres che raggiungera' direttamente non appena
possibile (.)

Sua opera in seno a quella collettivita' italiana
dovra' essere intesa e riunire intorno a Lei l'intera colonia
divisa (,) dispersa e delusa per quanto e' accaduto in questi
ultimi anni(;) ad infonderle un senso di serena fiducia nella
sicura ripresa del nostro Paese (;) e richiamarla ad un piu'
alto sentimento del dovere ed all'obbligo che tutti indistinta-
mente devono sentire(,) nell'attuale momento(,) di collaborare
con il rappresentante del R. Governo per il benessere collettivo
di tutti gli italiani che vivono lontani dalla Patria (.)

R.F

Badoglio

2923

Copy to F.B.I.
file 4/14/44

March 30, 1944.

To: Samuel Reber, Esquire,
Vice President, Political Section,
Allied Control Commission,
Naples.

SUBJECT: Appointment of Fontana as Italian Consul General
at Buenos Aires.

Reference is made to the last paragraph of your memorandum of March 21, 1944, stating that Sr. Prunes had asked whether it would be possible to continue with the appointment of Fontana as Consul General at Buenos Aires, and to effect his release so that he might proceed to that post.

The Department of State has informed this office that it is agreeable to the transfer of Fontana to Buenos Aires as Consul General and will be glad to effect his release and assist in arranging for his travel insofar as possible. Furthermore, the Department offers to transmit to Consul General Fontana any instructions which the Italian Government may wish to send him.

G. F. Reinhardt

Copies to: MCS, AFHQ
G-2 "
O.B.R.M.

2522

SECRET

FARGO 958

FARGO

14 FEBRUARY 44

SECRET

10050 REBER

PRIORITY

FREEDOM

WITH REFERENCE YOUR FIVE ONE ZERO FIVE
EIGHT OF FEBRUARY ONE THREE PD PERBASE PAREN FARGO FROM MINISTER REBER
SIGNED MACFARLANE PAREN TO AFHQ FOR AGS PD CITE FARGO NINE FIVE
EIGHT PD POLITICAL SECTION LETTER OF FEBRUARY NINE TO BRITISH RESIDENT
MINISTER WITH COPY TO CIVIL AFFAIRS CONTAINED ITALIAN GOVERNMENTS
REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF COUNT VINCI AND TELEGRAM TO BUENOS AIRES ASKING
ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO RECEIVE HIM AS AMBASSADOR

Copy to:
Mr. Reber
Pol. Section

L.F. NICKEL,
Lt. Col. AGD 2921
Adjutant General

SECRET

131779A
Form 125D

N-2101

3219

RAD

#4

SEC

Signal Corps, United States Army

Telegram

PRIORITY

SECRET

Received at

PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER13 FEBRUARY 1944¹⁹

SECRET

PRIORITY

ACTION COPY

3 copies

TO (ACTION) : CG PDS FOR PARO FOR POLITICAL SECTION
(INFORMATION) : NONE
FROM : SIGNED GINC
DATE TIME SIGNED : 131423A
DATE TIME REC'D : 131779A
REFERENCE NR. : 51758
CITE : FROIV



THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS REQUESTED A DEFINITE STATEMENT FROM THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION AND THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AS TO WHAT ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED RELATIVE TO THE DESIGNATION OF A NEW ITALIAN AMBASSADOR OR CHARGE D AFFAIRES AT BUENOS AIRES. THE DEPARTMENT POINTS OUT THAT THE RELEASE OF COUNT VINCI PRESENTLY BRITISH PRISONER OF WAR OR BOMBIERI PRISONER OF WAR IN UNITED STATES WOULD BE FEASIBLE IF ITALIAN GOVERNMENT DESIRES TO USE EITHER OF THEM FOR SUCH SERVICE, BOTH OF THEM HAVING BEEN PREVIOUSLY SUGGESTED BY THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT. THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR AT BUENOS AIRES HAS INFORMED THE STATE DEPARTMENT THAT PROMPT AND AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

ACTION COPY

FORM 13-A

SECRET

COMPTON

Acc Dist
(Action) Political Sec
(Info) P.A. to C.C.

2920

14115

Action
Info
Nga ACC
Y-2
SC

UNITED STATES MEMBER
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

March 15, 1944.

TO: Samuel Reber, Esquire,
Vice President, Political Section,
Allied Control Commission,
Naples.

SUBJECT: Appointment of VINCI as Italian Ambassador
in Buenos-Aires.

The Department has telegraphed that until the present Argentine situation is clarified, no further action can be taken regarding the proposed appointment of Vinci as Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires. Accordingly, the Department has not delivered telegram No. 4 from the Italian Government, signed Badoglio, addressed to the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires which instructs the Chargé d'Affaires to ask the Argentine Government for its agrément to the appointment of Vinci.

The Department states that in your discretion you may inform the Italian Government of the foregoing.



G. F. Reinhardt
Acting United States Member
Advisory Council for Italy

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

CONFIDENTIAL

Salerno, March 18, 1944.

N. 1366

Dear Caccia,

I would like to add a word of comment, to you and Reber, on the proposed nomination of Fontana as our Consul General in Buenos Ayres in the place of Tasca.

Fontana is actually one of the best suited men for the work ahead of him. He is intelligent, energetic, a good speaker, sound in his judgement, very capable in handling a colony. He was for a couple of years our Consul General in Chicago, where we have one of our largest and most difficult communities in the United States, and did remarkably well. Ambassador Rosso, and, later, Ambassador Colonna had a very high opinion of him, and I am told that he has a very good press with the American authorities.

There is only one flaw, which has now occurred to me and I feel I must mention to you. Fontana entered the service in 1928 together with a batch of about 120 other service men and party members.

I have no doubt on the absolute loyalty of Fontana. He belongs to the very long list of honest minded men who, after having taken an active part in the initial stages of fascism, subsequently lapsed behind, first discouraged, then openly disappointed and disapproving the progressive degeneration of the regime. Strongly anti-German, in recent years he had passed to the more or less articulate but decided anti-Government dissidence.

Harold Caccia, Esq.,
Vice President
Allied Control Commission
N a p l e s .

2918

./.

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI
--

-2-

This much to his justification. I would like to add that in the present situation Fontana is not only particularly suited to the job - as I have already mentioned - but practically the only man we have available for the particular purpose.

I still hope, therefore, that the Allied Governments will see their way to consenting his release and his voyage to Buenos Ayres. But - I repeat - it is only fair that they should be aware of his background, which I have just described.

Please let me know, in due course, what decisions have been taken on the matter. I must also have a timely opportunity to inform our Embassy in Buenos Ayres of the proposed change in the direction of our Consulate General.

Yours very sincerely,

R. Russell

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

N° 1485

RISERV. A

Salerno, 22 Marzo, 1944.

Care Reber,

mi ha chiesto ieri l'altro di voler ritardare l'arrivo dell'Ambasciatore Conte Vinci a Buenos Ayres, in considerazione della situazione attualmente esistente fra Stati Uniti e Argentina e della conseguente inopportunita' che un nuovo Capo Missione italiano giunga nel Paese proprio in un momento di tensione fra Washington e Buenos Ayres.

Tengo a confermarle che il Maresciallo aderisce ben volentieri alla Sua richiesta e prega sia fatto presente al Suo Governo che essa e' stata senz'altro accolta sopra tutto per dar prova al Governo Nordamericano della nostra amicizia e della nostra lealta'. Tale dimostrazione di buona volonta' e' tanto maggiore in quanto voi sapete quale effettivamente sia la situazione della collettivita' italiana in Argentina e quale urgente bisogno vi sia di inviare un Ambasciatore che meglio salvaguardi e tuteli cola' i nostri molti ed importanti interessi.

Noi molto speriamo in conseguenza che la situazione possa fra breve consentire di far giungere a Buenos Ayres il nuovo Capo Missione designato, il quale, fra l'altro, potrebbe svolgere nel Paese, ove gli Italiani hanno, come sa, influenza e peso notevoli, quell'eventuale azione concordata che potrebbe

Signor Samuel Reber,
Vice Presidente
Commissione Alleata di Controllo
N a p o l i

2916

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI
--

RISERVATA

-2-

essere vantaggiosa agli interessi reciproci nostri e vostri.

Non potrebbe nell'occasione richiedere che l'Ambasciatore Vinci, invece che fatto proseguire direttamente per l'Argentina, sia autorizzato a giungere per qualche tempo a Salerno ?

Egli potrebbe in questo modo ritardare il suo arrivo a Buenos Ayres e utilizzare intanto il suo tempo, riprendendo i contatti con l'Italia, tanto piu' necessari dopo molti anni di assenza e di prigionia.

Mi creda, caro Reber, molto cordialmente

P. Reber

2915

QUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APR 1944

U. S. ARMY

Vinci
Fontana

March 21, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Acting United States Member, Advisory Council
for Italy.SUBJECT: Appointment of Vinci as Italian Ambassador in
Buenos Aires.

Reference is made to your Memorandum of March 15, 1944, stating that no action can be taken regarding the proposed appointment of Vinci as Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires until the present Argentine situation is clarified.

This matter has been discussed with the Secretary General of the Italian Foreign Office who states that the Italian Government is quite prepared to withhold the appointment of any Ambassador in order to harmonize its policies as regards the Argentine with that of the United Nations.

Lignor Prunas asked, however, whether it would be possible to continue with the appointment of Fontana as Consul General and to effect his release so that he might proceed to Buenos Aires. Prunas further asked if he could be informed what decision had been taken in Fontana's case in order that if necessary the Italian Mission in Buenos Aires could be informed.

Samuel Baber
Vice President, Allied Control Commission
Political Section

2914

Office of the Resident Minister
at Allied Force Headquarters.
ALGIERS.

To : Mr. Gaccia. *SR*

With the compliments of

Mr. Makus.

20th Feb. 1944.

.....2013

Office of the Resident Minister
at Allied Force Headquarters,
Al. res.

5/150/8

20th February, 1944.

I sent Harold Gaccia copies of your telegram to Buenos Aires No. 725 of December 30th and of David Kelly's reply No. 1055 of December 31st which discuss the question of Italian representation in the Argentine.

2. Gaccia points out with reference to the last sentence of the second paragraph of your telegram that the Italian Government did put forward a specific request for the release of Vinci in November (see paragraph 2 of my letter 5/150/8 of November 26th). Gaccia has recently confirmed that the Italian Government would like Vinci to head their mission in Buenos Aires and are expecting a reply from the Allied side to their request.

3. The question of Italian representation in the Argentine is linked with that of the Argentine representation in Italy. You will know from our telegram No. 229 that there is a military attache and a Consul-General floating about in Madrid waiting to take up their posts with the Badoglio Government. It may be that the Argentine Government will be reluctant to accept Count Vinci if they cannot have any representation in Italy themselves.

4. The whole question is perhaps primarily one for the State Department but the Americans here have received no instructions. We suggest, therefore, that you might ask the Embassy at Washington to enquire whether the State Department have taken any decision in the matter and whether they wish H.M.G. to take any steps about releasing Vinci.

5. I am sending a copy of this letter to Harold Gaccia.

R. Dow Esq., M.V.O.,
Sign Office.

Walter Jenkins.
2512

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

LPO 394

HAC/dmd

Reference #350/385

9 February 1944

My dear Roger,

In John Addis' letter 5/150/8 of 9 January he enclosed the text of a telegram from the Foreign Office to Buenos Aires in which it was stated that as at present advised we would have no objection to Count Vinci being released for the purpose of becoming Italian ambassador in the Argentine. I note from the Buenos Aires telegram enclosed in John Addis' letter of 7 January which for some reason reached us after the letter of 9 January that the Italian Legation was slightly in favour of there being no change in Italian representation. But the Italians are nevertheless anxious to go forward with Vinci's appointment, which they proposed following the State Department's express desire for a change. On the assumption that we would not necessarily wish to insist on the retention of a "charge d'affaires" at Buenos Aires, they have drafted a telegram which they would like us to forward to the Italian embassy as their telegram No. 4. Would you therefore explain matters to the Foreign Office and at the same time give a copy of the telegram to Fred Reinhardt with a request from him that he should telegraph it to Washington informing them that it is in response to their representations.

On the assumption that London and Washington are agreeable, the Italian Government have informed us in writing that they would "be very grateful if the Allied Authorities would give the necessary instructions in order that Count Vinci may leave for his post as soon as possible. Should the present communication facilities permit it, it would be convenient that on his way from Australia Count Vinci should have the opportunity of stopping in Italy, from where, after receiving his instructions he would immediately proceed for Buenos Aires. If, on the other hand, communication facilities do not consent it, he may forthwith proceed directly for his new post."

Political Section

Roger Atkins, Esq., C.M.G.

Encl: Draft of te #4 to B.A.

2911

Question of
Appointing new
Italian Representative
in Buenos Aires.

Reminder sent
to Mr. Makins on
Jan 23 asking
whether VINCI
CD be made
available, see
Fatima 1059 of 21 Nov

X Enclosure to Addis
letter of 9 Jan.

HAZ

R. MINISTERO

DEGLI

AFFARI ESTERI

N° 528

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

-Political Section-

The Royal Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs have the honour to thank the Allied Control Commission for their verbal communication regarding the appointment of Count Luigi Orazio Vinci Gigliuzzi to the post of Ambassador of His Majesty the King in Buenos Ayres.

1 - Under to-day's date the Argentine Government have been requested to give their agreement to the above appointment.

The Royal Italian Government would in the mean time be very grateful if the Allied Authorities would give the necessary instructions in order that Count Vinci may leave for his post as soon as possible. Should the present communication facilities permit it, it would be convenient that on his way from Australia Count Vinci should have the opportunity of stopping in Italy, from where, after receiving his instructions he would immediately proceed for Buenos Ayres. If, on the other hand, communication facilities do not consent it, he may forthwith proceed directly for his new post.

2 - As the Allied Control Commission are aware, the name of Signor Liberati, at present Consul General in Barcellona was some time ago suggested, as a possible successor to the present Consul at Buenos Ayres. In this connection the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs wish to inform that Consul Liberati has been recalled to Italy and is therefore no longer a candidate for the post of Consul General in Buenos Ayres.

R.F.

BRANDISI, January 30, 1944

ESTERNA AFFARI

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R.F.

BRINDISI, January 30, 1944



2940

R. MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

P

Telegramma in PARTENZA

Nº. coll: 48

Oggetto: Nomina Ambasciatore Vinci a Buenos Ayres

Data: 30 Gennaio, 1944

Tramite: C.A.C.

Diretto a: ITALIAN EMBASSY - BUENOS AYRES

Testo: (originale)

Nº. 4(.) Kindly ask Argentine Government agreement of Count Vinci Gigliuzzi's appointment to the post of Ambassador of His Majesty the King(.) Please recall that agreement of Count Vinci had been already requested and granted before the war; but that he was unable to reach his post on account of his being called to the colors(.) Ambassador Vinci(.) who has been taken prisoner in 1940(.) is at present in a concentration camp in Australia (,) whence(.) with the assistance of Allied Military Authorities(.) he will reach his new post as soon as the Argentine Government will communicate their consent(.) Please tell on my behalf President Ramirez that I am very pleased that appointment of Ambassador Vinci should coincide with Argentine decided taking of position on the side of the Allied Powers(.) an event that undoubtedly will strengthen those friendly ties which are a pillarstone in the relations between our two countries and which the Royal Government intend(.) with every mean at their disposal(.) to particularly mature in the future (.) The appointment of Count Vinci(.) one of our more expert diplomats(.) is a first concrete sign of this intention(.)

Badoglio

(Traduzione)

2903
Chiedete gradimento codesto Governo alla nomina del Conte Luigi Grazio Vinci Gigliuzzi ad Ambasciatore di Sua Maesta' presso Repubblica Argentina(.) Ricorderete che gradimento Conte Vinci era stato gia' richiesto ed accordato prima della guerra(.) ma che egli non pote' raggiungere sua destinazione in seguito richiamo alle armi(.) Ambasciatore Vinci(.) fatto prigioniero nel 1940, trovosi in un campo di concentramento in Australia(.) da dove(.) a cura delle Autorita' Militari Alleate(.) raggiungera' sua nuova sede(.) appena codesto Governo ci avra' comunicato suo gradimento(.) Vi prego dire a mio nome al Presidente Ramirez che sono molto lieto che nomina nuovo Ambasciatore coincida con deciso schieramento Argentina a fianco Potenze Alleate(.) cio' che indubbiamente varra' a rafforzare

R. MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

P

Telegramma in PARTENZA

Nº. coll: 48

(seguito telegramma 48)

Oggetto:

-2-

Data:

Tramite:

Diretto a:

Testo: (originale)

Nº.

nei vincoli di amicizia che sono tradizionali fra i nostri due Paesi e che il R. Governo intende, con ogni mezzo a sua disposizione, specialmente curare anche in avvenire. Nomina Conte Vinci - che e' uno dei nostri piu' esperti diplomatici - e' un primo, concreto segno di tale nostro intendimento.

Badoglio



2908

Consegnato a:

il:

SECRET5/190/8.

Office of the British Resident Minister
at Allied Force Headquarters,
5, rue Professeur Cartillet,
Algiers.

9th January, 1944.

My dear Harold,

I enclose for your information the text of the telegram from the Foreign Office to Buenos Aires about Italian representation in the Argentine to which the telegram from Sir D. Kelly, of which I sent you a paraphrase in my letter of January 7th, is the reply.

Yours ever

John Addison

J. S. Addison

H. A. Caccia, Esq.

2907

COPY

SECRET

You will have seen a report from "C"'s representative in Buenos Aires dated November 3rd about the growth of Italian Republican Fascist activities in the Argentine. The author suggested that one way to check this development would be for the Italian Government to instruct the Italian Embassy to give a lead to the Italian colony and to explain to them what is actually happening in Northern Italy. Instructions of this kind have now been sent to the Italian Embassy in Madrid with directions that they should be repeated to other Italian missions in neutral countries. But the report gives us the impression that were this done it is wanted and that the real trouble lies in the ineffectiveness, if not actual wrong-headedness of the Italian mission themselves. This impression is supported by an American report which we have seen stating that "the Italian Charge and his staff lack the prestige necessary to swing the colony over to active support of the United Nations" and that most of the staff are believed to be fascists at heart.

2. The Italian Government appear to have had the same thoughts because we have now heard that they are reviewing the position as regards their representation in the Argentine and are thinking of appointing a certain Count Vinci as Ambassador. Vinci was a former career diplomatist who was released from military service at the beginning of the war and captured by us in Abyssinia. He is now in a prisoner of war camp in Australia. We have no record of him here but the fact that he left the Diplomatic Service when Italy entered the war suggests that he is not a Fascist and the Resident Minister in Algiers reports that he is believed to have sufficient weight and prestige to make a mark in the Argentine. We have not yet been asked to release him but as at present advised would have no objection to doing so for this purpose.

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Fiction
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3. I should be grateful for your views on the above. Is it true that there has been a growth of Republican Fascist activities and could these be checked by the appointment of a better Head of Mission?

2906

Office of the Resident
Minister at A.F.H.Q.,
Algiers.

5/150/8

7th January, 1944.

My dear Harold,

Ref

With reference to Fatima cable
No. 1051 of the 21st November about
Italian representation at Buenos Aires,
you and Sam Reber may be interested to
have the enclosed paraphrase of a telegram
from Sir D. Kelly dated December 31st
giving his views on the question.

Yours ever,

John Adams

H.A. Caccia, Esq.

(Paraphrase of telegram from Sir D. Kelly dated 31st December, 1943.

According to Italian Chargé d'Affaires the Italian Embassy, Italian firms and colony were worse off as a result of the capitulation than they were before and it is not therefore unnatural if republican Fascist activities had increased. The same difficulties would face any other Italian representative and since the present Chargé d'Affaires knows personally his own colony and is harmless to us, it might be safer to give him a fair chance rather than to import someone who might have more personality but who might also make mischief.

He is a polite insignificant looking little man who admits his Embassy was run by his German colleagues. It should however be remembered that on October 19th and December 17th he expressly informed me that the Italian colony was being kept in a ferment by enemy propaganda without which it would become quite calm, and that he could counter it if certain of his requests could be granted. These were (a) that the financial situation of his Embassy should be restored. Before the capitulation it received 100,000 pesos monthly through remittances by Italian residents to Italy which were kept by the Embassy by arrangement with the Italian Government. He had since had to reduce Embassy salaries by 50%. (b) The cessation of remittances was itself the cause of discontent in the colony. (c) The Giornale d'Italia, his own newspaper, was still on the black list, making it more difficult to get funds for it from private sources, while the Mattino d'Italia which had twice been suspended for one day by the Argentine Government, was systematically attacking the Embassy and the King.

U.S. GOVT. CLASS. AUTH.
 Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

(copy)

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

CHANGING

MESSAGE

SR/mip

SVC/RELAY NO.

M/C NO: 15/21

CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL

REF NO: 1059

PREC: PRIORITY

FILED: NOV 21 1730 4

FROM: WATIMA

REC'D: NOV

TO: WREEDCH

REFERENCE YOUR TELEGRAM TWO ONE EIGHT FIVE CIA NOVEMBER ONE SEVEN TO NO FRENCH
FOR HENRY MORGAN PARMAN SIGNED JONCE TO SITUATION IN BURNOS ALDES DISCUSSED AT
 FOREIGN OFFICE TODAY TO ITALIAN AGREE WITH EARLY APPOINTMENT OF ANCHOR CHIEF OF
 MISSION SHOULD BE MADE AND SUGGEST THAT JOHN VINE CIA A FORMER AMBASSADOR WHO
 WAS CAPTURED BY ARABIA WHILE SERVING IN THE ITALIAN ARMY WOULD HAVE THE DESIRED
 AUTHORITY AND PRESTIGE TO BE IN A CAREER DIPLOMAT WHO ASKED FOR MILITARY SERVICE
 AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR TO BE RELEASED BY THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES IS NOT
 PRACTICABLE CIA WOULD BE IN THE U.S. CIA IS SUGGESTED AS AN ALTERNATE TO
 FOR OFFER GENERAL EDITH POTEMPA CIA WHO IS ALSO IN THE U.S. OR LIBERATE CIA AT
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 PORTIERE AGOSTINONE'S AND PORTIERE AGOSTINONE'S POSITION IN THIS WOULD THEY WERE
 CAPTURED MIGHT RAISE DOUBTS REGARDING THEIR SELECTION BUT IT WAS SAID IN REPLY
 THAT THEY HAD ONLY ARRIVED IN THIS JUST BEFORE THEY WERE TAKEN PRISONER TO PARA
 PHRAS CLARIFY THAT SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN BURNOS ALDES ARE DUE TO THE LACK
 OF RAPID COORDINATIONS AND THAT IF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WERE IN A POSITION TO
 RECEIVE PROMPT REPORTS AND ISSUE THE NECESSARY INSTRUCTIONS CIA ITS AUTHORITY AND
 ABILITY TO UTILIZE ITALIAN COLONIES ABROAD IN SUPPORT OF THE ALLIED WAR EFFORT
 COULD BE STRENGTHENED TO THE POINT THAT THE SITUATION OF THE ITALIAN COLONIES

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U.S. GOVT. CLASS. AUTH.
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Equal British CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL COUNTRIES WILL ALSO DEGRADATE ONA PARTICULARLY IN SPAIN AND OTHER PLACES
WHERE THE FASCIST REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT HAS MEANS OF RAPID COMMUNICATION WITH
ITALIAN NATIONALS AND OFFICIALS AND IN THIS CONNECTION IT MAY BE NOTED THAT AN
IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR THE FASCIST GOVERNMENT FROM MADRID DATED NOVEMBER SIX
REACHED BRITISH NOVEMBER TWO ZERO FIVE REFERENCE YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER ONE FIVE
FOUR ZERO FIVE

DISTRIBUTION:

2 - AG
1 - Diary
1 - Mr. Heber

AUTHENTICATED:

ROGER B. DEERY
1st Lt. AG

U. S. CO. 100-100
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2903

OUTGOING

14 February 1944

SECRET

PRIORITY

FARGO FROM POLITICAL SECTION SIGNED MACFARLANE

FREEDOM

Political Section's letter of February 9 to British Resident Minister with copy to Civil Affairs contained Italian Government's request for release of Count Vinci and telegram to Buenos Aires asking Argentine Government to receive him as Ambassador. Reference your 51058 of February 23.

Samuel Reber
Director, Political Section

505-Vinci, Count

2902

ALLIED AIRCRAFT CONTROL COMMISSION

APC 394

AC/AmC

Reference 1350/385

9 February 1944

My dear Roger,

In John Addis' letter 5/150/8 of 7 January he enclosed the text of a telegram from the Foreign Office to Buenos Aires in which it was stated that as at present advised we would have no objection to Count Vinci being released for the purpose of becoming Italian ambassador in the Argentine. I note from the Buenos Aires telegram enclosed in John Addis' letter of 7 January which for some reason reached me after the letter of 9 January that Mr. Kelly was slightly in favour of there being no change in Italian representation. But the Italians are nevertheless anxious to go forward with Vinci's appointment, which they proposed following the State Department's express desire for a change. On the assumption that we would not necessarily wish to insist on the retention of a 'harmless charge' d'affaires at Buenos Aires, they have drafted a telegram which they would like to forward to the Italian Embassy as their telegram No. 4. Would you therefore explain matters to the Foreign Office and at the same time give a copy of the telegram to Fred Reinhardt with a request from Jan that he should telegraph it to Washington informing them that it is in response to their representations.

On the assumption that London and Washington are agreeable, the Italian Government have informed us in writing that they would "be very grateful if the Allied Authorities would give the necessary instructions in order that Count Vinci may leave for his post as soon as possible. Should the present communication facilities permit it, it would be convenient that on his way from Australia Count Vinci should have the opportunity of stopping in Italy, from where, after receiving his instructions he would immediately proceed for Buenos Aires. If, on the other hand, communication facilities do not consent it, he may forthwith proceed directly for his new post."

Political Section

Roger Makins, Esq., C.B.E.

Encl: Left of to #4 to D.A.

2801

Italian Embassy Buenos Ayres

N.7 february 6 stop Your telegram n. 9.

Subsequent to rupture diplomatic relations with Germany and Japan I deem it improbable that argentine governement should recognise any sort of representative of selfstiled fascist republican governement. However please represent on my behalf to Foreign Minister that a possible action in above direction would not only represent an unfriendly gesture in our regard but also undoubtedly create new divisions and contrasts in the italian community which it is instead our common interest to pacify and calm. On the other hand departure of german Embassy will deny dissidents all usefull encouragement and backing. At moment in which Royal Governement are sending there new ambassador in the person of Count Vinci, we are confident that he may find on the part of argentine governement cordial cooperation and backing such as shall place italo argentine friendship in the reconstructive post war period on an always firmer footing

BADOGGIO

250/385
503-Vinci
Pavia

2900

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OUTGOING

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SR/mip

18/21

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NOV 21 1730H

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PRIORITY

FATIMA

FREEDOM

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Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

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AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
Major X.G.D.
Secretary of Commission

Roger B. Dwyer
1st AG

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Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

2858

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION
APO 512

20 October 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: R.M. Makins, Esq., British Minister's Office, Algiers.

As Bob Dixon is going back by plane tomorrow I enclose a copy of a memorandum from the "Ministry of Foreign Affairs", asking for the release and repatriation of certain Italian Foreign Office personnel who are held as prisoners of war. A copy is also inclosed for Sam Heber. Would you very kindly concert^{with} action in Algiers and let ^{us} know the result in due course.

As Bob will explain, the Italian Foreign Office has proved the most enterprising of the Italian Government Departments, judged by the number of officials who have made their way down to Brindisi from Rome. Although they can hardly claim to be a "Ministry" yet, they are beginning to take an interest in various questions, of which loyalty has no doubt inspired them to take up the cudgels on behalf of their colleagues straight away. As the latter can hardly be doing any good to our war effort as agricultural workers or some such, perhaps this appeal will not be turned down out of hand.

So much for the negative side. As for the more positive, in present form the Italian Government will need all the trained officials they can lay hands on to help them get a government machine started, and consequently there is something to be said from the point of view of the Allied war effort for letting them back.

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3536-12047

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Mr. Caccia

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Civ Affairs

Alfieri

23/10

MEMORANDUM

The Ministero Affari Esteri presents its compliments to the Allied Military Mission and has the honor to call attention to what follows:

During the course of the present war a group of officials of the Italian Foreign Office have been captured by the Allied Military forces as prisoners of war. Of said group Ambassador Vinci and Secretary of Legation Cippico, both members of the Italian armed forces, were captured in North Africa during the course of military operations and are at present in prisoner camps (H.E. Vinci in India and Cippico in Australia).

Minister Bombieri, Consul Generals Fontana and Arrivabene, Vice Consuls Manfredi and Tortorici and a certain number of minor officials of whom it is impossible to state the names at present, were captured in Algeria and Tunisia as members of the Italian Armistice Commission with France or of the Government in Tunis. They are at present interned (with the exception of Vice Consul Tortorici who ought to be still in Algeria at El Colea, Hotel Transports Tropicaux) at Stanton, Va. U.S.A., Hotel Ingle-side.

In view ./.

To the Allied Military Mission
B.

In view of the situation arising from Italy's declaration of war against Germany and of the fact that the Swiss Government has already been approached in order to request the German Government to arrange for repatriation (and when not possible for the turning over to the nearest neutral country) of all Italian diplomatic and consular officials in Germany and in German occupied and controlled territories, the Royal Italian Government would be grateful if the Allied Military Mission would be so kind as to call the attention of the Allied Governments on the earnest desire of the Italian Government to see the above named officials repatriated as soon as it will be possible.

The Ministero Affari Esteri thanks in advance the Allied Military Mission for its kind attention in the matter.



R. 15 October, 1943

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