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

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

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483.2

PRISONS

July 1944 - Jan. 1945

OFFICE OF THE REPRESENTATIVE AT BARI
OF THE RESIDENT MINISTER
CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN

36 Via Salvatore Cognotti,
BARI.

25th January, 1945.

MAJOR WALKER'S
WITH ~~RECORDS~~ COMPLIMENTS

H. Hopkinson, Esq.,
Allied Commission,
ROME.

872

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT MINISTER
OF THE UNITED STATES
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

BRI.

25th January, 1945.

Colonel Schmidt, Commander of the Headquarters of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation in Bari, has explained to N. Military Mission that a number of Yugoslav nationals are in Italian prisons in liberated Italy and that they are being ill treated.

Colonel Schmidt told Lieut. Colonel Anderson, Commander of N. Military Mission, that in June 1944 on board the Italian battleship Littorio (now the Italia) the following men were arrested:-

Vivoda, Bogdan,
Pavlovic, Borislav (Nedalo),
Karis (Guineppe), Josip,
A sailor, name unknown.

They were all sentenced to from 2 - 5 years imprisonment for having not forward an application to join the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation and are now in prison at Otranto or Lecce.

Colonel Schmidt has also explained that in the Italian prison at Riseglia there are some 20 Yugoslav nationals. These men he alleges were arrested a few weeks after the Italian armistice and were imprisoned without fair trial. They had been interned during the fascist regime but were later conscripted into Italian labour battalions (Sotteraglio Speciali). They also, according to Colonel Schmidt, are being ill treated. The names of three known to Colonel Schmidt are:-

Bulic, Peter,
Juric, Bruno,
Orsi, Milan.

Colonel Schmidt admits that all the group of sailors who were arrested in the Littorio are natives of Trieste or Istria and I suspect

/that

Philip Reed, Esq.,
Office of the Resident Minister
Central Intelligence Agency.

that the others whom he says are in the prison in Vitebsk are also in fact Italian nationals of Slovene origin.

Lieut. Colonel Anderson has reported this matter to the Liaison Section at Allied Force Headquarters. He has also reported that Colonel Pezdek has asked that an early investigation should be made of these cases.

Colonel Pezdek has also requested that an officer of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation might be permitted to visit all Italian prisoners in company with an Allied officer to look for other Yugoslav nationals whom he says are known to have been imprisoned by the Italian authorities.

I believe that the Headquarters of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation in Bari are fully aware of the status of Italian nationals of Slovene origin in the Italian armed forces. The position was made clear to Major-General Salzano, the former Commander of the Headquarters of the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation in Bari, by Major-General Leslie, U.S.C. 3 District, on the occasion when General Leslie interviewed the former in regard to the incidents which took place in Bari and other places in this theatre for which partisan troops were responsible. The dossier which was prepared for General Leslie's use when he saw General Salzano contains details of specific instances when the partisans are known to have carried out recruitment for the Yugoslav Army of National Liberation from among persons of Slovene origin with the Italian armed forces (please see your teletype from Bari to Caserta No. 317 of the 14th October), and on this and other occasions it has been pointed out to the partisans that such persons are under the jurisdiction of the Italian authorities.

In the circumstances, therefore, I cannot see any reason why the second of the two requests which Colonel Pezdek has made should be granted. As regards the first, it might serve to satisfy the partisans and to discourage further complaints in future if they could be told the reasons for the detention of those men and reassured as to their treatment as prisoners.

I am sending copies of this letter to Henry Hopkinson and to 34 Military Division.

(Sgd) D.C. WALKER

Ref: 483.2

3 January 1945

SUBJECT: Cases of Cornacchia and Macera.

TO : Legal Sub-Commission

1. Reference is made to your letter of 31 December 1944.
2. I have taken note of the contents of your memorandum under reference.
3. I am grateful for the action you have been able to take in this matter.

H. D. A. A. J. J. J.
Acting Vice President, Political Section

Copy to: Civil Affairs Section
(For the attention of Mr. Upjohn)

483.2

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

AC/4030/L.

ART/ap.
31 December 1944.

SUBJECT : Cases of CORNACCHIA Iolanda
and MACERA Antonia.

TO : Mr. HENRY HOPKINSON
Political Section
Allied Commission.

1. Referring to your letter of 30 September 1944, addressed to Brigadier UPJOHN together with the papers connected with the above, this Sub-Commission was instructed to take the matter up with the Minister of Justice with a view to the granting of pardons.

2. Advice has now been received from the Minister of Justice to the effect that by decree dated 8 December 1944 the remainder of the sentences of 4 months imprisonment and Lire 5,000 fine have been remitted in both cases. The prisoners were released as from 20 November 1944 whilst awaiting the decree of pardon.

3. As requested, MACERA's certificate and the petition are returned herewith.

HK
*We seem to have no
business p.p. on this. Will you pl.
say what further action is necessary*

AR Thackrah

A. R. THACKRAH,
Lt. Colonel,
Italian Branch,
for Chief Legal Advisor.

869

Incls : File
Copy to Brig UPJOHN for info.

*I dealt with this
verbally. Please send a memo.
back. "Noted with thanks" and
let me have the enclosures at the Embassy*

HK
21/1/45

Jan. 2

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION

Regional Public Safety HQ,
24th Nov. 1944.

To: Col. Peletti, Regional Commissioner.

Subject: - Regina Coeli prison disturbances - 21st-23rd November, 1944.

1. During the afternoon and evening of 21st Nov. 1944, there were several hundred prisoners loose from their cells in the 2nd and 6th wings, and a slight fire, which was easily put out.

2. I was in attendance at the prison and in company of Dr. Donati, Prison Governor, with a little persuasion the prisoners went back to their cells quietly. Their chief grievance was the length of time they were in prison without "liberta provvisoria" and without trial. There were then 1700 total prisoners in the jail, and the cases outstanding, awaiting trial by Italian courts were June 62, July 68, August (up to 15th) 64, from August 16th onwards approx. 800 - total untried 994.

3. Col. Peletti, specially visited the prison on 16th Nov. 1944, and held a conference with prison and legal officials regarding the conditions of the prison, repairs, food complaints etc. On 17th Nov. Col. Peletti held another conference with the Procuratore, prison and legal officials and Representatives of the Genio Civile with the object of improving conditions and getting on with the trial of the prisoners.

4. About 7.15 on 23 Nov. 1944, the prisoners in the 6th Wing and some in the 5th wing broke the communicating gate and some escaped into the courtyard but none from the prison itself. Others got up on the roof and top floors of 6th wing. In all between 500 and 600 were involved. The guards were powerless to bring them down or restore order and there was a fire on the roof and a smaller one on the ground floor. The fires were extinguished without much damage by 12 noon.

5. At 7.30 a.m. a strong force of C.C.R.R. was in and around the prison. Some shooting took place between 8 a.m. and 12 noon and 3 prisoners were injured (2 gravely and 1 slightly by bullet wounds.) Gradually the prisoners withdrew from the courtyard and hid under the roof and on top of the cell block. They refused to come down and barricaded themselves in.

6. In the meantime arrangements were made to evacuate the 150 security prisoners of the security wing by direction of Rome Commander. Brig. Low was in attendance. By 4.30 p.m. all the security prisoners (except 4) were transferred to the Boys Reformatory School "Aristide Gabelli" in Trastevere. We assisted by loaning the Ministry of Grace & Justice some trucks to transport 30 common prisoners to Soriano prison (Viterbo) and 20 Italian Military prisoners to Forte Boccea. This was completed by 5 p.m. 868

- 2 -

7. Commencing 8 a.m. today 24th Nov. the prison authorities will move from 300 to 400 more prisoners to other prisons and we will assist with transport.

8. During the afternoon of 23 Nov. 1944 the CC.RR. had received orders from their Commander to give half an hour's ultimatum to the 500 prisoners to come down from their concealment and if they did not comply they would be shot down. Dr. Donati, the Prison Governor did not wish this course and appealed to me in writing to assist as in previous occasions to go with him and get the prisoners down by peaceful persuasion. I sought advice from Regional Commissioner who decided that we would not interfere but leave the matter entirely to the Italian authorities. I was asked point blank by the prison authorities if I agreed to the shooting and replied that although it was their affair entirely I would never advise such a course. As it was shortly becoming dusk I advised them to leave the prisoners alone and as they had had no meal that day they would probably come down themselves during the night. There was no further incident at the prison and no further shooting. All remained quiet during the night, many of the prisoners came down into their cells and the position at 8 a.m. today 24th Nov. was all quiet, most of the prisoners have returned to their cells. Repairs of two wings had been almost complete and would have been ready for temporary occupation in a few days but the wings have been damaged by this rioting. The wing vacated by our Security branch will be available later today, 24th Nov.

(Sgd.) J.R. POLLOCK
Lt. Col.
Chief, Public Safety,
Lazio-Umbria Region.

867

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
POLITICAL SECTION
APO 394

Ref: 483.2

30 October 1944

MEMORANDUM TO : Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

SUBJECT : Whereabouts of Certain Officers of the
Italian Merchant Marine.

Reference is made to the Ministry's Memoranda 5579 of 7 July 1944 and 6/572/174 of 30 August 1944, the substance of which was communicated to the Department of State.

In reply the Department stated that the officers in question, Giuseppe Ferrara, Luigi Ronato, Salvatore Piccalugi and Eusebio Ceccarelli, who were formerly members of the crew of the S.S. Corte Mariano and presently confined in the Canal Zone, have been pardoned by the President. The Department of Justice which has reported to the Department of State concerning this matter has further stated that these men will be transferred to the continental United States. The Immigration and Naturalization Service which has jurisdiction over the cases of Italian seamen presently in the United States will assume direction of these cases and will afford the four officers in question the same treatment as is given to other Italian seamen now in the United States.

WILLIAM F. SCHOTT
Vice President, Political Section

MEMO TO: IMFA
SUBJECT: Whereabouts of Certain Officers of the
Italian Merchant Marine.

Reference is made to the Ministry's memoranda
5579 of 7 July 1944 and 6/372/174 of 30 August 1944,
the substance of which was communicated to the
Department of State.

In reply the Department stated that the officers
in question,-----

-----States.

UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE
ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR ITALY

Rome, Italy, October 24, 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Political Section, A.C.C.

SUBJECT: Whereabouts of certain officers
of the Italian Merchant Marine.

With reference to the memoranda sent to the Political Section by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on July 7 and October 7, 1944, later transmitted to this office, concerning the whereabouts of certain officers of the Italian Merchant Marine, a reply has now been received from the Department of State in this regard.

It is stated herein that the officers in question, Giuseppe Ferrara, Luigi Rosato, Salvatore Picoalugi and Eusebio Ceccarelli, who were formerly members of the crew of the S.S. Conte Biancamano and presently confined in the Canal Zone, have been pardoned by the President. The Department of Justice which has reported to the Department of State concerning this matter has further stated that these men will be transferred to the continental United States. The Immigration and Naturalization Service which has jurisdiction over the cases of Italian seamen presently in the United States will assume direction of these cases and will afford the four officers in question the same treatment as is given to other Italian seamen now in the United States.

ms

865

RMB:td



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

11/65
G/342/144

MEMORANDUM FOR THE POLITICAL SECTION A.C.C.

It would be much appreciated if the Political Section A.C.C. would be so good as to cause that a reply be given to the letter of Minister Prunas to Mr. Reber of July 7th, n° 5579, copy of which is duly enclosed, concerning four Officers of the S.S. "Conte Biancamano" who, as yet, ought to be serving prison terms in the United States.

As stated in such a letter, a measure of clemency in their favour could not but have the most favourable results amongst the Italian residents of the United States and would also be much appreciated throughout this Country.

Rome, August 30th, 1944



*Mr. Dowling
will write
again to Mr.
of State*

*Am B
4 Aug 44*

*Admitted
13 Aug 44*

copy.

N. 5579/S.U.A.-A.P.

Salerno, li 7 Luglio 1944.

Caro Reber,

Il Rappresentante della Potenza Protettrice degli interessi italiani a Washington - nell'intento di assistere quattro Ufficiali del piroscalo Conto Biancamano condannati, per atti di sabotaggio commessi contro la propria nave, ed alcuni anni di reclusione - aveva, a suo tempo, interessato il Dipartimento di Stato perchè fosse preso in benevolo esame la richiesta di libertà condizionata presentata dalla Difesa degli Ufficiali stessi.

Il Dipartimento di Stato, nella sua risposta, ha fatto presente che la domanda di libertà condizionata non ha potuto essere presa in considerazione e che pertanto i predetti Ufficiali dovranno rimanere nel penitenziario in cui si trovano, nella zona del Canale di Panama, per scontarvi la pena loro inflitta.

Questo Ministero si rende perfettamente conto delle ragioni di indole generale che hanno determinato la risposta in parola; pur tuttavia ritiene che un atto di clemenza da parte delle autorità americane avrebbe una favorevole ripercussione fra gli italiani residenti negli Stati Uniti e renderebbe più rapido quel processo di riassetamento in seno alle collettività già in atto in seguito alle misure disposte fin dal settembre u.s. dal Presidente Roosevelt sia nei riguardi della loro libertà personale come della graduale restituzione dei beni ad essi sequestrati.

Le sarò pertanto grato, caro Reber se vorrà portare quanto precede a conoscenza del Dipartimento di Stato e ~~ca~~^{ca} 604 l'occasione per inviarle gli atti della mia; migliore considerazione

0 3 3 2

Caro Reber,

Il Rappresentante della Potenza Protettrice degli interessi italiani a Washington - nell'intento di assistere quattro Ufficiali del piroscafo Sontje Biancamano condannati, per atti di sabotaggio commessi contro la propria nave, ad alcuni anni di reclusione - aveva, a suo tempo, interessato il Dipartimento di Stato perchè fosse preso in benevolo esame la richiesta di libertà condizionata presentata dalla Difesa degli Ufficiali stessi.

Il Dipartimento di Stato, nella sua risposta, ha fatto presente che la domanda di libertà condizionata non ha potuto essere presa in considerazione e che pertanto i predetti Ufficiali dovranno rimanere nel penitenziario in cui si trovano, nella zona del Canale di Panama, per scontarvi la pena loro inflitta.

Questo Ministero si rende perfettamente conto delle ragioni di indole generale che hanno determinato la risposta in parola; pur tuttavia ritiene che un atto di clemenza da parte delle autorità americane avrebbe una favorevole ripercussione fra gli italiani residenti negli Stati Uniti e renderebbe più rapido quel processo di riassetamento in seno alle collettività già in atto in seguito alle misure disposte fin dal settembre u.s. del Presidente Roosevelt sia nei riguardi della loro libertà personale come della graduale restituzione dei beni ad essi sequestrati.

Le sarò pertanto grato, caro Reber se vorrà portare quanto precede a conoscenza del Dipartimento di Stato e c886d4 l'occasione per inviarle gli atti della mia; migliore considerazione.

f.to PRUNAS.

Advanced Headquarters Allied Control Commission

July 13, 1944.

MEMORANDUM TO: U. S. Representative, Advisory Council for
Italy.

There is enclosed a copy of a self-explanatory communication received from the Royal Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It would be appreciated if this could be brought to the attention of the Department of State.

Samuel Reber
Vice President Allied Control Commission
Political Section

443
enclosure

863

TRANSLATION

R. MINISTRY
OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

SALERNO, 7 July 1944

--0--
No. 5579

Dear Reber,

The Representative of the Protecting Power of Italian interests at Washington - with the intention of assisting four Officers of the ship Conte Biancamano which were condemned, for acts of sabotage committed against their own ship, to several years of imprisonment - had, in due course, approached the Department of State to kindly examine the request of conditional liberty presented by the defence of these Officers.

The Department of State, in its reply, stated that the question of conditional liberty had not been taken into consideration and that the aforementioned officers must remain in the penitentiary, which is located in the Panama Canal Zone, to complete their penalty.

This Ministry is perfectly aware of the reasons of general nature which have determined the reply "in parole"; however, it is felt that an act of clemency on the part of the American Authorities would have a favorable repercussion among the resident Italians of the United States and would render more rapid that process of readjustment in the heart of the colony which is now under way following the measures taken at the end of September 1943 by President Roosevelt, in regard to their personal liberty as well as in the gradual return of belongings confiscated from them.

I would therefore be most grateful, dear Reber, if you would bring the preceding matter to the knowledge of the Department of State and I take this occasion to send you my greatest consideration.

/s/ R. Prunas

Mr. Samuel Reber,
Vice President,
Allied Control Commission
NAPLES

C O P Y

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI
--O--
No. 5579

Salerno, 11 7 Lug 1944

Caro Reber,

Il Rappresentante della Potenza Protettrice degli interessi italiani a Washington - nell'intento di assistere quattro Ufficiali del piroscafo Conte Biancamano condannati, per atti di sabotaggio commessi contro la propria nave, ad alcuni anni di reclusione - aveva, a suo tempo, interessato il Dipartimento di Stato perche' fosse preso in benevole esame la richiesta di liberta' condizionata presentata dalla Difesa degli Ufficiali stessi.

Il Dipartimento di Stato, nella sua risposta, ha fatto presente che la domanda di liberta' condizionata non ha potuto essere presa in considerazione e che pertanto i predetti ufficiali dovranno rimanere nel penitenziario in cui si trovano, nella zona del Canale di Panama, per scontarvi la pena loro inflitta.

Questo Ministero si rende perfettamente conto delle ragioni di indole generale che hanno determinato la risposta in parola; pur tuttavia ritiene che un atto di clemenza da parte delle autorita' americane avrebbe una favorevole ripercussione fra gli italiani residenti negli Stati Uniti e renderebbe piu' rapido quel processo di riassetto in seno alle collettivita' gia' in atto in seguito alle misure disposte fin dal settembre u.s. dal Presidente Roosevelt sia nei riguardi della loro liberta' personale come della graduale restituzione dei beni ad essi sequestrati.

La saro' pertanto grato, caro Reber se vorra' portare quanto procede a conoscenza del Dipartimento di Stato e colgo l'occasione per inviarle gli atti della mia migliore considerazione.

/s/ R. Prunas

Sig. Samuel Reber,
Vice Presidente,
Commissione Alleata di Controllo
N A P O L I

861

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI

Salerno, li 17 LUG 1944

Caro Reber,

Il Rappresentante della Potenza Protettrice degli interessi italiani a Washington - nell'intento di assistere quattro Ufficiali del piroscafo Conte Biancamano condannati, per atti di sabotaggio commessi contro la propria nave, ad alcuni anni di reclusione - aveva, a suo tempo, interessato il Dipartimento di Stato perchè fosse preso in benevole esame la richiesta di libertà condizionata presentata dalla Difesa degli Ufficiali stessi.

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Questo Ministero si rende perfettamente conto delle ragioni di indole generale che hanno determinato la risposta in parole; pur tuttavia ritiene che un atto di clemenza da parte delle autorità americane avrebbe una favorevole ripercussione fra gli italiani residenti negli Stati Uniti e renderebbe più rapido quel processo di riassetamento in seno alle collettività già in atto in seguito alle misure disposte fin dal settembre u.s. dal Presidente Roosevelt sia nei riguardi della loro libertà personale come della graduale restituzione dei beni ad essi sequestrati.

0 3 3 7

Caro Reber,

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Sig. Samuel Reber,
Vice Presidente,
Commissione Alleata di Controllo

N A P O L I

R. MINISTERO
DEGLI
AFFARI ESTERI
--

- 2 -

Le sarò pertanto grato, caro Reber se vorrà portare
quanto precede a conoscenza del Dipartimento di Stato e
colgo l'occasione per inviarLe gli atti della mia miglio-
re considerazione

R. Reber

839

HEADQUARTERS
INTERNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS SUB-COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

IDP/1711/51-3

Tel 499881 Ext 392

22nd September, 1944.

SUBJECT: Yugoslavs - ReportsTO : Royal Yugoslav Delegation to the Advisory
Council for Italy.

1. Reference your memorandum dated 9th August, 1944 giving a report on the Yugoslav subjects at the prison of Avellino.
2. Southern Region, Allied Control Commission state that these people were released from prison on 8th August, 1944. SLAVKO DZEPINA being admitted to the SANATORIO VILLA MARIA CUMERI DI SANSEVERINO ROTA, CALERNO, and the other three to the 5th Canadian General Hospital, AVELLINO.
3. The passage in the memorandum stating that ANTI DZEPINA died from hunger in a prison at NAPLES is incorrect. The facts are that DZEPINA in being transferred from POGGIOA prison to S. MARIA C.V. prison, was taken ill on the 8th March, 1944, and was lodged in POGGIOA prison. NAPLES for treatment. After remaining there for only a few days he was transferred to a civilian hospital where he died on 22nd March, 1944. Cause of death being nephritis and anaemia.

For the Director.

Challinor
C.F. FOTHERGILL
Lieut. Colonel,
Deputy Director.

Copy to: Political Section,
H.Q. A.C.C.

858

CGR/cp

HEADQUARTERS
INTERNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS SUB-COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

IDP/1586/61-3

Tel. 489081 Ext. 392

15 September 1944

SUBJECT : Yugoslavs - reports

TO : HQ, Southern Region,
A.C.C.

1. Ref. this HQ letter IDP/1156/61-3 of 22 August 1944 addressed to Region III (copy of letter and attachment herewith for easy reference).

2. Would you please treat this matter as urgent in view of the reported condition of the prisoners.

For the Director:

C. E. Forthright
C. E. FORTHRIGHT
Lt. Col.
Deputy Director

Copy to:- Political Section
HQ., A.C.C.

856

CONF

HEADQUARTERS
INTERNETED AND DISPLACED PERSONS SUB-COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

IDP/1156/61-3

Tel. 489081 Ext. 392

22 August 44.

SUBJECT : Yugoslavs - reports

TO : Region III A.C.C.
A.M.G. 5th Army

1. Ref. attached copy of report from the Royal Yugoslav Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy.

2. Would Region III please investigate the report concerning the four prisoners at Avellino.

3. Would AMG 5th Army please investigate the case of the Yugoslavs imprisoned at S. Gimignano.

4. In view of the issues involved it would be appreciated if you could treat this matter as urgent.

For the Director:



C.F. FOTHERGILL
Lt. Col.
Deputy Director

Copy to:

Political Section - A.C.C. HQ.

857

COPY.

Royal Yugoslav Delegation
To the Advisory Council for Italy

MEMORANDUM

The Royal Yugoslav Delegation to the Advisory Council for Italy has received the following information:

At the prison of Avellino (carcere giudiziario) are four Yugoslav subjects, condemned to forced labour by the Italian Military Court in occupied Yugoslavia. These prisoners are:

Slavko DZEPINA, condemned to 10 years;
Nikola VUKACOVIC, condemned to 10 years,
Savo BULUT, condemned to 7 years; and
Grego ERCEGOVAC, condemned to 7 years.

All four come from the district of Benkovac (Dalmatia, Yugoslavia). They were arrested at Split on November 24th 1941 and condemned by the Tribunale Speciale of Sibenik on April 1st 1942, accused of having helped the Partisans in their fight against the troops of occupation. Vukacovic also to have killed an Oustachi.

Bulut and Ercegovac were Yugoslav gendarmes and had served from 15 to 18 years.

The four of them are suffering much in prison the food being very bad, and one of them, Slavko DZEPINA, is very ill with tuberculosis which he got as a result of hunger and bad treatment suffered in fascist prisons. His brother Ante DZEPINA died of hunger three months ago in the prison at Naples. If Slavko DZEPINA is not released soon and moved as quickly as possible to a sanatorium or hospital even he will die very soon, as Captain GOLD, judge of the Allied Court at Avellino, has been able to ascertain.

This Delegation has also been informed that at the prison of San Gimignano there are two Yugoslavs, originally from Slovenia, condemned also they to forced labour by the Italian Tribunale Speciale.

As according to one of the conditions of the Italian capitulation all people interned or condemned for political reasons ought to be set free immediately.

835

483
Prisoners

0 3 4 3

MEMORANDUM

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The four of them are suffering much in prison the food being very bad, and one of them, Slavko DZEPINA, is very ill with tuberculosis which he got as a result of hunger and bad treatment suffered in fascist prisons. His brother Ante DZEPINA died of hunger three months ago in the prison at Naples. If Slavko DZEPINA is not released soon and moved as quickly as possible to a sanatorium or hospital even he will die very soon, as Captain GOLD, judge of the Allied Court at Avellino, has been able to ascertain.

This Delegation has also been informed that at the prison of San Gimignano there are two Yugoslavs, originally from Slovenia, condemned also they to forced labour by the Italian Tribunale Speciale.

As according to one of the conditions of the Italian capitulation all people interned or condemned for political reasons ought to be set free immediately, the Delegation begs the A.C.C. - Political Section, kindly to intervene at the competent authorities in order that the above-mentioned Yugoslav subjects be liberated as soon as possible and that Slavko DZEPINA be transferred to an Allied hospital.

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