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

ACC

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

10000/132/462

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WAR MATERIAL + Supplies  
Feb - Nov. 1944

N-1603

2943

SECRET

10 FEB 44

PES SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER

SECRET

PRIORITY

CG PES TO FARGO FOR MACFARLANE

NONE

SIGNED GING

101555A

102225A

49856

FHEIGS



OWING TO SHORTAGE OF STOCKS OF CAPTURED ITALIAN MATERIALS FOR ISSUE TO PARTISAN FORCES CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN HERE TO THE POSSIBILITY OF CHANGING THE PRESENT POLICY. YOUR OPINIONS REQUIRED AS TO THE POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS OF A CHANGE OF POLICY BY WHICH SMALL ARMS AND VARIOUS TYPES OF AMMUNITION AND EQUIPMENT WOULD BE TAKEN FROM ITALIAN UNITS AND TROOPS FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONAL PURPOSES.

PES DIST

ACTION HQ ACC

INFO G-4  
ORD O  
SECY  
CG

ACC DIST

(ACTION) PA TO CC  
(INFO) LAND FORCES SC  
POLITICAL SECTION

SECRET

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Tregene 23rd August, 1944.

Via Murana 20.

Dear Sir,

As soon as I arrived here I spoke to the "Brigadiere" of the CC.RR. who told me that:

1st He could not give me the full addresses where stolen furniture and arms are, although they are known to him and to the "Maresciallo" of Macerese.

2nd Arms and furniture are especially hidden in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Zones of Macerese and in the "Vigna Primavera".

3rd The CC.RR. of Macerese and Tregene have already written to their Command to be authorised to search and confiscate all this.

4th These arms, which are kept by the peasants (following the Brigadiere) for subversive purposes, consist in grenades, rifles and "tommy guns" of Allied Italian and German provenance.

5th The "Brigadiere" of Tregene will be very glad if you could send here some member of the Allied Military Police for an inquiry. In that case he would give his full support to the person sent by you and would accompany him all around.

Do excuse me please, for writing on this paper and for using a pencil but I have nothing better here!

Yours sincerely

Mrs. de Michelis.

Regional Public Safety HQ.

23rd August, 1944.

To: Maj. Battersby, Gestapo, Via Genova.  
copy to Mr. Cacchia AGO. HQ.  
Capt. Fleetwood, Prefettura.

1. This follows previous report of yesterday as to arms being kept by alleged communists at Tregene.

2. As arranged verbally with Mr. Minetti, CC.RR. Capt. Fleetwood should be present when the places are raided.

J.R. FOLLOK. 3259

Lt. Colonel,  
Chief, Public Safety  
REGION IV.

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT  
REGION IV  
APO. 394

Regional Public Safety HQ.

22nd August, 1944.

SUBJECT: Arms and munition held by civilians at Fregene.

To : Maj. Battersby, Questura, Via Genova.  
copy to Capt. Fleetwood.

1. At 12 noon, 22nd August, 1944, Mrs. De Michelis, wife of an official of the Italian Foreign Office called and reported that there were a number of civilians at Fregene - alleged communists - who were in possession of firearms, munition and hand grenades.

2. This woman was unable to give any particulars of names or places, but said the local Maresciallo had been told about these firearms and answered that he was powerless to do anything and that they would only "laugh at him".

3. The woman has promised to furnish names and particulars of persons in possession of firearms, and this will be passed on to you as and when received.

4. It was also disclosed at the interview that there has been quite a lot of transfer of property at the Fregene seafront after the Germans pulled out, and I think the Questura should send a man down there to investigate these illegal furniture transactions.

5. Will you please report the facts to Col. Minniti and ask him to give orders to the CC.RR. that they must insist on the surrender of firearms by civilians. It is the duty of the CC.RR. to do this and they must see that it is done.

J. R. POLLOCK  
Lt. Colonel  
Chief, Public Safety  
REGION IV.

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 WC

SECRET

12.05/45

28 December 1944

SUBJECT: Policy on Italian Munitions Production

TO : C-3, MEMO

1. For some time there has been need for a policy governing the treatment of the Italian munitions plants, both state and private concerns.

2. It is considered undesirable that the existing plants, many of which are still capable of munitions production on a large scale, should be allowed to retain their present character. Moreover, the extent of destruction of other manufacturing plants makes it imperative that plants assigned for the production of munitions be converted or demobilized to the greatest possible extent for the production of civilian necessities. After considerable discussion within AG, including the Services and Commissions, the interim policy, set out in para 3, is proposed for adoption by the Allied Commission as a basis for action until a general directive is received from higher authority.

3. The policy statements in para 4 are intended to cover all Italian munition plants (government-owned or civilian) which formerly produced war-like stores (including war chemicals) exclusive of naval base establishments serving Allied naval needs.

4. (a) No production of war-like stores is to be permitted during the period of the present war. To this effect, materials and facilities imported by or otherwise in the control of the Allies will not be made available for such production.

(b) Through whatever procedures are established by the Italian Government and the Allied Commission for the handling of transfer of plant and machinery between private firms for the purpose of national reconstruction, it will be the intention of AG to encourage:

1) The use of all machinery capable of serving purposes necessary to the Allied war effort or to the rehabilitation of Italian economy for such purposes.

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3) The dismantling (and use as scrap if appropriate) of any single purpose machinery capable of producing only war-like stores.

4) The use of space and power and other facilities thus made available in aid of the Allied war effort or rehabilitation of Italian economy.

(a) Exception to the foregoing will be made in the case of firms normally furnishing items and stores to the Italian Navy which will be permitted to maintain supplies at levels to be agreed with the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean. In the case of plants which have been working exclusively for the Italian Navy, no action will be taken without prior approval of the Allied Naval Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.

(b) This policy is to be of an interim nature. Long-term policy will be developed after advice of decisions as to the size of the Navy, Army, and Air Force to be maintained by Italy after the war and the nature of the equipment to be permitted.

5. In connection with the above statements of interim policy, it is contemplated that the Allied Commission will make a survey of Italian war-like stores in arsenals, factories, depots, dumps or in the hands of units of the Italian Armed Forces.

6. While it is recognized that these are matters of high policy, we consider it extremely important that the officers of all who are in daily contact with this problem have some interim policy statement to guide them. It is therefore proposed that the statements in para 4 above be used as an interim guide for all action. We will hear from you by 15 January 1945 if you do not wish these statements to be used in this way, pending advice of the over-all decisions referred to in para 4 (d) above.

WILSON W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Chief Commissioner

cc: Directors:  
Navy Sub-Commission  
Army Sub-Commission  
Air Forces Sub-Commission  
Industry Sub-Commission  
War Materials Disposal Sub-Commission  
Commerce Sub-Commission  
Political Section  
Civil Affairs Section

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