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Argentina

Dec. 1943 - Jan 1945

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Argentina

Dec. 1943 - Jan. 1945

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

C/101/h5

VHS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

Subject: ITALIAN MERCHANT SEAMEN IN ARGENTINE -

1. Reference is made to Memorandum n° 6/1132/473 of December 1st, 1944, on the above subject.

2. Information has been received from the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires, stating that 5 officers and one sailor had, prior to December 14th, requested to be employed on board Allied merchant ships. The definite figures of the seamen in the same position will be forwarded as soon as possible.

3. The Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires has been again requested to telegraph as soon as possible all relevant information and data concerning the seamen from the crews of ships sold to the Argentine, who are to be repatriated.



Rome, January 8th 1945

4193

Ref 389/389

7 December 1944

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

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Seamen in the Argentine.

1. Reference is made to G-5 Section's memorandum No. G-5:014.83-4 dated 4 October 1944.

2. There has been received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs a memorandum No. 6/1232/472 dated December 1, 1944 stating that the crews of the ships loaned to Argentina under a repurchase clause should remain in that country to man the vessels on their repurchase. The Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires has been instructed to telegraph the number and names of the ^{offer} seamen who wish to be repatriated and it is stated that the Embassy has approached the Argentine Government in this regard.

3. The Embassy is said also to have approached the American and British Embassies in Buenos Aires with a view to the employment of all or part of the Italian seamen on Allied vessels. The Embassy was instructed to report also the number of seamen who may be willing to accept such employment.

4. To effect economy and to provide crews for the Allied vessels the Ministry requests that the competent Allied authorities accept such seamen for service in Allied vessels.

5. There was also received from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs a memorandum N. 6/1151/492 dated December 3 stating that as soon as the necessary funds had been made available in Argentina, the payment of the Italian seamen there will be resumed on the same basis as that which existed prior to September 1, 1944. The payments are to be made without delay and are to include those in arrears. Seamen who may refuse to sign a declaration stating their willingness to be repatriated will not be included in the arrangement, nor will those seamen who have found a satisfactory employment ashore or at

ses. The families of the latter however will continue to receive the allowances entitled to them by law.

6. Copies of the two memoranda mentioned above have been sent to the American and British Embassies in Rome.

For the Chief Commissioner:-

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

4191



Nº.6/1133/478

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

Reference is made to Memorandum nº.6/799/354 of October 20th concerning the repatriation from Argentina of crews of Italian vessels.

1. The Ministry of Marine have now informed that they would consider it convenient to carry out, for the time being, the repatriation of the crews of ships definitely sold to the Argentine Republic.
2. The crews of the ships coded to Argentina under repurchase clause should remain, for the time being, in that country in order to facilitate the future manning of the vessels.
3. The Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires have been instructed with telegram nº.1065 of December 2nd, to telegraph the number of seamen who wish to be repatriated. All relevant information will be forwarded, as soon as possible, to the Political Section together with a definite list of the repatriates. The said Embassy will approach the Argentine Government in order to carry out the necessary formalities. As the seamen concerned are not serving on Argentine ships, no difficulty is foreseen as regards local authorities.
4. It is to be pointed out, on the other hand, that the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires have already interested the British and United States Embassies with a view to obtaining that at least 4190 part of the Italian seamen in question be employed on board merchant ships controlled by the Allied Pool. To this effect, the Italian Embassy will telegraph, as soon as possible, the number of seamen willing to accept such employment.
5. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on their part, request the A.C. to submit to the competent Allied authorities the possibility of accepting this voluntary employment of Italian seamen, which besides being a contribution to the manning of Allied vessels, would also mean a reduction in the expenses for the stay in Argentina and the repatriation of the seamen in question who, after their repatriation, might remain for some time unemployed in Italy.

Rome, 1st December, 1941.



DUPLICATE



Nº.6/1132/478

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

Reference is made to memorandum nº.6/799/354 of October 20th concerning the repatriation from Argentina of crews of Italian vessels.

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4. It is to be pointed out, on the other hand, that the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires have already interested the British and United States Embassies with a view to obtaining that at least part of the Italian seamen in question be employed on board merchant ships controlled by the Allied Pool. To this effect, the Italian Embassy will telegraph, as soon as possible, the number of seamen willing to accept such employment.
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Rome, 1st December, 1944.

664



Nov. 6 | 1151 | 1192

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

Reference is made to the message from the Free Italy Association in Buenos Aires, on behalf of the Italian merchant seamen stranded in Argentina, received through the courtesy of the Political Section.

The competent Italian Authorities have already decided, as soon as the necessary funds have been made available in Argentina, to resume the payments to the seamen in question, on the same basis as before September 1st - 1944.

The Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires has already received the relevant telegraphic instructions to the effect that the payments be made with no further delay and arrears be settled.

This arrangement will not be extended to the seamen who will refuse to sign a declaration stating their willingness to be repatriated. Such declaration will also ascertain their loyalty to the legitimate Italian Government.

The provision will not apply, moreover, to ^{1,180}seamen who have already found a satisfactory employment ashore or at sea: their families in Italy, however, will continue to receive the allowances they are entitled to by law.

This Ministry will authorize by cable the Embassy in Buenos Aires to confirm, should they deem it fit, to the Free Italy Association the measures taken by the Italian Government on behalf of the Seamen in question. *GPB*

Rome, the 3rd December 1944



Ref: P/350/385

2 January 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

→ given to
Narciso G. Gaudin

1. With reference to the Ministry's Memorandum No. 6/875/381 of October 27th, the Political Section has the honor to inform the Ministry that the appropriate Allied authorities concur in the proposal that direct communication in code should be established between the Ministry and the Italian diplomatic mission at Buenos Aires.

2. The Allied authorities presume that if the code which will be used for this purpose, has not already been approved, it will be submitted to the Allied Commission for approval before being put into use.

M. L. d'A. HORTON
Acting Vice President, Political Section

Copies to: Communications Sub-Commission
Cipher Security Mission

350/385

4187

*File**Ad
US
HIT**Political Section*

TO. ~~COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMISSION~~
FROM. C.S.M. ANNEX. PL. 2 ROOM. 45
DATE. 28TH DEC. 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Govt's Communications with its mission
in Argentine.

Approval of direct communication in code.

A. We think this will be of advantage to all concerned.

B. Presume you will ~~have informed Political Section, who~~
~~will~~ inform the Ministry.

C. Presume that the code to be used, if not one of those
already approved, will be submitted for approval first.

4136

JP
12/27/45

To: ~~Cipher Security Mission~~
~~Room 41 Annex~~
~~Mr. Catty a Mr. Duke~~
~~Communication Sub-Commission~~

ALLIED ~~CONTROL~~ COMMISSION
INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM
POLITICAL SECTION

SUBJECT: Italian Government's Communications With its Mission in Argentina. FILE No. 350/385
TO : Communications Sub-Commission 29 December 4 194

Have you any observations to make on this matter
before we make a communication to the Italian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs?

H. L. d'A. HOPKINSON
Acting Vice President, Political Section 4185

Political SEC AH
6196ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

TBJ/sob

G-5: 311.5-6

20 December 1944

SUBJECT: Italian Government communications
with its mission in Argentina.TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission
APO 394.1. Reference is made to your memo of 13,
December.2. Information has been received that the State
Department approves direct code communication between
the Italian Government and its mission in Buenos Aires,
providing the procedure involving submission to
Political Section, Allied Commission, of all such
communications be maintained.

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

① Colonel S/C. more goodT. B. JACKMAN
Lt. Colonel.

② CSM

Caption Security Mission

Have you any comments
to be made on the above?
To, J. M. ?

4104

H. B.
23/12/44
Pol Sec

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394

Fel

850/855

To: G-5, Allied Force Headquarters.
From: Political Section, Allied Commission.
Date: 13th December 1944.

The Political Section would be glad to know whether they may shortly expect to receive a reply to their letter of the 25th October in regard to the resumption of direct cypher communications between the Italian Government and their Embassy at Buenos Ayres.

M/V. President
Political Section.

See 723
get that Commission.

423

TO: POLITICAL SECTION MR HOPKINSON
FROM: CSM ANNEX FL. 2 RM. 45
DATE: December 5th 1944

Italian Diplomatic Traffic with BUENOS AYRES

My note of 1st December and your minute on it.

1. We consulted Col. HENDERSON about this today and it appears that Mr CACCIA wrote to AFHQ in September supporting the Foreign Ministry's desire for direct communications.

Reference: Memo to G-5 Allied Force HQ
From Political Section 16th Sept. 1944

2. It would seem therefore, unless you know of any reply having been received, that a reminder to AFHQ would be the best way of helping the Ministero.

FRAC

350/385

4102

TO: POLITICAL SECTION
 FROM: CYPHER SECURITY MISSION
 DATE: December 1st 1944

Reference telegram No. 1371 from Italian Embassy MADRID to Foreign Ministry, ROME, re-transmitting a telegram from BUENOS AYRES.

1. This message, which you will have seen in the normal routine, begins "Confidential" and its contents is in fact of that nature. We considered therefore that it should not have been sent from MADRID in the plain code in which it was sent.
2. But the matter is complicated by the fact that we don't know for certain in what code it went between BUENOS AYRES. If we were to take it up with Ministero the reply would be that Ministero some time ago asked AC whether it could not have direct communications with BUENOS AYRES, that Cypher Security Mission had promised Ministero support ~~in~~ this request. (and I did so in an interview with MR. CACCIA on Oct. 19th).

F.R.C.

*I see no reason why it should be. What is
 does this involve? An approach by us to
 A.F.M.O. Chief Signals Officer?*

4181

Dec 3

FROM: Madrid
DATE: 28 Nov 44

No. 1371: From Buenos Aires: "249 Nov 25. Your 119. I believe that my 225 Oct 30 and preceding telegrams were determined by necessity for hindering delicate situation concerning recalling of Command. Tasco, independent from his qualities, would constitute measure for reproach and clarification requested by you with your 66 and 101. It would be more opportune that Falchi took charge of -- instead of Simonis, who could stay at other consulate. Awaiting instructions. Sensi."

MASCIA

4180

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
VISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

Rome, November 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Political Section, Allied Commission.
SUBJECT: Italian Merchant Seamen in Buenos Aires.

This office has received a telegram from the American Embassy in Buenos Aires containing a message from the Free Italy Association in Argentina on behalf of approximately 600 stranded merchant seamen. It has been requested that this message be transmitted to the appropriate agency of the Italian Government. The message states that the Italian Government on September 1 ceased payment to these seamen and that their present situation is difficult and humiliating. It is requested that the Prime Minister take measures urgently to resolve their problem. The message is signed Francesco Albertini, Captain, and Ariodante Bernacchi, Machinist.

The Free Italy Association further advises that a loan of a million pesos for the maintenance of crews of former Italian vessels approved on October 2 by a decree of the Argentine Government has not yet been put in practice. It is also stated that representatives of the stranded seamen had apparently been informed by the Italian Consulate General of Buenos Aires that orders for disposition of the proceeds are awaited from Rome.

The American Embassy adds a note to the effect that the situation of these men is in fact extremely difficult and demands attention.

4179

Copy to E. M. A. - Nov 27
pmg
[Signature]

U.S. SECRET

CONTROL COMMISSION

INCOMING

/33F

SECRET

24/22

NOT GIVEN

4173

FREEDOM

NOV 221517A

FATIMA

NOV 231708A

Message from AGWAR 2632 of 16 November reports that United States Military Attache at Buenos Aires states that Italian Military Attache there refuses to reveal information until ordered by Italian Chief of Staff, (TO FATIMA SIGNED EISENHOWER CITE FARMIS) although he has received instructions from Badoglio. This is a situation for Italian Government to correct.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - W/C
- 1 - General Taylor (INFORMATION)
- 1 - Mr. Ceccia (ACTION)

Copy
93708A
4173

4173

Pl
U.S. SECRET

350.05 - Military Information

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
 Equals British CONFIDENTIAL
 CONTROL COMMISSION
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX INCLUDING

/ccn

CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

AIRTEL

PATINA

N38/19

2185

NOV 17

NOV 1940

Italian representation and the Italian colony in Buenos Aires is the subject of a communication received by the. (PATINA FROM MURPHY SIGNED DISSEMINATE SITE DESIV). department of state dated October 30 from our embassy there in which certain recommendations are made. In substance they are as follows. The Italian situation there is in general unsatisfactory and it is felt that its potentially great influence is not being utilized for the furtherance of the war effort. The Italian charge and his staff lack the prestige necessary to swing the colony over to active support of the United Nations. Since most of the staff are considered fascists they would receive little attention even if they urged their fellow countrymen to take a definite stand against the so-called Fascist Republican Government. In this connection it is pointed out that Consul General Vincenzo Tesco who declared allegiance to the Badoglio Government is believed to be sympathetic at heart to the Fascist Cause. Our embassy recommends that the Badoglio Government be urged to send to Buenos Aires an Ambassador or Charge whose past record is completely free of the stigma of Fascism but who is not so radically free Italian as to precipitate opposition and ill feeling. As a possible appointee Alberto Bianconi is suggested should it be desired to replace Tesco. Bianconi was assigned Consul General to Tokyo but being unable to proceed to his post was made Civil Counselor to the Italian Embassy and

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
 Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL

Equals British CONFIDENTIAL

REF NO: 2185 NOV 19 05A (Cont'd)

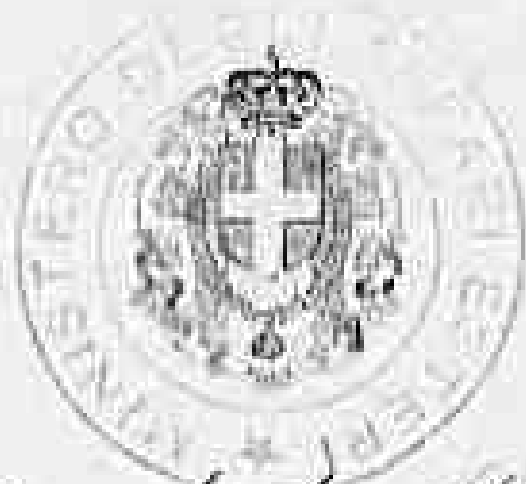
remained in Buenos Aires. He has been favorably spoken of by members of the embassy's staff as a non Fascist as well as by Georgio Del Bono former first secretary.

DISTRIBUTION:

2 - AG
1 - Diary
1 - M/C

4176

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals British CONFIDENTIAL



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

M. 6/499/354

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.

Reference is made to Memorandum n. 350/385 dated September 17th of the Political Section concerning the repatriation from Argentina of the crews of Italian vessels sold to that Government.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs have brought the matter to the attention of the competent naval authorities and will acquaint the Political Section, as soon as possible, with their reply. In the meantime the Ministry have requested the Royal Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires to furnish by cable all relevant information about the crews in question as well as the number of seamen who wish to repatriate, of those who had previously expressed the desire to remain in the Argentine and of those who have already found employment in said country or had embarked on United Nations vessels. *Carli*

Rome, 20th October, 1944.



4175

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR IT Y

October 7, 1944.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Political Section,
Allied Control Commission.

SUBJECT: Signor Berio's assigned ^{here} to Argentina.

The Department of State has noted with interest the proposal of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to send Signor Berio to Argentina and is prepared to assist in facilitating his travel. It is understood, of course, that any new appointee to succeed Signor Garbaccio must travel on a private passport and must have no official status with the present Argentine government.

It will be appreciated if you will make this information available to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

350/385

*del Berio notified Oct 9.
HWS*

WCD:DES

4174

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

9946
TBJ/BMR/lasc
HC

G-5: 014.33-4

4th October 1944.

SUBJECT: Repatriation of Italian Seamen from
the Argentine.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission,
A.P.O. 394

1. Reference is made to your Political Section's memorandum No. 350/385 of 17 September.

2. The British Resident Minister and the United States Political Adviser are willing to request the Foreign Office and the State Department respectively to instruct their Embassies at Buenos Aires to support the Italian Government's request to the Argentine Government for approval of piecemeal repatriation of the Italian Seamen.

3. G-2 Section of this Headquarters has no objection, subject to the conditions laid down in your memo referred to above, and provided it receives prior notification of ship and port of arrival in respect of each party.

4. Will you please inform this Section when the Italian Government has made the proposed request, when the action alluded to in paragraph 2 above will be put into effect.

For Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

T. B. Jackman
Lt. Colonel

T. B. JACKMAN,
Lt. Colonel.

Copy to: Brit. Res. Minister.
U.S. Polad.



41.3

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref # 350/398

17 September 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5 Section, Allied Force Headquarters;
Copy to: U. S. Political Adviser,
British Resident Minister,
G-2 (CI) Section, AFHQ.

SUBJECT : Proposed Repatriation of Italian Seamen from Argentine.

1. With reference to the Political Section's memorandum No. 114 of August 1st on the above subject, the Navy Sub Commission, Hq ACC, has advised the Political Section of G-2 (CI)'s reply to C-in-C Med.'s request for comment on the proposed repatriation of the Italian seamen, to the effect that there is no security objection to this action providing:

- (a) a nominal roll was furnished,
- (b) they did not come in batches of more than 200, and
- (c) all relevant local information was forwarded from the Argentine through diplomatic channels.

2. The Navy Sub Commission has requested information as to the procedure to be adopted in order to obtain the approval of the Argentine Government to this action, prior to taking steps to determine the best means of providing transportation of the seamen from Argentine to Italy. In consequence, the Political Section has addressed a memorandum to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs suggesting that the Italian Government approach the Argentine Government with a view of obtaining the desired approval.

3. It is suggested that A.F.H.Q. might wish to request the British and American Governments to support the Italian request.

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

41.2

Copy to:
U. S. Representative, A.C.I.
British High Commissioner
Navy Sub Commission.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref #350/335

17 September 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome.

SUBJECT : Repatriation of Italian Seamen from Argentina.

The repatriation from Argentina of the crews of the Italian vessels sold to that Government has been approved by Allied Authorities subject to the following provisions:-

- (a) the furnishing of a nominal roll;
- (b) that they are returned in batches of not more than 200 persons; and
- (c) that all relevant local information is forwarded from the Argentine through diplomatic channels.

Prior to taking steps to determine the best means of providing the necessary transportation of these seamen from Argentina to Italy, the approval of the Argentine Government should be obtained. In consequence, it is suggested that the Italian Government approach the Argentine Government with a view to obtaining such approval.

WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Vice-President, Political Section

4171

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Navy Sub-Commission
APO 394

NSC/832

11 September 1944.

1ST ENDORSEMENT to
C.in C. Med, letter
MED 00180/31 of 30
August 1944.

From: Navy Sub-Commission, Hq, ACC.
To : Political Sub-Commission, Hq, ACC.
Subject: Italian Seamen in Argentina, Repatriation of.

1. The attached correspondence together with a copy of the Minister of Marine letter reference 29/UT of 2 June 1944 relative to the repatriation of Italian merchant seamen from Argentina is forwarded herewith requesting information as to the procedure to be adopted in order to obtain approval from the Argentine Government. If approval can be obtained, steps will be taken to determine the best means of providing transportation.

2. Return of correspondence is requested.

H. W. Zioli
H. W. ZIROLI,
Commodore, U. S. Navy,
for Chief, Navy Sub-Commission, ACC.

*Shall we get Italian Seamen
or through AFHQ*

or from ? Ac 10/5

4170

Office of the Commander-in-Chief,
Mediterranean,
Allied Force Headquarters.

30th August, 1944.

No. Med. 00180/31.

THE FLAG OFFICER TARANTO ADRIATIC AND LIAISON ITALY (ROME)

REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS FROM ARGENTINE.

With reference to your No. T.A. 1027/160 of 8th June,
the attached copy of an exchange of notes with G-2 and the
Resident Minister's Office is forwarded for information.

2. It is requested that any further communications
on this subject may be addressed to the Allied Control Commission.



M. B. Harrig
for ADMIRAL

4169

INFORMAL ROUTING SLIP

HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

COPY.

FILE: Med.00180/31

DATE: 22nd June, 1944.

SUBJECT: REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS FROM ARGENTINE.

Fill in each column, initial action, and draw a line across the sheet just below initials. Number each memo consecutively in first column. Use entire width of sheet for long memoranda.

NO.	FROM	TO	DATE	
1	C in C Med.	G-2(CI)	22nd June 44.	Your comments are requested on the attached correspondence forwarded by Flag Officer, Taranto, Adriatic and Liaison Italy. (Sgd.) M. B. Laing. DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO COMANDANT-IN-CHIEF, MEDITERRANEAN.
2	G-2(CI)	C in C Med.	5 July.	1. A similar request was referred to this HQ in April by the office of the British Resident Minister. At that time this Section stated that there was no security objection providing (a) a nominal roll was furnished (b) they did not come in batches of more than 200. (c) All relevant local information was forwarded from the Argentine through diplomatic channels. 2. This view was conveyed to the British Embassy in Buenos Aires. 3. Nothing further on the subject has come to this Section, and we adhere to the views expressed in Para.1. 4. We should have no objection to the parties coming direct to Italy. For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 (Signed) S. S. HILL-DILLON Colonel, General Staff G-2 (C.I.) Section.

4168

INFORMAL ROUTING SLIP

COPY.

HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

FILE: MED.00180/31

DATE: 22nd June, 1944.

SUBJECT: REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS FROM ARGENTINE.

Fill in each column, initial action, and draw a line across the sheet just below initials. Number each memo consecutively in first column. Use entire width of sheet for long memoranda.

NO.	FROM	TO	DATE	
1	C. in C. Med.	G-2(CI)	22nd June 44	Your comments are requested on the attached correspondence forwarded by Flag Officer, Taranto, Adriatic and Liaison, Italy. (Sgd.) M. B. LAING DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MEDITERRANEAN.
3	C. in C.	British Res. Min. Office.	10.7.44.	Your comments are requested on G-2's memo. (Sgd) M.B. LAING DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MEDITERRANEAN.
4	Br. Res. Minister's Office.	C. in C. Med.	26.7.44.	There is little to add to G-2's memo. of the 5th July except that (1) prior consent of the French Committee of National Liberation would be necessary should it be decided to route the Italian seamen through North Africa, but we would not propose in any case to consult the Committee until there was some prospect of transport; (2) funds available to the Royal Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires for the maintenance of the seamen are exhausted and the Italian Embassy, in a memorandum to the British Embassy, have suggested the following solutions: (a) to repatriate all seamen who might be usefully employed in Italian ships either direct on neutral ships or via the United States; (b) to authorize the Argentine Government to grant a loan to the Royal Italian Embassy repayable from the proceeds of Italian ships which have been sold; (c) to authorize the Argentine Government to employ on their ships the Italian crews who are at present without work. We are communicating on the subject with the Allied Control Commission. In the meantime we should be glad to know if there is any prospect of obtaining transport for the

AGO - NATOUA

Office Form No. 3

repatriation in convenient batches of those seamen who want to go.

(Sgd.) J. WEDDLEMAN.

INFORMAL ROUTING SLIP

HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY

FILE: Med.00180/3

DATE: 21st August, 1944.

SUBJECT: REPATRIATION OF ITALIANS FROM ARGENTINE.

Fill in each column, initial action, and draw a line across the sheet just below initials. Number each memo consecutively in first column. Use entire width of sheet for long memoranda.

NO.	FROM	TO	DATE	
5	C. in C Med.	Br. Res. Minister	21.8.44	The question of the transport of these men has been referred to the Principal Sea Transport Officer, Mediterranean, and the Ministry of War Transport Representative. 2. There are three alternative methods of transport - (a) Shipment in small groups by any vessel sailing from South America to the Mediterranean Area, although this direct route is considered to be only a remote possibility. (b) To the United States and then to:- (i) Mediterranean by U.G.F. convoy. (ii) Mediterranean by U.G.S. convoy. (iii) United Kingdom and by K.M.F. convoy to Mediterranean. (c) To the United Kingdom by direct opportunities and then by K.M.F. convoy to the Mediterranean. 3. The principal Sea Transport Officer and Ministry of War Transport Representative, both consider that this matter should be dealt with by the Director of Sea Transport on a London/Washington level. (Sgd.) M.B. LAING DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF, MEDITERRANEAN.

4166

COPY

From: Ministry of Marine (Cab.)
To : F O L I
Date: 2.6.44
Ref : 29/UT

Subject: Repatriation of Crews of M/Vs.
Ceded to ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

At present in the Argentine there is a group of about 600 of our Merchant Seamen from Italian M/Vs. which were sold to the Argentine Government in 1941.

We shall be glad if you will kindly examine the possibility of their repatriation being effected, even if it be in small groups, by means of Allied M/Vs. returning to Europe.

We should appreciate being informed of any decisions which may be taken in this matter.

Chief of Cabinet.

DG -)

COPY

~~XXXXX~~

4105

EWS/sjp

A/CC 071.112-1

9 September 1944

My dear Count Sforza:

I wish to refer to your letter of 25 August 1944, informing me that Dr. Francesco Flora has accepted to go to Buenos Aires on a mission as suggested by the Department of State in its message which I forwarded to you under cover of my letter of 10 August 1944.

Owing to the changed circumstances in relations between the Allies and the Argentine Government, and in view of the fact that the question of Italian representation at Buenos Aires has been made a matter of discussion between our two Governments, I should appreciate it were the matter to be held in abeyance for the present.

Yours very truly,

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

H. E. Sen. Conte Carlo Sforza,
Minister without Portfolio,
Italian Government,
Rome.

c.c. Political Section - ACC
Hon. Alexander Kirk.

(Drafted by Political Section - Mr. Schott)

Flora
Rip-85 Jan 2
Mission to Argentina

SEP 10 1944
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE
RECEIVED

4164

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Office of the Acting Chief Commissioner
APO 394

EMS/ajp

A/CC 091.112-1

4 September 1944

Subject: Mission to Latin America

To : Political Section

1. Reference is made to following attached correspondence:
 - a. Letter from Captain Stone to Count Sforza, dated 10 Aug 44.
 - b. Letter from Ambassador Kirk to Captain Stone, dated 9 Aug 44.
 - c. Copy of message from the Department of State for Count Sforza.
 - d. Letter from Count Sforza to Captain Stone, dated 25 Aug 44.
2. Please take charge of this matter and provide appropriate action.

Uy
Stone.

4 Incls;
as above.

4163

10 August 1944

My dear Count Sforza:

With reference to your letter of July 21st, which you brought to me by hand, I have the honor to forward you herewith a copy of a message received for you from the Department of State.

Sincerely yours,

ELLERY W. STONE
Captain, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

Senator Count Carlo Sforza
Minister without Portfolio
Italian Government.

4162

(C O P Y)

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

August 9, 1944

My dear Admiral Stone:

With reference to our recent exchange of correspondence, I send you herewith a message from the Department of State for Count Sforza.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ A. Kirk

Enclosure:

Message.

Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, U.S.N.R.
Acting Chief Commissioner,
Allied Control Commission.

4161

(C O P Y)

Please thank Count Sforza for his recent message. The Department is grateful for Count Sforza's offer to visit South America himself but believes that a sojourn of a temporary nature such as he suggests would not serve the purpose envisaged. What is needed, however, is the permanent assignment to Buenos Aires of an Italian who will cooperate with the policy of the United Nations in that country and who will inspire confidence in the large Italian colony there.

4160

(C O P Y)

SEGRETERIA DEL MINISTRO SEGRETARIO DI STATO SFORZA

Piazza Indipendenza 7 - Roma.

Roma, li 25 Agosto 1944 -

Dear Captain Stone,

For the mission to Latin America (your letter of August 10), we are glad to inform you that Dr. Francesco FLORA has accepted to go, as a representative of the Red Cross or on any other form you choose to suggest.

Dr. Flora is a well known writer and one of our most distinguished literary critics.

Dr. Flora is ready to go at any moment. He is only waiting for instructions from me.

I'll be grateful to hear from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Sforza

Captain Ellery F. Stone, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner,
Hq. ACC.

(COPY)

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

(4)

*Italian Diplomatic
Representation
in Argentina*

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

3 September 1944.

Dear Office,

I refer to my letter to Bob dated August 29, 1944, second headed paragraph, in which was enclosed copy of a paraphrase of telegram from the Department to Mr. Kirk dated August 9 containing a suggestion to the Italian Government that it recall its Charge d'Affaires at Buenos Aires, and translation of the reply thereto from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated August 14 (date August 15 appearing on translation being in error), which the Ministry subsequently asked me to withhold from forwarding. There now has been received from the Ministry a second communication in the premises, dated September 2, modifying the ideas expressed in that of August 14. From its enclosed copy you will note that it is proposed to recall immediately the present Charge d'Affaires, Signor Garbaccio, and to supersede him by the present Italian Consul at Tangiers, Signor Berio.

By memorandum to G-5, A.F.H.Q., British Resident Minister and U. S. Political Adviser of August 27, request was made for information whether there is any objection to the despatch of a telegram which the Italian Government wished to send to Signor Berio, recalling him to Rome, and whether the Allied authorities concerned could be requested to facilitate his journey to Italy. A request to facilitate his further travel to Buenos Aires will not be made until the Department has expressed concurrence with his appointment.

Copies of all the correspondence in this case have been submitted to Mr. Kirk for action, and I have sent copies also to Sir Noel Charles for his information. I presume that you will take any action deemed desirable with regard to G-5, A.F.H.Q., and the British Resident Minister.

Sincerely yours,

William W. Schott
Vice-President, Political Section

Carmel Office, Esq.,
Office of U. S. Political Adviser
Allied Force Headquarters.

4158

350/385

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI
IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE

Rome, 2nd September, 1944.

1/111

Dear Schott,

We have re-examined the question of the eventual recall of our Chargé d' Affaires in Buenos Aires and as a result the decisions contained in my letter no. I/252, of August 15th have been partly modified.

Hereunder I give you a brief summary of the present ideas of the Government on the matter :

1. - In order to give proof and an indication of Italian solidarity with the United States, the Italian Government are prepared to recall immediately the Chargé d' Affaires in Buenos Aires, signor Garbaccio.
2. - In the note attached to the above-mentioned letter of August 15th, are set out the serious reasons which prevent us from breaking diplomatic relations with the Argentine. The Italian Government shall be grateful if in representing these reasons to the State Department their full importance will be duly and exhaustively stressed.
3. - Consequently, the Italian Government suggest that, in order to reconcile their earnest desire to show solidarity with the United States with the necessity of not prejudicing further serious national interests, signor Berio, at present Consul at Tangiers, be authorized to reach Rome immediately, in order to

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William W. Schott Esq.,
Vice President
Allied Control Commission
Political Section.
R O M E.

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI
IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE

2)

proceed without delay to Buenos Aires. On his arrival there, signor Garbaccio would leave at once and signor Berio would remain in charge.

The Italian Government ask the State Department kindly to consider the above suggestion as a firm and willing indication of their earnest wish to show absolute solidarity with the United States in this as in other sectors of international policy, and at the same time to bear in mind the serious material and moral prejudice and damage that a different attitude on their part would undoubtedly cause to the millions of Italian citizens living in Argentina.

Lastly, it is hardly necessary to recall that Italy has not as yet any direct contact with any Country of Latin America : this consequent state of isolation will permanently affect her interests and it is Italy's earnest wish to see shortly this situation modified in the interest of peace and of fruitful cooperation between peoples.

I shall be grateful, my dear Schott, if you will kindly convey the above to the State Department.

Very truly yours

R. Ruffo

4156

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

August 9, 1944

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED FROM
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Ac From It should be suggested to Italian Government that it would be desirable to recall its Charge d'Affaires at Buenos Aires as an indication of its solidarity with the United Nations who have recalled their Chiefs of Mission there, or are doing so now. The Department of State suggests that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs give consideration to sending Franco Pontana, who is now detained in the United States, to Buenos Aires - unofficially, with respect to Argentine Government - to join the Italian Mission there. Italian Government might then recall its Charge d'Affaires and administration of mission would then presumably pass to Pontana, although he would naturally have no official standing with Argentine Government, and could not, of course, take advantage of recognition by the Argentine Government as Consul General.

If this suggestion is not considered feasible, the Italian Government might consider the appointment of Pontana as representative of Italian Red Cross in Argentina. In this event also, the Charge d'Affaires could be withdrawn, and the Italian Mission might be instructed privately that it was desired that Pontana give direction to the Mission's work.

The Department of State desires to be informed of the Ministry's views in this matter.

WCD:dp

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Pontana Aug 11 - his father in BA check as to status there

MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI
IL SEGRETARIO GENERALE

Rome, August 15th, 1944

K.1/252

Dear Mr. Schott,

With reference to our conversation on the question of the possible recall of our Chargé d'Affaires in Buenos Ayres, I am enclosing a Memorandum in which the attitude of the Italian Government on the matter is set forth.

I sincerely trust that the points submitted in the Memorandum will meet with the sympathetic understanding of the United States Government, and I shall be very grateful if, in forwarding it to the proper quarter, you could see your way to emphasizing the considerations which I also had the opportunity of illustrating to you personally.

Encl.

Believe me,

Very sincerely yours

R. Ruffini

William W. Schott Esq.,
Political Section
Allied Control Commission.
R O M E
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Ministero degli Affari Esteri

APPUNTO PER LA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO

Il R. Ministero degli Affari Esteri ha esaminato con la maggiore attenzione il suggerimento del Dipartimento di Stato circa l'opportunità di procedere al richiamo del R. Incaricato d'Affari a Buenos Ayres come indicazione della solidarietà italiana con le Nazioni Unite ed ha l'onore di sottoporre al riguardo le considerazioni seguenti;

1.- Il R. Governo è tuttora in stato di rottura di relazioni diplomatiche con tutte le Nazioni Unite, eccettuato l'U.R. S.S. con cui sono state, come è noto, nel marzo scorso, riprese le relazioni dirette. Esso ha inoltre già proceduto, a richiesta alleata, al ritiro delle sue Missioni diplomatiche anche dalla Finlandia e dall'Afganistan. In queste condizioni, la rottura delle relazioni con l'Argentina rappresenterebbe un ulteriore aggravamento dello stato di isolamento in cui il popolo italiano vive da anni e che è oggi pressochè totale. Non sembra nè possibile nè ragionevole persistere a mantenere da una parte l'Italia isolata e lontana dalle Nazioni Unite ed insistere dall'altra perchè continui ed aggravi il suo isolamento, rompendo relazioni e rapporti anche con quei pochissimi Paesi con cui è sin qui riuscita a mantenerli.

2.- La posizione dell'Italia in Argentina è specialissima. Le sue collettività nel Paese sono vastissime; i suoi inte-

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ressi molteplici. Il ritiro della sua Missione diplomatica da Buenos Ayres importerebbe certamente nuove pene e nuove sofferenze per i moltissimi italiani che vi dimorano, nuovi danni e nuovi pregiudizi per i loro interessi. Il Dipartimento di Stato non ignora quali questi danni e pregiudizi siano in pressochè tutta l'America Latina, ove le collettività italiane, laboriose, leali ed oneste sono state quasi da per tutto sottoposte a severissime misure belliche di eccezione. Il R. Governo non può in conseguenza contribuire a far estendere di sua iniziativa questo gravissimo stato di persecuzione e di spoliazione anche agli italiani d'Argentina, senza venir meno alla difesa di interessi nazionali fondamentali. Il R. Governo non può non rilevare che, dopo quasi un anno dall'armistizio, pressochè tutti gli Italiani nel mondo continuano ad essere, dall'Egitto alla Tunisia, dall'Oriente all'America del Sud, oggetto di misure vessatorie gravissime, addirittura paragonabili in molti casi a quelle ordinate dal nazismo contro gli Israeliti.

3.- A Buenos Ayres manca da tempo il Capo Missione e l'Ambasciata è retta da un semplice Incaricato d'Affari. Il ritiro anche di quest'ultimo non rappresenterebbe nell'insieme della politica generale fra Stati Uniti e Argentina che un gesto di ben modesta portata e significato, e, in ogni caso, il suo valore, nel quadro generale della politica americana, sarebbe certamente sproporzionato al gravissimo danno ch'esso importerebbe per l'Italia nel campo specifico dei suoi interessi nazionali.

4.- La preponderanza in Argentina degli italiani e dei discendenti di italiani è stata, come è noto, una delle ragioni

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avanzate dall'ex Presidente Castillo per non avere, durante il suo Governo, rotto le relazioni con l'Asse. Ciò può senza dubbio costituire una scusante, ma sta peraltro di fatto che è pressochè impossibile trovare una famiglia argentina che non abbia traccia di sangue, o di connessioni di diretta discendenza italiana. Questa circostanza, accertata e documentata, potrebbe forse essere la chiave di una migliore e più costruttiva valutazione della situazione. Essa sottolinea sopra tutto infatti l'estrema importanza che certamente avrebbe un'intelligente e intensa azione di propaganda e di chiarimento fra gli italiani e la conseguente diretta influenza che per loro tramite essa avrebbe sulla stessa generale opinione pubblica del Paese.

5.- In sostanza il R.Governo è fermamente convinto che invece di procedere ad azioni negative(la cui sterilità è evidente com'è altrettanto evidente il pregiudizio che esse arrecherebbero ai fondamentali interessi italiani) sarebbe invece necessario ed urgente dare di comune accordo inizio ad un'azione veramente attiva e costruttiva, cioè ad un'intelligente e leale collaborazione fra Italia e Stati Uniti intesa a neutralizzare, attraverso le grandi masse d'italiani e la loro autorità e influenza, le forze ostili agli ideali comuni della nostra guerra e a galvanizzare quelle che a tali ideali sono favorevoli. Il R.Governo, come è noto, è pronto ad inviare a questo scopo, a Buenos Aires un Ambasciatore specialmente prescelto, il quale abbia istruzioni concordate di iniziare, in perfetta intesa col Governo nordamericano, una politica di questo genere. Ciò salvaguarderebbe i nostri interessi nazionali in Argentina ; costituirebbe

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un fatto di concreta, intelligente, cordiale collaborazione fra Italia e Stati Uniti ; consentirebbe infine alla nuova Italia democratica di riprendere contatti con i suoi figli sparsi nel Paese, di illuminarli, di chiarire fatti e situazioni, di sottrarli al totale disorientamento in cui da tempo essi vivono per mancanza di contatti con la Madre Patria.

Ed in considerazione di ciò il R.Ministero degli Affari Esteri raccomanda alla speciale attenzione del Dipartimento di Stato quanto precede, nella fermissima persuasione che l'adozione di una politica di questo genere costituirebbe veramente un gesto di solidarietà con le Nazioni Unite ben altrimenti importante e ben altrimenti significativo che non il suggerito ritiro di un Incaricato d'Affari, al quale il R. Governo non potrebbe d'altra parte procedere senza suo gravissimo pregiudizio e danno.

R.R

Roma, 14 agosto 1944

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R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

ROUGH TRANSLATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

POLITICAL SECTION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has examined with the greatest attention the suggestion of the State Department concerning the advisability of recalling the Italian Chargé d' Affaires in Buenos Aires as an indication of Italy's solidarity with the United Nations, and takes leave to submit the following points :

I. - The Italian Government is still in the state of broken diplomatic relations with all the United Nations, with the exception of the U.S.S.R., with which direct relations were re-established last March. The Italian Government have, furthermore, on Allied request, proceeded to withdraw their Diplomatic Missions also from Finland and Afghanistan. Under the circumstances, the break with Argentina would increase the state of isolation in which the Italian people have for years been living and which is, to-day, almost complete. It does not appear either possible or reasonable to persist, on the one hand, in keeping Italy isolated and distant from the United Nations, and, on the other, to insist that she continue in, and even increase, her state of isolation, by breaking relations and contacts even with those few Countries with which Italy has been able to maintain them.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

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2. - The position of Italy in the Argentine is a very special one. Italian communities throughout that Country are very vast; her interests, multiple. The withdrawal of her Diplomatic Mission from Buenos Aires would undoubtedly imply fresh anxieties and sufferings for the numerous Italians living there, and

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R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

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further detriment and prejudice to their interests. The State Department is aware of this state of affairs obtaining almost throughout Latin America where industrious, loyal and honest Italian communities have, nearly everywhere been submitted to extremely severe emergency measures. The Italian Government cannot, consequently, contribute, on its own initiative, to spread also to the Italian in Argentina the serious persecution and spoliation existing elsewhere, without being guilty of leaving undefended fundamental national interests. The Italian Government cannot refrain from pointing out that, almost one year since the Armistice, nearly all Italians throughout the world, from Egypt to Tunisia, from the East to South America, continue to be the object of extremely serious restrictive measures, in many cases comparable to those applied by the Nazis to the Jews.

3. - For some time now there has not been an Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires and the Embassy is directed by a Chargé d' Affaires. The recall also of this Official would have a very modest and almost insignificant bearing on the general policy between the United States and the Argentine, and, in any case, its value within the general framework of American policy would undoubtedly be out of proportion to the serious damage that would derive to Italy in the specific field of her national interests.

4. - The preponderance, in Argentina, of Italians and citizens of Italian descent was, it is recalled, one of the reasons ^{for} ~~the~~ ~~the~~

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4. - The preponderance, in Argentina, of Italians and citizens of Italian descent was, it is recalled, one of the reasons ~~given~~^{for} by ex President Castillo for not breaking with the Axis. Undoubtedly this could have been exploited as an excuse, but it is a fact that it is almost impossible to find one single Argentine family without a trace of Italian blood or not connected with direct Italian descent. This circumstance, duly ascertained and documented, could perhaps be the key to a better

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R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

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and more constructive valuation of the situation. In fact, it emphasizes the extreme importance that an intelligent and intense propaganda and clarification would have amongst Italians, and the consequent direct influence, through them, it would have on the General public opinion of the Country.

5. - In substance, the Italian Government is firmly convinced that instead of proceeding to take negative actions (the sterility of which is evident, as is also evident the prejudice they would bring to fundamental Italian interests) it would be urgent and necessary to start, in common agreement, a truly active and constructive work, that is, an intelligent and loyal co-operation between Italy and the United States intended to neutralize, through the great masses of Italians and their authority and influence, the forces hostile to the common ideals of our war, and to galvanize those that are favourable to these same ideals. The Italian Government, and this is well-known, are prepared to this effect to appoint to Buenos Aires an Ambassador specially chosen, with agreed instructions to carry out, in perfect understanding with the United States Government, a policy on these lines. This would safeguard our national interests in Argentina ; would establish an active, intelligent and cordial collaboration between Italy and the United States; and would allow to the new democratic Italy the renewal of contacts with her sons throughout the Country, to clarify to them facts and situations and to rectify the disorientation in which they live, owing to the lack of contacts with their own Country.

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For all these considerations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recommends to the special attention of the State

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R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

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Department the above points, firmly convinced that the adoption of some such policy would truly represent a gesture of solidarity with the United Nations, much more important and of greater significance than the suggested recall of a Chargé d'Affaires. To this last the Italian Government could not accede without great prejudice and detriment to their interests.

ROME, August 14th, 1944.

COPYR. MINISTERO
DELLI
AFFARI ESTERIROUGH TRANSLATIONMEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has examined with the greatest attention the suggestion of the State Department concerning the advisability of recalling the Italian Charge d' Affaires in Buenos Aires as an indication of Italy's solidarity with the United Nations, and takes leave to submit the following points:

1. The Italian Government is still in the state of broken diplomatic relations with all the United Nations, with the exception of the U.S.S.R., with which direct relations were reestablished last March. The Italian Government have, furthermore, on Allied request, proceeded to withdraw their Diplomatic Missions also from Finland and Afghanistan. Under the circumstances, the break with Argentina would increase the state of isolation in which the Italian people have for years been living and which is, today, almost complete. It does not appear either possible or reasonable to persist, on the one hand, in keeping Italy isolated and distant from the United Nations, and, on the other, to insist that she continue in, and even increase, her state of isolation, by breaking relations and contacts even with those few countries with which Italy has been able to maintain them.
2. The position of Italy in the Argentine is a very special one. Italian communities throughout that country are very vast; her interests, multiple. The withdrawal of her Diplomatic Mission from Buenos Aires would undoubtedly imply fresh anxieties and sufferings for the numerous Italians living there, and further detriment and prejudice to their interests. The State Department is aware of this state of affairs obtaining almost throughout Latin America where industrious, loyal and honest Italian communities have, nearly everywhere have been subjected to extremely severe emergency measures. The Italian Government cannot, consequently, contribute, on its own initiative, to spread also to the Italian in Argentina the serious persecution and spoliation existing elsewhere, without being guilty of leaving undefended fundamental national interests. The Italian Government cannot refrain from pointing out that, almost one year since the Armistice, nearly all Italians throughout the world, from Egypt to Tunisia, from the East to South America, continue to be the object of extremely serious restrictive measures, in many cases comparable to those applied by the Nazis to the Jews.
3. For some time now there has not been an Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires and the Embassy is directed by a Charge d' Affaires. The recall also of this official would have a very modest and almost insignificant bearing on the general policy between the United States and the Argentine, and, in any case, its value within the general framework of American policy would undoubtedly be out of proportion to the serious damage that would derive to Italy in the specific field of her national interests.

4. The preponderance, in Argentina, of Italians and citizens of Italian descent was, it is recalled, one of the reasons given by ex President Castillo for not breaking with the Axis. Undoubtedly this could have been exploited as an excuse, but it is a fact that it is almost impossible to find one single Argentine family without a trace of Italian blood or not connected with direct Italian descent. This circumstance, duly ascertained and documented, could perhaps be the key to a better and more constructive valuation of the situation. In fact, it emphasizes the extreme importance that an intelligent and intense propaganda and clarification would have amongst Italians, and the consequent direct influence, through them, it would have on the general public opinion of the country.

5. In substance, the Italian Government is firmly convinced that instead of proceeding to take negative actions (the sterility of which is evident, as is also evident the prejudice they would bring to fundamental Italian interests) it would be urgent and necessary to start, in common agreement, a truly active and constructive work, that is, an intelligent and loyal co-operation between Italy and the United States intended to neutralize, through the great masses of Italians, and their authority and influence, the forces hostile to the common ideals of our war, and to galvanize those that are favorable to these same ideals. The Italian Government, and this is well-known, are prepared to this effect to appoint to Buenos Aires an Ambassador specially chosen, with agreed instructions to carry out, in perfect understanding with the United States Government, a policy on these lines. This would safeguard our national interests in Argentina; would establish an active, intelligent and cordial collaboration between Italy the removal of contacts with her sons throughout the country, to clarify to them facts and situations and to rectify the discrimination in which they live, owing to the lack of contacts with their own country.

For all these considerations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recommends to the special attention of the State Department the above points, firmly convinced that the adoption of some such policy would truly represent a gesture of solidarity with the United Nations, much more important and of greater significance than the suggested recall of a Charge d'Affaires. To this last the Italian Government could not accede without great prejudice and detriment to their interests.

Rome, August 15th, 1944

Office of the British R
Central Mediter.
Caser

Minister,

PP

39/150/0.

30th August 1944.

He *W.S.*

Dear Department,

Buenos Aires despatch No. 161 of 9th June about the crews from the 16 Italian ships which were sold in 1941 to the Argentine Government.

2. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs telegraphed on the 25th July giving the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires authority to ask individual members of the crews whether they desired to return to Italy as soon as transportation was available and to strike off the payroll any who declined. The telegram emphasised that the Embassy should meanwhile do their best to help the men concerned to obtain profitable employment in the Argentine.

3. As regards the statement in para. 3 of the despatch that larger advances from Allied sources would be required unless arrangements were made for a part at least of the blocked Italian funds to be used, the Italian Government propose that these funds, if they become available, should be devoted not only to the payment of expenses concerning the crews but also towards financing the Italian Embassy and Consular Offices in the Argentine. The Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires has reported to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Argentine Government through their Embassy have submitted to the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee a request for the release of the accrued interest on the funds which were frozen under Resolution 22 of the Committee and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have asked that the United States Government should support this request. So far no reply has been received by our American colleagues as to whether the State Department are willing to support the Argentine Government's request.

4. The Royal Italian Navy approached the Commander in Chief, Mediterranean Station, about the repatriation of the crews, and in this connection we enclose a copy of a note on the subject by Admiral Cunningham's Deputy Chief of Staff. Their repatriation, even in small groups, would have a good effect locally, and we should be glad to know whether there is now any possibility of obtaining transport for these men.

/ ve

Southern Department,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

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INFORMAL ROUTING SLIP.

HEADQUARTERS
NORTH AFRICAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY.

File MED.00180/3.

21st August 1944.

Subject: Repatriation of Italians from Argentine.

No. 5. From: C.in.C. Med.
To: British Resident Minister.

The question of the transport of these men has been referred to the Principal Sea Transport Officer, Mediterranean, and the Ministry of War Transport representative.

2. There are three alternative methods of transport:-

(a) Shipment in small groups by any vessel sailing from South America to the Mediterranean Area, although this direct route is considered to be only a remote possibility.

(b) To the United States and then to :-

- (i) Mediterranean by U.G.F. convoy.
- (ii) Mediterranean by U.G.S. convoy.
- (iii) United Kingdom and by K.M.F. convoy to Mediterranean.

(c) To the United Kingdom by direct opportunities, and then by K.M.F. convoy to the Mediterranean.

3. The Principal Sea Transport Officer and Ministry of War Transport Representative both consider that this matter should be dealt with by the Director of Sea Transport on a London/Washington level.

M. B. Laing.

Deputy Chief of Staff to
Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

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UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

August 7, 1944.

RESTRICTED

Dear Bill:

With reference to your memorandum of August 1 on the subject of the financing of the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires, I should like to suggest that you send a copy of this memorandum directly to Mr. Kirk's office for action. Although it is true that at the outset we used to handle this subject, ever since the establishment of a separate office for the United States Representative on the Advisory Council, all questions involving the financing of Italian missions abroad have been handled directly since the decisions in these cases were invariably taken by London and Washington after consultation, and since no purpose would be served by passing the material through AFHQ. Incidentally, I find that all our files on this subject have been transferred to Mr. Kirk's office.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

G. F. Reinhardt

Copy to: Mr. Merride

Copies of above. 11/4 sent to RHC & Mr. Kirk 12/8

4141

William W. Schott, Esquire,
Political Section,
Allied Control Commission for Italy,
Rome.

UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERSWS
HE

August 7, 1944.

Copy
sent G.S.R.RESTRICTED

Dear Bill:

With reference to your memorandum of August 1 on the subject of the financing of the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires, I should like to suggest that you send a copy of this memorandum directly to Mr. Kirk's office for action. Although it is true that at the outset we used to handle this subject, ever since the establishment of a separate office for the United States Representative on the Advisory Council, all questions involving the financing of Italian missions abroad have been handled directly since the decisions in these cases were invariably taken by London and Washington after consultation, and since no purpose would be served by passing the material through AFHQ. Incidentally, I find that all our files on this subject have been transferred to Mr. Kirk's office.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Fm

C. F. Reinhardt

Copy to: Mr. McBride

William W. Schott, Esquire,
Political Section,
Allied Control Commission for Italy,
Rome.

4140

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APC 324

Ref 355/305

1 August 1944

SUBJECT: Financing of Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires.

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

Reference is made to previous correspondence on the subject of the financing of the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires through the release of the accrued interest on blocked funds deriving from the purchase of Italian ships in Argentine waters by the Argentine Government under contract dated August 25, 1941.

The Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires has reported to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Argentine Government, through their Embassy, have submitted to the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee a request for the release of this interest money on the funds which were frozen under Resolution 22 of the said Committee.

With reference to Mr. Reinhardt's letter to the Political Section of February 23, 1944, the substance of which was communicated to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry now requests that the United States Government support the request made by the Argentine Government to the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee.

The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs points out that the release of the running and accumulated interests on the aforementioned funds would be very desirable in order to ensure the financing of the Italian Embassy and Consular Office in the Argentine and also the payment of the allowances and expenses for the eventual repatriation of the unemployed crews of the former Italian ships.

As the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has requested to be informed whether the United States Government are willing to support the request of the Argentine Government before the said Committee, would you kindly advise as to what reply should be made.

WRS.
WILLIAM W. SCHOTT
Political Section 4139

cc: G-5, G-2 (C.I.), and
British Resident Minister

Memorandum to: Office of the British Resident Minister
at Allied Force Headquarters,
APO 512.

From: Political Section,
H.Q. Allied Control Commission,
APO 376.

Subject: Proposed repatriation of Italian seamen from the
Argentine.

No. 112. 1st August, 1944.

In reply to your memorandum No. 35/150/9 of the 27th July asking for comments on a despatch from H.Q. Ambassador at Buenos Aires, there are two main points to which we should wish to draw your attention. The first is that the Italian Embassy should be authorised by the Italian Government to ask individual members of crews whether they desire to return to Italy as soon as transportation is available and to strike off the payroll any who decline. On this point I enclose a copy of a telegram of the 25th July from the Italian Government, in which they give the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires the authority which they require, while at the same time emphasizing the desirability that the Embassy should meanwhile do their best to help the men concerned to obtain profitable employment in the Argentine.

2. The second concerns the statement that larger advances from Allied sources will be required after the month of June if the crews remain at Buenos Aires and unless arrangements are made for a part at least of the blocked Italian funds to be utilised. As regards transportation, it is noted that the question has already been taken up with the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean and, from the point of view of the Allied Control Commission, the only comment that can be made is that the repatriation of these crews, even in small groups, would have a good effect locally.

3. As regards the release of blocked Italian funds, a separate memorandum is being addressed to you on this subject, since the Italian Government proposed that if such funds should become available, they should be used, not only for the payment of expenses concerning these crews, but to help in financing the Italian Embassy and consular offices in the Argentine.

Copies to: G-5
G-2 (C.I.)
U.S. Political Adviser.

4138

(10) sent to Finance S.C. 4/8.



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

Nr. 6/47/19

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION

Reference is made to the Memoranda n. 1872 dated 31st March and 10th May, 1944.

The Italian Charge d' Affaires in Buenos Aires reports that the Argentine Government, through their Embassy, have submitted to the Interamerican Financial and Economic Advisory Committee a request for the release of the interest money on the funds (which were frozen under Resolution 22 of the said Committee) connected with the purchase of Italian ships.

The Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs - recalling the kind statement made on this subject by the Washington Department of State - (communication by Mr. G.P. Reinhardt, Acting United States Member, Advisory Council for Italy, to the Political Section, Allied Control Commission, dated February 23rd) should greatly appreciate if the Allied Control Commission would kindly ask the United States Government, on behalf of the Italian Government, to support the request made by the Argentine Government to the said Committee.

The release of the running and accumulated interests on the aforesaid funds would be very desirable in order to ensure the financing of the Italian Embassy and Consular Offices in the Argentine and also the payment of the allowances and expenses for the eventual repatriation of the unemployed crews of Italian ships, purchased by the Argentine Government under contract dated 25th August, 1941. (The question of the possible repatriation of these crews has been discussed with Mr. Caccia, Vice President of the Political Section, A.C.C. in March and April last.) *Leah*

ROME, July 26th, 1944

550/285

4137

0 5 3 7

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

TO: Buenos Aires
DATE: 25 July 44

No. 71: Your 135. Through A.C.C., we are
informing the U. S. Government to support
the request of Argentine Government.

PRUNAS

4106

39/150/9.

To: Political Section,
Allied Control Commission.

From: British Resident Minister's Office.

Subject: Proposed repatriation of Italian seamen from
the Argentine.

Reference: Memorandum from this office of March 16th.

We enclose copy of a despatch dated June 9th to the Foreign
Office from H.M. Ambassador at Buenos Aires together with its
enclosures.

We should be grateful for your comments.

The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Station has received
a letter from the Italian Ministry of Marine which asks him to
examine the possibility of the repatriation of the seamen being
effected even in small groups; and we are asking him to let
us know what are the prospects of transport being available.

John Wyndham.

J. Wyndham.

27th July, 1944.

Copy to: G-5
G-2(C.I.)
U.S. Political Adviser.

does not the
answer hang on
this? 4135

COPY.

(W 10242/96/75)

BRITISH EMBASSY

BOENOS AIRES

No. 161

Signed Original sent by Reg.

June 9th, 1944.

BY AIR MAIL.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that shortly after your despatch No. 90 of April 21st was received a member of my staff was visited by Dr. Simone, the first Secretary of the Italian Embassy, who brought a memorandum on the position of the crews from the sixteen Italian ships which were sold in 1941 to the Argentine Government.

2. I enclose a translation of this memorandum, from which you will see that the special fund from which these crews are being paid will be exhausted next month. Dr. Simone pointed out in the course of conversation that his Embassy were anxious to give these crews definite instructions regarding repatriation, whereupon they anticipated that a number of the seamen who had settled down in Argentina would refuse to leave the country and the financial liability of the Italian authorities towards them would cease. This financial liability could not, however, be avoided as long as the crews remained here without any further arrangements being made for them.

3. A similar memorandum has been received by the United States Embassy, who have forwarded it to Washington. They have been told of the conclusion reached in paragraph 3 of your despatch No. 90 and they agree that there appears to be no action we can usefully take at present with regard to repatriation. Nevertheless, both I and my United States colleague consider that the authorities in London and Washington should be aware that the Italian Embassy here will require to receive larger advances from us after the month of June if the crews remain here and unless arrangements are made for a part at least of the blocked Italian funds to be utilised. I should therefore be grateful to learn as soon as possible whether you would be prepared to sanction increased advances to the Italian Embassy for this purpose after the available fund has been exhausted and until permission for the unblocking of accrued interest on the ships' value is secured by the Italian Embassy.

4. The permission in question has to be sought from the United States authorities, since they are primarily responsible for the blocking of the funds. Mr. Auburn accordingly discussed the matter with the Counsellor of the United States Embassy, who confirmed that the State Department had laid down that the present advances to the Italian Embassy should only continue until the interest on the sale of the ships was released; and that this release should be accelerated. He agreed that Mr. Auburn should speak to the Italian Charge d'Affaires on the lines of the enclosed draft, encouraging him to do his best to expedite the release. I enclose herein two minutes by Mr. Auburn on his ensuing interviews with members of the Italian Embassy. From these it appears that the Italian Embassy's difficulties may not be entirely appreciated by the Italian Government.

5. I am sending a copy of this despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington and enclose a copy for transmission to His Majesty's Representative in Italy.

I have, etc.,

(Sgd.) D.V. Kelly.

to the Argentine Government.

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5. I am sending a copy of this despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington and enclose a copy for transmission to His Majesty's Representative in Italy.

I have, etc.,

(sgd.) D.V. Kelly.

The Right Hon. Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Foreign Office.

COPY.

Enclosure in Buenos Aires despatch No. 101 of June 9th, 1944.

TRANSLATION OF MEMORANDUM.

FROM ITALIAN EMBASSY.

The crews now on shore of the 16 Italian vessels acquired by the Argentine Government by the agreement signed on August 25th, 1941, consist at present of 130 officers and 400 petty officers and seamen.

The Royal Embassy is authorized to make the necessary payment for the maintenance of this personnel from a fund deposited in the Central Bank, which is formed by the proceeds of the sale of the extra fuel and goods taken off the 16 ships.

Whereas:

(1) the funds at present available to the Royal Embassy (\$158,000.-) for the maintenance of the crews will be exhausted by June, and

(2) in view of the fact that the funds arising from the sale of the ships and the interest which has accrued thereon are blocked, it is remarkably difficult to assure the crews' maintenance during the coming months, the following solutions are envisaged:

(I) to repatriate all members of the crew who might be usefully employed in Italian ships. Repatriation could be carried out direct by means of neutral ships or the crews could be sent to the United States to wait for the first suitable opportunity for their repatriation. In any case, the Allied Governments would have to grant the respective safe conducts;

(II) to authorize the Argentine Government to grant a loan to the Royal Italian Embassy, repayable from the proceeds of the Italian ships which have been sold and the accruing interest, thus assuring the continued maintenance of the crews;

(III) to authorize the Argentine Government to employ on their ships the Italian crews who are at present without work.

4133

copy.

Enclosure in Buenos Aires despatch No. 161 of June 9th, 1944 (B).

MR. AUSTIN'S REPORT OF JUNE 5th, 1944

NOTES FOR ITALIAN CREWS

I called on the Italian Charge d'Affaires on Saturday, June 3rd. He also had with him Dr. Simone, the First Secretary, as well as the Assistant Naval Attache. We had a lengthy discussion out of which the following developed:

(1) Castacciolo has seen the Argentine Government, who have asked him to put in a Pro Memoria. They mentioned to him the fact that they had received no reply from the Americans, but G. is not unhopeful.

(2) G. will mention in this Pro Memoria that the Argentine Government will probably want to raise the question through its representative on the Inter-American Financial and Advisory Committee, which intervened in the matter in 1941. However, G. pointed out to me that he could not recognize any interest of the said Committee in the matter of the Italian ships, because no mention is made of the Committee in the contract between the Italian and Argentine Governments. (I believe this is quite true; it was probably felt to be undesirable at the time.)

4132

(3) G. is very keen on cutting down the expenses of keeping the Italian crews and has telegraphed his Government in the sense that they should authorize him to ask the individual members of the crews whether they desire to return to Italy as soon as transportation is available. Those who decline will be struck off the payroll. He asked whether we could mention this in any communication we may send to London, so that the latter could urge the Italian Government to agree. However, this morning Simone rang me to say that they had received a telegram from Italy about which the Assistant Naval Attache would call on me this afternoon and he therefore suggested no action meantime.

Copy.

Enclosure in Buenos Aires Despatch No. 161 of June 9th 1944.

DRAFT.

It is proposed to ask Mr. Garbaccio:

(a) Has he yet taken any action on Telegram No. 44? If so, what was the reply of the Argentine Government?

(b) If not, as it is purely a financial question, we would not raise any objection to his doing so.

(c) If the Argentine Government has already said, or says later, that it cannot make the suggested approach because it is awaiting an answer from the American and/or British Embassies to its earlier approach to them, possibly Mr. Garbaccio could remind them that the question could be discussed through their representative on the Inter-American Financial and Advisory Committee which intervened in 1941, which body is representative of all the American governments and not only the United States of America.

4111

MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM MADRID FOR ITALIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES IN
BUENOS AIRES.

Following is a telegram from Royal Ministry of Foreign
Affairs addressed to you.

No. 44 May 12. Reference your telegram No. 66.
With reference to my telegram No. 26 please inform whether Argentine Government has addressed to Inter-American Financial and Economic Consultative Committee a request for unfreezing interest arising from sale of ships. In the meantime I approve of your accepting anticipations from Anglo-American representatives up to amount indicated to you.

Copy.

Enclosure in Buenos Aires Despatch No. 161 of June 2th 1944.

Mr Auburn's minute of June 5th 1944.

Romeo, the Italian Assistant Naval Attache, called this afternoon to bring the attached telegram from Madrid, dated June 3rd, in which his Government states that present circumstances make it preferable to employ the Italian crews on this side and embark them on United Nations ships, but authorises repatriation of individuals desiring to return to liberated territory, adding that the Allied Governments are interested in facilitating such return.

Romeo says that this does not give them the clear authority which they need in order to cut down the expenses of keeping the Italian crews (see (3) overleaf). They ask whether we can point out to the Italian Government that they should have authority here to put the question to every man, "Will you return to Italy as soon as it is possible to find you accommodation, or will you take service in a United Nations ship as soon as it is possible to find you employment?" Those who say "No" to this question would then be told that this negative answer automatically terminated their contract. Romeo pointed out that these men are civilians and not soldiers, and that unless the Embassy here gets a clear cut authority from the Italian Government they will possibly incur liability under civil law if they do not pay the men.

4113

Agenda

What is happening?

How
2/12

4129

SECRET *Pol Sec**7067*ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 091.112-28

TBJ/jw
18 August 1944SUBJECT: Appointment of Italian Ambassador
to Argentine RepublicTO : Headquarters, Allied Control
Commission, APO 394

1. Reference is made to your memo
of 23 July under reference 390/385.

2. This matter has now been referred
by the United States Political Adviser
to the State Department who advise as
follows:-

"In view of the lack of relations
between most of the United Nations and
the present Argentine regime, it is still
not possible at this time to consider
the appointment of an Italian ambassador
to the Argentine".

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

T. B. Jackman
T. B. JACKMAN
Major

4128

SECRET

SECRET

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 091.112-28

TBJ/jw
18 August 1944

SUBJECT: Appointment of Italian Ambassador
to Argentine Republic

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control
Commission, APO 394

1. Reference is made to your memo
of 23 July under reference 390/365.

2. This matter has now been referred
by the United States Political Adviser
to the State Department who advise as
follows:-

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the present Argentine regime, it is still
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the appointment of an Italian ambassador
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For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:


T. B. JACKMAN
Major

4127

SECRET

SECRET

Political Section

HEADQUARTERS
31 JUL 1944
A. C. C.ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CMS/CF/jjr

29 July 1944

SUBJECT: Appointment of Italian Ambassador to
Argentine Republic.TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission
APO 394

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter on the
above subject, Ref # 390/385 of 23 July 44. With the
assent of the British Resident Minister, the United
States Political Advisor is consulting the Department
of State in Washington. In the meantime, consideration
of the matter by this Headquarters is suspended.

Charles M. Spofford
for & in absence of
CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Colonel, G.S.C.
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5

*Copy to B.H.C.**Both papers copied
to Embassy*

4126

350/385

SECRET

Extra copy

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

CMS/CF/jjr

29 July 1944

SUBJECT: Appointment of Italian Ambassador to
Argentine Republic.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission
APO 394

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of the matter by this Headquarters is suspended.

CHARLES M. SPOFFORD
Colonel, G.S.C.
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5

380/385

4125

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref #390/385

23 July 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5, U.S. Political Adviser, and British Resident
Minister at A.F.H.Q.

SUBJECT : Appointment of Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires.

1. As you will recall the Italian Government has withheld the appointment of an ambassador to the Argentine Government on two grounds. First, in order to harmonize their policy as regards the Argentine with that of the Allied Governments and secondly, to ascertain whether Count Vinci who is a prisoner-of-war could be released for the post.

2. On the latter point they were recently informed that Count Vinci's attitude had not been sufficiently satisfactory while a prisoner-of-war to dispose the Allied authorities to release him. The Italian Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs has now put forward the name of another candidate, Ambassador Cora, whom His Excellency assured us has an outstandingly good and anti-Fascist record. Ambassador Cora is at present believed to be in Florence.

3. The Under-Secretary emphasized the importance to the Italian Government of the dispatch of an ambassador to the Argentine at the earliest possible moment in order to unite the large Italian colony in the Argentine in support of the war effort in a more satisfactory manner than can be done by the Charge' d'Affaires. He therefore greatly hoped that the Allied authorities would shortly be in agreement that the situation in the Argentine would permit the Italian Government to make such an appointment and if so that they would raise no objection to the nomination of Ambassador Cora.

4. We should be grateful to know what reply can be given to the Italian Government on this subject.

5. Copies of this memorandum have been sent to the British High Commissioner and the U. S. Representative to the Advisory Council.

4124

SAMUEL REBER
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

350/385

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
AND 324

Ref 390/395

23 July 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: C-8, U.S. Political Advisor, and British Resident
Minister at A.F.R.P.

SUBJECT: Appointment of Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires.

1. As you will recall the Italian Government has withheld the appointment of an ambassador to the Argentine Government on two grounds. First, in order to harmonize their policy as regards the Argentine with that of the Allied Governments and secondly, to ascertain whether Count Vinai who is a prisoner-of-war could be released for the post.

2. On the latter point they were recently informed that Count Vinai's attitude had not been sufficiently satisfactory while a prisoner-of-war to dispose the Allied authorities to release him. The Italian Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs has now put forward the name of another candidate, Ambassador Coru, whom His Excellency assured us has an outstandingly good and anti-Fascist record. Ambassador Coru is at present believed to be in Florence.

3. The Under-Secretary emphasized the importance to the Italian Government of the dispatch of an ambassador to the Argentine at the earliest possible moment in order to unite the large Italian colony in the Argentine in support of the war effort in a more satisfactory manner than can be done by the Charge' d'Affaires. He therefore greatly hoped that the Allied authorities would shortly be in agreement that the situation in the Argentine would permit the Italian Government to make such an appointment and if so that they would raise no objection to the nomination of Ambassador Coru.

4. We should be grateful to know what reply can be given to the Italian Government on this subject.

5. Copies of this memorandum have been sent to the British High Commissioner and the U. S. Representative to the Advisory Council.

APPROVED
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

Coru Vinai

4123

ASH

Mr. Caccia.

I have passed this on, telling Mr. Halford that I am sending a copy to you. No doubt Sir Noel will not reply until he has had a chance of discussing with you.

I believe you took to Rome the copy of the last minute you wrote to Mr. Halford about Vinca.

Dismissed

7.7.44. File

W 4122

H 12 1217

Cenry

R. Ministero
Casli
Affari Esteri.

No. 5543

Salerno, 6 Lug 1941.

Dear Sir Noel,

Some little time ago Caccio spoke to me of Ambassador Vince who, as you know, had been appointed to the Embassy at Buenos Ayres, and is at present a prisoner of war in India.

It is naturally, now clear that Count Vinci will no longer go to Buenos Ayres where another Ambassador is being appointed, whose name we shall communicate in due course.

I wish, however, to draw your earnest attention on the possibility that Count Vinci be at least allowed to repatriate. 4121

He has been a prisoner of war for over three and half years; he is completely in the dark as to what has happened in Italy; he has had no news whatsoever from his family, and, generally, no contact at all with Italy. Undoubtedly I do not question your information and I am extremely sorry to hear it. But it is equally certain that Count Vinco never was anti-British, and if he has expressed sentiments in this sense, I should think there can be no doubt that the present circumstances of his life have principally contributed to distort his vision of reality.

I think, therefore, that if the British Authorities would consider his case from a human standpoint and allow him to repatriate, Count Vinci would realize many things that probably, to-day, he is unaware of.

I am sure you will understand the spirit that prompts

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I think, therefore, that if the British Authorities would consider his case from a human standpoint and allow him to repatriate, Count Vinci would realize many things that probably, to-day, he is unaware of.

I am sure you will understand the spirit that prompts me to write to you; it concerns a colleague and a friend. Enough, I believe, to justify my words.

Very cordially,

Yours

(signed) R. Prunas.

Sir Noel Charles, Bt., KCMG.,
His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador
Advisory Council for Italy.
NAPLES.

241
alms.

Vinci

Rome

RE 7/11/44
SHMr. Halford.

I spoke to-day about Vinci. Prunas was surprised for he said that when he had known Vinci he was far from being anti-British. Admittedly that was three years ago, and a long spell as a prisoner of war, no matter how good the treatment, might be a souring experience. When the Italian Government gets to Rome Prunas will think the matter over and put up an alternative name for Buenos Aires.

Political Section,
29.6.44.

4120

HEAD (ITEMS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION)

APC 394

RUC/dsd

Reference 350/385

9 February 1944

My dear Roger,

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

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

Political Section

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

Encl: Left of te 4 to B.A.

See also Refat (241) - Vinci

4119

Extract from Memorandum 6/47/19 from Ministry of Foreign Affairs to
Political Section:

-- July 26, 1944 --

"The release of the running and accumulated interests on the afore-
said funds would be very desirable in order to ensurethe payment of
the allowances and expenses for the eventual repatriation of the unem-
ployed crews of Italian ships, purchased by the Argentine Government under
contract dated 25th August, 1941. (The question of the possible repatria-
tion of these crews has been discussed with Mr. Caccia, Vice President
of the Political Section, A.C.C. in March and April last.)

4118

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 894

Ref #390/335

23 July 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: G-5, U.S. Political Adviser, and British Resident
Minister at A.F.H.C.

SUBJECT: Appointment of Italian Ambassador in Buenos Aires.

1. As you will recall the Italian Government has withheld the appointment of an ambassador to the Argentine Government on two grounds. First, in order to harmonize their policy as regards the Argentine with that of the Allied Governments and secondly, to ascertain whether Count Vinet who is a prisoner-of-war could be released for the post.

2. On the latter point they were recently informed that Count Vinet's attitude had not been sufficiently satisfactory while a prisoner-of-war to dispose the Allied authorities to release him. The Italian Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs has now put forward the name of another candidate, Ambassador Gera, whom His Excellency assured us has an outstandingly good and anti-Fascist record. Ambassador Gera is at present believed to be in Florence.

3. The Under-Secretary emphasized the importance to the Italian Government of the dispatch of an ambassador to the Argentine at the earliest possible moment in order to unite the large Italian colony in the Argentine in support of the war effort in a more satisfactory manner than can be done by the Charge d'Affaires. He therefore greatly hoped that the Allied authorities would shortly be in agreement that the situation in the Argentine would permit the Italian Government to make such an appointment and if so that they would raise no objection to the nomination of Ambassador Gera.

4. We should be grateful to know what reply can be given to the Italian Government on this subject.

5. Copies of this memorandum have been sent to the British High Commissioner and the U. S. Representative to the Advisory Council.

4117
ALBERT RAYNER
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

Copies to: British High Commissioner
U. S. Representative, ACI

SECRET

June 21, 1944

The Honorable
Alexander C. Kirk,
United States Member of the
Advisory Council for Italy,
Care of the American Consulate General,
Naples, Italy.

Sir:

Enclosed is an envelop addressed to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires for delivery to the addressee.

This envelop was sent to the Department in the pouch of the American Embassy at Buenos Aires. The arrangement for the utilization of this channel of transmission for Italian official mail was made in connection with an exchange of telegrams between the Department and the mission at Algiers, the latest of which was the Department's telegram no. 1243 of April 25, 1944, 2 p.m. When the arrangement was made it was intended that the official Italian mail received in the Department by pouch from Buenos Aires would be forwarded by the Department in its pouch to the mission at Algiers. However, a telegram (no. 1245 dated June 5, 1944, noon) has now been received from the mission at Algiers requesting that such mail be sent directly to Naples.

Very truly yours,

350/385

4116

The Honorable

Alexander C. Kirk,

United States Member of the

Advisory Council for Italy,

Care of the American Consulate General,
Naples, Italy.

Sir:

Enclosed is an envelop addressed to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires for delivery to the addressee.

This envelop was sent to the Department in the pouch of the American Embassy at Buenos Aires. The arrangement for the utilization of this channel of transmission for Italian official mail was made in connection with an exchange of telegrams between the Department and the mission at Algiers, the latest of which was the Department's telegram no. 1243 of April 25, 1944, 2 p.m. When the arrangement was made it was intended that the official Italian mail received in the Department by pouch from Buenos Aires would be forwarded by the Department in its pouch to the mission at Algiers. However, a telegram (no. 1345 dated June 5, 1944, noon) has now been received from the mission at Algiers requesting that such mail be sent directly to Naples.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Enclosure:
Envelop.

051.35/118

125.6476/251

*Handed to [unclear]
21 July 44*

G. HOWLAND SHAW

0560

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

350/375

4136

Buenos Aires, Argentina,
May 22, 1944

To the Department of State:

The attached is forwarded by
unaccompanied airmail pouch for
transmission to the Italian Foreign
office as authorized by the
Department's telegram no. 671,
April 25, 1944, 2 p.m.

E. Weed

File

DIVISION OF FOREIGN
SERVICE ADMINISTRATION
ENCLOSURE with hand to Naples
on 5/22/44
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

4115

0562

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

Department of State

BUREAU | FA
DIVISION |

ENCLOSURE
TO

Letter drafted 6-9-44

ADDRESS TO
The Honorable
Alexander C. Kirk
~~American Consular Officer~~
~~in charge,~~
Naples, Italy.

4114

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1-1033

UNITED STATES MEMBER
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

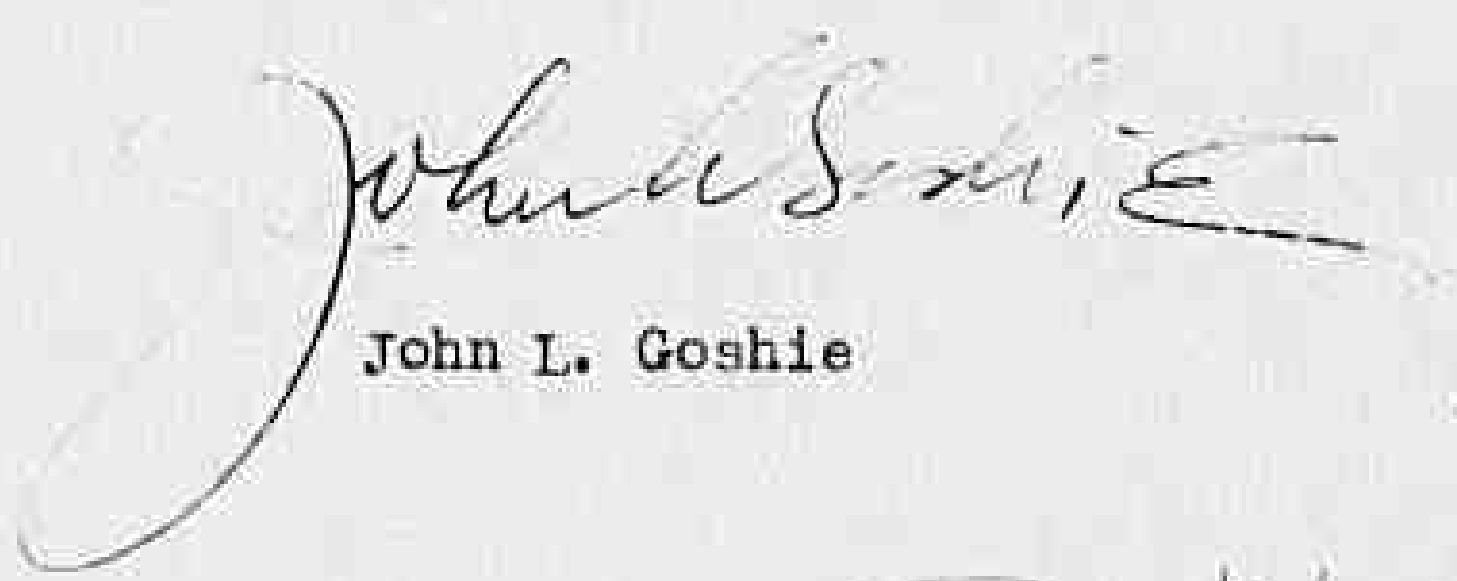
~~SR.~~
SR.

June 6, 1944.

To: Mr. Samuel Reber
Political Section
Allied Control Commission

Attached herewith a paraphrase of the Department's 126,
May 30, 9 p.m. for Reber.

For the U. S. Representative:


John L. Goshie

Enclosure: 1

6/8 hold off sending receipt of A-9 to Reber 4113
J.L.G.
received June 9.

PARAPHRASE OF

TELEGRAM

RECEIVED

FROM: SINGSTATE

MAY 30, 9 pm, 1944.

126

SECRET

HRGD: 5,31,6pm

Reference Department's A-9 of May 20 for Reber. Following is paraphrase of Buenos Aires 1317 May 24 on this subject;

(See Department's 823, May 20 to Buenos Aires).

RECEIVED PARAPHRASE: Although I consider Carbaccio an unsatisfactory representative I do not feel that he could be advantageously replaced by any one of the present Embassy staff. Bianconi might be an improvement, although we do not know him well enough to be certain; and any appointment of another dubious person might even worsen the situation, since our approval of any new head of the Embassy would be taken for granted. The situation needs new blood, but I presume such an infusion is impossible, pending reestablishment of normal diplomatic relations with this country. However, an Ambassador should be sent here at the first possible moment. Vinci may be well qualified, but the Department should consider the fact that his position as last Italian Minister to Addis Ababa would probably cause unwelcome comment.

Carbaccio feels justified in having brought to attention of the authorities Italia Libera's attacks on himself personally and the Badoglio regime, although he denies having requested suspension of the newspaper. Since he must have foreseen the free Italians' reaction his move may be considered as ill-advised, but it does not seem that he should be censored.

His/

-2-

His critics claim that he has failed to support Italian relief efforts. This may or may not be true, but I do not consider that this Embassy is in a position to verify the accusation.

Signed ARMOUR (END OF PARAPHRASE)

Delivery of the message in the Dept's A-9 to Sforza, with any appropriate comments you wish to make, is left to your discretion.

BTLL

4111

True Italian Appeal

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APC 394

June 1, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: United States Political Advisor, Allied Force Headquarters.

FROM: Political Section, Allied Control Commission.

SUBJECT: Message from Count Sforza to the Free Italian Association in the Argentine.

Reference is made to a Memorandum from this office dated May 23, 1944, transmitting a message from Count Sforza to Signor di Tella in Buenos Aires, and to previous correspondence regarding the activities of ITALIA LIBERA there.

Following the despatch on May 15 of Italian Foreign Office telegram No. 51, to the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires, instructing the Royal Charge d'Affaires to withhold any action against the Society and its daily newspaper, Count Sforza has asked that the following message be sent to Signor Nicolas Gilia of ITALIA LIBERA:

ITALIAN MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS CABLED EMBASSY
FORMAL ORDER TO STOP IMMEDIATELY ANY ACTION AGAINST
ITALIA LIBERA.

Political Section

4110

CONSIGLIO DEI MINISTRI

Naples, May 29 1944

Dear Mr. Behar,

I'll be most grateful if you are good enough to send to Buenos Aires the enclosed answer to message from Gille you gave me a few days ago.

It is a pity that today it is still possible that certain mistakes are done....

Sincerely yours,

Forza

16828

Forwarded 5/29 1944.
after approval of R. to be
done "several days" - Forza
then requested 364 act -
Message forwarded

Can be used
anywhere
up to 1000 ft.
CONTE CARL
MINISTRO REBEL
SFORZA
1000 ft. 1000 ft.
Please of it
today. 1000 ft.

For Cilla ,ITALIA LIBRE,Burnes Aires

~~/~~ Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs has cabled Embassy
immediately
Formal order to stop/any action against ITALIA LIBRE xkixkx
mextx
~~xxxxxxxxxxMinistryxxxxxxxassessantxxxxxtxtxtttxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

SFO32A

4109

c.c. U. S. Representative A.C. For I.

May 23, 1944

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

SUBJECT: Message for Count Sforza from the Free Italian Association in the Argentine.

Reference is made to Memorandum from the Office of the U. S. Political Advisor, dated May 9, 1944, containing a paraphrase of the Department's telegram No. 1372 of May 6.

Mr. Cilla's message was delivered to Count Sforza who was likewise informed of the general trend of the Embassy's comment with regard to the activities of ITALIA LIBERA. Sforza requests that the following telegram be sent to Signor Di Tella in Buenos Aires through the American Embassy:

HAVING RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM CILLA BUT WISHING TO
RAISE WHOLE CASE OF PROFASCIST AGENTS MAY I ASK YOUR
OPINION ON CARBACCIO AND ALL YOU KNOW MY FULLEST
CONFIDENCE IN YOU

SFORZA

Count Sforza also feels very strongly that the group of newspapers including ITALIA LIBERA, which have given the fullest possible support to anti-Fascist and United Nations policy in South America should have the support of the new democratic Government in Italy and should not be penalized for attacks on former Fascist agents. He is discussing the matter with the Foreign Office.

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission

4108

DI TELLA

BUENOS AYRES

HAVING RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM GILIA BUT WISHING TO RAISE WHOLE
CASE OF PRO-FASCIST AGENTS MAY I ASK YOUR OPINION ON GARBAGATO AND ALL
YOU KNOW MY FULLEST CONFIDENCE IN YOU

SPORZA

Sporza feels very strongly that the group of newspapers which have given the
fullest support to anti-Fascist & United Nations policy should have support of
democratic press in Italy - should not be penalized for attacks on ^{fascist} agents
He feels impression created by such action in Italian press would be most
infelicitous

Sporza

4107

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Civil Affairs Office

May 9, 1944

TO: General Robert, Empire
Vice President, Allied Control Commission,
Political Section,
Baghdad

SUBJECT: Message for Giorza from Italian in Buenos Aires.

A paraphrase of the Department of State's telegram No. 1372 of May 6, addressed to you, follows:

A member of the Free Italian Association in Argentina, Mr. Nicolas Gilla, who is now conducting a Free Italian Radio Program from Montevideo and has also been working with our Embassy there, wishes to send following message to Count Carlo Giorza but is unable to do so owing to lack of the telegraphic communication with Italy.

"On behalf of the editors of Italia Libera of Buenos Aires I report that the Italian Charge d'Affaires is endeavoring to obtain the suspension of the said newspaper which is the only democratic Italian daily in South America. I request you to intercede taking measures to stop the anti-democratic and anti-patriotic action of the Italian representative in Argentina."

In this connection the Embassy in Buenos Aires comments:

"Italia Libera (a daily newspaper) has been suspended indefinitely for publishing a series of vituperative attacks on Italian Charge d'Affaires. According to Italian authorities a member of Embassy staff did bring articles in question to attention of a friend in police department." The Embassy adds

"We wonder whether such press articles as well as Gilla's radio commentaries from Montevideo attacking present Italian representatives in Argentina serve any useful purpose at this time."

You are authorized to deliver Gilla's message if you deem it advisable to do so. For your background information, while

G. Baccio,

*If you inform
file
am*

4106

-2-

Corbaccio, Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires has cooperated with our Embassy in the present delicate situation in Argentina, he has been unable to unite the anti-Fascist Italians in Argentina, and has apparently not made much effort to do so. See Department's A-81, November 8, 1943 (substance given in A-81, telegram to, 8125 to Satina, November 17, 1943) and recent message regarding his failure to find out the address of Belmonti.

For the U.S. Political Adviser:

C. Offie

Copy to: OHM, Sigler
Mr. Kirk, Naples

4105

WOW:
front at Spies
Therese on
subject

5/28

R. MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI.

Mr. Green
P. [signature]

COLL. 2
 TR. MACCHI
 VIS. VENTURINI
 2 SPED.
 U.S.
 * 1

Telegramma in PARTENZA

No. Coll: 599

Assetto: "ITALIA LIBERA"

Data: 25.5.44

Tramite: VITO CIPRA

Diretto a: R. AMBASCIATA ITALIANA - MADRID

Testo: (Originale)

No. 275 - Maggio 24- Per Buenos Ayres: "N. 51- Maggio 24.

V. S. verrà interrompere ogni eventuale azione intrapresa contro associazione "Italia Libera" e suo quotidiano.

Azione V.S. nei confronti codesta collettività dovrà essere diretta sostenere ed appoggiare, naturalmente nel quadro della situazione politico Argentina, tutti quelli elementi che diano garanzia leale e serio attaccamento ai principi democratici, adoperandosi in ogni modo perché italiani di Argentina si allineino con italiani della Madre Patria, che si battono contro nazisti e fascisti per rinascita Paese.

Prego S. V. confermare.

FINIS

4104

Consegnato a : Not for despatch

25 May 44

(COPY)

We will [unclear] [unclear]

SR-

As of June 9 the situation outlined in Repts A-9 and in the telegram 126 seemed sufficiently stable to warrant deferring action until you could consider steps outlined in #126.

Nothing has been heard from Sforza since his message to Cilla of May 29, which was forwarded. Accordingly, I thought you would prefer to deal with the matter in the absence of pressure from or on Sforza.

Jmly.

4103

3 attachments:

Rept's A-9, May 20

TED & SR May 24

Rept's 126, May 30

Pravda May 20

The International

The International

The International

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

AIR MAIL

May 24, 1944

Dear Sam:

An airgram which we have just sent you regarding the unhappy state of affairs in the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires contained a message to Sforza from the Italian Libera group which Max Ascoli has requested Mr. Berle to transmit to Sforza. We suggested that it not be delivered to Sforza until full clarification was received from Buenos Aires on the suppression of Italia Libera and Garbaccio's alleged sabotaging of Italian relief organization.

Romualdi has now handed us for transmission to Sforza the enclosed letter from the Italia Libera Association, which among other things refers to the communications mentioned in Ascoli's message. A copy of the letter, we are informed, is being sent to Sforza through the open mail. Our thought is that, when we hear from Buenos Aires, the Ascoli message and therefore also the present communication should be delivered to Sforza, if you agree, along with a statement of the other side of the picture, provided our Embassy in Buenos Aires finds that there are two sides. Incidentally our Embassy in Montevideo told Cilla confidentially why the appointment of a successor to Garbaccio was not feasible at the moment. He had apparently not thought of this aspect of the situation before, appeared to appreciate the difficulty, and will probably change his attitude somewhat, which would seem all to the good.

Incidentally you will note that Italia Libera suggests to Sforza that one of the Secretaries of the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires might be placed in charge temporarily although no one is named. This would be in line with our query to Buenos Aires and airgram to you.

As

Samuel Reber, Esquire,
American Consulate General,
Naples, Italy.

4102

AIR MAIL

-2-

As to the other matters considered in the enclosed letter, Romualdi is anxious that Sforza be assured that Italia Libera has not adopted an attitude of opposition to him, as explained in this letter and in the attached copy and translation of a press statement released by Italia Libera on April 26. Regarding the telegram to Sforza on April 12 urging him not to enter the Badoglio Government, Romualdi has furnished the following explanation for Sforza:

"The telegram sent by Cicotti to Romualdi on April 12 for transmission to Count Sforza was delivered to Romualdi while he was out of town, and he did not see it until April 20. The political developments in Italy had already progressed so far as to assure the participation of Sforza in the new Cabinet. Therefore, Romualdi did not think it advisable to forward said telegram."

As to the telegram denouncing Garbaccio, Romualdi states:

"The second telegram dated April 25, also addressed to Romualdi for transmission to Count Sforza was given to Mr. Max Ascoli, who, having meanwhile received a similar message from Mr. Di Tella, condensed both communications in a cable of his own which he sent to Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Berle, for transmission to Count Sforza."

The letter also discusses the organization of relief for Italy, a matter in which Italia Libera is greatly interested. It claims that it can collect a vast quantity of wheat as well as other food supplies, and it begs Sforza to take steps to have "ships sent to Buenos Aires for the first cargo." You will recall Garbaccio's telegram regarding wheat shipments, sent to you in our telegram 1335 of May 2 to Algiers for transmission, in your discretion, to the Italian Government. Our friends in Italia Libera are most anxious to accomplish something along these lines, convinced that this would do more than anything else to bolster Italian morale and rally the democratic spirit of the Italians in Argentina and elsewhere. They feel that they could make arrangements for shipments more easily than the official representatives.

Since

4101

AIR MAIL

-3-

Since we have made a translation of the enclosed letter for our files, I am sending along a copy to you.

Sincerely yours,

James Clement Dunn
James Clement Dunn

Enclosures:

1. From Italia Libera.
2. Press statement.

4100

ITALIA LIBRE ASSOCIATION

Buenos Aires, May 3, 1944

Honorable Carlo Sforza

SALERNO (Italy)

Sir:

We are sending ^{you} as representative of the Italia Libera Association in Italy a brief report on our activities in the hope of receiving acknowledgement from you as soon as possible.

Formation of the coalition government. - In our telegram of April 12, 1944 we informed you, as was our duty, of our view point on this subject. The telegram which was transmitted to you by Romualdi was worded as follows: "The Italia Libera Association Argentine Republic asks Your Excellency to reject the communist proposal, which means bolstering up institutions and persons who impede the revival of the Italian people, being in opposition to the essential aims of the democratic war. Chiaraviglio President, Ciccotti Secretary."

Subsequently there appeared upon the initiative of a North American newspaper agency misleading ~~views~~ of our message which made it appear as though our association had a belligerent attitude towards you and other democratic representatives in the new government. We have already denied these deliberately erroneous implications which ^{was} obviously intended to sow discord in the ranks of Italian democracy, and we confirm to you that we are calmly awaiting the work undertaken by men like you, Benedetto Croce and Algerto Trachiani, whose past record, disinterested attitude, capacity and spirit of responsibility are well known.

Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires. - Under date of April 25 we sent you, again by means of our friend Romualdi, a telegram denouncing the activities of the Chargé d'Affaires of the Italian Government in Argentina, Comm. Livio Garbaccio. The telegram read textually: "Italian Chargé d'Affaires is seeking to bring about the suppression of ITALIA LIBERA, the only democratic newspaper in South America. I beg Your Excellency to intervene so that steps may be taken to terminate the unpatriotic and undemocratic activities of the local representative of the Italian Government. Giuseppe Fabi, Director."

In fact, the following day the newspaper, ITALIA LIBERA-- the only democratic Italian paper of America--was closed for

-2-

an indefinite period of time by the local authorities upon the request of the Italian Chargé d'Affaires, who had solicited such a step from the Argentine Foreign Office because of an article in which the newspaper reproached him for his inertia with regard to the Fascist organization and his constant complicity with the leaders and the persons chiefly responsible for Fascism.

In order to appraise our attitude more accurately as regards the Chargé d'Affaires, it should be recalled that on September 9 of last year a delegation of our association--overcoming a natural reluctance and subordinating every other consideration to the general interest of the country--had a talk with Garbaccio, asking him (a) to send a message to Marshal Badoglio; (b) to begin an active campaign to clean out the flourishing Italian associations in Argentina which had been invaded or contaminated by Fascism. Despite his promises the Chargé did neither of these, arbitrarily holding back the message addressed to the Chief of Government and permitting the Fascists, after an initial period of confusion and indecision, to reorganize and continue their disastrous and unpatriotic propaganda. Moreover, he has not ceased since that time to carry on intrigues against our movement and our newspaper, going so far as to subsidize to the extent of 1,000 pesos per month a blackmail and semi-clandestine sheet entitled "L'Italia del Popolo" for the sole purpose of defending the Chargé d'Affaires and his activities, in exactly the same way as Fascism at one time granted "Italia del Popolo" 5,000 pesos to discredit the Montevideo Congress and to attack Carlo Sforza and the democratic Italians who promoted it and participated in it.

We feel that the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires, the only one in all America, must be directed by a man of unquestionable democratic principles who has the political and moral authority effectively to oppose that Fascism which is still predominant in a number of the institutions of the Italian Colony and to rally the Argentine Italians around the flag of new democratic Italy. We, moreover, feel that the new Ambassador must not be a resident of Argentina or of any other neighboring republics, since this might give rise to questions of personalities--no one is a prophet in his own country--nor necessarily a career diplomat. We believe that an outstanding representative of Italian culture would be more suitable, who as Ambassador Extraordinary could rehabilitate the prestige of Italy's name which the disasters of Fascism have brought rather low.

In any case we beg you to keep in mind in so far as possible the necessity that Garbaccio be removed immediately from the position which he unsuccessfully holds as representative of the new Italian Government. Pending the arrival

-3-

of the new Ambassador, the Embassy might be placed under the charge of one of the secretaries who is not so greatly compromised as his chief.

Relief for Italian people. - This matter is closely connected with the question of the representation of the Italian Government in Argentina. Keeping in mind the characteristics of our Italian Colony, one of the factors for a successful movement to organize relief for the Italian people is that the Embassy in Buenos Aires be headed by a person free from the moral liabilities and political inheritance of the present Chargé d'Affaires.

In agreement with the "Mutualità e Istruzione", which is the oldest and largest Italian company in Argentina--the same one which gave a reception for you at the time of your visit here--we have begun the organization of a large committee for relief of liberated Italy. We are sure that it will have considerable success and that its assistance will be substantial in quantity as well as highly significant from the political and moral point of view.

It is however necessary at this time to guarantee the necessary means of transportation. Among other things, we expect to be able to obtain from farmers several thousand tons of wheat which must be sent as soon as possible in order to prevent losses because of deterioration, storage costs, and especially the constant and uneasy watchfulness of the donors who have more than once been the victims of swindle and schemes against their good faith and patriotism. With the money collected we are thinking of sending powdered eggs, condensed milk, coffee, sugar, jam and canned meat. In this connection we beg you to send us some suggestions to guide us in choosing the most necessary items.

We shall take steps to obtain export permits from Argentine authorities. For your part you should immediately take steps to have ships sent to Buenos Aires for the first cargo. We beg you to send us a message on this subject, letting us know what the prospects are regarding transportation and encouraging the Italians in Argentina to lend all possible assistance to the Italian people in their present tragic situation. This message would be most useful to us for publicity and for success in collecting money for food.

Advisory Commission. - We learned from the papers of the plan regarding the formation of a commission along the lines of the Algiers Committee.

4097

-4-

In case it is decided to invite representatives of the democratic Italian organizations abroad, we are confident that the "Italia Libera" of Argentina will be kept in mind with a view to permitting it to make its modest contribution to the foundation of the new democratic Italy by sending one of its representatives.

Repatriation of volunteers and political exiles. -
You are fully aware of our aspiration in this connection, they having been recently presented to you again by our friend Viola. We hope that with the formation of the new government it will be possible to bring about a solution of this problem, which we consider of the highest political and moral importance.

Awaiting a message from you, we beg Your Excellency to accept our best wishes and those of the other members of the Executive Council.

From the "Italia Libera" Association.

S. Ciccotti-Secretary

C. Chiaraviglio, President

4096

Copia della dichiarazione diramata alla stampa dall'Associazione Italia Libre

Buenos Aires, 26 aprile, 1944

Al riferirsi a la informacion propalada por una agencia noticiosa, y reproducida por diarios argentinos, el secretario de la Asociacion "Italia Libre", Sr. Sigfrido Ciccotti, desmiente categoricamente que los italianos libres hayan asumido una actitud de oposicion frente a Carlos Sforza, a quien el Congreso de Montevideo confiriera en su oportunidad la representacion de los italianos democraticos de America.

La realidad es que, en fecha 12 del actual, o sea anteriormente a la constitucion del nuevo ministerio de coalicion, la Asociacion "Italia Libre" de la Argentina dirigio' un mensaje telegrafico a Carlos Sforza invitandolo a no participar de un ministerio en que figuraran a cualquier titulo los principales responsables del fascismo, de la guerra, y de las desventuras del pueblo italiano. Tal ministerio esta' ahora constituido. A miles de kilometros de distancia, y con la imperfecta informacion de que disponemos, agrega el secretario de la Asociacion "Italia Libre", no nos sentimos autorizados a asumir una actitud de oposicion. La ejemplar linea politica seguida durante veinte anos por Sforza, por Croce y por otros dignos representantes de la democracia italiana en el nuevo gabinete, su indiscutible buena fe' y su probado desinteres personal, nos imponen el deber elemental de confiar en las decisiones de los partidos democraticos, en la esperanza de que el nuevo gobierno pueda luchar con igual eficacia contra los nazis que estan en Roma y en Milan y los fascistas que todavia han quedado en Bari.

Statement issued to the press by Italian Libera Association

Buenos Aires, April 26, 1944

With reference to the report issued by a news agency and published in Argentine dailies, the Secretary of the Italian Libera Association, Mr. Sigfrido Ciccotti, categorically denies that the Free Italians have taken an attitude of opposition to Carlo Sforza, who was designated by the Montevideo Congress to represent the democratic Italians of America.

The facts of the matter are that on April 12, in other words prior to the formation of the new coalition cabinet, the Italia Libera Association of Argentina addressed a telegraphic message to Carlo Sforza inviting him not to participate in a cabinet which included, in any capacity, those chiefly responsible for Fascism, the war, and the misfortunes of the Italian people. Such a cabinet has now been formed. At a distance of thousands of miles and with the incomplete information at our disposal, the Secretary of the Italia Libera adds, we do not feel authorized to take an attitude of opposition. The exemplary line of political conduct followed over the course of twenty years by Sforza, Croce, and other worthy representatives of Italian democracy in the new cabinet, their indisputable good faith, and their proved lack of self-interest impose upon us the elementary obligation of trusting in the decisions of the democratic parties, with the hope that the new government will be able to fight with equal effectiveness against the Nazis who are in Rome and Milan and the Fascists who still remain in Bari.

0586

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

Por avión.

Sr. Serafino Romualdi
Social and Labor Section, C.I.A.A
734 15th Street, Room 1205
WASHINGTON, D.C

ASOCIACION
ITALIA  LIBRE

CONCEJO EJECUTIVO

U. T. 35 - 5386 - Lavalle 1762
BUENOS AIRES

Buenos Aires, 3 maggio 1944

On. Carlo Sforza

SALERNO (Italia)

Onorevole,

dirigiamo a Lei, come rappresentante dell'Associazione "Italia Libera" in Italia, una breve informazione sulle nostre attività, nella speranza di ricevere al più presto un Suo cortese riscontro.

Formazione del governo di coalizione. - Col nostro telegramma del 12 di Aprile u.s. abbiamo compiuto il dovere di farLe conoscere il nostro punto di vista a questo propósito. Il telegramma, che le fu ritrasmesso da Romualdi era così concepito: "Associazione "Italia Libera" Repubblica Argentina chiede a V.E. respinga la proposta comunista che significa il puntellamento di istituzioni e persone che ostacolano il risorgimento del popolo italiano contraddicendo i fini essenziali della guerra democratica Chiaraviglio Presidente Ciccotti Segretario."

Posteriormente apparvero -per iniziativa di una agenzia informativa nordamericana- delle versioni tendenziose del nostro messaggio, che facevano apparire la nostra Associazione in atteggiamento di belligeranza contro di Lei e altri rappresentanti democratici nel nuovo governo. Abbiamo già smentito queste interessate tergiversazioni -tendenti evidentemente a seminare la discordia nelle file della democrazia italiana-, e confermiamo a Lei la nostra serena attesa dell'opera intrapresa da uomini come Lei, Benedetto Croce e Alberto Tarchiani, dei quali è ben conosciuto il passato, il disinteresse, la capacità e lo



ASOCIACION
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spirito di responsabilità.

Ambasciata italiana a Buenos Aires. - In data 25 di Aprile u.s. le abbiamo diretto -sempre per mezzo dell'amico Romualdi- un telegramma per denunciare le attività dell'Incaricato d'Affari del governo italiano in Argentina, comm. Livio Garbaccio. Il telegramma diceva testualmente: "Incaricato d'Affari italiano cerca ottenere cessazione di ITALIA LIBERA, unico giornale democratico del Sud America. Prego Vostra Eccellenza intervenire affinché siano adottate misure tendenti a far terminare opera antipatriottica e antidemocratica del rappresentante locale del governo italiano. Giuseppe Fabi, Direttore."

Difatti il giorno seguente il giornale "Italia Libera" -unico quotidiano democratico italiano d'America- veniva chiuso per tempo indeterminato dall'autorità locale a richiesta dell'Incaricato d'Affari, il quale aveva sollecitato l'adozione della suddetta misura al Ministero degli Esteri argentino per un articolo col quale il giornale gli rimproverava la sua inerzia nei riguardi dell'organizzazione fascista e la sua ininterrotta complicità con i dirigenti e i principali responsabili del fascismo.

Per meglio valutare il nostro atteggiamento nei confronti del Sig. Incaricato d'Affari, conviene ricordare che il 9 Settembre dell'anno scorso una delegazione della nostra Associazione -vincendo una naturale ripugnanza e subordinando ogni altra considerazione all'interesse generale del paese- ebbe un abboccamento col comm. Garbaccio, chiedendogli: (a) l'invio di un messaggio al maresciallo Badoglio; (b) l'inizio di una attiva campagna di epurazione delle fiorenti asso-





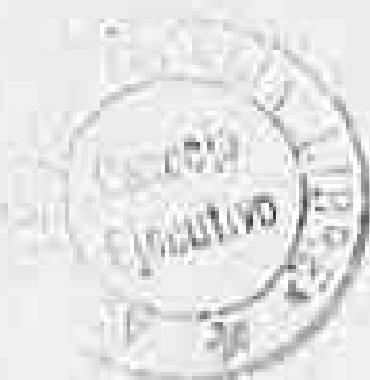
CONCEJO EJECUTIVO

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ciazioni italiane dell'Argentina, invase o inquinate dal fascismo. Nonostante le sue promesse, l'Incaricato d'Affari non fece né una cosa né l'altra, trattenendo arbitrariamente il messaggio destinato al capo del governo, e permettendo ai fascisti -dopo il primo momento di smarrimento e di indecisione- di stringere le file per continuare la loro propaganda nefasta ed antipatriottica. Non solo, ma non ha cessato da allora di intrigare contro il nostro movimento e il nostro giornale, arrivando all'estremo di sovvenzionare con mille pesos mensili un foglietto ricattatore e semi-clandestino, l'"Italia del Popolo", col solo fine di difendere l'Incaricato d'Affari e il suo operato, nella stessa maniera che il fascismo concesse a suo tempo all'"Italia del Popolo" cinque mila pesos per screditare il Congresso di Montevideo e per attaccare Carlo Sforza e gli italiani democratici che lo promossero e vi parteciparono.

Riteniamo che l'Ambasciata italiana di Buenos Aires -l'unica di tutta l'America- debba essere diretta da un uomo di indiscutibili precedenti democratici, e che abbia l'autorità politica e morale per potersi opporre efficacemente al fascismo che ancora spadroneggia in molte istituzioni della nostra collettività e per potere riunire gli italiani dell'Argentina attorno alla bandiera della nuova Italia democratica. Riteniamo, inoltre, che il nuovo ambasciatore non debba essere un residente dell'Argentina o di qualche altra repubblica vicina, che potrebbe determinare questioni personali -nemo propheta in patria-, né necessariamente un diplomatico di carriera. Più adatto ci sembrerebbe un rappresentante dell'alta cultura italiana che -come amba-



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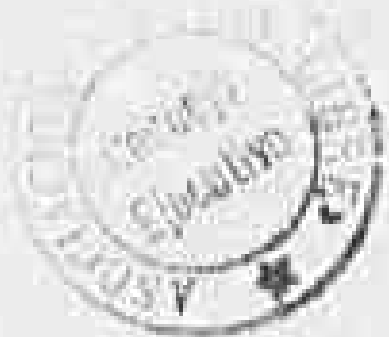
tore straordinario- potrebbe risollevarlo il prestigio del nome italiano, piuttosto malconcio dai disastri del fascismo.

Comunque, La preghiamo di voler tenere in conto, nei limiti delle Sue possibilità, la necessità che il Sig. Garbaccio venga allontanato immediatamente dal posto che indegnamente occupa come rappresentante del nuovo governo italiano. Sino all'arrivo del nuovo ambasciatore, l'ambasciata potrebbe essere retta da uno dei segretari, meno compromesso che il principale.

Assistenza al popolo italiano. - E' strettamente legata alla questione della rappresentanza del governo italiano in Argentina. Tenendo in conto le caratteristiche della nostra immigrazione, uno dei fattori del successo di una iniziativa per organizzare l'aiuto al popolo italiano é che l'ambasciata di Buenos Aires sia diretta da una persona che non abbia la passività morale o l'eredità politica dell'attuale incaricato d'Affari.

D'accordo con la più antica e più numerosa Società Italiana dell'Argentina -la "Mutualità e Istruzione", la stessa che offri a lei un ricevimento durante la Sua permanenza tra noi- abbiamo iniziato l'organizzazione di un grande Comitato di aiuto per l'Italia liberata. Siamo sicuri che il successo sarà considerevole, e che l'aiuto sarà sostanziale come quantità, oltreché altamente significativo dal punto di vista politico e morale.

Peró é necessario preoccuparsi fin da ora di assicurare i mezzi di trasporto necessari. Contiamo tra l'altro di poter ottenere dagli





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agricoltori parecchie migliaia di tonnellate di grano, che dovrà essere spedito al più presto per evitare perdite per deterioramento, spese di deposito e, soprattutto, la sempre vigile diffidenza dei donanti, che già più di una volta sono stati vittime di truffe ed inganni alla loro buona fede e al loro patriottismo. Con i fondi in denaro pensiamo mandare uova in polvere, latte condensato, caffè, zucchero, marmellate e carne in scatola. A questo proposito La preghiamo di inviarci qualunque suggerimento che possa meglio orientarci nella scelta degli articoli più necessari.

Noi faremo le pratiche per ottenere il permesso di esportazione dalle autorità argentine. Lei, da parte sua, dovrebbe sanz'altro iniziare i passi necessari perché si mandi a Buenos Aires un bastimento per il primo carico. La preghiamo di inviarci a questo proposito un messaggio, facendoci sapere quali sono le prospettive circa i mezzi di trasporto e incoraggiando gl'italiani dell'Argentina a prestare tutto l'aiuto possibile al popolo italiano nelle sue attuali tragiche circostanze. Questo messaggio ci sarà molto utile per la propaganda e agli effetti della raccolta di fondi e di articoli di consumo.

Commissione Consultiva. - Abbiamo appreso dai giornali il progetto relativo alla costituzione di una Commissione sulla falsa-riga -mutatis mutandis- di quella di Algeri.

In caso che si decida di invitare dei rappresentanti delle organizzazioni democratiche italiane all'estero, abbiamo fiducia che sarà tenuta in conto l'"Italia Libera" dell'Argentina, affinché le sia

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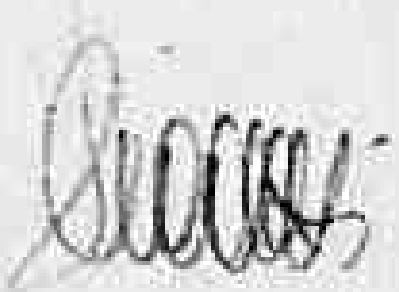
-6-

permesso di dare il suo modesto apporto alla fondazione della nuova Italia democratica con l'invio di un suo rappresentante.

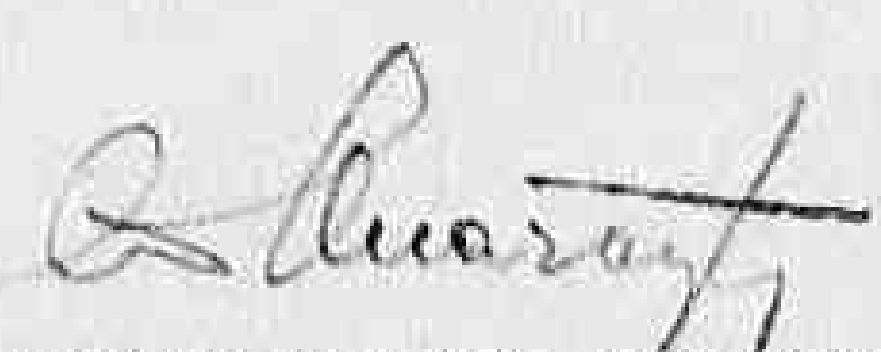
Rimpatrio dei volontari e degli emigrati politici. - Lei conosce perfettamente le nostre aspirazione a questo proposito, che Le sono state rinnovate dall'amico Viola ultimamente. Speriamo che -con la costituzione del nuovo governo- sia possibile ottenere una soluzione di questo problema, che riteniamo di altissimo valore politico e morale.

in attesa di un Suo messaggio, La preghiamo di accettare, Onorevole, anche da parte degli altri componenti del Consiglio Esecutivo, i nostri deferenti saluti e i migliori auguri.

p. l'Associazione "Italia Libera"


S. Ciccotti-Segretario




C. Chiaraviglio-Presidente

7033

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

JUN 9 - 1944

NAPLES, ITALY

Confidential

A-B

5:10

AMERICAN CONSUL

May 30, 1944

NAPLES

FOR REPLY

In view of increasing criticism of Garbaccio our Embassy in Buenos Aires is being requested to indicate whether it believes there is any member of the present Italian staff there who could temporarily replace Garbaccio to advantage should the latter be recalled. You might wish to explore this possibility with the Italian Government.

The Embassy is also being queried as to the justification for the two specific charges contained in the following message which Ascoli has requested the Department to transmit to Sforza:

"Di Tella, Chiersaviglio, Nicotti cable from Montevideo denouncing impossible situation created by Italian Chargé d'Affaires, Garbaccio. He is already responsible for suppression of daily 'Italia Libera' and for sabotaging organization Italian relief. They ask that an Italian envoy of high political and intellectual calibre be sent to Buenos Aires for mutual benefit of Italy and the United Nations."

Until the facts are a little clearer, it would seem inadvisable for us to transmit the foregoing message to Sforza, especially in view of the Embassy's comment quoted in the

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Department's 1372 of May 6 to Algiers. Furthermore, a Naval Intelligence report dated April 14 indicates that Mariani the Commercial Adviser of the Italian Embassy Buenos Aires dislikes Garbaccio and has denounced him in reports made to the Italian Embassies in Madrid and Lisbon and destined for the Italian Foreign Ministry.

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Meanwhile it is foreseen that Vinci's appointment to Buenos Aires would adversely improve the situation or enhance Allied prestige among anti-fascists in view of his role as Minister to Addis Ababa just before the Italian aggression of Ethiopia. Italo Libera on March 21 commenting on the "incredible" rumor that the Duke of Addis Ababa was appointing "this fascist tool" to his most important mission abroad, said that the appointment would further alienate the Italian colony, not to mention the fact that Vinci, "who prepared and perpetrated the aggression against Ethiopia, is in danger of being received upon his arrival in America by a crowd of Italians, not exactly for the purpose of applauding him".

You might bring this consideration to the attention of the Italian Government informally and suggest that when the

-2-

Line comes to accredit a new representative an appointment more acceptable to anti-fascists should be made. Messrs. Fontana may serve a useful purpose there even before his assumption of duties as Consul General (Department's 1338 of May 2 to Algiers) while Bianconi, Civil Counsellor to the Embassy was mentioned favorably by our Embassy in Buenos Aires (Department's A-31, November 8, 1943 to Algiers).

4090

Full
AAB

COPY OF CENSORSHIP REPORT

Record No. NY 379905

From: P. Contini, 912 19th St., N.W., Washington, D.C.
 To : Count Carlo Sforza, Sede Del Governo Italiano, Salerno, Italy
 Date: 3 May 1944

Comment

ITALIAN SOCIETY IN ARGENTINA (1) REAFFIRMS TIES WITH SFORZA AND DENOUNCES ITALIAN EMBASSY THERE AS FASCIST. (2) ASKS THAT BOAT BE SENT TO BUENOS AIRES TO PICK UP FOOD-STUFFS COLLECTED FOR THE PEOPLE OF LIBERATED ITALY.

Enclosed with the cover letter is a "declaration" by the "ITALIA LIBERA" ASSOCIATION of Buenos Aires bearing the names of C. Chiaraviglio, President and S. Cicotti, Secretary, addressed to addressee, which states that, by a telegram sent on April 12, 1944, and transmitted through Romualdi, the Society asked addressee to reject the Communist proposition on the basis that it would mean the support of institutions and people who would obstruct the resurrection of the Italian people.

Later, on the initiative of a "North American agency", the message was made to appear as though the "Italia Libera" was in a state of belligerency against Sforza and the other democratic representatives of the new government. The Society, has already denied the "tergiversations" and is "calmly awaiting" the work undertaken by addressee, Benedetto Croce and Alberto Tarchiani.

On April 25, 1944, the Society sent another telegram to Sforza (again transmitted through Romualdi) denouncing the activities of the Charge d'Affaires of the Italian government, Comm. Livio Garbaccio. The telegram stated: "The Italian Charge d'Affaires is trying to stop the publications of 'Italia Libera', the only democratic newspaper of South America. We beg your excellency to intervene in order that measures will be taken to stop the anti-patriotic and anti-democratic work of the local representative of the Italian Government. Giuseppe Fabi, Director".

As a matter of fact, the newspaper was suspended for some time by the local authorities at the request of the Charge d'Affaires, who had asked the adoption of said measure of the Argentine Foreign Minister, because of an article which had reprimanded him for his inactivity in regard to the fascist organization, and his uninterrupted complicity with the responsible fascist leaders.

On September 9th of last year, a delegation of said Society had a conference with Comm. Garbaccio, during which they asked him to send a message to Marshal Badoglio, and to start an active campaign, in order to "clarify" the budding Italian associations which were defiled by fascism. In spite of his promises, the Charge d'Affaires withheld the message to the head of the government and permitted the fascists to strengthen their lines. He even supported, financially, the publication of a pamphlet which defended his (the Charge d'Affaires) stand, discredited the Congress of Montevideo, and attached Count Sforza and the Italian democrats who had participated in it.

The Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires should be directed by a man of indisputable precedents, one who has the moral and political authority to effectively oppose the fascism of many institutions, and one who can unite the Italian people.

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4089

of Argentina around the flag of the new Italian democracy. The Society maintains that the new Italian ambassador should not be a resident of Argentina or of any neighboring republic, nor should he be a diplomat by profession, but rather, he should be a representative of the high Italian culture, and one who can raise the prestige of the "Italian name." Mr. Carbaccio should be deposed immediately, and until the arrival of a new ambassador, the embassy can be directed by one of the secretaries.

Closely allied to the question of the representation of the Italian Government in Argentina, is the matter of giving assistance to the Italian people.

In accord with the oldest and largest Italian Society in Argentina, ie: "Mutualita e Istruzione" (Ex: "Mutuality and Instruction") the Society has organized a large Committee for help to liberated Italy. However, means of transportation are necessary. The committee can count on having from the farmers, thousands of tons of wheat, which must be sent as soon as possible, in order to avoid spoilage, storage expense, and above all, the "vigil diffidence" of the donors who have already more than once been victims of swindling at the expense of their good faith and patriotism. With the money on hand, they intend to buy powdered eggs, coffee, sugar, marmalade, and canned meat. In regard to this, they would appreciate some suggestions as to the selection of the most necessary articles.

The Committee will get the export permit from the Argentinian authorities, and Count Sforza is asked to take the necessary steps to have a boat sent to Buenos Aires for the first shipment. They ask Sforza for a message setting forth the prospects for the means of transport and encouraging the Italians in Argentina to lend all help possible to the Italian people in their tragic circumstances.

The Society has learned of a project to set up a Commission along the lines of that of Algeria, and in case representatives of the foreign Italian democratic organizations are invited, the "Italian Libera" of Argentina hopes, it will be permitted to give its modest support to the foundation of the new Italian democracy by sending one of its representatives.

The declaration closes with the hope that the problem of the repatriation of voluntary and political exiles will be solved.

Enclosures: Declaration

Typewritten copy of a newspaper article.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

May 17, 1944.

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

SUBJECT: Telegram from Italian Embassy, Argentine, Relating to Possible Wheat Shipments to Italy.

Reference is made to Memorandum from the Office of the U.S. Political Advisor, dated May 5, 1944, enclosing a paraphrase of telegram No. 76, dated April 30, 1944, from the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with regard to the possible shipment of wheat to Italy from the Argentine. When the paraphrased telegram was forwarded to the Foreign Office the latter was informed of the Department of State's views in this respect. The Secretary General of the Foreign Office has now asked that consideration be given to the following situation:

It states that over four hundred thousand Italian soldiers are interned in Germany whose condition is deplorable. Many of them are literally dying of hunger. The Italian Government wishes to ascertain whether it would be possible as a means of improving a situation which is progressively and rapidly becoming worse, to send these internees food parcels all containing flour from South America. The Italian Government would be grateful for any indication whether a solution along these lines could be envisaged.

In making this communication, the Secretary General of the Foreign Office adds that the source of the Embassy's information regarding the Italian food situation is unknown. He adds that on the other hand telegram No. 75 to which the Italian Charge d'Affaires refers has not yet been received by the Foreign Office.

451

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

c.c. U. S. Representative, Advisory Council for Italy

4087

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

403042

Salerno, 16 MAG 1944

Dear Reber,

I wish to thank you for your kind note to the telegram of our Chargé d' Affaires in Buenos Aires, n. 76.

The source of the information regarding the Italian food situation which has caused concern in Argentina is unknown to me.

On the other hand, this Ministry has not yet received telegram n. 75 to which our Chargé d' Affaires refers.

The question could perhaps be considered in the following terms.

As you are aware over 400,000 Italian soldiers are interned in Germany. We know that their conditions are deplorable; many of them literally are dying of hunger. We have, therefore, even on another occasion, asked ourselves whether food parcels, above all containing flour, sent them from South America, would not be the only possible way of solving a situation which is progressively and rapidly becoming worse.

I think that within these precise limits the question could be initiated towards a favourable solution and I shall be grateful if you will kindly, as soon as possible, let me know your point of view in the matter.

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Samuel Reber Esq.,
Vice President
Allied Control Commission,
Political Section.
N A P T F S.

Received by

P. Reber

Not to be used.
20 Aug 44

Coll.

Tratt. Accchi

Vis. Grilli, MINISTERO DEGLI AFFARI ESTERI

D.R.

C.G.

Sped. 2

U.S.

563

Telegramma in PARTENZA
Corno argentino e prigionieri guerra

Nº coll:

Oggetto: 15-5-1944

Data: U.A.C. filo cifra

Tramite: R. Ambasciata Italiana - acri-

Diretto a:

Testo: (originale)

Nº. non (dico non) si ritiene opportuno che S.V. tratti per il
tramite di codesto governo invio generi alimentari in Ita-

lia (.) Questione potrà forse essere ripresa entro più ri-

stretti limiti per quanto concerne aiuti alimentari da inviar-

si alle molte decine di migliaia di militari italiani inter-

nati in Germania (,) in cui situazione è deplorabile (.) si

riservo (,) in questo senso (,) ulteriori istruzioni (.)"

451

Not for despatch

Consegnato a:

di:



4055

0602

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

15-5-1044

Oggetto:

C.A.V. filo cifra

Data:

Tramite: R. Associazione Italiana - radio-

Diretto a:

Testo: (originale) 247 maggio 15 (.) per Buenos Ayres (:) " n.46- maggio 15 (.)

Nº. Non (dico non) si ritiene opportuno che S.V. trattati per il
tramite di codesto governo invio generi alimentari in Ita-
lie (.) questione potrà forse essere ripresa entro più ri-
stretti limiti per quanto concerne aiuti alimentari da invia-
re alle molte decine di migliaia di militari italiani inter-
nati in Germania (,) in cui situazione è deplorabile (.) si
riservo (,) in questo senso (,) ulteriori istruzioni (.)"

451

PRIMAS



Not for despatch

Consegnato a:

Il:

17

17 maggio 1944
Buenos Ayres
RADIO-TELE-GRANDE

4035

Wheat

May 3, 1944.

451

MEMORANDUM TO: Royal Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

There is enclosed copy of a telegram from the Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires, No. 76, dated April 20, 1944, for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In communicating the contents of this telegram to the Italian Government, I have been instructed to state in this connection that the Department of State does not consider it desirable for the Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires to discuss the possible shipment of wheat to Italy with the Argentine authorities. The position of my Government is that if the purchase of wheat in Argentina for Italy should ultimately prove necessary, it would seem preferable for any such arrangements to be made through Allied channels, or through the United States in order that any shipments of wheat from the Argentine may be coordinated with the general problems of international supply and relief.

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

Enclosure

4084

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Civil Affairs Office

May 5, 1944

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

SUBJECT: Transmission of paraphrase of telegram for Italian
Office of Foreign Affairs.

There is enclosed a paraphrase of telegram No. 75, dated April 20, 1944, from the Italian Embassy at Buenos Aires for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which was transmitted through the Department of State with the comment that you might communicate it to the Italian Government for its information, in your discretion.

The Department states that in this connection, however, it would not be desirable for the Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires to discuss the possible shipment of wheat to Italy with the Argentine authorities. The position of the Department is that if the purchase of wheat in Argentina for Italy should ultimately prove necessary, it would seem preferable for any such arrangements to be made through Allied channels or through the United States.

For the U.S. Political Advisor:

C. Office
C. Office

Enclosure
Paraphrase of
telegram

Copy to: C-2 Section, AFHQ
Mr. Kirk, Naples

4083

Telegram No. 76, dated April 30, 1941, from the Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires for the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Deep concern has been caused here by reports on the Italian food situation. I suggest that we should consider the opportunity of initiating conversations with the Argentine Government for the shipment of wheat and also supplies to Italy in view of that Government's repeatedly expressed purpose to contribute towards alleviating the evils of war made from the steps referred to in my telegram No. 76.

In this connection, I might point out:

a) According to official estimates, the exportable surplus of Argentine wheat production will be about seven million tons for this year.

b) Argentina attended the International Wheat Conference last year by which, among other things, recognized the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration as "governmental aid organization", and that set 200,000 tons as Argentina's contribution.

(To Base) c) Wheat shipments of 50,000 tons are taking place in Swedish bottoms. Other shipments already have been transported for the Nation by Spanish vessels.

I believe careful examination of this question is justified by the foregoing. However, there are many difficulties, whether they be of practical or political nature, such as permission from the Allied Governments, permits, transportation, etc, they must be borne in mind. Urgent and direct action by the Government of Italy, by steps with the Government of Argentina and with the Allied authorities, therefore would be necessary in order to achieve practical results.

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

N° 2713

felt
Slierno, May 8th 1944.

Dear Reber,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter n.350 of May 3rd, and note that the American Embassy in Buenos Aires has been authorized to forward via U.S. diplomatic pouch diplomatic mail from the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires to this Ministry.

I am glad of the opportunity to convey to you my sincere appreciation of your very kind assistance in this matter.

Very sincerely yours,

R. Reber

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

May 3, 1944.

350

Dear Prunas:

You will recall that on March 21 you asked me whether permission could be afforded the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires to make use of the facilities of the U. S. diplomatic bag for official correspondence of the Embassy. I am glad to inform you that in compliance with your request the American Embassy in Buenos Aires has been authorized to forward via U. S. diplomatic pouch diplomatic mail from the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires to the Ministry.

Very sincerely yours,

Samuel Ruber
Vice President, Allied Control Commission
Political Section

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

350/385

4080

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Civil Affairs Office

April 28, 1944

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

SUBJECT: Official Italian Mail from Buenos Aires

With reference to your memorandum of March 24, 1944, transmitting a request of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Department of State be asked to authorize the American Embassy in Buenos Aires to forward via our diplomatic pouch diplomatic mail from the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires to the Ministry, the Department has advised this office that it has sent such authorization to Buenos Aires.


G. F. Reinhardt

4079

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

A-2 294

U. S. Army

March 24, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Acting United States Member, Advisory Council
for Italy.

The Italian Foreign Office has received information from its representative in Buenos Aires to the effect that the Embassy of the United States has expressed its willingness, provided that permission to that effect be granted by the United States Government, to allow the use of the diplomatic pouch for forwarding of official mail from the Italian Embassy to the Foreign Office. It is understood that the correspondence will be limited to consular papers, compensation cases, etc.

The Foreign Office requests that the matter be submitted to the Department of State for approval, expressing the hope of the Ministry that the necessary instructions may be given to the United States Embassy in Buenos Aires for the use of these facilities for official correspondence.

It would, moreover, be appreciated if these facilities could also include correspondence of a general diplomatic character such as political reports, as is already the case regarding correspondence between the Ministry and the Italian diplomatic Missions in Europe.

Samuel Reber
Vice President, Allied
Control Commission
Political Section

350/385

4078

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

N° 1423

SALERNO, March 21st, 1944.

Dear Reber,

The Royal Italian Chargé of Affairs in Buenos Ayres has informed that the United States Embassy have expressed their willingness, provided that permission to that effect be granted by the U.S. Government, to allow the use of the diplomatic bag for the forwarding to this Ministry of ~~xx~~ official mail.

From Garbaccio's telegram it would appear at the same time that this consent would anyway be limited to the correspondence concerning consular papers, compensation cases, etc.

Owing to the importance of the question I would indeed be very grateful if you would be so kind as to submit the matter to the State Department, representing to them in advance the appreciation of this Ministry if they could see their way to giving the necessary instructions to the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Ayres in order to allow the Italian Mission to make use of the U.S. diplomatic bag for the correspondence with this Royal Ministry.

It would moreover be appreciated if this facility could be made to include also correspondence of general

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

./.

40:7

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

-2-

diplomatic character, such as political reports, as is already done in the case of correspondence between this Ministry and the Royal Italian Diplomatic Missions in Europe.

Very sincerely yours,

P. Ruffini

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

Salerno, March 21st, 1944.

Dear Reber,

The Royal Italian Chargé of Affairs in Buenos Ayres has informed that the United States Embassy have expressed their willingness, provided that permission to that effect be granted by the U.S. Government, to allow the use of the diplomatic bag for the forwarding to this Ministry of ~~all~~ official mail.

From Garbaccio's telegram it would appear at the same time that this consent would anyway be limited to the correspondence concerning consular papers, compensation cases, etc.

Owing to the importance of the question I would indeed be very grateful if you would be so kind as to submit the matter to the State Department, representing to them in advance the appreciation of this Ministry if they could see their way to giving the necessary instructions to the U.S. Embassy in Buenos Ayres in order to allow the Italian Mission to make use of the U.S. diplomatic bag for the correspondence with this Royal Ministry.

It would moreover be appreciated if this facility could be made to include also correspondence of general

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

./.

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R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

-2-

diplomatic character, such as political reports, as is
already done in the case of correspondence between
this Ministry and the Royal Italian Diplomatic Missions
in Europe.

Very sincerely yours,

4074

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Civil Affairs Office

mail 39
April 22, 1944

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

SUBJECT: Financing of the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires.

The substance of your memorandum of April 7, 1944, on the above subject, together with the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs telegram No. 26 of April 3 for its Embassy in Buenos Aires, was transmitted to the Department of State for forwarding to Buenos Aires if the Department saw no objection.

The Department of State now has advised this office that the telegram has been transmitted to the American Embassy in Buenos Aires for its information, with the comment that it is not feasible at this time to deliver the message of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Department refers to its telegram No. 1209, of April 21, on the general subject of financial arrangements for Italian missions abroad, which was transmitted to you in Civil Affairs memorandum of April 25, in connection with provision of funds for the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires.

It is assumed that you will inform the Italian Government of the foregoing.

Robert D. Murphy
Robert D. Murphy
American Ambassador.

65
Copy to: AGS, AFAC
C-2,
JRS.

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APC 394

U.S. ARMY

Ref # 26 Apr 2 to B.H. memo.

April 7, 1944.

Reference to: U. S. Member, Advisory Council for Italy.

Reference is made to the Memorandum of February 23, 1944 from the Office of the United States Member, Advisory Council for Italy, to the Director of the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires. The Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs states that the procedure proposed by the Argentine Government to finance the Italian release of funds from the proceeds of the accumulated interests on blocked funds connected with the purchase of Italian ships in Argentine waters meets with the approval of the Italian Government. The Italian Government is further of the opinion that the amount requested by the Italian Charge d'Affaires in Buenos Aires, namely 120,000 pesos a month beginning January 1 plus 20,000 pesos a month to maintain the Italian schools in Rosario, and 310,000 pesos for the liquidation of arrears should be approved.

The above request, if compared with the average monthly expense during the first six months of 1943 (\$15,000 pesos as stated in Memorandum No. 30/5, January 13) represents a considerable economy which in the opinion of the Italian Government can not further be reduced.

The Ministry further points out that the requested release of funds would completely absorb the current interests derived from the blocked funds, would also imply the monthly withdrawal of moderate portion from interest which has already accrued. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs further requests that the Government of the United States be informed of the foregoing and that it be asked to support the request when, in accordance with the Memorandum under acknowledgment, the Argentine Government is willing to submit to the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs would also appreciate it if the attached telegram could be transmitted to its embassy in Buenos Aires. The Allied Control Commission is not in position to determine whether the present status of relations between the United States and Argentine Governments will permit such procedure, but is transmitting the proposed telegram pending further instructions.

350/385

4072

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

N° 2839

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION

Reference is made to the Memorandum n. 1872
dated 31st March ult.

The Italian Charge d' Affaires in Buenos Aires
has been requested to inform if the Argentine Government
have actually submitted before the Inter-American Financial
and Economic Advisory Committee a request in order to dispose
of quotas of funds blocked under Resolution 22 of said
Committee which would be used for the financing of the
Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires.

While waiting for a reply it will be greatly
appreciated could the Allied Control Commission inform the
Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs whether the Government
of the United States are willing to support before the
said Committee the request of the Argentine Government.

R.R.

SALERNO, 10 MAR 1944



4071

Not signed by [illegible] on 3 May 44.
10 May 44

COPY

A-54

RESTRICTED

EMBASSY

ROME.

In regard to the Italian merchant seamen stranded in Argentina (reference your despatch 631 of December 9, 1944) the Department has learned that the Argentine Government on October 2, 1944, by Decree No. 26959 granted a loan of one million pesos to be used for their maintenance. The Italian Government wishes to let one part of the group of seamen remain in Argentina in order at some future time to man the ships which were transferred subject to a repurchase clause. This group will apparently be maintained by means of the loan.

The rest of the officers and crewmen are either to be repatriated or will be permitted to serve on ships operating under control of the United Nations. On July 13, 1944 the Department instructed the Embassy at Buenos Aires to request the Italian Charge d'Affaires to furnish a list of the persons willing to serve on Italian or other merchant vessels under Allied operational control. Such list was to give name, age, rank, years of experience at sea, and an indication whether immediate relatives reside in liberated or in German-occupied Italy. To date the Department has received the names and records of only five persons willing to serve on ships under Allied control.

In regard to the group who are to be repatriated, both we and the British Government have informed the Italian Government that repatriation can be effected to liberated Italy and only by means of ships under Allied control. The Italian Government has apparently accepted this condition. To date we have received no indication as to the number to be repatriated.

The Department is instructing the Embassy, Buenos Aires, to inform the Italian Charge that when he can state the approximate number to be repatriated he should apply directly to the local representative of either the British Ministry of War Transport or of the American War Shipping Administration to make the requisite arrangements for shipping space. Likewise when the Italian Charge will supply a complete list of those willing to serve on ships under Allied Control we shall be able to proceed with arrangements for their employment.

GREW ACTING

4070

Copy handed to
IMFA
6 Mar 45 [signature]

259/385-8

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

MEMORANDUM

for the

POLITICAL SECTION (A.C.C.)

Reference is made to communication of the Acting United States Member, Advisory Council for Italy, to the Political Section, Allied Control Commission, dated February 23rd, concerning the financing of the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform the Allied Control Commission that the procedure proposed by the Argentine Government, namely the financing of the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires with the proceedings and quotas of the accrued interests on blocked funds deriving from the purchase of Italian ships in Argentine waters, meets with the approval of the Italian Government.

The Italian Government are of the opinion that the amount requested by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires in Buenos Aires i.e. 180,000 pesos monthly beginning January 1st, plus pesos 20,000 monthly for the upkeep of the Italian Schools in Rosario, and 210,000 pesos for liquidation of arrears, should be confirmed.

The above monthly request, if compared with the average monthly expenditures of the Embassy during the first 6 months of 1943 (215,000 pesos as stated in memorandum n. 50/5 of January 13th) represents a considerable economy which, in the opinion of the Italian Government, cannot be further reduced without seriously impairing the activity of the Embassy.

It is to be noted that the release requested, while absorbing completely the running interests of the above blocked funds, implies the monthly drawing of very moderate quotas from the already accrued interests amounting to 3,400,000 pesos) which in fact would be 4069

Reference is made to communication of the Acting United States Member, Advisory Council for Italy, to the Political Section, Allied Control Commission, dated February 23rd, concerning the financing of the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires.

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs has the honour to inform the Allied Control Commission that the procedure proposed by the Argentine Government, namely the financing of the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires with the proceedings and quotas of the accrued interests on blocked funds deriving from the purchase of Italian ships in Argentine waters, meets with the approval of the Italian Government.

The Italian Government are of the opinion that the amount requested by the Italian Chargé d'Affaires in Buenos Aires i.e. 150,000 peses monthly beginning January 1st, plus peses 20,000 monthly for the upkeep of the Italian Schools in Rosario, and 310,000 peses for liquidation of arrears, should be confirmed.

The above monthly request, if compared with the average monthly expenditures of the Embassy during the first 6 months of 1946 (215,000 peses as stated in memorandum n.50/5 of January 13th) represents a considerable economy which, in the opinion of the Italian Government, cannot be further reduced without seriously impairing the activity of the Embassy.

It is to be noted that the release requested, while absorbing completely the running interests of the above blocked funds, implies the monthly drawing of very moderate quotas from the already accrued interests (amounting to 5,400,000 peses) which in fact would be exhausted only within a period of over six years.

Encl.

Ref: 11-6 Apr 46
R/S

350/385

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

-2-

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs will greatly appreciate should the Allied Control Commission kindly communicate the above to the Government of the United States, and ask, on its behalf, their support to the request which the Argentine Government are willing to submit to the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee.

On even date the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs is sending the enclosed cable to the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires in order that the Argentine Government be duly informed of the Italian Government's approval to the proposed procedure and moreover of the request made, through the courtesy of the Allied Control Commission, to the Government of the United States in order to obtain its support before the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee.



SALERNO, March 5th, 1944.

4000

0621

OFFICE OF

February 23, 1944.

TO: Political Section, Allied Control Commission, Naples.

SUBJECT: Financing of Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires.

The Argentine Government, on February 8th, addressed a note to the United States Embassy in Buenos Aires on the subject of financing the Italian Embassy there and requested the views of the United States Government with respect to the granting of permission for the utilization of a portion of the accumulated interest on blocked funds connected with the purchase of Italian ships under a contract dated August 23, 1941.

The Italian Chargé d'Affaires has informed the United States Embassy that this accumulated interest on December 31, 1943, amounted to 3,400,000 pesos. He desired the monthly release of 120,000 (7) pesos beginning with January, plus an additional 20,000 pesos per month for the upkeep of Italian schools in Rosario. The Chargé stated further that since only 50% of salaries had been paid since the month of August he would need for the liquidation of arrears approximately 310,000 pesos.

The United States Embassy in Buenos Aires stated that it was fully in accord with the necessity of financing the Italian Embassy there, but that it felt that expenses could be reduced considerably since the salary scales were exceedingly liberal. The Embassy requested the Department's views with respect to the use of the accumulated interest charges which would not imply any financial guarantees or disbursements by the United States Government, and stated that the Argentine Government was apparently willing to permit the utilization of these funds.

In its reply to the United States Embassy in Buenos Aires the Department of State said that it viewed with approval the suggested procedure and authorized the Embassy to so inform the Argentine Government. It stated, however, that since the funds or proceeds from the Italian ships were blocked under Resolution 22 of the Inter-American Financial and Economic Advisory Committee, it would be necessary to obtain that Committee's permission for

their . . .

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- 2 -

their release. The Department stated that a request of the Argentine Government before that Committee for the release of interest from the funds for Italian requirements in the Argentine would be supported by the Government of the United States. The Department was of the opinion that the specific amount to be made available should conform to the recent request of the Italian Government with respect to funds for its Embassy in Buenos Aires.

With respect to the possible reduction of expenses the Department stated that this would appear to be a matter on which the Italian Government should take prompt action in view of its present financial distress.

In transmitting the foregoing information the Department stated that it should be made available to the Italian Government in the discretion of the Allied Control Commission. At the same time it requested to know the position of the Italian Government with regard to the Italian Chargé's request for the payment of school expenses and salary arrears.

(Signed): G. F. REINHARDT.

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

Copy to:

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

GFR/jgh

4065

CONFIDENTIAL

The Italian Embassy in Buenos Ayres is apparently encountering difficulties in its relations with the Italian Colony in Argentina in view of the anti-government attitude taken by the "Associazione antifascista Italia Libera".

The latter, who also have at their disposal a daily paper, have been extending their attacks also against the Embassy and the various members of our diplomatic and Consular offices in Argentina who have remained loyal to the Royal Government. For do they apparently refrain from taking direct recourse to the British and American Authorities on matter concerning internal political situations in Italy.

It is pointed out that although the above Association has a very limited following, ~~xxxxxx~~ an encouragement of their activity can serve no useful purpose in the already delicate situation existing in the Italian communities in Argentina.

R.P.

BRINDISI, January 26, 1944

Quoted in letter 723.0 of 14 Feb-44
Reber to Civ Off.

4064

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Civil Affairs Office

January 28, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: Political Section
Allied Control Commission,
c/o Brigadier Gueterbock,
Headquarters, Allied Military Government,
Naples.

SUBJECT: Attached paraphrase of telegram concerning
emigrant's remittances from Argentina.

In connection with the attached message from Buenos Aires for the Badoglio Government concerning problems in connection with organization of remittance service from Argentina to liberated portions of Italy, your attention is drawn to a recent telegram from the Combined Chiefs of Staff to General Wilson (TAM 134).

This telegram advised that it was the CCS view that support remittances between Latin American countries and Italy should be channeled through the United Kingdom or the United States instead of being effected directly, and asked for comments and recommendations from the Commander-in-Chief.

It is suggested that you might want to bear in mind the substance of TAM 134 in delivering the attached message to the Italian Government, and possibly advise them that any action on this subject on their part should be suspended pending development of the Allied remittance program.

H. J. L'Heureux

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

4063

Mr. Caris:

Indefinitely

WAC

1/1

1. Col. Haley will undertake
to secure necessary assurances
from Col. Jung.

2. We will send ⁴⁰⁶²
revised telegram ~~to~~ to
Freedom. JH Timmons

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

EHF/drr

In reply
refer to: AG 091.1

6 January 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. H. A. Caccia
Political Section

1. I refer to the telegram to the Italian Embassy in Buenos Aires which the Italian Foreign Ministry requested us to send.

2. I think it would be undesirable at the present time to allow the Italian Government to accumulate and dispose of without restriction foreign exchange balances in an unfriendly country such as Argentina. Dollar and sterling balances acquired by the Italians are subject to a double control - the Italian exchange control under A.C.C. supervision and the British Exchange Control or U.S. Treasury Foreign Funds Control. Since only the first control would be operative in the case of Argentine peso balances, it is my thought that we should have categorical assurances from the Italian Foreign Ministry and Finance Ministry that any such balances will not be disposed of without our permission and that power to draw on such assets will not be delegated to any Italian official outside Allied occupied Italian territory.

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949

E. H. Foley, Jr.
E. H. FOLEY, JR.,
Colonel,
Finance Sub-Commission

4061

U. S. SECRET
 Equals British SECRET

- OUTGOING

RHP/HAC/dmd/ams

SECRET

ROUTINE

PATRIA

FRIEDEN

JAN 07/13/6A

JAN

FOLLOWING QUOTED MESSAGE FOR ITALIAN EMBASSY AT BUENOS AIRES PD TO FRIEDEN FOR
CIVIL AFFAIRS FROM PATRIA SIGNED JOYCE PD QUOTE READERS ONE DATES JANUARY FIVE PD
 REFER YOUR CABLE WIRE THREE ZERO PD MINISTRY OF FINANCE CONSIDERS RESUMPTION
 EMIGRANTS REMITTANCES FROM ARGENTINA OF GREAT IMPORTANCE PROVIDED AMOUNTS PAID
 THERE REMAIN AT ITALIAN GOVERNMENT DISPOSAL PD ABOVE MINISTRY PROPOSES
 THAT EXCHANGE TO BE APPLIED FOR SUCH REMITTANCES BE CALCULATED AT ONE FOUR PD FIVE
 ZERO LIRE TO THE ARGENTINE PESO PD BEFORE TAKING DECISION HOWEVER HE REQUESTS YOU
 CONSULT OUR BANKING INSTITUTIONS IN ARGENTINA AND URGENTLY REPORT PD SIGNED PHINAS
 UNQUOTE PD FOR YOUR INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED ASSURANCE FROM FINANCE UNDER DASH
 SECRETARY JUNG THAT ONLY HE WILL HAVE POWER TO ORDER PAYMENTS FROM SUCH ITALIAN
 FOREIGN EXCHANGE ASSETS IN ARGENTINA AND THAT OUR PERMISSION WILL BE SECURED BEFORE
 ANY SUCH PAYMENTS ARE MADE

AUTHENTICATED:

ROBERT E. DOE
 Major, A.G.D.
 Secretary of the Commission

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files
- 1 - Diary
- 1 - Mr. Caccia
- 1 - Col. Foley

U. S. SECRET
 Equals British SECRET

4060

3

July 1
To Captain Stone.

FINANCIAL SUBCOMMISSION:

Mr. Reber asked me to get your comments on the attached letter. As it is largely a communications question, he thought that you would wish to discuss it with Captain Stone. I shall probably see Mr. Reber on Monday in Naples and should be grateful if you could have your views by then to take over.

Adolf Caccia

Political Section

15 January 1944

Sony. Received by Finance Sub-Commission 17 Jan. 1944 Capt. Stone and Mr. Caccia both having departed their Headquarters. The remittance question has been disposed of - See Cable 7 January 1944 which is attached.

J. John Lander
Lieut. Comdr. U.S.C.G.R.

Mr. Caccia -

The arrangements for diplomatic traffic via Radio worked up. The dues to individual remittances, nor is the cable capacity adequate. The more must await the establishment of greater cable & radio facilities. EWS.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS,
Civil Affairs Office

January 3, 1944

Dear Sam:

Copies of an Airgram from the Department concerning private communications between Argentina and the liberated regions of Italy, and the problem of emigrant's remittances, together with our reply are enclosed for your information.

The memorandum quoted in the Department's Airgram presumably is the one referred to in a telegram from the Italian Charge at Buenos Aires transmitted to Fatima as No. 6920, November 20. The question of resumption of emigrant's remittances also was mentioned in telegram No. 18090 of December 23 for the Italian Government from Buenos Aires. I can find no answer in our files on this subject and assume that when one is made it may take care of the last paragraph of the Department's Airgram.

Sincerely yours,

John
G. D. Horner

Enclosures:

Copy of Airgram from
Department;
Copy of reply.

Samuel Reber, Esquire,

APO 394,

Allied Control Commission.

4038

C
C
P
YConfidential
Airgram

No. 40

December 11, 1943

Time 6:30 p.m.

AMREP

RICERS, (ALGERIA).

For Murphy

Substance of your telegram No. 1867, October 29, 1943 concerning establishment of a radiotelegraph circuit between Italy and Buenos Aires was transmitted to Embassy at that place from whom an airgram dated November 20 has been received, the text of which is quoted hereunder for your information:

"Information contained in Department's A-1674 of November 5, 6:20 p.m. was duly communicated to the Italian Charge d'Affaires and the latter has requested that consideration be given to the suggestions embodied in the following memorandum, which he submitted to this Embassy on November 16:

"The lack of private communications between the liberated regions of Italy and Argentina facilitates enemy propaganda and seriously prejudices the work of persuasion and clarification which the Royal Embassy is carrying on among the Italians residing in Argentina, 70 per cent of whom originate from just those regions.

"While awaiting the possible establishment of a normal radiotelegraphic service, even on a reduced scale, it would be opportune to examine all the possible solutions of this important question, beginning with the eventual utilization of the cables (The Western Telegraph Company, Limited, and All America Cables and Radio).

"It 4037

-2-

"It might thus also be possible to solve the problem of emigrants' remittances by telegraph, the immediate resumption of which is considered to be of the greatest importance in view also of the foreign exchange requirements of the Royal Government. Such telegraphic service might be entrusted to the Royal Embassy, which, as is known, is now able to send its telegrams by cable via the Italian diplomatic representatives in Lisbon and Madrid, or to a properly authorized bank."

CORDELL HULL

835.7465/3

4036

AIRGRAM

ALGIERS

Dated January 3, 1944

Rec'd

Secretary of State,
Washington.

FROM MURPHY.

A-1, January 3, 1944, 10 a.m.

Reference Department's A-40, December 11, 1943;
telegram 1909, October 18; and my telegram 1867, October 29.

The questions concerning private communications between liberated regions of Italy and Argentina, raised in the memorandum of the Italian Charge d'Affaires at Buenos Aires which was quoted in the Department's A-40, have been brought to the attention of the Signal Section of Allied Force Headquarters, which makes the following comment:

"1. The radio situation as set forth in our previous comments (transmitted in our 1867, October 29) remains unchanged.

"2. There are presently no commercial radio stations in Southern Italy, and there are no commercially operated cable circuits from there. It is anticipated that both commercial radio and commercial cable circuits will be established, but it is impossible to determine at this time whether or not those circuits will have capacity in excess of that required in connection with the operations of Allied Forces.

"3. While it is not within the province of the Signal Section to comment on the expediency of the proposed Italian communications, attention is invited to the fact that neither U. S. or British personnel in this theater are permitted to send messages of their own composition, and only U. S. personnel are permitted to send fixed text (RTM) messages, due to lack of adequate commercial facilities."

The

4055

-2-, A-1, January 3, 1944, 10 a.m. from Algiers.

The G-2 and Military Government Sections of AFHQ concurred in the views of the Signal Section.

The problem of emigrant's remittances mentioned in the last paragraph of the quoted memorandum of the Italian Charge d'Affaires have been raised in telegrams transmitted to the Badoglio Government from the Charge at Buenos Aires before the receipt of the Department's Airgram under reference. The Airgram is being transmitted to the Allied Control Commission for coordination of the replies on this point.

WILSON

GDH:ds

4054

0635

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