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Prisoners of W

Dec. 1943 - MAR. 1945

10000 | 132 | 81

243

Prisoners of War

Dec. 1943 - MAR. 1945

C O P Y

Ref: IPH/36/9

5 March 1945

SUBJECT: Change in status of Italian Prisoners of War
(Co-operators) in Italy.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512.

1. With reference to para. 2(h) of FAN 487 (the new directive from Combined Chiefs of Staff on the Allied Commission) and your letter dated 23rd. November 1944 signed by General Gammell, Chief of Staff.

2. The following embodies the combined proposals of the Commission and the Italian Government as to how the change in status of Italian Prisoners of War in Italy can be carried out.

- (a) All Co-operator Prisoners of War in Italy to be released at a certain date to the Italian Government, who will automatically retain these men in units similar in formation and strength, but in accordance with the existing Italian law, including Italian military law.
- (b) Subsequently the Italian Government will demobilize those over age, and where necessary postpone the demobilization of certain specialists until replacements can be found. The Italian Government will also take steps to induce certain types of trained specialist personnel (due for demobilization) to serve for a further period by offering a cash bonus. 3103
- (c) Replacements for those discharged to be found from Italian Army replacement depots in the normal manner, and/or from Italian Prisoners of War (who have many specialists amongst their numbers) to be repatriated as soldiers from North Africa (especially those in French hands), Egypt, Kenya, India, and South Africa (It is stated by the Italian Government that no labour units have been formed in South Africa although many Prisoners of War have volunteered to co-operate.)

- (d) Allied Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers with Co-operator units to be replaced by Italian officers and Non-Commissioned Officers, and where essential a cadre of Allied Officers to remain.
- (e) The present rate of pay now received by Co-operators will cease, and as from the date of change of status they will go on to appropriate Italian Army scales of pay and emoluments.
- (f) Co-operators on release to receive in cash all credit balances due; and to retain the privilege and benefit of purchasing PX/NAAFI stores for a limited period until canteen facilities can be provided by the Italian Army. However, as a number of Army re-inforcement personnel will (vide 2(c) above) be drafted to replace wastage, there may well be difficulties in having in the same unit some men with access to PX/NAAFI stores and others without. For this reason, it may be considered preferable to pay out instead a final cash bonus to all Co-operators, apart from the bonus suggested in 2(b) above.
- (g) The ceiling of the Italian Army to be increased by the number of Co-operators now in and destined for Italy.

3. Although these proposals may give rise to certain difficulties from the Allied military point of view, they represent in my opinion, the best method of carrying out the terms of FAN 487 and should be accepted.

(SGD) ELLERY W. STONE. 3106

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Copy to: Political Section

Copy sent to US & Brit Embs.

7 Mar 45

[Signature]

Foreign Interests.

MEMORANDUM

to the Political Section of the Allied Commission - Rome

The Swiss Legation, Foreign Interests Division, presents its compliments to the Political Section of the Allied Commission and has the honour to return enclosed herewith the copies of reports which were attached to the Political Section's note dated February the 10th, 1945, regarding the treatment of certain prisoners of war.

Rome, February 16th, 1945.

Enclosures: 3

3105

*in case of
any change should
be filed
17 Feb 45*

C O P Y

SUBJECT :- Treatment of Ps.O.M.

Medical Division,
93rd (Br) General Hospital,
C.M.F.

Ref. No. Med/Gen/2/45.
21 Jan '45.

To : Officer Commanding,
93rd (Br) General Hospital.

Gefr. KAMBECK. E. German Army.

15.8.44

Disease : Typhoid Fever.

This P.O.M. was admitted to this hospital on 4.8.44 on the eighth day of disease. Onset at the P.O.M. Camp, where he had been since 21st July '44, with fever, headaches, malaise and for three days diarrhoea. EO 5/24. Slight cough.

P.H. - Nil. Inoculation state - last injection Feb 1944. Previous injection Dec 1943. (Statement unconfirmed by documents.)

On arrival, Temp. 102.4 P. 114 R. 22. Tongue dry and furred. Spleen palpable. Small macules over the front of the chest. Liniae over lower abdomen. (used to be stout.) Nil definite in chest or CVS. Stools loose. Provisional diagnosis of Typhoid Fever made - confirmed later by blood culture. W.B.Cs. 4,950 (P.76 L.20 M.3. E 13). His condition deteriorated and on 7.8.44 he was placed on the S.I.L. 9.8.44 general mental confusion - incontinent of faeces and urine - placed on D.I.L.

12.8.44 rales appeared at both bases and from then on he slipped more deeply into coma and became progressively more 'Bubbly'; pulse more rapid and dicrotic.

14.8.44 a petechial rash appeared on the right buttock and hip; muscle twitchings commenced.

Death occurred at 18.55 hours 14.8.44, apparently from terminal respiratory causes.

('Hypostatic pneumonia') on the 18th day of disease.

This man was a typical typhoid fever from the start and never improved, his condition steadily deteriorating from the start.

3104

/s/ F.D. HART Major, R.A.M.C.
(F.D. HART.) Medical Specialist.
93rd (Br) General Hospital.

4.8.44

Gren. HEIL. Bruno. German Army.

Disease : Typhoid Fever.

This P.O.M., who was probably younger than the

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/s/ P.D. HART Major, R.A.M.C.
(F.D. HART.) Medical Specialist.
93rd (Br) General Hospital.

4.8.44

Cren. HELL. Bruno. German Army.

Disease : Typhoid Fever.

This P.O.W., who was probably younger than his stated age, became ill on 31st July '44 - Headache, shivering, looseness of bowels and fever. On admission on 4th day of illness, he was acutely ill, with high fever. No spleen, no spots, no very definite p.s. Stools relaxed. Report - no blood - no mucus. Exudate indefinite. Urine - N.A.D.

His condition rapidly deteriorated and after this first day he was never mentally normal, passing from restlessness to coma. No splenic enlargements were detected at the time. On the 7th day of disease a few red papules appeared over both wrists and dorsum of hands and the day before he died (23.00 hrs. 9.8.44)

Carried Over to Sheet 2.

a papule-pustular localised rash developed over both scapulae. The diagnosis lay between Typhus and Typhoid Fever. Blood culture was positive for B. Typhosus. His inoculation state is unknown. Questioning was impossible after the first 24 hours. He was admitted from P.O.W. Camp 207, where presumably he contacted the infection.

The interest of the case, clinically and at P.M. lay in the early death from extreme toxæmia on the 10th day of disease.

.....Major, RANC
(F.D. HART.) Medical Specialist.
C3rd (Br) General Hospital.

Comments made by Officer i/c Medical Division

The cases were supervised by our Medical Specialist and I saw the cases myself. I know they were visited every day by the Medical Officer and at least most days by the consulting physician. No complaints were made to me.

I quote from a comment by Major Hart :-

' There was no outbreak of Typhus at this Hospital and both patients received the same treatment as any other patient in this hospital for a TYPHOID fever. Extensive use of stimulant injections, a routine therapy in most continental countries, is never employed here, as it has long since been given up in British Hospitals. It is thought this may have given to other patients in the ward the appearance of neglect'.

This is true. I am familiar with the continental treatment of Enteric Fever which differs from ours in that we do not use Camphor, Adrenalin and other injections. I am satisfied by a wide experience of Typhoid Fever that no advantage ensues from these measures.

The patients were carefully nursed by German Orderlies under the direction of a Major Medical Specialist, a G.D.O. of wide experience and N.O. Class One.

The treatment was dietetic, nursing, stimulants and Oxygen in final stage, and exactly the same treatment which the English school advocates, as we use on our own nationals.

3103

...../s/ Gerald Slot.....Lt-Col. RANC
(Gerald Slot.) O i/c Medical Division.,
C3rd (Br) General Hospital.

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3103

...../s/..Gerald.Slot.....Lt-Col. RAMC
(Gerald SLOT.) O i/c Medical Division.,
23rd (Br) General Hospital.

Carried over to Sheet 3.

The case of Gren. HELL, B. was a difficult one diagnostically but was a case of Typhoid proved bacteriologically and by his P.M. findings. He was an extremely toxic case of Typhoid Fever and nothing further could be done. In view of the clinical interest in the case he was visited very frequently by consultants and Medical Officers. He was specially nursed. I am satisfied all possible was done for him - both medically and otherwise.

The confusion between Typhoid and Typhus may arise from the fact that German for Typhoid Fever is "Typhus" and when German patients speak of Typhus they mean "Typhoid".

..../s/.Gerald.Slot....Lt-Col. RANMC
(Gerald SLOT.) O i/c Medical Division.
93rd (Br) General Hospital.

POST MORTEM REPORT ON - Gren. Bruno Hell, German Army

Clinical
Summary.

31.7.44
4.8.44

Onset with headache, shivering, looseness of bowels and fever. Admitted to 93rd (Br) General Hospital. Acutely ill, high fever. No splenomegaly, no eruption. Stools loose showed indefinite exudate.

Becoming mentally clouded.

5.8.44
7.8.44

Few bright red macules on both hands. Incontinent. W.B.Cs 3.700/mm. Pely 65% Lymphs. 30% Mono. 4% Eo 1% Blood culture grew B. Typhosum. Agglutination B. Typhosum (O) - 1/20,480. Proteus OX 19-1/320 OX 2-1/640. (inoculation history not available.)

9.8.44

Steady deterioration. Macular-pustular rash over back. Died at 23.00 hours (10th day of disease.)

General
Appearances

Rigor present - Eyes sunken - Rash present over back along the posterior portions of the lower ribs. The eruption consists of papules and pustules with a surrounding zone of hyperaemia. In some places the pustules have ruptured, leaving small craters with injected margins. A few scattered macules over backs of thighs.

Alimentary
System.

Some submucosal haemorrhage in stomach. In the small gut four small recent intussusceptions. The Peyers Patches and solitary follicles are enlarged and congested. The congestion grows more intense on approaching the ilco-caecal valve where there is commencing ulceration in Peyer's Patches. Altered blood is present in the lower ileum. The descending colon is congested. There are a number of old fibrous adhesions between the right lobe of the liver and diaphragm.

Haemopoietic
System

Abdominal mesenteric lymph glands are markedly enlarged, soft and hyperaemic. Left bronchial lymph glands contain caseous areas. Spleen enlarged and soft - cut surface pink and diffuent.

Respiratory
System

Some mucus in main air passages. Marked superficial emphysema of upper lobe of left lung and free edges of left lower lobe. A few punctate subpleural haemorrhage at left apex.

Cardiovascular
System

Several subpericardial haemorrhages along inferior margin of the right ventricle. No other abnormalities found.

Genito-Urinary
System.

Both Kidneys congested. No other changes.

Summary.

This is a case of Typhoid Fever proved by blood culture. The unusual features are the rapid progress of the disease with mental changes in the first week and the preteus agglutinations. (In the latter connection no inoculation history is available.)

Cause of Death. TOXAEMIA due to TYPHOID FEVER.

5101

General

Rigor present - Eyes sunken - Rash present over back along the posterior portions of the lower ribs. The eruption consists of papules and pustules with a surrounding zone of hyperaemia. In some places the pustules have ruptured, leaving small craters with injected margins. A few scattered macules over backs of thighs.

Alimentary System.

Some submucosal haemorrhage in stomach. In the small gut four small recent intussusceptions. The Peyers Patches and solitary follicles are enlarged and congested. The congestion grows more intense on approaching the ilco-caecal valve where there is commencing ulceration in Peyer's Patches. Altered blood is present in the lower ileum. The descending colon is congested. There are a number of old fibrous adhesions between the right lobe of the liver and diaphragm.

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Cardiovascular System Several subpericardial haemorrhages along inferior margin of the right ventricle. No other abnormalities found.

Genito-Urinary System Both Kidneys congested. No other changes.

Summary.

This is a case of Typhoid Fever proved by blood culture. The unusual features are the rapid progress of the disease with mental changes in the first week and the preteus agglutinations. (In the latter connection no inoculation history is available.)

5101

Cause of Death. TOXAEMIA due to TYPHOID FEVER.

/s/ Charles Pike
(SIGNED) Charles Pike, Captain, RAMC
Pathologist. 93rd (Br) General Hospital.

Further comments by O i/o Medical Division.

On grounds of
inadequate
treatment.

Medical treatment is dietetic, pharmacological specific and nursing.

- (1) These patients had excellent nursing with special attention. One was unconscious for most of his stay here.
- (2) There is no specific therapy for Typhoid Fever - e.g. Serum or Drug.
- (3) The English School, of which I am a firm adherent, disapproves of hypodermics stimulants - such other drugs as were needed - sedatives - were used.
- (4) Special diet and extras were obtained for both cases.
- (5) They were under continuous and interested nursing and medical supervision of experienced Officers and Nursing Staff.
- (6) No complaint was ever made to me and in retrospect I cannot see anything further I could have wished done.

...../s/.Gerald.Slot.Lt-Col. RANC
(Gerald SLOT.) O i/o Medical Division
93rd (Br) General Hospital.

(COUNTERSIGNED) /s/ J.H. Ward Colonel.
/t/ (J.H. WARD.) General Hospital.
Commanding, 93rd (Br)

Ref: P/243

10 February 1945

The Political Section of the Allied Commission presents its compliments to the Swiss Legation, Foreign Interests Section, and has to refer to the latter's Note Verbale No. 60/3 - MC/AY dated January 4, 1945 regarding the treatment of certain prisoners of war.

This matter has been thoroughly investigated and the allegation of inadequate treatment was found entirely unfounded. It is suggested that the complaint made probably arose from the fact that the treatment of typhoid fever practiced in British Hospitals differs from that practiced in Continental Hospitals.

There are attached copies of reports in the cases particularized, from GC 93 General Hospital, for perusal of the Legation. It would be appreciated were the enclosure eventually to be returned to the Political Section.

Legation of Switzerland
Foreign Interests Section
Via Veneto, 121
Rome, Italy

2099

Pol. Sec 9564
WSALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

KPM/WSW

G-5: 383.6-27

3 February 1945

SUBJECT: Treatment of German Prisoners of War.

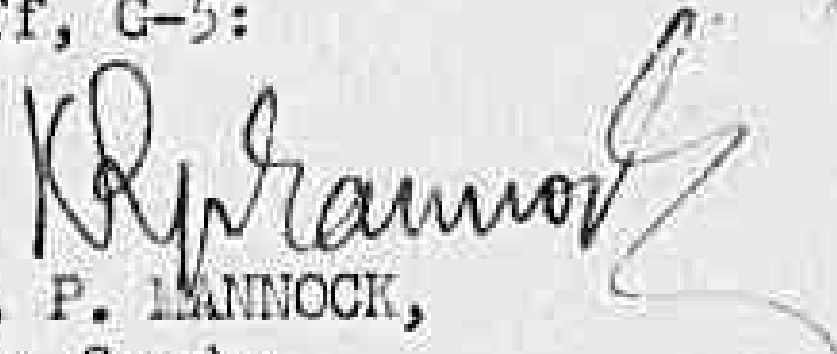
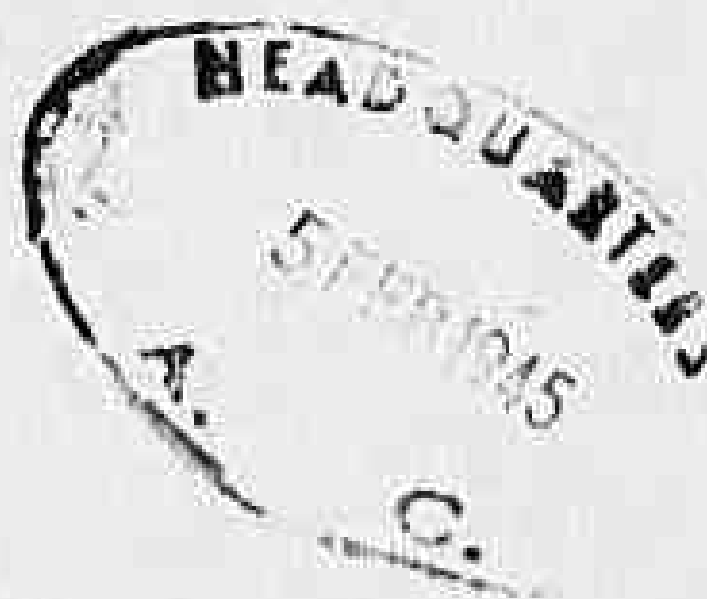
TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your letter P/243 dated 6 January 1945.

2. The complaint has been thoroughly investigated and the allegation of inadequate treatment is entirely unfounded. It is suggested that this complaint arose from the fact that the treatment of typhoid fever practised in British Hospitals differs from that practised in continental hospitals.

3. The attached copies of reports from OC 93 General Hospital are inclosed for your perusal.

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


K. P. MANNOCK,
Jr. Comdr.Incl:
as above

3098

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

KPM/wew

G-5: 383.6-27

3 February 1945

SUBJECT: Treatment of German Prisoners of War.

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3. The attached copies of reports from OG 93 General Hospital are inclosed for your perusal.

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

K. P. Lannock
K. P. LANNOCK,
Jr. Comdr.

Incl:
as above

2057

File

Ref: F/243

6 January 1945

SUBJECT: Treatment of German Prisoners of War.

TO : G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters.

There has been received from the Swiss Legation, Foreign Interests Section, Note Verbale No. 60/2 - 40/ky dated 3 January 1945 advising Political Section of the receipt of a communication dated 15 Nov 44. From the Federal Political Department, Division of Foreign Interests, at Bern, which states that the German Government has learned that German Prisoners of War in Transit Camp No. 209 are sleeping under canvas. Considering the present cold weather, the German Government desires that the tents be replaced by barracks or other more solid habitation.

For the Chief Commissioner:

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

Copy to MR OFFICE

2056

Intérêts Etrangers.
60/2 - MC/ky

NOTE VERBALE

La Légation de Suisse, chargée de la représentation des intérêts étrangers en Italie, a l'honneur d'informer la Section Politique de la Commission Alliée que, suivant une communication datée du 15 novembre 1944 reçue du Département Politique Fédéral, Division des Intérêts Etrangers à Berne, le Gouvernement allemand a appris que les prisonniers de guerre allemands du camp de transit No. 209, dormaient sous des tentes.

Etant donné le froid qui règne actuellement, le Gouvernement du Reich désirerait que les tentes soient remplacées par des baraques ou d'autres habitations plus solides.

Rome, le 3 janvier 1945.

A LA
SECTION POLITIQUE
DE LA COMMISSION ALLIEE
R O M E

1095

file

Ref: P/243

6 January 1945

SUBJECT: Treatment of German Prisoners of War
TO : G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters

1. There has been received from the Swiss Legation, Foreign Interests Section, Note Verbale No. 60/3 - 10/ky dated 4 January 45 advising Political Section of the receipt of a communication dated 8 Nov 44 from the Federal Political Department, Division of Foreign Interests, at Bern, which states ^{that} the German Government has learned of the existence of exanthematique typhus amongst German Prisoners of War in a British Hospital at Parletts. It appears, the Note Verbale goes on to say, that certain of the afflicted suffered an aggravation of their condition of health because the care given them by the hospital physician, a Lt. Colonel, had not been sufficient. As a result, Grenadier Hall of the 278th Division and L'appointé Heinz Krambeck of the 6th(993 Division) died as a result of this illness.
2. The German Government desires that adequate measures be taken in the future and that a German Sanitary Officer be attached to the Allied Force physician attending these ill persons.

For the Chief Commissioner:

3034

WILLIAM A. SCHULTZ
Vice President, Political Section

cc: to MR. OFFICE

Intérêts Etrangers

60/3 - MC/ky

N O T E V E R B A L E

La Légation de Suisse, chargée de la représentation des intérêts étrangers en Italie, a l'honneur d'informer la Section Politique de la Commission Alliée que, suivant une communication datée du 8 novembre 1944 reçue du Département Politique Fédéral, Division des Intérêts Etrangers à Berne, le Gouvernement allemand a appris qu'il y aurait eu au courant de l'été 1944, des cas de typhus exanthématique parmi les prisonniers de guerre allemands se trouvant dans un hôpital britannique à Barletta. Il semblerait que certains malades auraient vu leur état de santé s'aggraver, les soins qui leur étaient donnés par le médecin de l'hôpital, un lieutenant-colonel, n'ayant pas été suffisants.

Le grenadier HELL de la 278. Division et l'appointé Heinz KRAMBECK de la 6/993, seraient décédés des suites de cette maladie.

Le Gouvernement du Reich désirerait que des mesures adéquates soient prises à l'avenir et qu'un officier sanitaire allemand soit adjoint au médecin des Forces alliées soignant les malades.

Rome, le 4 janvier 1945.

*A la Section Politique
de la Commission Alliée
R o m e*

3093
[Signature]

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED C-MISSION
AFC 394
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUB-COMMISSION

2 January 1945

MEMORANDUM REGARDING STATUS OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR.

1. The present status of Italian co-operators working in Italy remains that of Prisoner of War.
2. Since the early days of the Badoglio Government representation has continually been made to the Allied Commission by the Italian Government to remove from Prisoner of War status all Italian soldiers held as such by the Allies.
3. These requests have been forwarded to higher authority by this Headquarters and a ruling asked for. In June the question became more involved as it was then suggested that a number of Italian Prisoners of War co-operators from North Africa should be brought to Italy to work with the British Forces. The Commission advised against this action but to-day in Italy there are 15,000 Italian co-operators employed with British Forces and 3,000 with American Forces. On the arrival of these prisoners in Italy the Italian Government again made representation that these Italians should not be given the stigma of Prisoner of War in their own country.
4. Considerable correspondence passed between Allied Force Headquarters and this Headquarters not only regarding Italian co-operators in Italy but also regarding 30,000 which were transferred from North Africa to France.
5. The question of the status of Italian Prisoners of War in Italy obviously involved their status in other countries and in the middle of November the Chief Commissioner wrote to Allied Force Headquarters forwarding a translation of a letter from Prime Minister Bonomi suggesting that a meeting be called to consider the matter with Anglo-American and Italian Representatives only.
6. The question was considered at the meetings of the Political Committee, Allied Force Headquarters and in a letter dated 23 November from the Chief of Staff, Allied Force Headquarters, the Commission was requested to ask the Italian Government to present their suggestions as to how the status of prisoners of War could be removed from prisoners held in this theatre.
7. The question was put to the Italian Government.

24/5

3032

tion has continually been made to any Allied Commission of War status all Italian Government to remove from Prisoner of War status all Italian soldiers held as such by the Allies.

3. These requests have been forwarded to higher authority by this Headquarters and a ruling asked for. In June 1946 a decision became more involved as it was then suggested that a number of Italian Prisoner of War co-operators from North Africa should be brought to Italy to work with the British Forces. The Commission advised against this action but to-day in Italy there are 15,000 Italian co-operators employed with British Forces and 3,600 with American Forces. On the arrival of their prisoners in Italy the Italian Government again made representation that these Italians should not be given the stigma of Prisoner of War in their own country.

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7. The question was put to the Italian Government, and a conference was held with the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War and representatives of the Italian War Ministry and the Italian Government's suggestions are awaited.

8. The position as understood by this Sub-Commission is:

a) The Italian Government want the status of Prisoner of War removed from all Italians held by the Allies as Prisoners of War but more especially those in Italy. A scheme by the Italian Government as to how this can be achieved without upsetting the war effort is in course of preparation. The Italian press continually refer to the question and blame the Italian Government.

b) The American Government is not unsympathetic to the Italian wishes and would appear to be prepared to consider the matter.

c) The British Government do not see how the status of Prisoner of War can be removed without upsetting a machine which is at present working satisfactorily and are against any change of status.

3. Italian Prisoners of War in British hands, with the exception of those in India, are nearly all working for the war effort.

J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
MWD & IFOW Sub-Com.

3091

J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut.-Colonel
Director
WMP & IFOW Sub-Com.

*Radio Messages to Families
of Italian POWs*

Ho accolto con gran piacere l'invito della Croce Rossa Italiana di dire due parole questa sera sicuro di portare con esse un pò di conforto a tante famiglie che ansiosamente da tanti anni attendano le notizie dei loro cari ed anelano di conoscere i particolari della loro vita nei campi di prigionia dell'India.

Provengo dal campo 26, uno dei quattro campi ufficiali italiani prigionieri che sono situati nell'alto Punjab, ai piedi della catena dell'Himalaya. Il paesaggio intorno è bello e ridente con le rocce quasi sempre coperte di neve che degradano per costoni e valli coperte di boschi sui campi. I Campi sono sul terreno sassoso e quindi non umido, divisi in "ale" ognuna capace di 480 ufficiali e di 120 soldati adibiti al servizio del campo. Gli ufficiali vi sono alloggiati in baracche di legno coperte e rivestite di eternit. In ogni baracca vivono 50 ufficiali divisi in 5 camere per 6. Ogni ufficiale ha il suo lettino con materasso, lenzuola e coperte, un cassetto scrivania, una poltrona, un tavolinetto ed un attaccapanni. Sul fronte delle baracche corre una veranda e sotto di essa i prigionieri hanno costruito, a seconda dei gusti, aiuole, orticelli in cui i garofani giapponesi, le rose e le zinnie e le margherite si sposano con il radicchio romano e con i pomodori.

I soldati vivono in baracche per 40 uomini ciascuna ed ognuno ha il suo lettino, il suo materasso e le sue coperte.

Oltre a questi locali di abitazione il campo dispone di una sala di mensa ufficiali e di una per la truppa, di un circolo, di uno spaccio, di una cucina. Nel circolo di prigionieri hanno costruito dei bar, delle biblioteche, dei teatri, delle sale da giuoco. In essi tutta la genialità del prigioniero si è sbizzarrita ed alcuni bar ed alcuni teatri sono dei veri gioielli di buon gusto e di originalità.

Nei teatri si danno rappresentazioni di tutti i tipi, dall'operetta alla rivista, dalla commedia al dramma. Vi dò alcune notizie delle ultime rappresentazioni del campo 26, "Profumo di fiori secchi" di rivista in dieci quadri ideata e scritta dai prigionieri del campo che hanno anche provveduto per la fattura dei costumi e delle parrucche. Poi la Piccola Città di Thornton Wilder, Due Dozzine di rose scarlatte di De Benedetti, più commedie dialettali e altro. Queste rappresentazioni hanno avuto successi calorosi vivissimi da parte degli ufficiali e soldati prigionieri. E le donne mi chiederete, ma il prigioniero oltre a riparare orologi, a fare macchine da caffè, portafogli di cuoio ed altro, fa anche la prima donna, la scoubrette, la girl 30 30

- 2 -

alcuni casi con vero successo artistico ed estetico.

Esistono anche orchestre e orchestre da jazz, alla orchestra sinfonica di 50 elementi. Si danno concerti di pianoforte di Bonicelli e di violino di Spironello.

Ogni campo ha poi una sua organizzazione sportiva con campi di tennis, di palla a volo, di palla canestro, di football con relativi campionati e relativo tifo.

Il clima della regione è buono e salubre, pochi malati e in genere non gravi. D'inverno le camerette sono provviste di stufa.

L'alimentazione è sufficiente e sana, lo spaccio fornisce quanto può essere necessario di vestiario. In complesso, anche se recentemente vi sono state limitazioni finanziarie per frenare i consumi, vita sana e gente sana. E la libertà? Da circa un anno si può uscire dai campi dalle 9,30 alle 18,30 e fare lunghe passeggiate in zone a ciò assegnate. Gli amanti della montagna possono ottenere autorizzazioni speciali per passare dieci giorni in montagna.

Due altre parole sul campo 26, il mio. Dal marzo 1943 per opera del Colonnello di S.M. Carlo ROSTAGNO che svolse tutte le pratiche col Comando Inglese dei campi, il campo 26 si costituì in campo Universitario. Vi si istituirono corsi a tipo universitario per le facoltà di legge, Economia e Commercio, Scienze Politiche, Lettere e Filosofia, Ingegneria e Agraria. Gli insegnanti furono scelti tra professori o aggiunti universitari o laureati di provato valore. Grande l'affluenza degli studenti. Immane l'opera svolta per i libri, avuti in parte dalla C.R.I., e in parte acquistati in India; immane pure l'opera per la compilazione delle dispense; migliaia di clichés battuti, centinaia di migliaia di fogli stampati e venduti. Due cicli completi sono stati già svolti e quando partiti dal campo il terzo ciclo era già iniziato da due mesi.

Oltre a questi corsi universitari, nei campi si tengono corsi di lingua e tra essi un corso di inglese basico organizzato dal comando inglese dei campi e frequentatissimo. Come vedete un tutto sano operoso e attivo.

Ed in tutto questo lavoro dei campi giornalmente giungono con i giornali e 4 volte al giorno con gli altoparlanti le notizie diffuse da Radio Londra e Radio Delhi in Inglese ed in Italiano.

La radio Vaticana trasmette ogni sera al crepuscolo ed i prigionieri si stringono intorno agli altoparlanti nella gioia intima di ricevere i messaggi personali dalle lontane famiglie.

603

H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION
C.M.F.
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND ITALIAN PW SUB COMMISSION
INTER OFFICE MEMO

IPW/1/312

12 December 1944

To: Political Section.
(Attention Mr. Hopkinson).

Subject: Communications in relation to Italian PW.

- 1/. With reference to your letter dated 28 November 1944.
- 2/. Herewith enclosed a copy of the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War's reply, for your information.

W. A. Campbell
J.A. CAMPBELL
Lt.-Colonel
Director WMD & IPW Sub. Comm.

Encl. Ltr. No. 2130/Pol/C-1
dated 6 Dec. 44.

*Completed with
14.12.44, S.E.M.*

*Copy of enclosed letter
for Gen. Jagger to go
to Br. Embassy*

*15 Dec 44
20.8*

(304)

/de

Rome, December 6th 1944.

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR PW.

File N. 2130/Pol/C-1

Subject: Communications about IPW

To: Allied Commission IPW Sub Commission R.O.M.E.

Reference your letter IPW/1/283, dated November 29th 1944.

- 1- The "Prisoners of War Information Office" is the Italian Red Cross in Via Puglia 6 Rome. The above mentioned Office has frequently received, and still receives, from the "PW Information Bureau" of London, communications about the IPW. This is in addition to the communications ordered by the Geneva Convention, according to which they have to be sent through the Protective Power or the Geneva International Red Cross Committee (Art. 77).

The above mentioned office has never sent the telegram referred to in para 1 of your letter. It might be a communication sent by a Non Italian liaison bureau.

- 2- After consulting with the Foreign Office, I inform you that:

- a) It is absolutely necessary that the communications that have been given up to now to the International Red Cross Committee should be given as long as there are documents the Italian⁶² in view of the many documents the Italian Government have had lost during the War. It is therefore, absolutely necessary that the International Red Cross Committee should, at least, have them all in order so that it could be possible to refer to them when needed. It would therefore, be wise to carry on in the same way as before.
- b) It would also be necessary that the communications about the PW should be sent through the Protecting Power until our Embassy in London is able to do the necessary work.
- c) We would be grateful if the British "PW Information Bureau" would continue sending to the Italian Red Cross Information office as well all the communications as in the past, being beneficial to us.

HIGH COMMISSIONER 3037
Gen. Pietro Gaspari

/s/

Ref 243

28 November 1944

MEMO TO: Prisoners of War Sub-Commission

SUBJECT: Italian Prisoners of War.

1. The British Embassy have been informed by the Foreign Office that on 25 August the Prisoners of War Information Bureau received a telegram (it is not stated from whom) requesting that notification regarding Italian Prisoners of War should be sent direct to the Italian Bureau, *Notizie Informazioni Prigionieri*.

2. Such notification had hitherto been sent through protecting power to International Red Cross Committee in accordance with the Prisoners of War Convention. If notifications are to be sent to the *Notizie Informazioni Prigionieri* Bureau, Prisoners of War Information Bureau would wish to discontinue notification through the other channel. The *Notizie Informazioni Prigionieri* Bureau have, however, failed to acknowledge receipt of communications from the Prisoners of War Information Bureau.

3. It is requested that the Prisoners of War Sub-Commission should ascertain from the Italian authorities whether:

a. The bureau of *Notizie Informazioni Prigionieri* have since received notification sent;

b. Italian Government have agreed to notifications being made direct;

c. Do they agree to discontinuance of notifications through other channels.

H. L. M.A. HOPKINSON
Acting Vice President, Political Section

3086

Prepared by

Reference No. IIRW/1/287

30 November 1944

My dear Mr. Prime Minister:

With reference to your letter No. 2708 dated 8th October 1944.

The Supreme Allied Commander was gratified to learn of the report made by General Lapine of his visit to Prisoners of War Units in Italy and of his satisfaction with the conditions which he found.

The objections raised to the maintenance of Italian Prisoners of War in Italy in British and American custody at this time are fully appreciated.

In order to make any change in their status as Prisoners of War it has been necessary to refer the matter to the Allied Governments.

Meantime, I shall be glad to have any suggestions which you may wish to advance as to the manner in which the prisoners presently held in this theatre, and which it may be necessary to return to Italy, can be made available to service units under British and American control and under substantially similar conditions of service.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd) E. L. W. Stone

ELDERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government
Rome

cc: Chief of Staff (2) ✓
Political Section

5003

243

[illegible]

COPY
HQ QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER
APO 394

In reply refer to:
IPW/1/250

14 November 1944

Subject: Italian Prisoners of War.

To : Allied Force Headquarters, Chief of Staff, APO 512.

1. The attached translation of letter dated 7 November 1944, subject "Liberation of the Italian Prisoners of War transferred to France" received from the President of the Council of Ministers together with Memorandum addressed to the Political Section from the Italian Foreign Ministry and a copy of my letter to Mr. Bonomi is forwarded.

2. I would refer to my previous correspondence concerning the status of Italian Prisoners of War - references -

A/CC 383.6 dated 26 June 1944
A/CC 014.33 dated 6 July 1944.
ACC 383.6 dated 18 July 1944
Letter dated 28 July 1944
IPW/1/234 dated 27 October 1944

3. It is for consideration now that closer diplomatic relations have been established between the Allied Nations and Italy that the question of Italian Prisoners of War should be made the subject of a conference and I am of opinion that at this moment the Italian Government would be most receptive to any conditions laid down with regards to the working, discipline, and command of the Prisoner of War units now called co-operators provided the stigma of Prisoner of War was removed.

4. The Italian Prisoner of War Sub-Commission are approached on every possible occasion by the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War on behalf of his Government to do their utmost to arrange a meeting at which the whole question of Italian Prisoners of War can be discussed and where decisions in principal can be agreed.

5. There is no doubt that the question of the status of Italian Prisoners of War is a most controversial one and it is difficult to make Italians understand the necessity to continue to hold certain Italians as Prisoners of War in the lines of communications in Italy and France while their fellow countrymen are fighting alongside the Allies in the line in Italy.

6. The President of the Council is definite in his opinion that the Prisoner of War question is one of the most important matters before his Cabinet.

7. While I am in agreement with the suggestion contained in para 3 of the President of the Council's letter that a meeting to consider the matter should be called, I recommend that in the first instance the original conference should be composed of Anglo-American and Italian Representatives only.

(Sgd) Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Chief Commissioner

cc: A.F.H.Q. G-5 Section.
Chief of Staff
Political Section ✓

Prepared by:

amc.

COPY OF TRANSLATION

The President of the
Council of Ministers

Rome, 7 November 1944

18502/10477 - 1.7/19/5

Subject : Liberation of the Italian Prisoners of War transferred
to France.

Dear Admiral Stone,

You certainly know that 30 thousand Italian prisoners of war were transferred from North Africa to France last september.

The news of this transfer made our prisoners of war and the Italian Authorities hope that our soldiers would at least be allowed to take part directly in the fight against the common enemy, as the Government and the Italian people have been waiting to do, and still ask to be allowed to do, since the day that co-belligerence has been declared and acknowledged.

But this hope was disappointed for our soldiers were destined to the auxiliary services of the Allied Armies, and grouped in working units, remaining in the status of prisoners of war.

To the reasons of a legal, political and moral order which render this status unjust and indefensible for all our prisoners of war in allied hands, wherever they are, and which have often been put forward, we must add, for those who have been transferred to France that they are now in the zone of action where the Allied Forces are operating, that they have the same activity of cooperation as the free troops of the Italian Government, in Italy, at the service of the 5th and 8th Allied Armies, and that they are probably destined to follow the Allied Armies, in Germany, thus contacting the German populations, our prisoners of war, and the Italians interned in Germany.

The developments of this situation humiliates our soldiers and is prejudicial to the trust and dignity of the Italian nation.

As most of the measures relative to our prisoners of war decided by the Allied Authorities since 1943, this transfer shows that keeping our soldiers in the state of prisoners of war is a mistake which prejudices the interests of the Italian Government as well as those of the co-belligerence. Therefore, we renew the proposal to call together a meeting of the representatives of the

- 2 -

Governments which are interested in this matter; they should have deliberative powers to examine and solve as a whole and in detail the great question of the Italian prisoners of war in the hand of the Allies.

Meanwhile, I think it my duty to draw the attention of the Allied Commission on the fact that it would be just and advisable to free at least the Italian prisoners of war who have been grouped in working units and transferred to France, so that they would become purely Italian units, ruled by our discipline, and under our command, as it is done in Italy for the Italian free troops, which do an identical work for the Allied Armies, remaining, as now, under the orders of the Allied Authorities as far as their employment is concerned.

Such a decision would not only remove the inconveniences that I have pointed out; and prevent the even more serious ones which might crop up later on, but also help to solve the question of the status of the prisoners of war which is one of the most important, among all those that the relations of co-belligerency with the Allied Government gave rise to.

I remain,

Truly yours

s/ I. BONOMI

Commodore Ellery W. STONE
Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission

R O M E

3021

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

18
70. 6/956/1110

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION, A.C.

On October 14th ult. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs addressed a Memorandum (no. 6/774) to the Political Section, A.C. wherein particulars were asked regarding certain information received on the employment of units of Italian prisoners of war serving with the Allied Forces in France. Admiral Stone has recently informed that 28,000 P.O.W. in American hands have been transferred from North Africa to France to be attached to the VII American Army for rear-line work.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs feels its duty to draw the attention of the Allied Commission on the measure adopted in respect of these P.O.W., and to point out that this measure is in contrast with international usage and with that political orientation towards a better understanding of the moral and political needs of the Italian nation, in which understanding the Italian Government places so much trust.

From the juridical point of view the Ministry of Foreign Affairs considers that there has been a violation of the 1929 Geneva Convention. Only by changing their status of war prisoners into that of free soldiers could the measure adopted in respect of these troops be considered admissible and permissible. So long as they maintain their status of prisoners it appears unquestionable that they should also be guaranteed the treatment and the protection that the international Convention laid down in their favour.

Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to point out that this decision, affecting so deeply the fate of a vast group of Italian prisoners, was taken without the Italian Government being not only consulted, but not even duly informed, as it might have been legitimate to expect. In this connection the Italian Government need hardly confirm all that they have already stated concerning their intention and earnest wish to collaborate with all their power to the common war effort. They wish, however, to emphasize that this intention cannot but be subordinated to the moral neces-

addressed a Memorandum (no. 6/774) to the Political Section, A.C. wherein particulars were asked regarding certain information received on the employment of units of Italian prisoners of war serving with the Allied Forces in France. Admiral Stone has recently informed that 26,000 P.O.W. in American hands have been transferred from North Africa to France to be attached to the VII American Army for rear-line work.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs feels its duty to draw the attention of the Allied Commission on the measure adopted in respect of these P.O.W., and to point out that this measure is in contrast with international usage and with that political orientation towards a better understanding of the moral and political needs of the Italian nation, in which understanding the Italian Government places so much trust.

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Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to point out that this decision, affecting so deeply the fate of a vast group of Italian prisoners, was taken without the Italian Government being not only consulted, but not even duly informed, as it might have been legitimate to expect. In this connection the Italian Government need hardly confirm all that they have already stated concerning their intention and earnest wish to collaborate with all their power to the common war effort. They wish, however, to emphasize that this intention cannot but be subordinated to the moral necessity that the Italian soldiers be placed on an equal footing and treated according to the normal standards of moral dignity and military honour.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will be grateful if the

./.

des. Luigi: Cattedini told Nov. 9
matter held between Prime Minister + A/C
WMS

Political Section, A.C. will kindly acquaint the competent authorities with the above expressed point of view. *W. J. H.*

ROME, 6th November 1944.



amc.
COPY

Prepared by
IPW/1/14/17

12 November 1944

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of 7 November with reference to the question of the employment of Italian Prisoners of War in France.

It is my distinct impression that in the course of a conversation with Your Excellency on October 10th, when I informed you of the Allied intentions in this matter, that you concurred and, as a consequence of your having raised no objection to this course, I so reported to the Supreme Allied Commander on the following day.

From your letter under acknowledgement I assume that you have changed your view and that, at least, you desire the alternative use of these Prisoners of War in Southern France and under the orders of Allied Authorities as far as their employment is concerned, but under Italian discipline and command, i.e. as Italian soldiers, as distinct from Prisoners of War co-operators.

This view, as well as your suggestion that a conference comprising the representatives of the Government which are interested in this matter should be called to deliberate and solve as a whole and in detail the question of the Prisoners of War in the hands of the Allies, I have submitted to the Supreme Allied Commander.

Sincerely yours,

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Chief Commissioner

His Excellency Ivanoe Bonomi
The President of the Council
of Minister, Italian Government,
Rome.

3079

1PW/1/234
234
10/22/44

27 October 1944

Subject: Status of Italian Prisoners of War.

To: Chief of Staff, Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512

1. The attached translation of a letter received from the Italian Prime Minister is forwarded.
2. The subject matter of this letter has been referred to you on a number of occasions in the past.
3. I have to request that a ruling be given, and that I receive instruction that will put me in a position to answer the points raised by the Italian Prime Minister, and if possible, close this question.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

Copy to:

G-5, Allied Force Headquarters.

Political Section, H.Q., A.C.C. ✓

Prepared by

Lieut.-Colonel
Director, WMD & IPW Sub-Comm.

243
The attached translation of a letter received from the Italian Prime Minister is forwarded to you on a number of occasions in the past. I have to request that a ruling be given, and that I receive instruction that will put me in a position to answer the points raised by the Italian Prime Minister, and if possible, close this question.

3077

TRANSLATION

THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

No. 2708

Rome, 8th Oct. 44.

Dear Admiral,

General Dapino, secretary of the High Commissioner for P.W., has largely reported on his visit to the Italian P.W. Units attached to the British army in the areas of Bari, Eboli, Maddaloni, Caserta and Capua. I still appreciate the chances of control that he has been given and the regards that have been paid to him.

These prisoners are effectively treated in conformity with the prescriptions of the Geneva Convention and with a liberal construction of their very spirit. Although General Dapino have seen but nearly a thousand of these fellows, compared with the many thousands employed in Italy in the services with the Allied Forces, I am pretty sure that the same treatment is done to all the other Italian P.W.

But this point has never worried the Italian Government, at least as far as its general proceeding is concerned, with reference to the Italian P.W. in American and British hands.

What mostly worries the Italian Government is the "status" of those compatriots of ours. This problem does not respond, as I have repeatedly proved, both juridically and politically, militarily and morally, with the new principles of relationship between Italy and the United Nations, while it is getting more and more serious by the gradual improving of those relationships, now that Italy is in a position to get a better chance of collaborating in the war and a greater independence of Government. It is not enough, in order to cancel the consequences of this "status", that our prisoners do not wear visible signs of it, nor be they classified "collaborators", or get a daily pass and periodic leaves.

They must be essentially returned to the fulness of their military personality and, therefore, to their national armed forces where they belonged so that their discipline and action may be under control of military and civil laws and Italian authorities.

3076

* 2 *

This being in their own country, working with their free comrades for the same military and political exigencies, sometimes in the atmosphere of their own land, and still remain at the mercy of the humiliating bond of being a P. W., under the empire of a discipline, a law and an authority that are not national, is for the P.W. almost if they were banished from the national collectivity, as if they were outlaws, even in those cases where, either for deviation of sensibility or for irregular valuation of their interest, they do not feel it. It is, however, for the Italian nation, a diminution of dignity and prestige deeply felt by.

And he who follows the Italian public opinion knows how far the Italian people are demanding how can a collaboration to the war of the Allies with no limits of subjects or sacrifices take place, if these fundamental reasons of justice and humanity are not considered by Allies themselves.

Nor have the Allied authorities to worry about losing the effective collaboration of these units if the P.W. were returned to juridical and military freedom. I can affirm in fact, that no difficulty would be risen by any Italian authorities neither for leaving these units at the Allies' disposal for the same employment nor to replace them with other pregarious as fit as they are, if any of them should have to be sent home or, for any other reason, removed.

The free Italian soldiers attending to similar job with the Allied forces in Italy are, as it is known, several ten thousands.

Nor can I believe that the American or British public opinion might hostile to such a decision.

It is true that American soldiers are fighting in Italy against some Italian still associated, for deviation of the national feeling with the Germans armed forces; but it is either true that, at their side, other Italian soldiers are offering, together with the Allied their lives in the common struggle, while still other Italians, in the rear of the common enemy, are facing the greatest dangers, with no rest, shrinking from no sacrifice, to relieve the weight of the struggle and to hasten the success of the common cause.

If, both in America and in the United Kingdom, our prisoners' liberty might still be somewhere considered with disappointment by the population, for obvious reasons this disappointment can't exist (and would never rise) for any kind of liberty given to Italian P.W. in their own country.

Waiting, therefore, for this question to be faced and decided under a general criterium (as we hope it will be done in a conference, here or elsewhere, between representatives with full powers)

- 3 -

I think that for the duration it would be a very provident act of legality and justice that would prevent a lot of anxieties of the Italian people and that would perfectly match with the Allied Government's new orientations as far as Italy is concerned, to return to fulness of freedom all of those P.W. of ours, who are in Italy, their own country.

Recovered by the Italian armed forces where they belonged, with no change in their work, they would feel much better, through it, the interests of their nation; their fatigue would be vivified with a new fervour and the result would be certainly highly appreciated by the authorities under whose employment they are, in particular for its profitable efficiency.

So I beg you, dear Admiral, to give another time your kind consideration and particularly your consent and support for the solution of this grave problem, as we see it.

Cordially,

/s/ Ivance Bonomi.

3074

0952

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

RELEASE OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN RUSSIAN HANDS

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

No. 243

14th August, 1944.

Memorandum to: G. S. Allied Forces Headquarters
British Resident Minister
U.S. Political Adviser.

Mr. Chincigo, a correspondent of I.H.S., recently filed a message to the effect that the Italian and Russian Governments were negotiating for the release of Italian prisoners of war. Enquiries were accordingly made by the Political Section of the Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs whether there was any truth in this report. Signor Prunas stated that there was not.

2. At the same time Signor Prunas drew attention to the fact that, according to another press report, the Russians had recently released in Lithuania 4,000 Italian prisoners who had previously been held there by the Germans. The Italian Government had asked the Russian mission ^{in Rome} to find out whether this report was true, and in doing so had expressed the hope that the Russian Government would take care of any batches of Italian prisoners or workmen who had been held by the Germans and might now be overrun by advancing Russian troops.

A. A. Caccia
Vice-President
Political Section

Copies to: British High Commissioner
U.S. Representative to Advisory Council.

3073

Please make extra copy of this
letter for Col Campbell

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

EWS/dfe

A/CG 000.7

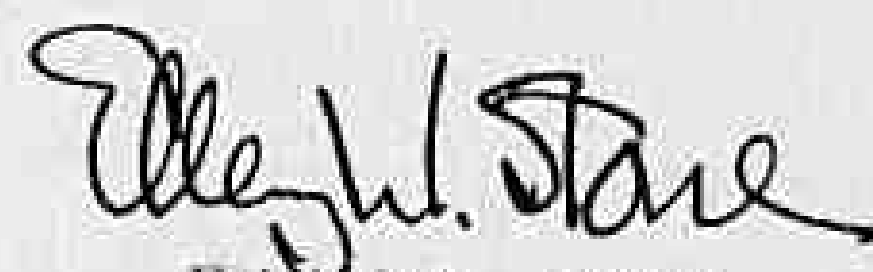
1 August 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Political Section

1. Reference following extract from PIRB/R10, July 30, subject:
"Trend of Copy Filed by Correspondents."

"Chincigo (IRS) The Italian and Russian Governments are negotiating for the release of Italian prisoners of war. Moscow is said to be "receptive" for "certain conditions" which are now under discussion."

2. I suggest you draft letter to AFHQ for my signature, informing them of the possibility of such an agreement in order that it will not come as a surprise and in order that they will be informed of the situation.



ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

- 1) 4,000 Italian prisoners in Lithuania previously held by Germans said by press to have been released by Russians 3072
 - 2) Italian Govt have asked Russian Govt to confirm & to take care of any other batches of prisoners & workmen held in Germany
- HAC 318

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 243

5 November 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Palazzo Chigi,
Rome

The Political Section of the Allied Commission presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and with reference to the Ministry's memorandum No. 6/665/293 of October 3rd, has the honor to state that the present position seems to be that financial allotments from Prisoners of War in British territory are now being regularly made and are being passed through the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War to the Minister of War who is responsible for making the payment.

In these circumstances it does not seem that there is need to take any further action in this matter.

H. L. d'A Hopkinson
Acting Vice President, Political Section

3071

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

Draft. memorandum

to: Ministry of
Foreign Affairs,
Palazzo Chigi,
ROMA.

from: The Political
Section,
Allied Commission.

Dhe

This one, I
suggest, is sent as
from the A.C.

Alh
2/21/44

November 1944
The Political Section of the Allied Commission
p.i.e. with reference to the Ministry's memorandum
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through the Italian High Commissioner for
Prisoners of War to the Minister of War who is
responsible for making the payment.

In these circumstances it does not
seem that there is need to take any further
action in this matter.

un.4.

3070

Mr. Malford.

To Political Section I do not know
 who originally
 asked for this info. But
 The present position is that
 with a pleasant
 abolitionist from the Bureau is
 concerned?
 are now coming in regularly
 and are passed through the
 for P.W. to the War Ministry
 who is responsible for making
 the payment.

I think the whole position
 is now quite straightforward
 and payments are being made.

30/10/44

J.E.
 and I did not

- (1) Finance Sub-Commission *alp*
(2) POW Sub-Commission *†*

I do not think there is any further
action to be taken. Do you?

H.A.C.

Political Section,
27.10.44

† Mr. Col Campbell
Will you reply shortly
to Mr. Caccia? 5008
ap

6/113/44

Mr. Caccia,

I return to you herewith the Ministry of Foreign Affairs memorandum no. 6/665/283 of October 3rd regarding remittances from Italian Prisoners of War.

2. I am not quite clear whether this is a different question from the one with which we have dealt previously. But if you will look at my cable No. 6/52/44 of August 28th to Junior Commander Hopkins, you will see that the Foreign Office claim that the War Office have already sent the first list of remittances to Graftey-both. Is there, therefore, any further action to be taken?

25.10.44

3067

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION, A.C.

With reference to Mr. Caccia's verbal request, dated June 29th, 1944, to know whether in the past remittances had been received in Italy from prisoners of war in Great Britain and whether such remittances had been forwarded to the families concerned, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs begs to inform that, the Ministry has periodically received, through the Protecting Power, lists of notification of credits of P.O.W. payable to their families in Italy. The lists in question were, each time, forwarded to the Ministry of War, Prisoners of War Bureau, which, either directly or through their local offices, proceeded to the payment of the respective amounts to the parties concerned.

As far as it is possible to ascertain, the Ministry of War appears to have effected payments according to the lists received, up to January 4th, 1943. After that date no further payments appear to have been effected owing to the decision taken to suspend notification of credits until a complete agreement in the matter should have been reached with the British Government.

Within the period from the Armistice to date, the competent Italian authorities have not received any lists of credits of prisoners of war.

3006

0961

With reference to Mr. Cacciola's verbal request, dated June 29th, 1944, to know whether in the past remittances had been received in Italy from prisoners of war in Great Britain and whether such remittances had been forwarded to the families concerned, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs begs to inform that, the Ministry has periodically received, through the Protecting Power, lists of notification of credits of P.O.W. payable to their families in Italy. The lists in question were, each time, forwarded to the Ministry of War, Prisoners of War Bureau, which, either directly or through their local offices, proceeded to the payment of the respective amounts to the parties concerned.

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3000

Within the period from the Armistice to date, the competent Italian authorities have not received any lists of credits of prisoners of war. *Self*

ROME, October 3rd, 1944.



Mr. Halford.

As regards remittances from Italian P.O.W., I to-day asked Prunas:

- (a) whether the Italian Government had received records of deduction of pay through the Protecting Power, and
- (b) what steps the Italian authorities are taking to pay the next-of-kin.

Prunas said that he was pretty certain that the answer to (a) was "No", and consequently that the answer to (b) was "None". He would check with General Gazzera and confirm.

Political Section,
H.Q. A.C.C.
29.6.44.

Miss Hapgood

Please inform Mr Halford
when Prunas confirms

Revised sent Major P. 8/7

1) Confirmed today 2005
2) Mr Halford told
3) File

HAZ 2/7

0903

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

ITALIAN CIVILIANS CAP-
TURED IN NORTH AFRICA

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR PRISONERS OF WAR

No. 596/Pol./I-5

SUBJECT : Civilian functionaries captured in Africa

To : Allied Control Commission

ROME, 3 August 1944.

I thank you for the courteous consideration given the memorandum No. 92/Pol. of April 24th and for the kind reply which this Commission (Political Section) sent through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (with No. AFU 394 on July 4, 1944.)

We would also take into consideration the British Government's point of view to consider definitely closed the matter relative to the legal protection of Italian civilian functionaries captured in Eastern and Northern Africa and for which there existed a mobilization decree.

Request is made only to arrange it so that the responsibility of the High Commissioner of Prisoners of war be considered as terminated, that in requesting to consider these militarized employees as prisoners of war rather than as internees, there should not be any doubt that they be given in the English and American concentration camps, the treatment as prisoners of war, according to the agreement made between the Italian and British Governments; but only to bring their conditions up to a juridical plane and therefore to one of certainty, by granting to them as a right what was only granted to them as a privilege. In fact, the Governments have concluded that the principles of the Convention relative to prisoners of war be made applicable to Civilian internees, but not that they must be applied to them.

It must be added that in any case, it seems that we should be reminded that the militarized civilian employees captured in Eastern Africa had gained the right to this treatment also under the special explicit stipulation contained in the convention of Dembidollo for the cessation of hostilities in the southern part of Eastern Africa, the validity of which was and remains uncontested and incontestable for the purposes of all stipulations contained therein. I attached herewith again a copy of the Convention itself in order that there be given your kind attention to its last clause.

The High Commissioner
(s) Generale Pietro Gazzera.

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The High Commissioner
(s) Generale Pietro Garzera.

3004

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/de



L'Alto Commissario
per i prigionieri di guerra

Entusiasmato
Amabile

Pol. Sec.

Roma, 3 agosto 1944

9/26

Hc

N. 596/Pol./1-5 di prot.

OGGETTO : Funzionari civili catturati in Africa.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

R O M A

Ringrazio per la cortese considerazione nella quale è stato preso il pro-memoria n. 92/Pol. del 24 aprile e per la cortese risposta che cotesta Commissione (sezione politica) si è compiaciuta di inviare per il tramite del Ministero degli Esteri (col n. A.P.O. 394 del 4 luglio 1944).

Si prende anche atto del punto di vista che avrebbe tuttora il Governo britannico di considerare come definitivamente chiusa la questione relativa alla protezione legale dei funzionari civili italiani catturati in A.O. e in Africa Settentrionale e per i quali esisteva decreto di mobilitazione.

Solamente si prega di consentire di fissare, perchè la responsabilità dell'Alto Commissariato dei prigionieri di guerra possa ritenersi esaurita, che, chiedendo di considerare come prigionieri di guerra anzichè come internati civili questi impiegati militarizzati, non si è inteso di mettere in dubbio che essi potessero avere nei campi di concentramento inglesi e americani il trattamento di prigionieri di guerra, secondo il noto accordo convenuto tra il Governo italiano e quello britannico; ma soltanto di portare sul piano del diritto e quindi della certezza, la loro condizione, facendo loro assegnare, a titolo di diritto, ciò che ora può essere dato loro solamente a titolo di favore. I Governi infatti hanno concluso che i principi della Convenzione relativa ai prigionieri di guerra siano "applicabili", agli internati civili non anche che debbano essere loro applicati.

Si deve poi aggiungere che in ogni caso sembra si dovrebbe pur sempre ricordare che gli impiegati civili militarizzati catturati in Africa Orientale avevano acquisito di diritto a questo trattamento anche in base alla speciale espressa stipulazione contenuta nella Convenzione di Dembidollo

M. Caccia.

E con

passing these
views to

the A.O.

20/8/44

QUARTIER
di Roma
1944

./.

per la cessazione delle ostilità nel Sud dell'Africa Orientale italiana, la cui validità era e rimane incontestata e incontestabile ai fini di tutte le pattuizioni in essa contenute. Annetto nuovamente copia della Convenzione stessa perchè si voglia portare cortese attenzione sull'ultima clausola di essa.

L'ALTO COMMISSARIO
(Generale Pietro Gazzera)

Gazzera

NEAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ATO 394
Political Section

JMF/hft

4 July 1944

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Italian Civilians captured in North Africa.

To : S.E. Don Renato Brunas, Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Salerno.

With reference to General Cassara's memorandum N. 92 POL of 24 April and previous papers, it would seem that the Commissioner for Prisoners of War is under a misapprehension in supposing that the question of recognising Italian civilian officials and employees captured in Italian East and North Africa as Prisoners of War was still under negotiation at the time the armistice was concluded. In their note XN 21/25 of August 4th to the Special Division of the Swiss Legation in London, the Foreign Office made it clear that, as at that date, they considered the question to be finally closed. This is still their view. Prior to the despatch of this note His Majesty's Government had definitely informed the then Italian Government that they could not accept the Italian argument that "militarised" civilian officials must be treated as Prisoners of War and had stated that they would regard as Prisoners of War only those officials who at the time of their capture were actually serving in military formations and were performing military duties.

2. In regard to the treatment as opposed to the status of the Italian officials in question, it is not the case that they do not receive the privileges and guarantees provided by the Geneva Convention of 27 July 1929, relative to the treatment of Prisoners of War. On 1st July 1940 the Foreign Office addressed a note to the United States Ambassador in London which concerned itself mainly with detail concerning the application of this Convention but contained also the following statement:- "His Majesty's Government are prepared to regard the principles of the Prisoners of War Convention as in general applicable to interned civilians." The reply from the United States Embassy dated the 30th December 1940 contained the following passage:- "The Italian Government is disposed to consider the principles of the Convention regarding Prisoners of War as applicable to civilian internees." It appears therefore from the outset that His Majesty's Government have treated Italian civilian internees in accordance with the provisions of the Convention so far as these provisions, designed to cover military Prisoners of War, can be applied to civilians.

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3062

3. A copy of the note KW 21/25 of August 4th referred to in paragraph 1 is enclosed.


J. M. PEARSON
Major, Political Section

1 Incl.

3061

Le 3 juillet 1941

CONDITIONS DE CESSATION DES HOSTILITES DES FORCES
ARMEES ITALIENNES OPPOSEES AUX FORCES BELGES ET
ANGLAISES OPERANT DANS LE GALLA SIDAMA.

Suite à l'offre de cessation des hostilités faite par le général GAZZERA, Commandant Supérieur des Forces Armées Italiennes de l'A.O.I., et tenant compte de la vaillance montrée par les troupes italiennes dans la campagne du Galla-Sidama, le Général CILLIART Commandant Supérieur des Troupes du Nord-Est, a accordé les conditions suivantes qui ont été acceptées par :

le Major Général de la Justice Militaire Cr.Uff. Francesco GUASCO,
le Colonel d'Etat Major Comm. Augusto D'ALICO,
le Conseiller de Gouvernement Comm. Cesare LEPORI,
délégués par le Général GAZZERA.

- 1°)- Cessation des hostilités dans le Galla-Sidama, au Sud du Nil bleu, le 4 à deux heures (GMT).
- 2°)- Les honneurs militaires analogues à ceux accordés lors de la reddition d'Amba Alagi, seront rendus au Drapeau et aux Troupes Italiennes.
- 3°)- Autorisation pour les Officiers italiens de conserver leurs armes.
- 4°)- Entrée en fonction à Saio, dès le 6 juillet 1941, d'une commission de désarmement composée de 3 Officiers belges : un Officier Supérieur et 2 Officiers subalternes - de 3 Officiers Italiens : un Officier Supérieur d'Etat Major, un Officier intendant et un Officier subalterne.
- 5°)- Occupation de Saio, de Magi et de Dure par les troupes belges à partir du 6 juillet à 6 heures (GMT).
- 6°)- Livraison des armes, des munitions, du matériel et de l'équipement.
- 7°)- Autorisation pour le Commandant Supérieur des Forces Armées Italiennes de l'A.O.I. de conserver ses aides de camp, et ~~306~~ 306 Des Officiers Généraux Italiens de conserver un Officier d'ordonnance de leur choix.
- 8°)- Autorisation pour les Officiers Italiens de disposer des valeurs personnelles, et une malle d'effets (2 pour les Officiers Généraux), d'une tente et d'un lit de campement. Autorisation pour les Officiers Généraux et Supérieurs de conserver leurs serviteurs.

dans la campagne du Galla-Sidama, le Général Supérieur des Troupes du Nord-Est, a accordé les conditions suivantes qui ont été acceptées par :

le Major Général de la Justice Militaire Gr.Uff. Francesco GUASCO,
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- 9°)- Le Commandant Supérieur des Troupes du Nord-Est s'engage à obtenir la cessation des hostilités par les patriotes abyssins, luttant aux côtés des forces belges.

./.

10°)- Le Commandant Supérieur des Troupes du Nord-Est s'engage à faire respecter dans son secteur l'honneur, la famille et les biens des nationaux et des colons italiens.

11°)- Les fonctionnaires militarisés seront considérés comme prisonniers de guerre.

Des mesures seront prises pour soustraire les civils à l'hostilité de la population indigène.

Le Général GILLIAERT

Commandant Supérieur des Troupes du Nord-Est

F/to Gilliaert

pour le Général GAZZERA

Commandant Supérieur des Forces Armées de l'A.O.I.

Le Major Général Gr.Uff. Francesco GUASCO

F/to Francesco Guasco

Le Colonel Comm. Augusto D'AMICO

F/to Augusto D'Amico

Le Conseiller Comm. Cesare LEPORT

F/to Cesare Lepori

(6 SS/14)

Mr. Cassia,

Major Parn

Your memorandum of April 29th regarding the recognition of Italian civilian officials and employees captured in Italian East and North Africa as Prisoners of War.

2. I attach a memorandum based on a despatch which we have received from the Foreign Office and I should be grateful if this memorandum could be communicated to the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.

30.6.44

The British Foreign Office believe that the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War is under a misapprehension in stating that the question of recognising Italian civilian officials and employees captured in Italian East and North Africa as Prisoners of War was still under negotiation at the time the armistice was concluded. In their note No 21/25 of August 14th to the Special Division of the Swiss Legation in London, the Foreign Office made it clear that, as at that date, they considered the question to be finally closed. This is still their view. A copy of the above-mentioned note is attached. Prior to the despatch of this note His Majesty's Government had definitely informed the then Italian Government that they could not accept the Italian argument that "militarised" civilian officials must be treated as Prisoners of War and had stated that they would only regard as Prisoners of War any officials who at the time of their capture were actually serving in military formations and were performing military duties.

2. As regards the treatment as opposed to the status of the Italian officials in question, it is not the case that they do not receive the privileges and guarantees provided by the Geneva Convention of the 27th July, 1929, relative to the treatment of Prisoners of War. On the 1st July 1940 the Foreign Office addressed a note to the United States Ambassador in London which, while it dealt mainly with questions of detail concerning the application of the above Convention, contained also the following statement:- "His Majesty's Government are prepared to regard the principles of the Prisoners of War Convention as in general applicable to interned civilians." The reply to this note of the United States Embassy dated the 30th December 1940 contained the following passage:- "The Italian Government are disposed to consider the principles of the convention regarding Prisoners of War as applicable to civilian internees." It appears therefore from the outset that His Majesty's Government have treated Italian civilian internees in accordance with the provisions of the Convention so far as those provisions, designed to cover military Prisoners of War, can be applied to civilians.

29.6.44

3019

High Commissioner's office wrote
to F.O. on 9.5.44. File

The British High Commissioner

I attach a translation of a memorandum from the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War putting forward the contention that Italian officials and employees captured in Italian East and North Africa should be recognised as prisoners of war. It appears from this note that this question was under negotiation between H.M.G. and the Italian Government at the time of the Armistice, and it would undoubtedly be a simpler and more expeditious procedure if you would be ready to take up this question direct with the Foreign Office rather than for the Allied Control Commission to raise it through A.F.H.Q. The British Resident Minister's Office would presumably desire to be kept informed; but I do not think that they would wish to take any major part in such question.

If you agree to take this up direct with the F.O. would you let the Political Section of the A.C.C. know in due course what answer should be returned to the Italian authorities.

Political Section,
H.Q. Allied Control Commission,
29th April, 1944.

3058

Personal - Dear Raccia, It may interest you to be reminded that the Germans tried this in the last war, saying that civil Officials had been militarized by local legislation en bloc. The possession of personal papers, however, was made the criterion (so far as I can remember) of whether the individual was a soldier or not: if he had military papers, a number, a unit - so on, he was considered a prisoner of war, but not otherwise.

Yours,

W. H. Pearson

*L'Alto Commissario
per i prigionieri di guerra*

Cava dei Tirreni, 24 aprile 1944

N. 92. Pol.

OGGETTO : Funzionari ed impiegati dell'Africa Orientale Italiana e Settentrionale Italiana da riconoscere prigionieri di guerra.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

Salerno

1° - Come è noto a codesta Commissione fra le persone catturate dalle Forze Armate Alleate durante le operazioni di guerra nell'Africa Orientale Italiana e nella Libia vi sono i funzionari ed impiegati delle varie categorie, sia di ruolo, sia a contratto, appartenenti alla Amministrazione Coloniale, che si trovavano in servizio in quei territori alle dipendenze rispettivamente dei Governi dell'Africa Orientale e dell'Africa Settentrionale Italiana.

Tali funzionari ed impiegati non furono nella quasi totalità, considerati come prigionieri di guerra, ma, concentrati in campi civili, furono e sono trattati come "internati", senza quindi le garanzie previste nella Convenzione di Ginevra del 27 luglio 1929.

Questa condizione di diritto e di fatto ad essi imposta fu eccepita dai funzionari alle Autorità detentrici come contraria al diritto e agli usi della guerra e fu anche oggetto di particolare intervento da parte del Governo Italiano, che iniziò a suo tempo, per il tramite della Potenza protettrice, trattative con il Governo Britannico per rivendicare la qualità e il trattamento di prigionieri di guerra ai suoi funzionari ed impiegati coloniali catturati.

Le trattative purtroppo all'atto della dichiarazione dell'armistizio non erano state ancora concluse sebbene il Governo Britannico avesse già acceuto a talune delle richieste del R. Governo Italiano; e i funzionari del Governo Italiano così continuarono, come continuano tuttora, a rimanere nello stato di "internati", con tutti i nocumenti di carattere morale e materiale che sono ad esso concomitanti.

- 2 -

Quanto non potè essere definito prima dell'armistizio, il R. Governo desidera che sia ora riportato sul terreno delle valutazioni responsabili, tanto più che l'armistizio prima e i sopravvenuti rapporti di cobelligeranza poi, non possono non aver sviluppato condizioni particolarmente propizie per una intesa anche a questo riguardo.

2° - Agli effetti della questione in esame ritengo che sia opportuno differenziare i dipendenti civili dello Stato Italiano catturati durante le operazioni di guerra dell'Africa Orientale Italiana da quelli catturati nei territori dell'Africa Settentrionale Italiana per quanto non molto diversi siano i presidi giuridici che assistono nei loro riguardi la richiesta del R. Governo.

3° - I funzionari e gli altri dipendenti dell'Amministrazione dello Stato catturati nell'Africa Orientale Italiana hanno diritto alla qualifica e al trattamento di "prigionieri di guerra" in applicazione dell'art. 21 della Convenzione di Ginevra del 27.7.1929 :

1°) perchè essi furono tutti militarizzati poco dopo l'entrata dell'Italia in guerra con decreto del Vice Re Governatore Generale e comandante superiore delle Forze Armate in A.O.I.;

2°) perchè il decreto vicereale di militarizzazione fu comunicato in copia fotografica al Governo Britannico quando il Governo Italiano iniziò per il tramite della Potenza protettrice la rivendicazione per tali suoi dipendenti del trattamento dei prigionieri di guerra.;

La norma di cui all'art. 21 della Convenzione di Ginevra ha carattere imperativo, non potestativo nel senso che pone un diritto a favore dei non combattenti i quali abbiano la veste di assimilati e fissa un dovere, ^{che} un obbligo a carico del belligerante cattore che non possono essere comunque superati.

Anzi è da dire che il diritto di questi dipendenti dell'Amministrazione Coloniale Italiana di essere considerati prigionieri di guerra, prima ^{che} nella norma di cui al detto articolo, ha radice nella prescrizione di cui all'art. 3 del Regolamento concernente le leggi e gli usi di guerra terrestre annesso alla quarta Convenzione dell'Aia del 18 ottobre 1907, per la quale, in caso di cattura, anche i non combattenti che servono le Forze Armate delle Potenze belligeranti hanno diritto al trattamento dei prigionieri di guerra. E ciò perchè l'Africa Orientale Italiana, per le peculiari condizioni che la guerra vi doveva assumere e vi assunse, fu fin dall'inizio delle ostilità dichiarata zona di operazioni e tutti i non combattenti dipendenti dallo Stato che con l'opera propria servivano gli interessi delle Forze combatten

- 3 -

ti dovevano essere necessariamente uniti in blocco a queste con il vincolo più efficiente allo scopo, che è il vincolo della disciplina militare.

Infatti l'art. 21 della Convenzione di Ginevra più propriamente pone il diritto degli assimilati ad avere un trattamento di prigionia di guerra corrispondente al loro grado e alla loro età come gli ufficiali, ma suppone che essi già siano considerati e trattati come prigionieri di guerra in applicazione appunto della citata norma del Regolamento dell'Aia.

A maggior ragione poi deve ritenersi che nessuna incertezza possa addursi circa la sussistenza in questi funzionari e impiegati dello Stato non combattenti della condizione di associati alle Forze Armate italiane in A.O.I., in quanto esiste addirittura un provvedimento legislativo dello Stato Italiano che qualificandoli come assimilati ha loro esplicitamente assegnato questa condizione. La situazione di fatto (che pure è sufficiente di per sé a rendere applicabile la norma del Regolamento dell'Aia) è nella specie integrata, valorizzata, perfezionata dalla precisa ed esplicita investitura di diritto della qualità di assimilati fatta dallo Stato Italiano.

Perciò se l'art. 21 della Convenzione di Ginevra prevede la condizione di una comunicazione da parte dei belligeranti interessati, non è dubbio che questa condizione si riferisca non al diritto dell'assimilato di essere considerato prigioniero di guerra (perchè, ripetesi, questo è acquisito senz'altro all'atto della cattura per l'art. 3 del^o Regolamento dell'Aia), ma solamente al diritto che gli compete di avere, nello stato di prigionia di guerra, un trattamento adeguato al suo grado e alla sua età come ogni combattente catturato.

E così pure non è dubbio che la comunicazione di cui al citato articolo sia fine a sè medesima, e che non siano consentibili, sempre a questo scopo, valutazioni discreitive da parte del belligerante detentore le quali possano comunque limitarne o ritardarne la efficienza.

Questo vuol dire dunque che la comunicazione fatta dal Governo Italiano al Governo Britannico doveva risolvere, almeno dal momento nel quale fu fatta, ogni incertezza ed ogni equivoco che a questo riguardo fossero eventualmente esistiti.

Devo aggiungere inoltre che, proprio allo scopo di 3056
mere, con più diretto e risolutivo intervento, le resistenze che le Autorità Britanniche subito rivelarono di voler opporre in A.O.I. al riconoscimento di questa qualità di assimilati nei funzionari coloniali, io chiesi ed ottenni all'atto della cessazione delle ostilità in Dombidollo che questo diritto dei funzionari militarizzati fosse fissato nel trattato di resa: il che av

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- 4 -

venne. Perciò è ovvio che, se pur vi fosse bisogno, bisognerebbe tener conto, nei confronti dei funzionari coloniali catturati con le forze armate in quella occasione, anche del carattere impegnativo di quell'accordo, sia dal punto di vista del suo valore integrativo, sia anche da quello eventualmente del valore autonomo che si intendesse di assegnargli. Annetto copia della Convenzione di Dambidollo.

4° - Per quanto concerne poi i funzionari e impiegati dipendenti dell'Amministrazione dello Stato catturati nei territori dell'Africa Settentrionale Italiana, deve rappresentare che pure per essi era stato emanato un decreto governatoriale di militarizzazione il 13 febbraio 1941 (sfortunatamente non se ne ha qui copia), e che non dissimile era la condizione loro di fatto, poichè anche tutti i territori dell'Africa Settentrionale Italiana furono dichiarati zona di operazioni e anche in quelli le Forze Armate italiane erano servite da questi dipendenti dello Stato non combattenti nella stessa forma essenziale e necessaria nella quale erano servite le Forze Armate dell'A.O.I.

Non dovrebbero quindi esistere incertezze circa l'applicabilità anche nei loro riguardi del presidio di cui all'art. 3 del Regolamento dell'Aia, poichè le condizioni di fatto sono la base del diritto bellico e della sua applicabilità, tanto che per renderne possibili valutazioni di equità, tutte o quasi le norme di esso sono state inquadrare in formule elastiche, di limitata precisazione; ma ciò è stato fatto non per dar modo ai belligeranti di eludere i precetti giuridici ed umanitari ai quali quelle sono ispirate, ma appunto e soltanto per facilitarne l'applicabilità alle situazioni concrete.

Se una eccezione in fondo nei confronti di questi dipendenti dell'Amministrazione statale italiana catturati in Libia si volesse ad ogni costo effettuare, essa non potrebbe avere per oggetto che la proporzione del trattamento al grado; ma il R. Governo è certo che in ogni caso il Governo Britannico, e concomitante mente quello Americano, non troveranno difficoltà ad applicare a questi prigionieri di guerra le corrispondenze di grado indicate nel decreto di militarizzazione relativo ai funzionari coloniali dell'Africa Orientale Italiana.

Il R. Governo non può dubitare che i Governi Alleati vorranno considerare come conclusivi questi rilievi e queste con-

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- 5 -

siderazioni per la richiesta che viene sottoposta al loro esame tanto più che la loro richiesta non può non essere confortata dallo spirito di comprensione e di condiscendenza che la cobelligeranza ha animato.

L'ALTO COMMISSARIO
(Generale Pietro Gazzera)

P. Gazzera

1 allegato.

3055

COPY

No. F.W. 21/25

The Foreign Office present their compliments to the Swiss Legation, Special Division for Safeguarding Italian Interests, and have the honour to refer to the latter's note It.3.C.11./174 of the 14th May which enclosed a copy of a communication from the Italian Government giving their views concerning the status of former Italian civil servants in East Africa.

2. The Foreign Office have the honour to request that the Italian Government may be informed that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, having carefully considered this communication, do not feel that they are in a position to add anything to the statements made in Foreign Office note No. F.W. 21/25 of the 2nd November, 1942 which embodied their considered opinion as to the proper treatment of these civil officials. They do, however, wish to take the opportunity, with reference to the statements made in the penultimate paragraph of the Italian communication, of placing on record that in actual fact all Italian women and children and male civilians other than men of military age, in Italian East Africa, who so wish either have been or are being repatriated to Italy, while the remainder are either at liberty, employed at a fair salary, or interned and provided free with all necessary food, clothing and medical attention. In these circumstances, His Majesty's Government desire emphatically to reject the suggestion of the Italian Government that their action in this matter has been without regard to the dictates of humanity.
3. The Foreign Office would be grateful if the Special Division in making the above communication to the Italian Government would be so good as to inform the latter that in the circumstances, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are not prepared to make with the Italian Government any special agreement relating to Italian civil servants in East Africa.

FOREIGN OFFICE, F.W.1.

4th August, 1943.

2034

Le 3 juillet 1941.

CONDITIONS DE CESSATION DES HOSTILITES DES FORCES ARMES
ITALIENNES OPPOSEES AUX FORCES BELGES ET ANGLAISES OPERANT
DANS LE GALLA SIDAMA

Suite a l'offre de cessation des hostilites faite par le general
GAZZERA Commandant Supérieur des Forces Armees Italiennes de l'A.O.I. et
tenant compte de la vaillance montrée par les troupes italiennes dans
la campagne du Galla-Sidama, le General GILLIARD Commandant Supérieur
des Troupes du Nord-Est, a accorde les conditions suivantes, qui ont ete
acceptees par :

le Major General de la Justice Militaire Gr.Uff.Francesco GUASCO
le Colonel d'Etat Major Comm. Augusto D'AMICO
le Conseiller de Gouvernement Comm. Cesare LEPORI
delegues par le General GAZZERA.

- 1°)- Cessation des hostilites dans le Galla-Sidama, au sud du Nil bleu,
le 4 a deux heures (GMT).
- 2°)- Les honneurs Militaires analogues a ceux accordes lors de la reddition
d'Amba Alagi, seront rendus au Drapeau et aux Troupes Italiennes.
- 3°)- Autorisation pour les Officiers italiens de conserver leurs armes.
- 4°)- Entree en fonction a Saio, des le 6 juillet 1941, d'une commission
de desarmement composee de 3 Officiers belges: un Officier Supérieur
e 2 Officiers subalternes - de 3 Officiers Italiens: un Officier su-
perieur d'Etat Major, un Officier intendant et un Officier subalterne.
- 5°)- Occupation de Saio, de Magi et de Bure par les troupes belges a par-
tir du 6 juillet a 6 heures (GMT).
- 6°)- Livraison des armes, des munitions, du materiel et de l'equipement.
- 7°)- Autorisation pour le Commandant Supérieur des Forces Armees Italienne
de l'A.O.I. de conserver ses aides de camp, et pour les Officiers
Generaux Italiens de conserver un Officier d'ordonnance de leur choix.
- 8°)- Autorisation pour les Officiers Italiens de disposer des valeurs perso-
nelles, et une malle d'effets (2 pour les Officiers Generaux), d'une
tente et d'un lit de campement. Autorisation pour les Officiers Gene-
raux et Supérieurs de conserver leurs serviteurs.
- 9°)- Le Commandant Supérieur des Troupes du Nord-Est s'engage a obtenir
la cessation des hostilites par les patriotes abyssins, luttants aux
cotes des forces belges.
- 10°)- Le Commandant Supérieur des Troupes du Nord-Est s'engage a faire
respecter dans son secteur l'honneur, la famille et les biens des
nationaux et des coloniaux italiens.

le Colonel d'Etat Major
le Conseiller de Gouvernement Comm. Cesare LEPORE
delegues par le General CAZZERA.

- 1°)- Cessation des hostilites dans le Galla-Sidama, au sud du Nil bleu, le 4 a deux heures (GMT).
- 2°)- Les honneurs Militaires analogues a ceux accordes lors de la reddition d'Amba Alegi, seront rendus au Drapeau et aux Troupes Italiennes.
- 3°)- Autorisation pour les Officiers italiens de conserver leurs armes.
- 4°)- Entree en fonction a Saio, des le 6 juillet 1941, d'une commission de desarmement composee de 3 Officiers belges: un Officier Superieur e 2 Officiers subalternes - de 3 Officiers Italiens: un Officier superieur d'Etat Major, un Officier intendant et un Officier subalterne.
- 5°)- Occupation de Saio, de Megi et de Bure par les troupes belges a partir du 6 juillet a 6 heures (GMT).
- 6°)- Livraison des armes, des munitions, du materiel et de l'equipement.
- 7°)- Autorisation pour le Commandant Superieur des Forces Armees Italienne de l'A.O.I. de conserver ses aides de camp, et pour les Officiers Generaux Italiens de conserver un Officier d'ordonnance de leur choix.
- 8°)- Autorisation pour les Officiers Italiens de disposer des valeurs personnelles, et une malle d'effets (2 pour les Officiers Generaux), d'une tente et d'un lit de campement. Autorisation pour les Officiers Generaux et Superieurs de conserver leurs serviteurs.
- 9°)- Le Commandant Superieur des Troupes du Nord-Est s'engage a obtenir la cessation des hostilites par les patriotes abyssins, lutnants aux cotes des forces belges.
- 10°)- Le Commandant Superieur des Troupes du Nord-Est s'engage a faire respecter dans son secteur l'honneur, la famille et les biens des nationaux et des coloniaux italiens.

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0985

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

PRISONERS OF WAR OF NON-
GERMAN NATIONALITY

SECRET

309/16/1/10
33/372/10

TRANS ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION

Disposal of PW of Non-German Nationality

GENERAL

1. This instruction deals with the disposal of PW of non-German nationality who, immediately prior to their capture by, or desertion to, the Allied Forces, were serving in the German Armed Forces.

These PW will be segregated as soon as possible after capture, but they will not be disposed of in accordance with this instruction until allied intelligence Staffs have completed any interrogation which may be required.

POLES AND RUSSIANS

2. The disposal of Polish PW has been dealt with in AMF Adm Instr No. 30 issued under reference 3452/9/A dated Feb 44, as amended. The disposal of PW of Russian nationality has similarly been dealt with in AMI Adm Instr No. 34 issued under reference 3078/A dated 17 June 44.

FRENCH

3. PW of French nationality (including PW of Alsace-Lorraine origin) will be evacuated

(a) in the case of British owned PW, to 209 PW Camp ANTARCTICA (MR M2657)

(b) in the case of US-owned PW, to 326 PW Enclosure, AVANZA (MR M763)

HQ 3 District or CES, as the case may be, will contact the French Military Base and arrange for such PW to be interrogated by the French Military authorities.

Selected PW will then be released on demand to the French Military Authorities. Those PW whose release is not demanded will be treated as ordinary

German PW.

YUGO-SLAVS

3032

4. PW of Yugo-Slav nationality will be evacuated to 207 PW Camp, GERMANY (MR 22674). HQ 2 District will arrange for them to be interviewed by a representative of "Z" Military Mission. Those who express Royalist sympathies will be released on demand to the Royal Yugo-Slav Military Mission; the remainder will

2. The disposal of Polish PW has been dealt with in AFM Adv Admin Ech Instruction No. 30 issued under reference 3452/3/A dated Feb 44, as amended. The disposal of PW of Russian nationality has similarly been dealt with in AFM Adv Instr No. 34 issued under reference 3076/A dated 17 June 44.

FRANCE

3. PW of French nationality (including PW of Alsace-Lorraine origin) will be evacuated

(a) in the case of British owned PW, to 209 PW Camp ATRACOLA (AR 12657)

(b) in the case of US-owned PW, to 326 PW Enclosure, AVERSA (AR 1763)

HQ 3 District or HES, as the case may be, will contact the French Military Base and arrange for such PW to be interrogated by the French Military authorities.

Selected PW will then be released on demand to the French Military Authorities. Those PW whose release is not demanded will be treated as ordinary German PW.

YUGO-SLAVS

4. PW of Yugo-Slav nationality will be evacuated to 207 PW Camp, GRILO APULIA (AR 22874). HQ 2 District will arrange for them to be interviewed by a representative of "Z" Military Mission. Those who express Royalist sympathies will be released on demand to the Royal Yugo-Slav Military Mission; the remainder will be released on demand to "Z" Military Mission. PW not released will be treated as ordinary German PW.

DUTCH, CZECHS AND LUXEMBOURGERS

5. PW of Dutch, Czech or Luxembourg nationality will be evacuated to 209 PW Camp, ATRACOLA. HQ 3 District will arrange for their evacuation in the status of PW to 204 PW Camp, NORTH AFRICA.

DANES AND BELGIANS

6. PW of Danish or Belgian nationality will be evacuated to 209 PW Camp. Their

/names and cell

-2-

names and all available details of their past history will be reported to HQ AAI, who will issue disposal instructions.

GERMANS

7. PW of Greek nationality will be evacuated to 207 PW Camp. HQ 2 District will arrange for their evacuation in the status of PW to MIDDLE EAST.

ITALIANS

8. PW of Italian nationality captured whilst serving in the Italian Republican Army will be evacuated to 209 PW Camp. HQ 3 District will arrange for their evacuation in the status of PW to NORTH AFRICA, prior sanction being obtained from HQ AAI. They will be treated similarly to German PW.

AUSTRIANS

9. PW of Austrian nationality will be evacuated to 209 PW Camp, where they will be held pending receipt of disposal instructions from HQ AAI.

NEUTRALS

10. PW of Neutral nationality will be treated as ordinary German PW.

DOCUMENTATION

11. Full documentation/processing will be carried out in the case of all the above PW.

In the case of such PW admitted to British Base Camps, the following details will be observed:-

(a) The PW will be registered on AF W3000 as soon as possible and in

priority to German PW.

(b) The actual nationality claimed by the PW will be clearly stated on AF W3000 in every case.

(c) All movement of such PW will be reported to HQ 2nd Echelon promptly on AF W3002 by despatching and receiving Base Camps.

(d) All releases will be reported by Camps on AF W3002 stating in each

They will be treated similarly to German PW.

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- (b) The actual nationality claimed by the PW will be clearly stated **30 PM** W3000 in every case.
- (c) All movement of such PW will be reported to GFM 2nd Echelon promptly on AF W3002 by despatching and receiving Base Camps.
- (d) All released will be reported by Camps on AF W3002 stating in each case the authority for the release.

VET.

Repatriation of Italian POWs

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
WAR MATERIALS DISPOSAL AND
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR SUB-COMMISSION

BSA/cp.

File 1/7/453

14 December 1944

To : Allied Force Headquarters, APO 512, U. S. Army
Attention G-5 Section.

Subject : Petition from the League of Italian Women.

- 1/. We are enclosing a translation of a petition dated 7 December from the League of Italian Women.
- 2/. This petition bears 688 signatures.
- 3/. For your attention.

For the Chief Commissioner :

J. A. Campbell
J. A. CAMPBELL
Lieut-Colonel
Director
WMD & IPW Sub-Comm.

3050

Copy to : Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War.
Italian Ministry of War, attention of Autonomous Office
Veteran PW and Repatriated.

Enclosure : copy of letter from Italian Women's League.

Copy to : Political Section, A.C. Hq. ✓

Enclosure : copy of original petition and return.

BSA/ep

U. D. I.
League of Italian Women
Via IV Novembre 144 - ROME

Rome, December 7th. 1944

To : Allied Authorities

R O M E

The U. D. I., in the name of all Italian Women, begs the Allied Authorities to interest themselves in repatriating, as soon as possible, Italian Prisoners of War and civilians, who have been away from their families for so many years.

The U. D. I., therefore, asks :

- A - that the lists, already agreed upon for repatriation according to certain fixed criteria, be increased.
- B - that the circumstances for repatriation for peasants be broadened, because they are needed for agriculture.
- C - that repatriation be extended also to factory and other workers.
- D - that the criteria of repatriation take into consideration the family conditions of POWs and the length of their absence from home.

Italian women appreciate the transport problem which render repatriation difficult but they appeal to the generosity of the Allied Authorities, confident that they will take into consideration the tremendous advantages which will redound to the Nation with the solution of this important problem.

For the Commission for PW
Rosetta Longo Fazio

30.3

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

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR
IN FRANCE

*Political Sect**415*
6-5

ATTN

Hq. A.C.C.

4027

29 Sept. 1944

SECRET

PRIORITY

WMO & IPW SC

ITALIAN GOVERNMENT STATE THAT FROM INFORMATION (FARM TO AFTER FROM HQ ACC SIGNED
 STONE FARM) RECEIVED THEY UNDERSTAND IT IS PLANNED TO RELOCATE ABOUT THIRTY THOUSAND
 ITALIAN EX PW AS LABOUR BATTALIONS IN REAR OF FIRST LINE FRENCH UNITS OPERATING IN
 FRANCE PARA MAY I BE INFORMED WITH REGARD TO THE POSITION IN VIEW OF THE REPORT OF
 THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

143

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321

DIST: -J.H.D. & I.P.W.
 A/CG
 POLITICAL SECTION

L.T. MONTANE, Jr
 1st Lt., A.C.D.
 Adjutant

0 9 9 4

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

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF
WAR IN FRENCH HANDS

1434

Aiuto collettività italiane America
e nostri prigionieri in Africa Settentrionale.
C.A.C.
7 settembre 1944.

AMBASCIATA ITALIANA MADRID

729 - Per Buenos Aires - 86 settembre 6 -

Situazione prigionieri guerra italiani in mano francese nel Marocco, Algeria e Tunisia, è assai penosa per mancanza vestiario, coperte lana, medicinali e viveri.

Essendo impossibile inviare pacchi dall'Italia, Croce Rossa Internazionale propone che venga sollecitato aiuto collettività italiane America meridionale ed in particolare Argentina. Semora che ottenuta autorizzazione allcata per spedizioni pacchi, regolare traffico marittimo fra Argentina e Africa Settentrionale possa garantire continuità rifornimenti.

prego esaminare proposta con codesto Delegato Croce Rossa Internazionale e telegrafarmi quanto possa essere fatto.

PRUNAS

NOT FOR DESPATCH

TEXT IN CIPHER ENCLOSED

30-57

RECEIVED
7 SET 1944
OFFICE

Situazione prigionieri guerra italiani in mano francese nel Marocco, Algeria e Tunisia, è assai penosa per mancanza vestiario, coperte lana, medicinali e viveri.

Essendo impossibile inviare pacchi dall'Italia, Croce Rossa Internazionale propone che venga sollecitato aiuto collettività italiane America meridionale ed in particolare Argentina. Sembra che ottenuta autorizzazione allcata per spedizioni pacchi, regolare traffico marittimo fra Argentina e Africa Settentrionale possa garantire continuità rifornimenti.

prego esaminare proposta con codesto Delegato Croce Rossa Internazionale e telegrafarmi quanto possa essere fatto.

PRUMAS

NOT FOR DESPATCH

TEXT IN CIPHER ENCLOSED

30-27

243

RECEIVED
27 SEP 1944



Ital POWs in French N Africa

confidential
Magistrati's/telegram No. 185, June 16, from the Italian
Legation at Berne for the Italian Ministry of Foreign
Affairs

Report was handed me yesterday by International Committee
Red Cross regarding our prisoners of war under French control
in Algeria which I shall try to forward if pouch facilities
available. Their condition appears to be far from good. The
conditions in camps controlled by Americans in the same
region are excellent which is confirmed by another report
received recently.

245

3046

(covered - affg)
23 June 44

(30 JUNE 44)
Spedite

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Civil Affairs Office

May 6, 1944.

Dear Sam:

On my return to Algiers I find your secret letter of April 30 enclosing a note from the Chief Commissioner to the Chief of Staff with a memorandum from the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War attached.

Estes has also submitted a lengthy memorandum on this subject after his conversations in Naples.

I have requested that this subject be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Political Committee. Yesterday I mentioned the matter informally to Massigli. I propose that a thorough investigation be made of these complaints which, according to Estes, may be well founded, and if circumstances justify, will recommend to the Supreme Allied Commander that appropriate representations be made to the competent French authorities.

Sincerely yours,

Edo

3043

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

*Encl. handed
by Spt. T. de Pausier
5/2*

SECRET

April 30, 1944.

Dear Bob:

I enclose a note from the Chief Commissioner to the Chief of Staff, with a Memorandum from the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War attached. As you will see, it deals with the unfortunate situation in which many Italian prisoners now in French hands find themselves. From other reports I fear that their situation is a serious one. Can not something be done about it without too great delay? If their situation continues without improvement and news thereof should reach the press, a public scandal might ensue in which we would not be absolved from all responsibility as in many instances we turned prisoners of war over to the French.

As ever,

Yours,

The Honorable
Robert D. Murphy,
American Political Advisor,
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

30-4

SECRET

SECRET

-/rj

Ref. EC/G/248.

27th. April, 1944.

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Lieut-General J.A.H. Gammell, CB, DSO, MC,
Chief of Staff,
Allied Force Headquarters.

1. I enclose a translation of a note from General GARZERA, the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War, on the subject of the treatment of Italian prisoners held by French military authorities in North Africa.
2. The object of this note is to bring to our attention the fact that the French Authorities have not carried out their obligations under the Geneva Convention. Certainly if the facts are as stated by the Italian Government there is serious ground for complaint and at least a *prima facie* case for investigation.
3. General GARZERA in forwarding this note has explained that this question has already been taken up by the Italian Government officially and unofficially with members of the French Committee of Liberation. As, however, no improvement seems to have taken place, the Italian Government sincerely trust that the Supreme Allied Commander will press the French Authorities to ensure that Italian prisoners are treated in accordance with the humanitarian principles laid down in the Geneva Conference. The Italian Government make this request not only by virtue of the fact that French forces are under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander, but also that all these Italian prisoners were taken during a campaign conducted by an Allied commander and in many cases by British or American troops before being handed over to the French for custody.
4. A copy of this correspondence is being sent to the American Political Adviser and British Resident Minister.

30-3

NOEL HANON MACFARLANE,
Lieutenant-General,
Chief Commissioner.

DISTRIBUTION:
American Political Adviser; British Resident Minister.

Prisonniers de guerre

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TRAITEMENT DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE ITALIENS
AUX MAINS DES AUTORITES FRANCAISES

I. CAPTURE ET ENVOI DANS LES CAMPS.-

Les conditions des mouvements des prisonniers de guerre de Tunisie sur les camps d'internement ont été réglées d'après les nécessités militaires et les possibilités du moment. Il est certain que les trajets par route ou par voie ferrée ont été effectués sans confort, sous la garde de troupes indigènes nord-africaines (et non de troupes de couleur), et par une température correspondante à la saison (mai-juin 1943).

Mais le ravitaillement a toujours été assuré et le stationnement organisé aussi bien que le permettait les ressources d'une région dévastée par la guerre.

La preuve en est qu'il n'y a pas eu, au cours de ce transfert, de cas de mort (il n'y a eu en juin 1943 que 12 décès et en juillet 1943 que 14 décès sur environ 35.000 P.G. italiens évacués de Tunisie, et ces décès provenaient presque tous de blessures ou maladies antérieures à la capture) ou de maladies graves chez des hommes pourtant épuisés par une longue période de combats.

Il est inexact que l'argent que possédaient les prisonniers de guerre leur ait été confisqué.

Conformément aux articles 6 et 34 de la Convention de Genève, cet argent a été retiré aux prisonniers soit contre reçu individuel, soit, quand cela n'a pas été possible en raison du trop grand nombre de prisonniers, contre listes établies par les Commandants des Camps de triage, et a été porté au compte particulier de chaque P.G. pour lui être remboursé au moment de sa libération.

Il est à remarquer que la plus grande partie des sommes ainsi retirées étaient en billets de la Banque de France, qui n'ont pas cours légal en Afrique du Nord, et dont certains portaient des surcharges supérieures à leur valeur nominale. Ces billets sont actuellement bloqués, conformément aux instructions du Commandement aux Finances, dans les Caisse de 3043.

A titre de renseignements, le total des comptes particuliers des P.G. s'élève à plus de 3 millions de francs pour le Camp de Boghari, et à plus de 7 millions pour les Camps de Constantine et du Kreider.

- 2 -

L'inscription au compte particulier de chaque P.G. des sommes qui lui avaient été retirées dans les Camps de triage de Tunisie a présenté, par suite de renseignements incomplets sur l'identité des propriétaires et de nombreux cas d'homonymie. Des recherches longues et minutieuses ont dû être faites pour assurer le règlement de cette question. Elles ont porté sur une somme de 18 millions de francs et de près de 300.000 livres. Elles sont en cours d'achèvement. Après une vérification finale par ordre alphabétique, terminée pour les officiers, et actuellement à la lettre "P" pour les hommes de troupe, les avoirs de tous les P.G. auront été crédités des sommes qui leur ont été retirées en Tunisie.

II. UTILISATION DES PRISONNIERS.-

Les prisonniers de guerre ont été, conformément à l'article 27 de la Convention de Genève, répartis sur des chantiers de travail appropriés à leurs aptitudes. Il est à remarquer que cet emploi des P.G. a été en général fort bien accueilli par eux et leur a procuré des conditions de vie beaucoup plus agréables que le séjour dans un camp derrière des fils de fer barbelés.

Les chantiers employant des P.G. sont inspectés périodiquement par des Officiers et Médecins Militaires qui s'assurent que les conditions de vie et de travail répondent aux obligations de la Convention de Genève et de la Législation Française. Les délégations de la Croix-Rouge en Afrique du Nord visitent également les chantiers. Toutes les fois que des abus sont constatés, les sanctions nécessaires sont prises.

C'est ainsi que pour un des cas signalés par un memorandum, celui de la ferme Vidal à Cheragas, des abus et mauvais traitements ayant été constatés, des sanctions ont été prises et les P.G. retirés à cet employeur. Des enquêtes ont été prescrites sur les six autres cas signalés et des sanctions seront prises s'il y a lieu. Cependant il est tout à fait injuste de généraliser quelques incidents regrettables, mais inévitables si on tient compte du fait que 35.000 P.G. italiens sont employés comme travailleurs sur des chantiers divers, dont près de 20.000 dans des exploitations agricoles. Les contrôles effectués permettent au contraire d'affirmer que la plupart de ces P.G. sont bien traités et satisfaits de leur sort et que les abus découverts ou signalés, notamment par la Croix-Rouge, sont aussitôt réprimés.

Il serait tout aussi injuste de prendre prétexte de quelques cas de refus de travail par pure mauvaise volonté, de rébellions, d'attentats à la propriété ou sur des personnes et de manifestations antifrançaises ou antialliées commis par des P.G. pour les soumettre à un régime qui, tout en restant conforme à la Convention de Genève, serait moins libéral que celui qui a été accordé.

- 3 -

Les autorités françaises se sont bien gardées d'agir ainsi et elles sont en droit d'attendre qu'on leur fasse confiance pour mettre fin à des abus en réalité très rares par rapport au nombre de travailleurs employés.

III. PUNITIONS COLLECTIVES..

Les punitions collectives sont interdites dans les camps des prisonniers de guerre, conformément à l'article 46 de la Convention de Genève.

Une enquête sera faite sur le cas signalé, qui remonte au 24 Juin 1943 et, le cas échéant, une sanction sera prise contre le grade français responsable, comme il a été fait dans deux ou trois cas analogues où des gradés subalternes français, impatientés par une mauvaise volonté collective évidente, avaient enfreint les consignes formelles données à cet égard et auraient pu pourtant être excusés du fait que l'article 46 n'interdit les punitions collectives que pour des actes individuels.

IV. ASSISTANCE SANITAIRE..

Une enquête est faite pour rechercher le médecin italien qui, en Tunisie, en Juin 1943, aurait été obligé de procéder à une opération avec une lame Gillette parce que les Français n'autorisaient pas l'admission du malade à l'hôpital.

Les résultats en seront donnés.

Il est exact que des P.C. faits par des Français ont dû être soignés pendant l'été 1943 par des formations alliées, mais cela a été fait par entente entre les Services Alliés et le Service Français parce que la plupart des établissements fixes français de Tunisie avaient été passés aux Alliés. Environ 900 P.C. allemands et italiens aux mains des français sont ainsi passés dans des formations alliées, où ils ont été fort bien soignés.

Tous les malades du Camp de La Cagna, comme d'autres dont l'état de santé, par suite de dysenterie ou autre maladie, le nécessitait, ont été évacués sur les hôpitaux. Le propos prêté au Commandant de ce Camp (qui a été depuis remplacé dans cet emploi) ne peut être qu'une boutade s'appliquant à des malades peu graves. Les statistiques de mortalité données au paragraphe I. prouvent nettement que tous les soins nécessaires ont été donnés.

V. ASSISTANCE SPIRITUELLE..

3040

L'autorité française a tenu à placer dans chaque camp un aumônier italien qui visite également les chantiers dépendant de ce camp.

Il est tout à fait inexact qu'il soit interdit aux aumôniers de lire l'Evangile à la messe le dimanche. Il a été simplement prescrit, dans quelques camps où des aumôniers avaient cru pouvoir se permettre des allusions politiques, de se tenir

sur le terrain purement religieux, pour éviter les incidents que ces allusions risquaient de provoquer et avaient effectivement provoqué parmi les prisonniers dont les opinions politiques étaient divergentes.

Il est également inexact que l'Aumônier en Chef, Mgr. NANI, ait été empêché de prêcher dans les camps. Il a été au contraire autorisé à s'y rendre et a effectivement visité un certain nombre de ces camps avant d'être libéré par une mesure gracieuse du Commandant en Chef français. Mgr. NANI a en outre correspondu librement avec les aumôniers des camps.

Enfin, avant son départ, Mgr. NANI a tenu à venir rendre visite au Général directeur du service des P.G. pour le remercier de ce qui avait été fait en vue de l'assistance spirituelle aux P.G.

VI. PROVOCATION DE LA PRESSE.-

L'article incriminé de la Dépêche Algérienne, qui est du 8 août 1943, date à laquelle l'Italie était encore en guerre contre les Alliés, émane de l'initiative d'une municipalité. Mais il est nécessaire de rappeler qu'il venait à la suite d'incidents fâcheux provoqués par des P.G. qui avaient profité de la liberté de circulation qui leur était laissée pour se livrer, dans certaines localités, à des manifestations intolérables (insultes au drapeau français, cris de "A bas la France, Heil Hitler, vive Mussolini"). Les employeurs étaient simplement prévenus de surveiller les prisonniers qui leur étaient confiés, tout en les traitant humainement, pour éviter le retour de tels incidents.

VII. CONDITIONS DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE DANS CERTAINS CAMPS.-

Les trois camps signalés de Tunis, Carnot et Constantine, ont été visités non seulement par des délégués de la Croix-Rouge Internationale, mais encore par M. le Général Castellano, qui avait reçu à cet effet une autorisation spéciale du Haut Commandement Français.

Les opinions émises dans le memorandum portant sur le logement, l'habillement, la nourriture et l'hygiène, 30e 3e 3e, sensiblement les mêmes pour les trois camps, seront examinées ci-dessous.

1/ Logement :

Dans les trois camps considérés, des baraques ont été construites et achevées avant la mauvaise saison pour abriter les P.G. non détachés sur les chantiers, et dont l'effectif est très inférieur à celui donné au memorandum. Il y a :

.....

- 5 -

- 8 baraques pour environ 1.000 prisonniers de guerre (effectif exceptionnel en raison de mouvements de main-d'œuvre en cours, sera réduit à trois ou quatre cent) à Constantine.
- 12 baraques pour environ 400 prisonniers de guerre à Carnot.
- 6 baraques pour environ 400 prisonniers de guerre à Tunis.

Ces baraques offrent un abri très suffisant, et même confortable, et sont munies de couchettes. D'autres baraques servent pour l'infirmerie, la cantine, les salles de réunion, etc... Les baraques de Carnot, qui sont à tort signalées comme défectueuses, sont dotées de poêles, et certaines de lits complets.

2/ Habillement :

Au moment de leur capture, la plupart des prisonniers de guerre étaient à demi nus, avec seulement un short et une chemise; ils avaient abandonné leurs effets sur le champ de bataille ou en route, et parfois les avaient vendus aux indigènes pour se procurer des vivres ou du tabac. Un effort considérable a été fait par le Commandement Français pour les pourvoir d'effets militaires français. Près de 20.000 collections d'effets de drap (veste, pantalon, manteau) leur ont notamment été distribuées. En outre, près de 15.000 vêtements de travail provenant des stocks américains ont été cédés par les autorités civiles françaises aux employeurs pour les P.G. détachés sur les chantiers. Enfin quelques milliers d'effets italiens, récupérés dans les magasins pris par les troupes françaises en Tunisie et en Corse, ont été intégralement utilisés pour l'habillement des P.G.

Dans ces conditions, à peu près tous les P.G. italiens ont été munis d'effets de drap chaud pour l'hiver. Des difficultés se sont présentées, et ne sont pas encore complètement résolues, pour le linge et les chaussures, en raison du manque d'effets de cette nature dans les magasins français. Le concours des autorités alliées et de la Croix-Rouge a été demandé pour améliorer la situation à cet égard, mais jusqu'ici sans résultat. C'est pour remplacer les chaussures manquantes qu'on a distribué (comme le memorandum l'indique pour Constantine) des sabots, des espadrilles et nœils, faute de mieux.

3/ Nourriture :

La nourriture des P.G. est, en principe, la même que celle des troupes françaises. Ils reçoivent en particulier des rations de vin. Une seule dérogation au principe de l'égalité du traitement avec les militaires français a été apportée récemment en ce qui concerne les denrées contingentées, pour lesquelles le taux a été fixé à celui de la population civile. C'est ainsi que les P.G., qui recevaient auparavant une ration journalière de 500 gr. de pain, l'ont vu réduite à 300 grammes, taux de la ration civile. Cette diminution est compensée, dans toute la mesure du possible, par les suppléments de légumes. Au point de vue alimentaire et énergétique, les rations actuelles sont suffisantes, et supérieures pratiquement aux rations de la population civile française, et sans doute à celles de la population civile italienne. Il est

- 6 -

exact que les P.O. italiens se plaignent du manque de pâtes alimentaires et de riz, mais il est juste de constater que ces denrées n'existent qu'en quantités réduites en Afrique du Nord et sont remplacées par des légumes secs ou verts de valeur équivalente. La plupart des camps possèdent des jardins potagers et des troupeaux de moutons et de porcs qui apportent un supplément appréciable à l'alimentation.

La remarque faite à propos du camp de Constantine est certainement erronée, ce camp ayant ~~un~~ au contraire un fond de réserve (boni) dépassant un million de francs. En réalité, la difficulté est de trouver des vivres à acheter. Cette difficulté est résolue en partie par la constitution des groupements d'achats (ordinaire) qui fournissent les camps de P.O. au même titre que les corps de troupe français.

4/ Hygiène :

Contrairement aux indications données au sujet de Constantine, dans tous les camps un gros effort a été fait pour développer les installations hygiéniques (lavabos, douches, latrines, étuves pour désinfection). Une infirmerie bien installée, avec plusieurs médecins militaires italiens et des approvisionnements suffisants en médicaments, existe dans chaque camp, y compris celui de Constantine. Tous les malades graves sont dirigés sur les hôpitaux militaires français, où ils sont soignés dans les mêmes conditions que les malades français. Il est exact qu'il y a eu, pendant l'été 1943, quelques cas de paludisme parmi les P.O. de la division de Constantine, mais il y a lieu de constater que pour 95 % des cas il s'agissait d'anciens paludéens, et non de primo-infection. Toutes les mesures hygiéniques nécessaires ont par ailleurs été prises; les P.O. ont été enlevés de toutes les régions insalubres; les autres ont été soumis à des traitements préventifs et, dès le mois de Septembre, la situation sanitaire était redevenue - et est restée depuis - satisfaisante.

Il serait d'ailleurs facile de faire constater par la Délégation de la Croix-Rouge, ou toute autre personnalité neutre et impartiale, la situation réelle dans les camps de Tunis, Carnot, Constantine et Glaisel, pour établir l'exagération manifeste des allégations du memorandum.

C O N C L U S I O N

Contrairement à l'affirmation du memorandum, ce sont les mauvais traitements qui sont l'exception à la règle générale pour la masse des P.O., qui le reconnaissent eux-mêmes, et leur situation est aussi favorable que possible dans une région soumise à une discipline et à des restrictions imposées par le cas de guerre. 3028

Toutes les dispositions de la Convention de Genève sont appliquées par les autorités françaises dans le sens le plus libéral, mais aussi et forcément dans les limites des ressources matérielles dont elles disposent./.

POW in France
SECRETFARGO 582 *5-**POW*

FARGO

28 JANUARY 1944

SECRET

10050 MACFARLANE

ROUTINE

AFHQ

From MacFarlane personal. Both Badoglio and Messe have again brought up allegations of bad treatment accorded to Italian P.W. in French charge in North Africa. Grateful if you would look into this question and if allegations are unfounded let me have a statement with which I can refute them. Otherwise if there is substance in allegations hope you will take any action you think desirable and give me information soonest.

*243**Decentral**383.6*

3036

L.F. NICKEL
Lt. Col. AGO
Adjutant General

SECRET

SECRET

FARCO 582

P.O.W.

FARGO

28 JANUARY 1944

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From MacFarlane personal. Both Badoglio and Messe have again brought up allegations of bad treatment accorded to Italian P.W. in French charge in North Africa. Grateful if you would look into this question and if allegations are unfounded let me have a statement with which I can refute them. Otherwise if there is substance in allegations hope you will take any actions you think desirable and give me information soonest.

243

Declassified

383.6

3026

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

SECRET

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR
ESCAPED FROM KENYA TO PORTU-
GUESE EAST AFRICA

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Reference #243

18 March 1944

His Excellency don Renato Brunas
Secretary General, Royal Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

I have been asked by Mr. H. A. Saccis to inform you what action has been taken under a claim by the Portuguese Red Cross regarding the personal effects of the under-mentioned Italian prisoners of war, who recently escaped from Kenya into Portuguese East Africa.

Instructions have been given to the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, East Africa to have their personal effects returned through H.M. Consul General, Lourenço Marques. But the balances of pay due to them (as indicated opposite their names) will now become payable by the Royal Italian Government in accordance with Article 24 of the Prisoners of War Convention.

Their names are:-

No.	Rank	Name	E.A. shillings:	Cents
27091	Captain	MARSAGLIA, Amedeo	(1428	. 76)
" 27193	Lieut.	TONELLI, Franco	(793	. 81)
" 41335	"	CORSINI, Giovanni	(1430	. 59)
" 52340	"	BENTOLI, Mario	(2692	. 99)
	Cadet	MUCCI, Girolamo	(NIL)	

With compliments,

[Signature]
J. M. PEARSON
Captain
Political Section

3035

in 2nd visit to Salomon

Paraphrase

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

40/16/O
ASH/IVM

14th March, 1944.

My dear Lord,

I enclose a copy of a despatch
from the Foreign Office regarding
certain escaped Italian prisoners
of war at present in Portuguese East
Africa.

2. Unless you see any objection I
should be grateful if you would
notify the Italian Government in
the sense desired by the Foreign
Office.

Yours etc.

A. Halford.
A. Halford.

H.A. Caccia, Esq.

3034

COPY.

No.48.
(C.2523/751/36).

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

4th March, 1944.

Sir,

In a despatch dated the 20th August, 1943, His Majesty's Consul-General in Lourenco Marques informed me that he had been requested by the delegate of the Portuguese Red Cross in Lourenco Marques to transmit a claim for the recovery of personal effects and credits of the under-mentioned Italian prisoners of war who, having escaped from Kenya, had taken refuge in Portuguese East Africa:-

No. 27091 Capt. MARSAGLIA Amedeo
No. 27193 Lieut. TONELLI Franco
No. 41385 " CORSIINI Giovanni
No. 62380 " BONIOLI Mario
Cadet NUCCI Girolamo

2. It has been decided that the personal effects of the prisoners may be returned to them and appropriate instructions have been sent to the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, East Africa, so that the effects shall be returned through His Majesty's Consul-General at Lourenco Marques.

3. The credit balances (in East African shillings and cents) standing for the men's account at the time of their escape are as follows:-

		E.A. Shillings	Cents
No. 27091	Capt. Marsaglia	1428	76
No. 27193	Lieut. Tonelli	793	81
No. 41385	" Corsini	1430	59
No. 62380	" Bonioli	2692	99
	Cadet Nucci		Nil

The Right Honourable
Harold Macmillan, M.P.,
Algiers.

4./

3053

1013

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

RADIO OR ITALIAN
PRISONERS OF WAR

Row

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APO 394

June 13, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: The High Commissioner for Prisoners of War
SUBJECT: Use of Radios for Prisoners of War

Reference is made to Memorandum No. 117 Pol., dated April 30, 1944, from the High Commissioner for Prisoners of War, concerning the use of radios for prisoners of war. The contents of this Memorandum were communicated to the American military authorities in North Africa who have replied as follows:

"The supply of radios in this theater is yet inadequate to allow sufficient distribution for U. S. Army troop requirements, and until this condition is corrected, no radios will be available for use by Italian service personnel.

"Should it be possible for the Italian High Commissary for Prisoners of War to render the necessary receiving sets available for use by subject prisoners, full benefit of them will be permitted contingent upon restrictions imposed for security reasons."

24/3

Political Section

c.c. U. S. Representative

3032

UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

June 3, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: SAMUEL REBER, ESQUIRE,
Vice President, Allied Control Commission
Political Section, APO 394

With reference to your memorandum of May 3, 1944 enclosing in translation a copy of a memorandum received from the High Commissioner for Prisoners of War of the Italian Government requesting that the subject of the use of radios for prisoners of war be brought to the attention of the American military authorities in North Africa, the following reply, received from G-1, MATOUSA, should be made:

"Special Service Section, SOS, advises that supply of radios in this theater is yet inadequate to allow sufficient distribution for U. S. Army troop requirements, and that until this condition is corrected, no radios will be available for use by Italian service personnel.

"Should it be possible for the Italian High Commissary for Prisoners of War to render the necessary receiving sets available for use by subject prisoners, full benefit of them will be permitted contingent upon restrictions imposed for security reasons."

For the American Political Adviser:



G. Frederick Reinhardt

3031

Radios for POW

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

May 8, 1944.

243

MEMORANDUM TO: American Political Advisor, Allied Force Headquarters.

There is enclosed a copy in translation of a Memorandum received from the High Commissioner for Prisoners of War of the Italian Government who requests that his Memorandum on the subject of the use of radios for prisoners of war be brought to the attention of the American military authorities in North Africa.

I would appreciate an indication of the nature of the reply which the American authorities desire to make to this communication.

Samuel Reber
Vice President, Allied Control Commission
Political Section

c.c. Mr. Kirk

3030

TRANSLATION NO. 339 R. ROMANO

The High Commissioner for PW.
File No. 117 Pol.

Cava dei Tirreni
30 April, 1944

SUBJECT: Use of radios for prisoners of war.

To the A.C.C. SALERNO

1. I deem it necessary to call the attention of the Control Commission to a matter of great interest to Italian prisoners of war.

It is well known that the use of radios has a beneficial effect upon the spiritual and moral conditions of prisoners of war, and the consolation they derive from being able, thanks to its use, to keep constantly in touch with the principal events taking place in their country.

2. The Royal Italian Government understands that at present there are no radio sets being used by prisoners in the North African camps (Tunis, Algiers, Morocco) which can no longer be considered transit camps, since the prisoners have been kept there now for many months, and this privation is greatly felt by the prisoners.

We should be most grateful to the Allies if they would kindly look into the matter as soon as possible and arrange for the use of radios in these camps.

3. In the U.S.A. camps, all permanent, although the American Military Authorities take great care to provide for the spiritual benefit of Italian prisoners of war, the use of short wave radios is not permitted; consequently depriving the prisoners of hearing their country's transmissions, which seems to them incomprehensible after the armistice signed and the cobelligerency declared. We understand the reasons which may have caused the prohibition to use short-wave in the camps; but it seems to me that no possible harm could be done if the short-wave set is controlled by the American officer in charge of the camp, choosing himself the auditions to be given in the camp where the loud speaker is installed. This procedure has been applied in many camps of prisoners in British hands without causing any inconvenience and to the satisfaction of all the prisoners.

We beg the A.C.C. to courteously ask the Military Authorities of the U.S.A. if they would be so kind as to consent to this keen desire of the Italian soldiers in those camps.

We offer our thanks for the kind response to this matter.

The High Commissary
(General Pietro Gazzera)

3023

MO/ma



*L'Alto Commissario
per i prigionieri di guerra*

N. 117.Pol.

OGGETTO : Uso delle radio per i prigionieri di guerra.

Cava dei Tirreni, 30 aprile 1944

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

SALERNO

1. - Ritengo necessario interessare codesta Onorevole Commissione di Controllo nei riguardi di una questione di notevole interesse per i prigionieri di guerra italiani.

Sono note le benefiche conseguenze che sulle condizioni spirituali e morali dei prigionieri di guerra determina l'uso della radio ed il sollievo che ad essi deriva dal potersi tenere, in grazia di detto uso, meglio e più rapidamente al corrente dei principali avvenimenti della loro Patria.

2. - Ora, da quanto risulta al R. Governo Italiano, nei campi del Nord Africa (Tunisia, Algeria, Marocco) che non possono più considerarsi di transito, in quanto che i prigionieri vi sono ormai detenuti da molti mesi, non vi sono apparecchi radio e tale privazione è molto sentita dai prigionieri. Si sarebbe molto grati alle Autorità Alleate, se volessero, con benevola sollecitudine, disporre in modo che l'uso delle radio in quei campi sia reso possibile.

3. - Nei campi, definitivi tutti, degli S.U.d'America, benchè molta cura sia colà esplicata dalle Autorità militari americane per consentire ai prigionieri di guerra italiani il benessere spirituale, non è consentito l'uso della radio ad onde corte; così i prigionieri di guerra sono privati della possibilità di udire la voce della Patria, il che pare a loro insopportabile dopo l'avvenuto armistizio e la cobelligeranza italiana in corso. Si comprendono le ragioni che possono aver indotto a non consentire l'uso delle onde corte nei campi; ma a me sembra che si possa evitare ogni possibilità di danno affidando l'apparecchio ad onde corte all'ufficiale americano addetto al campo, che regoli egli stesso l'audizione delle radio diffusions nel campo ove

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venga installato l'altoparlante. Questo procedimento risulta essere stato applicato in molti campi di prigionieri in mano britannica senza arrecar alcun inconveniente e con soddisfazione dei prigionieri tutti.

Si prega codesta Commissione Alleata di Controllo di volere cortesemente interessare le Autorità militari degli S.U.d'America perchè vogliano acconsentire a questo vivo desiderio dei militari italiani che sono in quei campi di prigionia.

Ringrazio sin d'ora del cortese riscontro in merito.

L'ALTO COMMISSARIO
(Generale Pietro Gazzera)



SS VISITS TO GERMAN
PRISONERS OF WAR IN ITALY.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

No. 118.

13th August, 1944.

Many thanks for your letter 40/170/2 of the 9th August about the Swiss request to visit German prisoners of war etc. in Italy. Since I raised this with Roger Makins A.I.I. have fixed up the British side and I understand that the same applies on the American side. They have an additional complication in that visits of the Protecting Power have to be made in the company of a representative of the Provost Marshal and of the State Department. These representatives have, however, already arrived in Rome and been put in touch with the Swiss. I trust therefore that we shall not have to worry A.F.H.Q. further about this question.

243

Sir A. Rumbold, Bart.,
Office of the British Resident Minister,
Central, Mediterranean,
Allied Force Headquarters,
CASERTA.

3027

per
Office of the British Resident Minister,
Central, Mediterranean,
Allied Force Headquarters,
Caserta.

9th August 1944.

40/140/2.

Jean Monnet,

On your recent visit to us you raised with Roger
Makin the question of the Swiss request to visit German
prisoners of war in hospitals in Italy.

When Fred Reinhardt was last in Rome he dealt with this
request, so far as prisoners of war in American hands are
concerned, by telling the Swiss representative to send the
request to Mr. Murphy's office, (who, unlike us, deal directly
with questions concerning American held prisoners of war.)

I do not know whether the Swiss representative has now
received permission to visit wounded prisoners of war in
British hands, but, if he hasn't, A.A.I. or A.C.C. should
refer the request to G-1(B) A.P.O.Q., who, incidentally, are
quite ready to grant it.

Tom

Tom

Anthony Rubold.

H.A. Caccia Esq.

3026

Visits by Swiss to
Geneva on 10/18
Calvin B. Brown

Rec'd
4 Aug

1. Here is the report from "A" branch.
2. I would suggest the next step is for Mr. Caccia to kindly confer with the Swiss legation.
3. If I can help further, please let me know.

4/
18

P.J.F.

3025

Mr. Estes from Murphy's office, accompanied by
a Mr. from P.M.'s office called and were referred
to Swiss legation - Aug. 18

WMS

C O P Y

Reference our conversation this morning on the subject of visits by delegates of Swiss Legation to American Prisoner of War Cages and hospitals containing enemy prisoners of war.

1. I understand from Lieut BOTER of Provost Marshal's Office S. O. S. NATOUSA (Missouri 32/) that this matter has been taken up with AFHQ as it is a policy matter.
2. He states that Swiss Legation have been asked to give present location of delegates as the U. S. authorities insist upon a representative of the State Department and of Provost Marshal's Office accompanying the delegates on any visits they may make.
3. He states that the passes will be given to the Swiss Legation as soon as they have agreed the details.

(signed) Therenot
Capt

4 August 44.

3024

943

A.C.C. Liaison Officer.

R. type (p)

Reference our conversation this morning on the subject of visits by delegates of Swiss Legation to American P.W. Camps and hospitals containing American P.W.

1. I understand from First Officer of Swiss Legation's Office S.O.S. MROSA (Message 327) that this matter has been taken up with A.F.H.G. as it is a policy matter.

2. He states that Swiss Legation have been asked to give present location of delegates as the U.S. authorities insist upon a representative of the State Department and of Swiss Legation's office accompanying the delegates on any visits they may make.

3. He states that the matter will be 3023gr
4. He Swiss Legation as soon as they have

(Museum 221) name

D.C.S. 1940-59

Marshall's Office

this matter has been taken up with A.F.H.B. as it is a policy matter.

2. He states that Soviet Legation have been asked to give present location of delegates as the U.S. authorities insist upon a representation of the State Department and of Soviet Presses office accompanying the delegates on any visit they may make.

3. He states that the press will be 3023 to the Soviet Legation as soon as they have signed the details.

Theravot/Capt. ~~Aug.~~

Col Mack Brown.

1. Authority is given herewith
to visit British Camps.
2. PBS have still not
dealt with U.S. Camps but
"A" are getting in touch by
phone for an answer.
3. "A" are ^{phoning} ~~keeping~~ us when they
hear from PBS.
4. "A" had kept the attached
authorities dated '57 awaiting PBS reply

4/8

P. J. J.

Foreign Interests.

M E M O R A N D U M.

The Swiss Legation, Foreign Interests Section, presents .

its compliments to the Political Section of the Allied

Control Commission and has the honor to request the competent authorities to advise the Legation where German prisoner of war and civilian concentration camps are located.

It would also be appreciated if permission could be granted for one of the Legation's members to visit hospitals where German wounded soldiers are confined, as well as the above-mentioned camps.

R o m e, July 13, 1944.

3021

Capt. Thomsen

Filpot (6th Branch)
E.H. 226

*Copy given to Col Brown L.O.
to be used for
type which passed the
document to the Legation*

13/6

The Swiss Legation, Foreign Interests Section, presents .

its compliments to the Political Section of the Allied

Control Commission and has the honor to request the competent

authorities to advise the Legation where German prisoner of

war and civilian concentration camps are located.

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where German wounded soldiers are confined, as well as the

above-mentioned camps.

R o m e, July 13, 1944.

SGM/sca

5021

Capt. Thawer

Filpot ("C" Branch)
Ext. 226

was passing his report to PBC
for their study R. 7.

Col. Brown receiving letter
F-1. 3.8.

Dr Sonnerough informed

ADVANCE HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Liaison Division
APO 394

10 July 1944

MEMO:

TO : Mr. Caccia

1. The Swiss Legation requested information in reference to procedure to visit German POW Camps and German Civilian Internees.
2. Applications must be submitted to Hq. AAI (Admin). They can be submitted through IO at AAI for ACC (Major Friend James) Room 1281 AAI Hqs.
3. This information was furnished by GSI (b) Hq. AAI (Advance).

EB/ac

Enoch Brown
ENOCH BROWN,
Lt Col

W. A. Brown

Please explain these initials, I do not understand. Very

Maj Friend James

496541 - EV 132

When is this?
What is the telephone who is he?
When is the permission 2020

1031

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

COMMUNICATIONS WITH PRI-
SONERS OF WAR

Political Sec
0320

Office of the British Resident Minister
at Allied Force Headquarters,
5, Rue Professeur Curtillet,
Algiers.

43/150/18

2nd April, 1944.

Dear Miss Hopkins,

Under cover of your memorandum of March 27th you sent us for onward transmission an envelope addressed to an Italian prisoner of war in Uganda which you had received from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

It is now possible for residents in Liberated Italy to correspond with Italian prisoners of war in Allied hands through normal postal channels. If you receive any more letters of this kind, we suggest therefore that you should inform the sender that all he has to do is to drop it into the letter-box.

Donnell
Will you kindly
note and do this
W.H.
5/4

Yours sincerely,

J.M. Addis

J. M. Addis.

Roberts informed
8 April 1944
DMD

243
705

3013

Junior Commander Hopkins,
Allied Control Commission,
(Political Section).

Comunicazione 810.88Ws

R. MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

P

COLL.

TR.: GRILLO

~~interamente~~ Telegramma in PARTENZA

Nº. coll:

SP.

I

116

Oggetto:

Data: PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA IN GERMANIA

Tramite: 30.3.44

C.A.C.

Diretto a:

R. LEGAZIONE ITALIANA - BERNA

Testo: (originale)

Nº.

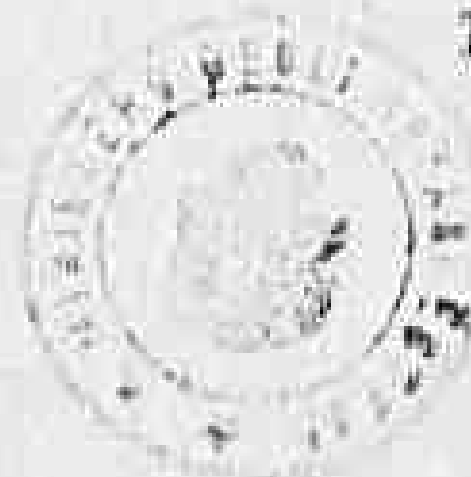
69 - March 30(.) Your SI(.) Please wire further news Italian P.O.W.'s in Germany and occupied territories informing whether International Red Cross has completed lists and same are being sent(.) Approach also International Red Cross in order obtaining German Government consent to regular postal service with P.O.W., similar to that existing with P.O.W.'s in Allied hands(.)

PRUNAS

(traduzione)

Suo 21. Prego telegrafare ulteriori notizie nostri p.g. in Germania e territorio occupato informando se C.I.C.R. abbia completato liste nominative e se trasmissione di queste sia in corso. Prego interessare C.I.C.R. perchè governo tedesco consenta istituzione normale servizio postale con p.g. analogo a quello con p.g. in mano alleata.

PRUNAS



3018

Consegnato a:

il:

C.A.C.

17 APR 1944
VIA AEREA

M. G. G. G.

LRS/AS/cit.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Military Government Section

Are you concerned?

AGS-383.6

8 December 1943

SUBJECT: PW Inquiries

TO : HQ AMG, CMF.

1. Reference is made to your letter AGS/3033/PH of 19 Nov. 1943.
2. Attached is the copy of a letter HQ, RA, FMG, dated 6 Dec. 1943, in reply to our request for information in the subject matter.
3. We would like to add that the establishment of an International Red Cross branch in Sicily and Italy, as well as the reorganization of the Italian Red Cross in Italy is now under consideration.

*J. C. Luciani*R. S. JACQUINE,
Lt. Colonel.

Copy to:

(2-1 (H))

HQ. Acc. Public Health Sub-Commission ✓

334 Red Cross
X 353.81 - Luciani
X 3836 - 1700

Information only

3013

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
APO 534, U. S. Army

6 December 1943

SUBJECT: Prisoner of War Inquiries.

TO : Chief, Military Government Section, Allied Force Headquarters.

1. With reference to attached correspondence. A complete list of PW and their locations is not available and it is not practicable to prepare it.

2. It is not the policy to reveal specific locations of PW in this theater. In answer to inquiries of the International Red Cross the mail address of PW is furnished.

3. It is suggested that the Italian Red Cross organization in Sicily submit inquiries to the Provost Marshal, Island Base Section, APO 550, U. S. Army, who will furnish information as to well being and the address (Camp Number) of PW held in U. S. custody in Sicily. If, according to IBS records, the inquiry is for a PW who is not held in Sicily the Provost Marshal will forward the inquiry to the Prisoner of War Information Bureau, Office of the Provost Marshal General, MATOUA, APO 534 where every effort will be made to obtain and furnish the information desired by Italian Red Cross.

4. Inasmuch as direct service to Sicily will be available soon letters from PW should be reaching persons making inquiry of the Italian Red Cross and the number of their requests will undoubtedly decrease.

J. V. DILLON,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Provost Marshal General

Incls: n/c

2016

1036

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

DOCUMENTS OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

JMP/ajp

File

27 June 1944

Ref. 243.

SUBJECT: Documents from Italian Prisoners of War

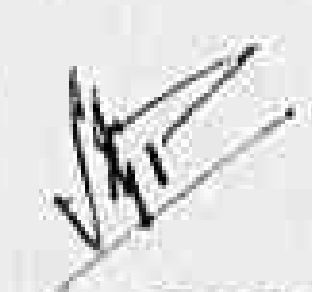
TO : S. E. don Renato Prunas, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Salerno.

I have made enquiries regarding the problem of certifying the signatures of camp commandants, who attest documents (e.g. over property) signed by Italian prisoners of war overseas. These have often been found not legally acceptable by Italian Courts, since the signature of the camp commandant has not itself been certified by a competent authority, and have sometimes had to be returned for re-certification by the protecting power.

It was suggested by you that an officer of the Allied Control Commission should be empowered to certify the signatures of all camp commandants (from a card-index of their specimen signatures) in instances where they have attested documents signed by Italian prisoners of war, in order to make them legally acceptable in Italian courts.

It is considered, however, that you should first ascertain what simplified procedure for legalizing these documents would be acceptable to Italian courts (and this will involve the larger question of substitution of the function of notary public and similar officials). Then if you will put forward a practical scheme to carry out that procedure, no doubt the Commission will give such assistance as may be possible to put it into operation overseas.

At the same time, the scheme should be prepared for operation by officials of the Italian government, and the assistance of the Commission limited to collection of specimen signatures for their use. The Commission would not be prepared to nominate an officer for this routine duty which more properly belongs to Italian Records administration.


J. M. PEARSON,
Major
Political Section.

3015

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

JMF/ajp

24 June 1944

Ref. 243.

SUBJECT: Documents from Italian Prisoners of War

TO : Director Legal Sub-Commission, ACC.

1. The Italian Foreign Office has approached me in connection with the certifying of documents (e.g. over property) signed by Italian prisoners of war.
2. These signatures at present are "certified" by commandants of POW camps but on receipt here are often found not to be legally acceptable by the courts, since the signature of the camp commandant has not itself been certified by a competent authority. These documents have to be returned, sometimes as far as to India, for recertifying by the Protecting Power (Switzerland) and then forwarded through the Italian Legation in Berne.
3. The Italian Foreign Office asks if it would not be possible
 - (a) to circularize all commandants of Italian POW camps reminding them that their signatures in such cases should be certified by the local Swiss Consul (or by some person delegated by him for that purpose) OR
 - (b) to appoint an officer of ACC, empowered to certify the signatures of all camp commandants (from a card-index of their specimen signatures) in instances where they have attested the signatures of Italian prisoners of war, and thus "legalize" the documents.
4. May I have your views on the relative efficacy of these proposals please?

J. M. Pearson
J. M. PEARSON,
Major
Political Section

3014

Copy to: Mr. H. A. Caccia,
Political Section, ACC.

Back

To Political Section

ATT: Major Pearson.

1. It is entirely a matter for the Italian Govt to state what machinery is acceptable to them for certifying documents & it is not for A.C.C. to advise them thereon.
2. If the Italian Govt put forward a scheme which is a practical & which satisfies their procedures no doubt A.C.C. will give such assistance as ~~to~~ it can to secure its implementation abroad.

27 Jan

G. Rhyapth
C.C.O. A.

1040

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

GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR
IN ITALIAN HANDS

RESTRICTED

Magistrati's telegram No. 190, June 21, from the Italian Legation at Berne for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

International Committee Red Cross, Geneva, desires me to inform them places of internment and status of German prisoners who appear to be under control of Italian authorities. Committee has been informed by military Government of Corsica that some German prisoners have been transferred to Italians. All information available concerning Italian prisoners will be sent ^{to} by the Royal Government by the International Committee through their Rome delegate who will transmit it.

243

(cover info - dfg
26 June 44)

3013

30 JUNE 44
Spedito

1 0 4 2

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

RUSSIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & M.C. SECTION
APO 394

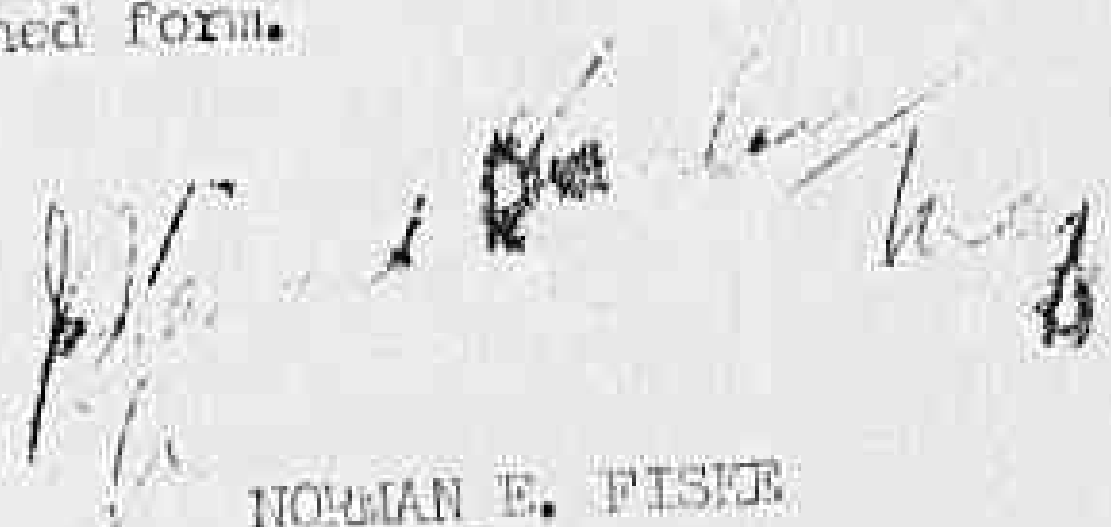
21 June 1944

Ref/760/4/CA

SUBJECT: P.O.W. Russian Nationality.

TO : Distribution below.

1. HQ. AAI Administrative Instruction No. 31 dated 17 June 1944 is forwarded herewith for your information.
2. Please acknowledge receipt on attached form.


NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel
Deputy Executive
Commissioner

COPY TO:

Admin. Section (for Public Safety Sub-Comm.)
Security Branch
Displaced Persons Sub-Comm.
Italian Refugees.
AMG 5 & 8 Armies.
Major Magnus (for Russian Rep.)
Political Section
Army Sub-Commission
R.C.'s Regions IV, V, VIII and IX.

3032

SECRET

HQ, ALLIED ARMIES IN ITALY

WAI/3078/A(O)

17 June 44

Copy No.....

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 31PW OF RUSSIAN NATIONALITY

This instruction cancels all previous instructions issued by this HQ on the administration of PW of Russian nationality.

1. GENERAL

For the purpose of this instruction the term "Russian PW" means PW and deserters of Russian Nationality who, immediately prior to their capture or desertion, were serving in the German Armed Forces.

2. INTERROGATION

All PW claiming Russian nationality, will be interrogated in the normal way. Should any particular PW be required by the Intelligence Staff for special purposes he will be routed to CSDIC and will not come within the scope of this instruction.

3. SEGREGATION

Russian PW will be treated in all respects as enemy PW, but immediately Russian nationality has been established they will be segregated from, and where possible kept out of sight of, other prisoners.

4. EVACUATION

Russian PW will be evacuated through normal channels to 368 PW Camp, TARANTO, under escort.

5. DOCUMENTATION/PROCESSING

Normal documentation/processing will be carried out. Russian PW captured by American Fifth Army will be transferred to British ownership and redocumented on arrival at 368 PW Camp, TARANTO.

6. SELECTION

HQ 2 District will arrange with Russian Military Mission for a representative of that mission to interrogate all Russian PW held in 368 PW Camp to ascertain suitability for employment with Russian forces.

2011

243

243

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Russian PW will be treated in all respects as enemy PW, but immediately Russian nationality has been established they will be segregated from, and where possible kept out of sight of, other prisoners.

4. EVACUATION

Russian PW will be evacuated through normal channels to 368 PW Camp, TARANTO, under escort.

5. DOCUMENTATION/PROCESSING

Normal documentation/processing will be carried out. Russian PW captured by American Fifth Army will be transferred to British ownership and redocumented on arrival at 368 PW Camp, TARANTO.

6. STIPENDION

5011

HQ 2 District will arrange with Russian Military Mission for a representative of that mission to interrogate all Russian PW held in 368 PW Camp to ascertain suitability for employment with Russian forces.

7. DISPOSAL

(a) Russian PW selected, in accordance with para 6 above, as suitable for future service with the Russian forces will remain segregated from other PW and will be evacuated, under escort, in the status of PW, to Middle East where they will be treated as Russian repatriates. No Russian PW will be released from PW status until arrival in Middle East. Movement will be arranged by HQ 2 District who will signal details to GHQ Middle East prior to embarkation.

(b)/

- 2 -

(b) Russian PW not selected for employment with Russian forces will cease to be segregated and will be treated in all respects as German PW.

K. L. ...

Major-General,
Chief Administrative Officer.

WAC/WH

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367/11 (C)	84	85
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Source	87 - 100	87 - 100

3010

Pol. Sec ~~HS~~
~~HS~~

In reply refer to:
IPW/1/233

4 November 1944

My dear Sir Noel:

Reference your letter No. 6/103/44 dated 11 October 1944.

1. After careful consideration, and for the following reasons, I am of the opinion that it would be unwise to repatriate the 10,000 Italian Officer Prisoners of War en bloc from India to Italy at the present time.

a. There is no hope of absorbing them into the Army at its present strength.

b. A large number who belong to the North would become displaced persons.

c. The Press is likely to attack the Government or the Allies if officers only are repatriated.

d. The supply of clothing or the necessary material to make clothes is extremely short. We have to accept approximately 10,000 Italian soldiers from Greece and the Balkans during the next two weeks, and the necessary clothing for these men has not yet been supplied.

e. There would be a further 10,000 mouths to feed, a very considerable proportion of whom would be ineffectives.

2. If, however, it is a matter of urgency that a number of Italian Officers should be moved out of India, I suggest they might be diverted to South Africa and Kenya, since the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War complains that there are not sufficient officers to look after the welfare of the Italian Prisoners of War in the camps in these countries.

3009

3. Furthermore, if lists of officers whom it is desired to repatriate could be forwarded, the Italian High Commissioner for Prisoners of War could examine the lists with a view to selecting those for whom immediate employment could be found in Italy and the return of these particular officers could then be requested. A number of officers have already been asked for and these should, I think, be repatriated immediately.

Very truly yours,



ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

Sir Noel Charles, Bt., KCMG,
British High Commissioner in Italy.

Copy to:
Civil Affairs Section
Political Section ✓
Land Forces Sub-Commission
Public Relations Officer

~~Prepared by:~~

3008

1049

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

REMITTANCES FROM PRI-
SONERS OF WAR TO FAMILIES

✓
R MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

P

Telegramma in codice

1346

Oggetto Pagamento arretrati famiglie prigionieri guerra.
Data 29 Agosto 1944.

Oggetto di Ambasciata Italiana MADRID

Tramite C.A.C.

Testo originale.

685 Agosto 29. Riferimento vostro 585 del 18 Aprile diretto Comando Supremo et relativo fabbisogno pagamento arretrati famiglie prigionieri guerra. Non essendo ancora giunto annunciato rapporto per corriere prego telegrafarne riassunto a questo Ministero.

Zoppi

243



NOT FOR DESPATCH
TEXT IN CIPHER ENCLOSED

3007

1051

Transmit C.A.C.

Testo originale

685 Agosto 29. Riferimento vostro 585 del 18 Aprile diretto Comando Supremo et relativo fabbisogno pagamento arretrati famiglie prigionierie guerra. Non essendo ancora giunto annunciato rapporto per corriere prego telegrafarne riassunto a questo Ministero.

Zoppi

243



3007

NOT FOR DESPATCH
TEXT IN CIPHER ENCLOSED

Prisoners of War, and their families

243

April 26, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: American Political Advisor,
Allied Force Headquarters.

Upon instructions from the British Government, the British member of the Political Section has been discussing with the appropriate Italian authorities an agreement permitting Italian prisoners of war in the United Kingdom to transfer money to their families in liberated Italy, based upon an earlier agreement entered into in 1941. A copy of the Italian Government's communication dated September 26, 1941, is enclosed. It was understood that a similar arrangement prevailed in the United States as regards Italian prisoners of war detained by the American authorities.

A communication has now been received from the High Commissioner for Prisoners of War indicating that the agreement with the American authorities has not entered into force, and requesting that steps be taken to make it effective. A copy in translation of the High Commissioner's note is attached.

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

Enclosures:

As stated.

243
3006

TRANSLATION

Cava dei Tirreni

21 April 1944

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR PRISONERS OF WARSubject: Remittances by Prisoners of War who are Held by U.S.A.
Authorities.To the Allied Control Commission
Salerno

1. On today's date the High Commissariat has extended the thanks of the Italian authorities for the British authorities' decision to resume the application of the agreement concluded between the two Governments in September 1941, regarding the remittances made by prisoners of war to persons or banks of the homeland. (attached copy)

But we wish also to beg the Control Commission to invite the attention of the Government of the U. S. A. to the same question.

2. The military authorities of the U.S.A. have in effect acknowledged the right of Italian prisoners of war detained by the U.S.A. to transfer sums of money in their possession, to Italian territory, in agreement with Article 24 of the Geneva Convention of 27 July 1929, but have not as yet agreed that this should be put into effect because "the Department of State was still studying the formalities necessary for the transfer of sums."

In conclusion, the facilities allowed prisoners of war by Article 24 of the Convention have been recognized as a right, but they have not yet been put into effect, that is the detaining Power has not granted the facilities which it should grant, according to the said Article 24.

The great disappointment which has resulted on the part of Italian soldiers still detained as prisoners of war after the acceptance of co-belligerency, has certainly not escaped the notice of the American military authorities, because the fact was duly explained to the Department of State, Washington, by the representatives of the Protecting Power.

3. The Italian authorities are aware of possible legal objections which might render difficult the transfer of sums to a foreign country but consider that they may be overcome by simple measures, and that they should be overcome if a violation of the Geneva Convention is to be avoided.

For example the agreement here referred to, which was reached between the Italian and British Governments in September, 1941, could also be extended to permit the transfer of savings of the

-2-

Italian prisoners of war in America, without requiring the transfer in cash.

4. The other day, 19th April, the Allied Control Commission announced that Italians living in America have been given permission to send money to their relations in liberated Italy. It seems that an analogous concession could be extended to the Italian prisoners of war.

5. I therefore earnestly beg the Allied Control Commission to consider the aforesaid situation and persuade the competent American authorities to adopt the necessary executive measures, so that prisoners of war in the United States may profit by the conditions given in Article 24 of the Convention.

The savings that prisoners of war in America have been able to make on their allowances, through many and notable sacrifices, could be of great help towards relieving the difficult family and property situations so frequent in the present economic and financial conditions of liberated Italy. This would be entirely to the advantage of Italian collaboration toward the common victory.

The High Commissioner

(Generale Pietro Gazzera)

3004



**L'ALTO COMMISSARIO
PER I PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA**

Cava del Tirrent, 21 aprile 1944

N. 80.POL.

OGGETTO : Rimessa di denaro da parte dei prigionieri di guerra detenuti delle Autorità degli S.U. d'America.

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALIDATA DI CONTROLLO

S a l o r e

1. - In pari data questo Alto Commissariato ha comunicato il ringraziamento da parte delle Autorità Italiane circa la decisione delle Autorità Britanniche di riprendere l'applicazione dell'accordo concluso tra i due rispettivi Governi nel settembre 1941 circa le rimesse dei prigionieri di guerra e persone o bozioni in patria (unito annesso).

Ma nel contempo deve pregare codesta Commissione di Controllo di richianare l'attenzione del Governo degli S.U. d'America sul medesimo argomento.

2. - Risulta come le Autorità militari degli S.U. d'America abbiano riconosciuto, a tenore dell'art. 24 della Convenzione di Ginevra del 27 luglio 1929, ai prigionieri di guerra italiani la esec detenuti, il diritto di trasferire somme di loro proprietà, in territorio italiano, ma non ne abbiano sinora consentito la traduzione in atto, a causa che "il Dipartimento di Stato stava ancora studiando le formalità per simile trasferimento di somme".

In conclusione, la facilitazione fatta ai prigionieri di guerra dell'art. 24 della Convenzione, è stata riconosciuta diritto, ma non resa applicabile sinora: e cioè non sono state concesse le facilitazioni che la Potenza detentrica deve concedere, sempre ai sensi dell'art. 24.

Non è sfuggito certo alle Autorità militari Americane il grave disappunto esistente, in conseguenza di ciò, nell'animo dei militari italiani tuttora detenuti quei prigionieri di guerra dopo la accettazione della capelligenza, perchè il fatto è stato dovutamente esposto al Dipartimento di Stato di Washington dai rappresentanti della Potenza protettrice.

243

1. - In pari data questo Alto Commissariato ha comunicato il ringraziamento da parte delle Autorità Italiane circa la decisione delle Autorità Britanniche di riprendere l'applicazione dell'accordo concluso tra i due rispettivi Governi nel settembre 1947 circa le rimesse dei prigionieri di guerra a persone o banche in patria (v. doc. annesso).

Ma nel contempo deve negare espressa Commissione di Controllo di richiudere l'attenzione del Governo degli S.U.A. d'America sul medesimo argomento.

2. - Risulta come le Autorità militari degli S.U. d'America abbiano riconosciuto, a tenore dell'art. 24 della Convenzione di Ginevra del 27 luglio 1929, ai prigionieri di guerra italiani da esse divenuti, il diritto di trasferire come di loro propria, in territorio italiano, ma non ne abbiano sinora consentito la traduzione in atto, a causa che "il Diritto di Stato stava ancora studiando le formalità per simile trasferimento di uomini".

In conclusione, la facilitazione fatta ai prigionieri di guerra dall'art. 24 della Convenzione, è stata riconosciuta in diritto, ma non resa applicabile sinora: e cioè non sono state concesse le facilitazioni che la Potenza detentrica deve concedere, sempre ai sensi dell'art. 24.

Non è singolare certo alle Autorità militari Americane il grave disappunto esistente, in conseguenza di ciò, nell'animo dei militari italiani tuttora detenuti quei prigionieri di guerra dopo la esecutazione della cobelligeranza, perchè il fatto è stato dovutamente esposto al Dipartimento di Stato di Washington dai rappresentanti della Potenza protettrice.

3. - Le Autorità Italiane si rendono conto di eventuali ostacoli d'ordine legale che potrebbero rendere difficile l'invio di uomini all'estero, ma ritengono pure che essi siano superabili con provvedimenti semplici, e che debbano essere superati per non violare la Convenzione di Ginevra.

./.

243

3003

Così l'accordo già ricordato, già stipulato tra il Governo Britannico ed Italiano nel settembre 1941, potrebbe essere applicato anche per l'invio di prigionieri di guerra italiani in America, senza richiedere trasferimenti di somme.

4. L'altro ieri, 15 aprile, la Commissione Alleata di Controllo ha comunicato come sia stato concesso agli italiani residenti in America di inviare somme al loro parenti nell'Italia liberata. Analoga concessione sembra potrebbe essere estesa ai prigionieri di guerra italiani.

5. - Perciò prego vivamente codesta Commissione Alleata di Controllo di volere rendersi incaricate della situazione sopra rappresentata e di provocare dalle competenti Autorità Americane l'emanazione dei provvedimenti esecutivi necessari, affinché i prigionieri di guerra negli S.U. d'America possano valersi della loro posizione all'art. 24 della Convenzione.

L'augurio che i risparmi che, attraverso lunghe e notevoli privazioni, i prigionieri di guerra in America non possono effettuare, e che i loro cari, parenti, potranno essere di giovamento nelle loro condizioni familiari e patrie, così quanti nella condizioni attuali economiche e finanziarie dell'Italia liberata. E ciò a totale vantaggio della collaborazione italiana verso la vittoria comune.

L'ALTO COMMISSARIO
(Generale Pietro Gazzera)

P. Gazzera

PRISONERS OF WAR IN INDIA
(GIRLANDO, CARLOTTO, RUPP)

6/162/11

Miss Cameron,

My minute No. 6/25/44 of August 28th to Junior
Commander Hopkins. The Foreign Office have now confirmed
that the ruling regarding the ban on the remittance of pay-
ments to territory outside Italy, Sicily and Sardinia also
applies to the cases of Lieutenant Massimo Rupp and
Lieutenant Giovanni Carlotto.

Please inform the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
accordingly.

3.16.44

I have already done

Rt
etc

C

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ 10 \\ \hline 44 \end{array}$$

272

3002

PP
file

6/93/10.

J/Col. Hopkins.

I have had no reply about the specific case of Lieutenant Giovanni Carlotto but, in connexion with the application of Lieutenant Colonel Giovanni Giuliano for funds to be transmitted to his family in Amara, the Foreign Office have now ruled that the agreement for the transfer of credit balances does not enable balances to be remitted to any territory outside of Italy, Sicily and Sardinia. I suppose this ruling will therefore hold good for Lieutenant Carlotto also.

20.2.34

Capt Roberts

Wisper

Kld

2/9

LH

3001

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

N° 2472

A. F. C. F. C.

attached
you have the pp about
allowance for maintenance for
P.O.W. I think of 20
to prop to LHC

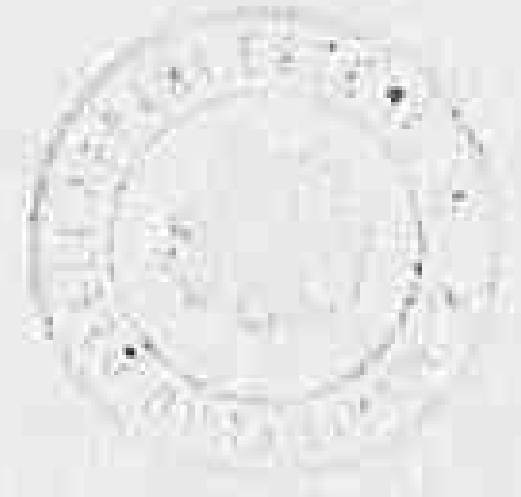
MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POLITICAL SECTION

at HRC 4/5

Lt. Colonel Giovanni Giraldo, who is a P.O.W. in India, has requested the R. Ministry of War that the allowances granted to relatives of Italian P.O.W. should be paid to his family, residing at Asmara (Eritrea).

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs would very much appreciate should the A.C.C. give their kind attention to the matter, informing in due course the R. Ministry whether it would be possible to accede to the request of the above mentioned Officer. R.F.



SALERNO, Aprile 27th, 1944

Mr. Caccia.

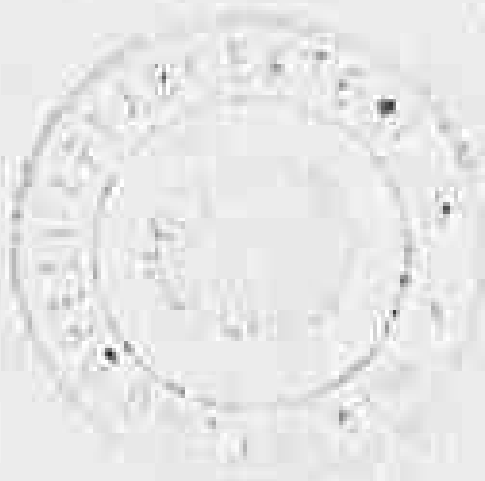
I have written to Mr. P.O.

8/1/44
3000

File HRC 4/5

ref HAZ 9/5-
Lt. Colonel Giovanni Girlando, who is a P.O.W. in India, has requested the R. Ministry of War that the allowances granted to relatives of Italian P.O.W. should be paid to his family, residing at Asmara (Eritrea).

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs would very much appreciate should the A.C.C. give their kind attention to the matter, informing in due course the R. Ministry whether it would be possible to accede to the request of the above mentioned Officer. R.F.



SALERNO, Aprile 27th, 1944

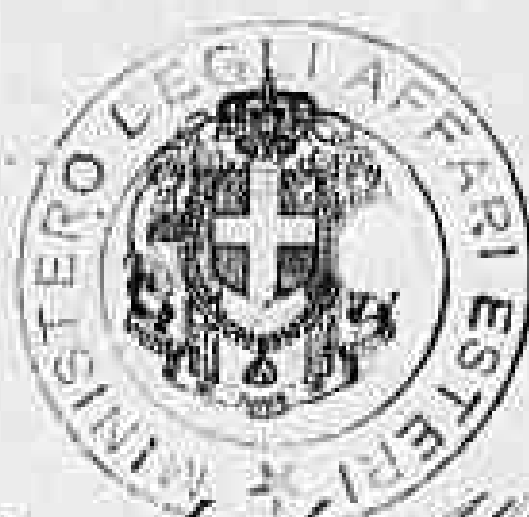
Mr. Caccia.

I have written to the Po.

1/2 3000

File HAZ 9/5-

On 6.7.44 similar instructions
ref. Lt. Giovanni Carlotta and
Lt. Massimo Rupp passed to
Mr. Halford for communication to the Po.



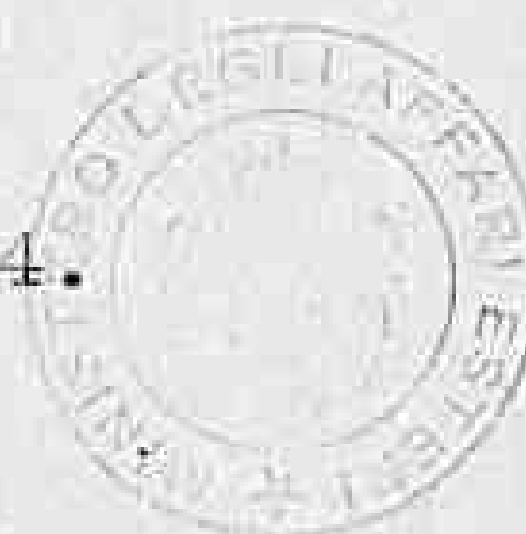
Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.C.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs would be grateful if the Political Section A.C.C. would kindly answer memorandum of July 5th, n° 5419/P.G.41 concerning the relatives of Lt. Massimo Rupp, a P.O.W. in India. *p.r.*

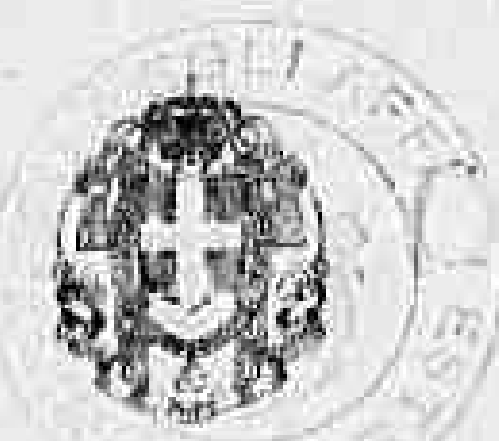
Rome, 26th August 1944.

*Cont Robert informed by
regarding Rupp
CARLWITE
GIRLANDO*



J/Cmdr. Hopkins
Please see
reply of 28/8
Reqd No. 6/93/44

Reqd

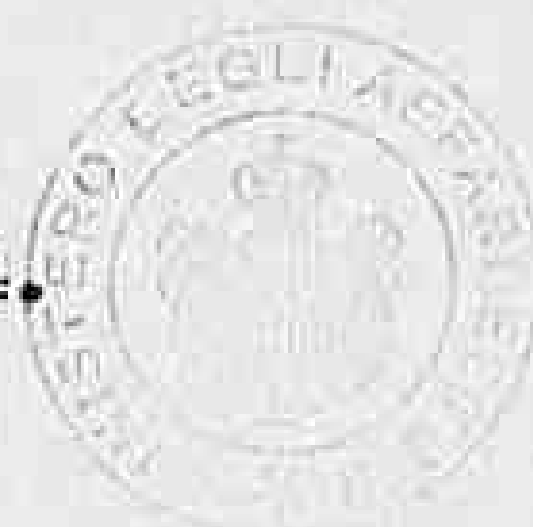


nr. 6/332/156

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

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs would be grateful if the Political Section, A.C.C., would kindly answer memorandum of July 5th, N.5418/PG41 concerning the payment of a certain allowance to the wife of Lt. Giovanni Carlotto a POW in India. *ColB*

Rome, August 25th, 1944.

Mr. Halford

Have you had any reply from
the F.O. please?

Sp. H. A. 25/8/44

W. H. H. 25/8

541-1/P.C. 41

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
=====

Lt. Massimo RUPE, who is a P.O.W. in India has requested the R. Ministry of War that the allowances granted to relatives of Italian P.O.W. should be paid to his wife and children, residing at Asmara (Eritrea).

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be most grateful to the A.C.C. for their kind attention to the matter, informing in due course this R. Ministry whether it would be possible to accede to the request of the above mentioned Officer.

Salerno, 5 July 1944.

(Signed) Casardi

243

2958

1 0 6 2

Lt. Giovanni CARLOTTO, who is a P.O.W. in India has requested the R. Ministry of War that the allowances granted to relatives of Italian P.O.W. should be paid to his wife, residing at Tripoli, Via S. Francesco 8.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be most grateful to the A.C.C. for their kind attention to the matter, informing in due course this R. Ministry whether it would be possible to accede to the request of the above mentioned Officer. *sc*

Salerno, 3 July 1944

J. Carter. Hopkins.

*I have written to the F.O. The
lower my want more details - there has
been a very large - it is my case the whole question
of remittances has got muddled up at home. 25.5.43*

W. H. Halford

*On the 6th May Mr. Lavin passed to you a
similar request from Lt.-Col. Giovanni Girlando and you
replied that you had written to the F.O.*

*Would you be prepared to deal with these two
in the same way?*

*W. H. Halford
6/7*

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

1009
No 5419

7 JUL 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POLITICAL SECTION

&=&=&=&=& &=&=&=&=&=&

Lt. Massimo RUPE, who is a P.O.W. in India, has requested the R.Ministry of War that the allowances granted to relatives of Italian P.O.W. should be paid to his wife and children, residing at Asmara (Eritrea).

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs will be most grateful to the A.C.C. for their kind attention to the matter, informing in due course this R.Ministry whether it would be possible to accede to the request of the above mentioned Officer. *e*

Salerno, 5 July 1944



2000

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR
TAKEN IN NORTH AFRICA
(NOTIFICATION TO FAMILIES)

FO

Pinner

5/101/44

Mr. Caccia,

The Foreign Office state that owing to the large numbers of Italian prisoners of war taken in North Africa, notification of the capture of a considerable number of such Italian prisoners of war is still outstanding. Urgent steps are being taken to deal with the situation and as a temporary measure camp lists are being compiled and transmitted to the Italian Government by the Prisoners of War Information Bureau. It will, however, be several months before the notifications are complete.

2. According to the Foreign Office one of the results of non-notification of capture is that the wives and families of a considerable number of Italian prisoners of war have not received the normal family allowances paid by the Italian Government. The Foreign Office have therefore sent us the attached list of Italian prisoners of war who have received information from their families that this is the position.

3. The Foreign Office would like this list to be forwarded to the Italian Government in order that they may take steps to resume payment of allowances to the prisoners' families.

3.10.44

Action today with Italian FO
(del Balzo) 2955

AZ 4/2

POLISH PRISONERS OF WAR
NORTH OF NAPLES

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICE

December 3, 1943

SUBJECT: Telegram from Bern from Magistrati for
Royal Italian Government.
TO: Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, Brindisi
FROM: Civil Affairs Section

*Copy handed to
F.O. for
sa*

The Civil Affairs Office here has received the following message and it would be appreciated if you would have it delivered to the Royal Italian Government.

No. 2033. I shall appreciate knowing present condition Polish citizens, formerly POW's, interned our camps situated it seems North of Naples to answer inquiry of my Polish colleague here. SIGNED
MAGISTRATI.

Selden Chapin
Selden Chapin
Executive Officer

2994

*243 - Power
X 09/112 - Doh (Polish / Roman)*

1074

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

COMPENSATION TO ITALIANS
WHO AIDED P.O.W.

OFFICE MEMO: Compensation to Italians
who aided P.O.W.

Finance Sub-Commission says go to

Allied Screening Commission
Largo dei Lombardi # 21
2nd Floor

8/31 - k

2993

i 076