

ACC

10000/135/6

10000/135/6

ITALIAN AF PERSONNEL
DEC. 1943 - AUG. 1944

COPY

FROM: Italian Air Force of Campania
Personnel Office- =NAPLES=
TO: Provost & Security Unit
Group Captain Richards
8 Piazza Mondragone- =NAPLES=
DATE: 1st August 1944
REF: 2423/PU/CP
SUBJECT: Temporary Officers grant of permanent leave.
COPY TO: F/O Pilot GAVAZZI Giovanni- Same adress.

We beg to state that recent dispositions of the Italian Air Force H.Q. compel us to transfer Tenente Pilota di Complemento

GAVAZZI Giovanni
to the administrative strength of C.A.R. of Naples, in order to grant him permanent leave at a later date.

We therefore request that you release the above mentioned Officer for whom it is not possible to find a substitute, because, at present, there is no regular Officer available with a good knowledge of English.

A request for a substitute, if required, can be forwarded direct to the Superior Ministry.

THE COMMANDER
(Ten. Col. Pilota L. DENTICE di ACCADIA)

From :- Headquarters, M.A.A.F.,
(M.A.A.F. Liaison Officer, 214 Group).

To :- Air Forces Sub Commission,
Allied Control Commission, Naples.

Date :- 25rd. August 1944.

Ref :- MAAF/1699/4/ONG.

I.A.F. PERSONNEL.

1. Intimation has been received that S.Ten. Zeloni, S.Ten. Rinaldi and S.Ten De Cristofaro are about to be released from service with the Italian Air Force.

2. It is essential that one English speaking Officer be retained for work with the I.A.F. Detachments employed by the Royal Air Force, therefore it is requested that action be taken to retain the services of S.Ten. De Cristofaro.

R. Walne F/Lt.
R. WALNE, F/Lt.,
M.A.A.F. Liaison Officer,
No. 214 Group, R.A.F., *B.7th.*

From: Air Forces Sub Commission, ACC. Rome.
To: Air Forces Sub Commission, ACC. Naples.
Date: 18th August 1944
Ref: AFSC/R/901/2/P4.

200A

CAPTAIN PILOT MONACO RICCARDO.

1. Information has been received that the above named ~~ex~~ officer of the I.A.F. attached to the Naples HQ. of the I.A.F. has been arrested and accused of Fascist Propaganda.
2. It is understood that he is imprisoned at Poggioreale.
3. Will you please enquire into the case and ask the Allied Authorities to let this Office to have a full report on the case.

J. WALTON, S/LDR.
AIR VICE MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING 375

Copy to:
The Directorate of Personnel,
Italian Air Ministry.

FROM: ~~Alkin~~ Air Forces SUB-Commission,
Allied Control Commission, NAPLES. 199

TO: Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission, BARI.

DATE: 18th August, 1944.

REF: ASC/5

I.A.F. DETACHMENT AT 124 M.U., R.A.F.

Upon receipt of your signal this morning,
C. C.M. dated 17th August, reporting further trouble
with the above detachment, we immediately got into
touch with F/Lieut. Walne, SAAF Liaison Officer
attached to 214 Group.

It has been decided that F/Lieut. Walne
will leave to-morrow morning for 124 M.U. and
endeavour to get to the bottom of the trouble and
fix things up on the spot.

W.L. Minter
(W.L. Minter)
Wing Commander,
Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

TO: AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, BARI.
(For the attention of Group Captain F.M. DENNY).

COPY: AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, NAPLES.✓
AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, ROME.

On the return of General Piacentini will you please make the following representations to him :-

There is some confusion in the Naples Area owing to Colonel Brenta not being brought fully into the picture when visits are made by Colonel Cigerza and other Officers of the Air Ministry. Colonel Cigerza has issued certain instructions to the Alfa-Romeo and Magnaghi Firms, and Colonel Francois has issued certain instructions to the Sannita Firm at Benevento.

It is my opinion that everything should pass through Colonel Brenta that has to do with factories in the Naples area, since he is responsible for them, and that all these instructions should always be in writing.

W.A.B. Bowen-Buscarlet

W.A.B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL.
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

372

AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.
REF: AFEC/1/AIR.
DATE: 13TH AUGUST, 1944.

317/18

CYPHER MESSAGE

QXM

TO AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION ROME * REPEATED AIR
FORCES SUB COMMISSION NAPLES (ATTENTION AOS) *
FROM AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION BARI

0.891 AUGUST 17. SECRET *

124 MU REPORT CONTINUED TROUBLE WITH I.A.F. DETACHMENT
THIS DETACHMENT WAS CHANGED FEW DAYS AGO BECAUSE OF
TROUBLE WITH PREVIOUS PARTY YESTERDAY 20 MEN OUT OF A TOTAL
196 WERE AVAILABLE FOR WORK. THIS IS SERIOUSLY AFFECTING
205 GROUP BOMB REQUIREMENTS *
FOURTH ZAT HAS BEEN INFORMED

SGT PECKETT/AT

T00 171215B DECY/180525B

371

Five

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

ITALIAN AIR FORCE REQUIREMENTS FOR DATA
WITH ALLIED AIR FORCE.

You will remember that at the end of May all demands which had not been met by the 21st May were suspended and no new demands submitted.

Now that the ceiling of the Italian Air Force has been established at 31,000, and it has been decided that 20,000 is sufficient for the requirements of the Operational Italian Air Force and I.A.F. bases and headquarters establishments, it has been agreed to spread the whole of the difference, i.e. 9,000, into the Allied Air Force.

At the present time a large number of I.A.F. personnel are serving with Allied Air Force units, but in spite of I.A.F. instructions that these total over 1,000, I have never yet seen an allocation statement which shows exactly where these 1,000 are employed. I am of the opinion that actually only about 6,000 I.A.F. personnel are working with Allied Air Force, and I would like you to have a thorough check made of your records.

Moreover if given the present requirements of the Royal Air Force and I should be glad if you will have the United States up immediately and notify us when they are ready for allocation.

Yours,

COMMISSIONER.

241 U.S.

261 U.S.

246 U.S. }
247 U.S. }
248 U.S. }
249 U.S. }
250 U.S. }
251 U.S. }
252 U.S. }
253 U.S. }
254 U.S. }
255 U.S. }
256 U.S. }
257 U.S. }
258 U.S. }
259 U.S. }
260 U.S. }

3 companies of mixed specialists 370 personnel
plus Admin. Staff.
Approximately 500.

241 U.S.

10 General Motors
10 Instrument required
10 Electronics
10 Copper workers
6 Motor boat mechanics
6 Cargo items.

241 U.S.

1 1,000, and 24 U.S. (Guns).

241 U.S.

1 1,000, and 24 U.S. (Guns).

[illegible]

consider to give the present requirements of the Royal Air Force and I should be glad if you will have the D.O. in regard to immediately send nothing in when they are ready for collection.

1992

1000

246 Denton
N.Y. 10923-7803

107

2007

2000

2007

2004

37

100

177

5

Development

DISCUSSION

3 volumes of mixed material 370-379

40. ammonia ammonia
40. instrument instrument
40. electronic
40. engine engine
6. before before
6. surround surround

A. J. van der Wal, M.D., PhD

1. *Chrysomelids* (Chrysomelidae) •

[illegible]

(approximately 30 men were supplied against this demand). (continued).

- 2 -

Unit.Requirements.

141 H.Q.
234 Wing
334 Wing
147 G.S. Det.
144 H.Q.
No. 1 Provost Det.
Unit 39 Flight Nurses.
143 H.Q. No. 2 Medical
242 Group
Gratigile area
Nogla
Nogles
159 H.Q.
1 S.M., 2 Cpls, 32 G.Hs. (Drivers).
2 Cpls. & 7 G.Hs. (wards)
1 Cook
6 Ambulances.
Officers, 200 G.Hs, Admin. Staff.
2 Instrument Engineers.
50 Laboratory & admin staff.
60
2 G.Hs.
15 G.Hs.
24 officers, 150 G.Hs. (to replace RAB. Regt. (wards)
1 officer and 21 G.Hs. G.Hs.

9. All previous demands which remain outstanding are cancelled and the above represents the present requirements of the Royal Air Force.

369

P.E. DUFFY, C/CAST.
AIR VICE MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Copy to: GENERAL, CANADA.

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission, BMT.
6th August, 1944.
APC/7/1/AM.

No. 1 Escort Sqdn.
Unit 39 Flight Majors.

2 Guards.

113 H. No. 2 Squadron

10 Guards.

242 Group
Ordnance area
No. 210
100105

24 Officers, 450 Ods. (to replace RAR. Regt.
(Canada))

159 H.F.

1 Officer and 24 Ods. Guards.

5. All previous details which remain outstanding are cancelled and the above represents the present requirements of the Royal Air Force.

[Signature]

369

[Signature]
P.M. Derry, O/Capt.
AIR VICE MARSHAL,
AIR CORPS COMBAT TROOP.

Copy to: - GENERAL STAFF.

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
6th August, 1944.
AFHQ/7/1/air.

192

AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

From information in the possession of this Sub-commission we are able to certify that Lieut. Alberto Grassiani worked with the Yugo-Slavian Patriots, under the command of an English major, from the time of the armistice until his eventual escape into Southern Italy.



Naples, Aug 9th 1944

W.L. Minter
(W.L. Minter)
Wing Commander,
Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

368

5

FROM : Air Force Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
BWHI.

TO : Headquarters, H.A.A.F.,
(R.A.F. Movement), C.M.F.

DATE : 15th July 1944.

REF. : AMW/136/01C.

Italian Air Force Personnel from Santinia

Receipt is acknowledged of Headquarters, H.A.A.F.
letter AMW/132/1 dated 15th July 1944, and contents noted.

2. Will H.A.A.F. Movement please ensure that when the
personnel reach the Mainland, arrangements are made for their
immediate transfer to Bari, to the Caserma Milano Barracks.

3. Full particulars of the Motor Transport list will be
given as soon as it is available.

J. Waller
J. WALLER, SQUADRON LEADER,
AFC VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

366

*Send 300 amk. 5/8/44. at Port of
Naples.*

MEMORANDUM TO : THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE,
TREASURY AND MINISTRY.

Movement of Italian Air Force Personnel
from Sardinia.

1. It has been advised that Headquarters, M.A.A.F., have completed arrangements to move the Italian Air Force personnel from Sardinia in batches of 250 at one time.

2. Will you please instruct your people in Sardinia to liaise with the M.A.F. Rehabilitation Unit at Cagliari to complete local arrangements.

All personnel will be brought to Bari.

W. S. L.
J. GARDNER, CHIEF OF STAFF,
AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS,
AIR COMMAND, COMBATANT

Air Force Sub-Commission,
Allied Central Commission,
28th July 1944.
Ref. AHC/356/CBC.

177

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN -

The Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Control Commission, has pleasure in attesting that during the German occupation of Naples in September, 1944, Sergeant Major Luigi Ippolito, rendered valuable aid to an R.A.F. Observer whose aircraft had been brought down by the Germans and who was consequently a prisoner in their hands.

It was entirely due to the help given to him by Sergeant Major Ippolito, at a considerable risk to himself, that the R.A.F. Observer was able to make his escape and eventually re-join his Unit.

The action of Sergeant Major Ippolito was highly commendable and is greatly appreciated by the Royal Air Force.

363

W.L.

(W.L. Minter)

Wing Commander,

Air Vice-Marshal,

AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.Naples Aug. 1st. 1944*See 169 etc*

To: Air Forces Subcommittee,
Allied Control Commission, Rome.

From: Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, R.A.F., C.M.F.

Date: 13 th July 1944.

Ref: MAAF/1762/Org.

Italian Air Force Ceiling.

It is thought that you would wish to be aware of the latest action, by this Headquarters, with regard to the proposed reduction of the Italian Air Force to 22,000.

2. (i) On receipt of the information from Squadron Leader Walton of AFSC/ACC, Squadron Leader Palmer of this Headquarters who was at the time visiting A.F.H.Q., raised the question of the ceiling with them. As a result of this, our O/973 of July 4th was sent to A.A.I. (copy to AFSC/ACC).

(ii) On July 9th, A.A.I., referred the matter to A.F.H.Q. (from whom the original instructions were received) as they considered that A.A.I. was not qualified to determine the ceiling of the Italian Air Force, and suggested that A.F.H.Q. deal directly with us in the matter.

(iii) On July 11th, A.A.I., sent another signal to A.F.H.Q. stating that in absence of further instructions from A.F.H.Q., reductions are available from August 1st for only 22,000 personnel of the Italian Air Force. This may well have the effect of speeding a reply from A.F.H.Q. 382

3. On July 11th, AFSC/MTO sent a signal to A.A.I., fully supporting this Headquarters O/973 of July 4th. A copy of this signal from the Americans was not, apparently, repeated to you, but it states that 31,000 is, in view of their investigations of requirements and coordination with us, the absolute minimum figure necessary for the ceiling of the Italian Air Force.

4. This Headquarters will today press A.F.H.Q. for a final decision on this question. It may well be that, as this matter is being dealt with on a Combined Chiefs of Staff level, the original decision having been reached at Washington, the decision already made will be the final one. In any case, any further information obtained by this Headquarters will be passed on to you.

(S.S. PALMER) S/Ldr. for Air Vice Marshal

CONFIDENTIAL

From :- Air Forces Sub Commission,
Allied Control Commission, NAPLES. (173)
To :- Provost Marshal, R.A.A.F.,
c/o Provost and Security Unit, R.A.F., C.M.P.
Date :- 19th July, 1944
Ref :- ASC/5

Lieutenant ITALIAN. 172

Reference your A/2000/6
dated 14th July, the above-mentioned
Italian Officer has been given 10 days
"arresti di Rigore" and will then be
retired to civilian life.

W.L.
(S.D. Inter)
wing Commander,
Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

COMANDO NUCLEO AERONAUTICA DELLA CAMPANIA Napoli, 11 18 Luglio 1944

UFFICIO PERSONALE - 1.ª SEZIONE UFFICIALI

NAPOLI

AL MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA
Direzione del Personale Militare
BARI

Prot. n.º I/2262/PU/CP

OGGETTO: Collocamento in congedo Ten. Pilota Compl. - Cl. 1919 MILANESE
Costantino.

e per conoscenza: ALL'UFFICIO AMM. TIVO CASERMA CASANOVA = NAPOLI =
ALLA DIREZIONE COMPAGNIE G.A.I. = BELLA VISTA =

Si comunica che in data odierna lo scrivente ha collocato in congedo - per motivi disciplinari - l'Ufficiale in oggetto, al quale è stata inflitta una punizione di gg. 10 di Arresti di Rigore, per il seguente Motivo:

" COMANDANTE DI UN DISTACCAMENTO AVIERI IN SERVIZIO PRESSO GLI ALLEATI, DIMOSTRAVA SCARSO SENSO DI RESPONSABILITA' E DEPLOREVOLE LEGGEREZZA NEL GOVERNO ED AMMINISTRAZIONE DEL PERSONALE DIPENDENTE."

F.to IL COMANDANTE
(Ten. Col. Pilota L. DENTICE di ACCADIA)

[Handwritten signature]

COMANDO NUCLEO AERONAUTICA DELLA CAMPANIA

Napoli 18 Luglio 1944

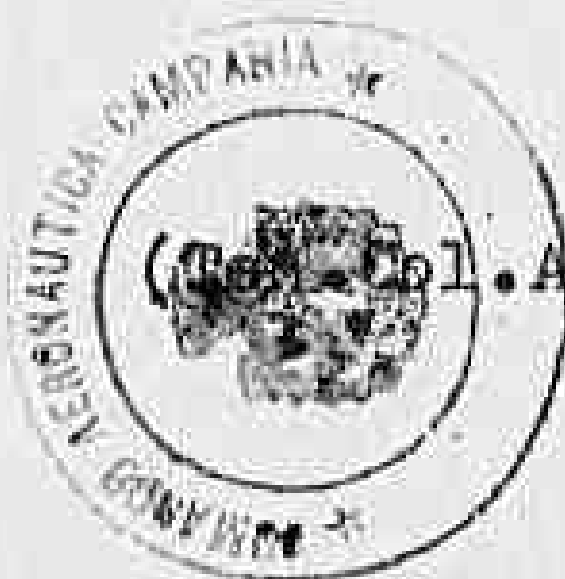
UFFICIO PERSONALE - 1.ª SEZIONE UFFICIALI

NAPOLI

= ALLA SOTTOCOMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI CONTROLLO =
= S E D E =

359

..... si trasmette per opportuna conoscenza trattandosi di Ufficiale già in servizio presso Distaccamento alle dipendenze degli Alleati. =



IL COMANDANTE

(Ten. Col. A.A.r.n. Pilota Luigi DENTICE di ACCADIA)

[Handwritten signature]

S
===== T
E
===== T
O
=====

INDIRIZZO RIVOLTO DAL MAGGIORE CARLO EMANUELE BUSCAGLIA
AGLI AVIATORI REPUBBLICANI

-----oOo-----

E' un aviatore che vi parla; un aviatore, che, dopo venti mesi di prigionia in territori Alleati, ha chiesto ed ottenuto di rientrare in Patria a prendere il suo posto di combattimento contro i Tedeschi al Comando di un Gruppo di velivoli della Regia Aeronautica: è il Maggiore Carlo Emanuele Buscaglia, quello stesso il cui nome venne imposto arbitrariamente e per propaganda ad un Reparto di Volo dell'Aviazione Repubblicana.

E' tornato non per opportunismo e spirito di adattamento al nuovo ordine di idee e di cose, ma perchè un soldato, che sia tale, deve difendere la propria Patria, col sacrificio della propria vita - ove occorra - contro chiunque l'aggreddisca.-

A voi, mi rivolgo, aviatori, cui il gioco nazista e fascista impone di lottare ai danni della nostra Patria, che combatte a fianco delle Nazioni Unite.-

A voi, aviatori; a voi, compagni di volo, di rischio e di tormento.-

I nostri Caduti, i nostri mutilati, i nostri feriti, tutto il nostro popolo, ci additano la via da seguire: ricostruire l'Italia, risollemandola dalle conseguenze di una insana e non sentita guerra.-

Aviatori, formiamo un blocco unico, affiancate il nostro sforzo bellico mantenendo accesa la fiaccola di italianità nel territorio nazionale ancora occupato dai nazifascisti. Solo così l'aviazione italiana non verrà meno alle speranze che su di lei ha diritto di riporre il popolo italiano.-

Non un solo aviatore deve rimanere inattivo e fuori da questo blocco.-

Uniamo tutte le nostre forze per cercare di sanare le dolorose piaghe che attualmente tormentano la Patria: curo sarà il cammino, ma sicura la meta, se ricorderete in ogni momento che voi siete i figli dei vincitori di Vittorio Veneto.-

Aviatori, raggiungeteci con i vostri velivoli: noi vi attendiamo; se non potete, distruggeteli; comunque rifiutate di collaborare con le forze nazifasciste; rifiutate di combattere; datevi alla macchia; unitevi ai patrioti, parte migliore e sana del nostro popolo; e sabotate tutto ciò che è tedesco e fascista.-

Aviatori, stringiamoci compatti e concordati attorno al nostro tricolore e gridiamo ad una voce:

VIVA L'ITALIA !

Fin Alleanza da SE il Ministro

0 4 3 4

785017

A voi,aviatori; a voi,compagni di volo,di rischio e di tormento.-
I nostri Caduti,i nostri mutilati,i nostri feriti,tutto il nostro popolo,ci additano la via da seguire: ricostruire l'Italia,risollevandola dalle conseguenze di una insana e non sentita guerra.-

Aviatori,formiamo un blocco unico,affiancate il nostro sforzo bellico mantenendo accesa la fiaccola di italianità nel territorio nazionale ancora occupato dai nazifascisti. Solo così l'aviazione italiana non verrà meno alle speranze che su di lei ha diritto di riporre il popolo italiano.-

Non un solo aviatore deve rimanere inattivo e fuori da questo blocco.-

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Aviatori,raggiungeteci con i vostri velivoli: noi vi attendiamo; se non potete,distruggeteli; comunque rifiutate di collaborare con le forze nazifasciste; rifiutate di combattere; datevi alla macchia; unitevi ai patrioti,parte migliore e sana del nostro popolo; e sabotate tutto ciò che è tedesco e fascista.-

Aviatori,stringiamoci compatti e concordati attorno al nostro tricolore e gridiamo ad una voce:

VIVA L'ITALIA !

Sia approvato da S.E. il Ministro

*11/18 capo Ufficio Stampa
Ing. Cecchetti*

168

FROM - Air Forces Sub-Commission.
Allied Control Commission. (Main) C.E.F.
TO - 'N' Section, Adv H.Q. 'A' Force.
C/o No 2 District. C.E.F.
DATE - 12th July. 1944
REF - ASC/5

REGARDS - Sgt Major IPPOLITO Luigi.

Your 412/187 dated 7th July. 1944.
is acknowledged with thanks.

Formal receipt for the Lit. 8000
(Eight thousand lire) is attached, duly signed
by Sgt. Maj. Ippolito and witnessed by the un-
dersigned.

[Signature]
(W.L. Winter)

King Commander.

[Signature] Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

357

MEMORANDUM TO : COLONEL GAVINO

COLONEL BAZAJIA

Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces have asked that the above named officer be requested to report for duty immediately to Major Lathrop, (Advanced M.A.A.F.) 59, Via Sicilia, Rome.

2. Will you please ensure that the Officer receives these instructions and advise me the date of his departure.

J. Walton
J. WALTON, SQUADRON LEADER,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
26th June 1944.
Ref. AFSC/330/Org.

Copy to : Wing Commander Minter, Naples Office.

355

COPY SIGNAL

RAC FOR ACC (R) AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION ACC NAPLES
 PERSONAL FOR AIR VICE MARSHAL BOWEN BUSCARLET DIRECTOR
 AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION

FROM AFSC BARI

SECRET
 IMPORTANT

REF. 0 700
 28 JUNE

REFERENCE YOUR 6662 124 1430; FULL TEXT FREEDOM SIGNAL
 F 612329 NOT RECD. HAVE ASKED MEDIA TO SIGNAL TEXT TO YOU
 . MY 0.697 OF JUNE 24 HAVE ALL INFORMATION HEED HERE.
 ESTIMATED BREAKDOWN OF IAF AS FOLLOWS. (A) WITH USAAF 7492
 (B) WITH RAF 2865 (C) WITH 3 REGIA AERONAUTICA OPERATIONAL
 WINGS AND SPARE 8725 (D) REGIA AERONAUTICA NON OPERATIONAL
 GROUND ESTABLISHMENT INCLUDING HEADQUARTERS AND COMMANDS
 11105 TOTAL 31287 BEING LAST RATION STRENGTH ~~XXXXXX~~ FIGURE
 GIVEN AS AT JUNE 15. THE BREAKDOWN BETWEEN USAAF AND RAF
 CANNOT BE GUARANTEED BECAUSE MENINERE SUPPLIED FROM NAPLES
 SARDINIA AND BARI OFTEN WITHOUT REFERENCE TO SUB-COMMISSION
 BEFORE WALTON TOOK OVER. RAF UNITS HAVE NOT COMPLIED WITH
 MAAT OFFER TO MAKE RETURN AND ITALIANS UNABLE TO DISTINGUISH
 BETWEEN ALLIED AIR FORCES. AM DRIVING IAF PERSONNEL ~~XXXXXX~~
 DEPARTMENT HARD FOR ACCURATE FIGURES.

ACC ADV. DISP.

ACTION AFSC		
INFO	FILE	2
	FLOAT	2

354

F
SECRET

FROM - Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, APO 394

TO - 'M' Section, Adv. HQ 'A' Forces,
2/6 Fort District, C.I.P.

DATE - 3rd July, 1944

REF - ABC/5

Sgt. Mariano ESPOLITO DUGI 160

Reference your 412/174 dated 30th June, 1944. It is noted that Sgt. Messg. ESPOLITO DUGI is entitled to a reward of Lire 6000 for services rendered.

2. Payment can easily be made through this Office, your Form. 2 refers.

3. The attention you have given to this matter and in bringing it to such a satisfactory conclusion is greatly appreciated by this Sub-Commission.

RL.
(L.L. Martin)
Wing Commander,
Air Vice Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMISSIONED.

352

163
AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION - A. C. C. -

NAPLES

17/4/44
Signorine

ANNA TROCCOLI

VALLO DELLA LUCANIA

In riferimento alla pregiata v/e in data 25 giugno U.S. abbiamo il rammarico di segnificarvi che la vostra richiesta non può essere accolta, non esistendo disposizioni che ne consentano l'accoglimento. La concessione poi del com- bio di nazionalità non può assolutamente essere considerata nelle vostre condizioni.

Splacenti quindi di non potere né accogliere, né appoggiare una richiesta che apprezziamo inviamo i nostri migliori saluti.

351

AMM

See 159

0440

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

*Station removed file.*NO
HIS
FASTEN ENCL.
Of 1 by 13RM:- AIR FORCES SEE-COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
BARI.TO:- HEADQUARTERS, H.A.A.F. C.M.F.
COPY: HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, C.M.F.
" ~~HEADQUARTERS~~.

DATE:- 21st June 1944.

REF:- 11/AIR.

With reference to my letter 11/AIR of the 5th June 1944 addressed to H.Q. Allied Control Commission, I have now received a reply from General Mason Macfarlane to the effect that he has no objection to the competitive examinations being held, nor to the continuance of courses at the Cadet College.

2. On the other hand he points out that a question of higher policy is involved as the continuance of this Cadet College would certainly give the impression that the Allies contemplated allowing Italy to possess an Air Force after the war. He suggests that you take it up with the S.A.C. at A.F.H.Q.

WB
W.A.B. BOWEN-MACQUEEN,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

SECRET

To: Air Forces Sub Commission,
A.C.C.
NAFINS.

160
"I" Section,
Adv. H.Q. "A" Force,
c/o No. 2 District,
C.A.F.

Ref: 412/174
30 June, 1944

143
Your ASC/5 of 13 June.

1. The story has been checked and Sjte. Maggiore IPPOLITO IUGI is entitled to a reward of 8,000 lire in respect of services rendered.
2. If you will be good enough to let us know if you can arrange payment, the above sum will be sent to you.

WAD/cgh.

A. Harris
Wing Commander,
C.1

Copy to: Air Force Sub Commission,
A.C.C.
Darl.

Your 702/Pa of 21 June refers.

See 154
154A
143
163

349

CIR FROM : Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
RACI.

TO : Headquarters, Army Sub-Commission,
MEJUNE, Lecce. (For Attention Lt.Col.J.A.Campbell)

DATE : 23rd June 1944.

REF. : ABSC/S.362/41.

156A

Italian Air Force Prisoners of War

Advice has been received from the Naples Section of this Sub-Commission, that in future all questions pertaining to Italian Air Force prisoners of war are to be addressed to Army Sub-Commission and not as heretofore direct to Allied Forces Headquarters for the attention of Lt.Col.A.S. Bardsley.

2. It is desired to point out that no directive to this effect has ever been received from A.F.H.Q. where the utmost co-operation and consideration has always been shown in the past.
3. Right particulars of the authority for this change of policy be furnished to this Sub-Commission please.
4. It is assumed that current matters which are the subject of direct communication between A.F.H.Q. and this Sub-Commission, should be continued until concluded and that further cases should be submitted through the Army Sub-Commission.

J. Waller S/C
J. WALLER, SQUADRON LEADER,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

348

Copy to : A.F.H.Q. for attention Lt.Col.A.S. BARDSEY.

File

FROM: - Headquarters *AIR FORCE S.C.*
Mediterranean
Allied Air Forces.

TO: - W/Cdr. Winter, A.F.S.C., *✓ 153*
A.C.C., Naples.

DATE: - 14th. June, 1944. *S-4580*

REF: - MAAP/1764/OTG. *ALL*

ITALIANISATION .

Herewith copy of minutes of the meeting held on June 7th. 1944, on the subject of the Control of Italian Military and Civilian Personnel assigned to M.A.A.F.

2. You will note that one copy is destined for you, but has been wrongly addressed, so will probably take some time to reach you. This is a spare copy, and sent for your retention.

Sattalmer
(S.A. PALMER) S/Ldr.
For Air Vice Marshal,
Air Officer i/c Administration,
Mediterranean Allied Air Forces.



SECRET

153-A

MINUTES

OF

Meeting 7 June 1945

Subject: Control of Italian Military and Civilian Personnel Assigned to USAF.

Present:	Col. Gen. L. G. Edwards	Dep. CG	NAF/STO
	Col. E. A. Walton	A-1	NAF/STO
	Col. W. A. Hardy	A-3	NAF/STO
	Col. W. A. Eaton	A-4	NAF/STO
	Col. G. C. Ege	A-4	NAF/STO
	Col. G. C. Walton	A-3	NAF/STO
	Col. E. A. Long	A-4	NAF/STO
	Col. E. F. Anderson	A-1	NAF/STO
	Col. Williams		NAF/STO
	W. A. Center	Air Sub Vex	NAI
	W. A. Palmer	C-5	NAF/STO

1. COORDINATION OF NAF AND NAF/STO ADMINISTRATIVE.

a. W. A. Palmer, C-5, NAF, and Col. Walton, A-3, NAF/STO will coordinate all requests for Italian Air Force units before submission to Allied Control Commission.

b. Civilian personnel is technically trained and common sense categories will continue to be requisitioned and controlled locally.

c. Col. Walton and W. A. Palmer will prepare separate tabulations giving estimated three months' requirements for Italian Air Force and civilian technical personnel in the following areas:

East Italy
West Italy
Sardinia
Corsica

347

2. REPORTS ON THE CONTINUING ITALIAN PERSONNEL FOR NAF/STO.

a. All requests from any subordinate command of NAF/STO will be processed through NAF/STO.

b. NAF/STO to prepare directive on procedure

SECRET

-1-

W. A. Palmer

135604

SECRET

minutes of meeting, 7 June 1944, subj: Control of Italian Military and Civilian Personnel Assigned to MAF, cont'd)

for furnishing Italian Military Units and civilian personnel, for distribution to all units of MAF/STG.

c. MAFSG/STG to consolidate total future requirements of MAF/STG for Italian Military Personnel and present S/A requirements.

d. MAFSG/STG will deal with Assistant C/S, A-4 of Headquarters, MAF/STG in all problems requiring the coordination of the two Headquarters in these matters.

11 JUN 11 30 AM

WILLIAM H. BAYON
Colonel, A.C.
Asst C/S, A-4

DISTRIBUTION:

1 ea. Officer present
3 S/Lt Palmer
1 C-in-C MAF

346

SECRET

in File

151

1909

air force

AM

ACC MAIN

N60/20

ACC ADV

SECRET

ADV 35

OP PRIORITY

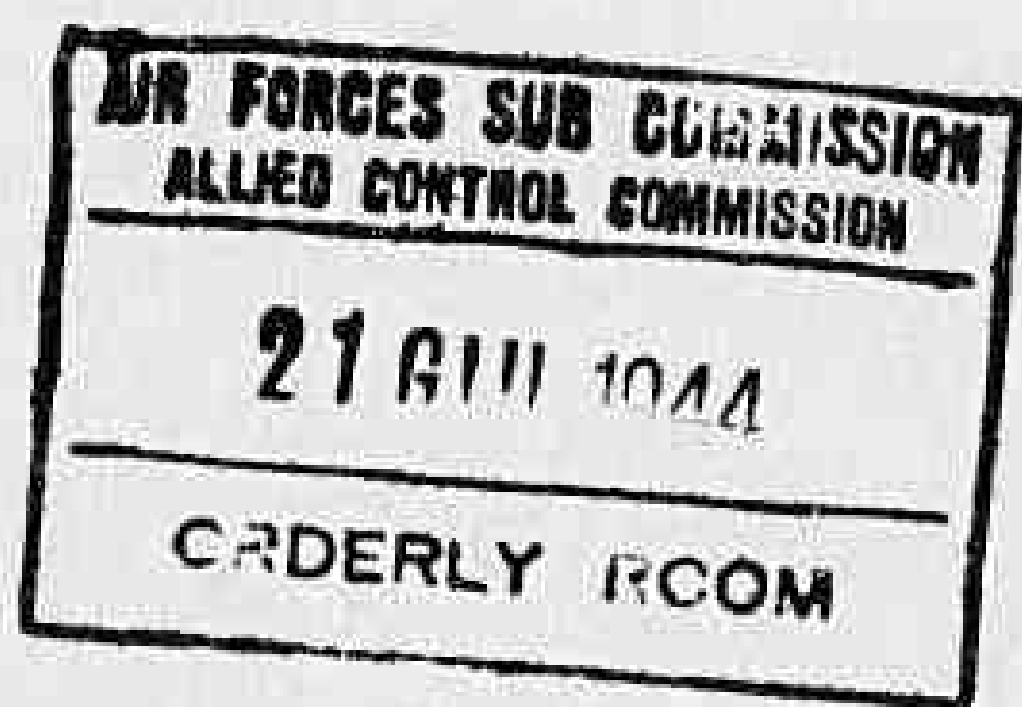
201345B

FOR MACFARLANE FROM BUSCARLET PD THIS MORNING POPOLO PUBLISHED IN ROME
 STATED PIACENTINI APPOINTED MINISTER OF AVIATION PD IN VIEW OUR --- (GROUP
 MISSING) --- YESTERDAY CANNOT BELIEVE THIS TRUE BUT IF IT IS HOPE YOU WILL
 OPPOSE STRONGEST PD I SHALL BE IN BARI FOR NEXT 48 HOURS

ACC DIST

ACTION - SECY GEN

INFO - DEP CO
 AIR FORCES SC
 FILE
 FLOAT



345



MEMORANDUM FOR : MR. C. G. WILSON, W.L. HENDER.

MR. C. G. WILSON

Received in acknowledgment of your LSC/E dated 15th
May 1944.

Our original instructions were to consider with
Mr. G. G. WILSON, A.D.C., on all questions relating to
the release of Mr. G. G. WILSON, and have since been heard of Mr. G. G. WILSON
to date.

The request is noted and all future communications
will be dealt with as directed.

C. G. WILSON
C. G. WILSON, A.D.C.,
AND VICE-CHIEF,
ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Approved by: C. G. WILSON,
Adjutant General Commission,
15th May 1944.
Ref. LSC/E/15/44.

Phoned Lt Col Campbell 18/6 re above. He 344
confirms previous instructions, but says official
news on subject has been held up since it
was hushhanded. It should be published
in a few days. *W.L.*

Signor Colonnello MINTER,

la prego scusarmi se mi permetto disturbarla; il Colonnello MAIORINO, mio ottimo Comandante per diverso tempo, dal quale ho avuto sempre un trattamento paterno, è stato incaricato di costituire il NUCLEO AERONAUTICA DI ROMA, egli si preoccupa di non poter assolvere bene come sempre l'incarico affidatogli per scarsità di personale, in quanto sono state autorizzate a recarsi a Roma solo 16 persone di cui N° 4 Ufficiali e N° 12 tra Sottufficiali ed avieri.

Il Maggiore CASSINARIO ha chiesto al Signor Maggiore WALTON l'autorizzazione per poter inviare a Roma N° 6 Ufficiali anziché N° 4, tenendo invariato a N° 16 il numero delle persone, e ciò per consentire al Colonnello MAIORINO di portare con se due esperti collaboratori nel lavoro affidatogli. Tra questi due è da considerare la condizione particolare del Colonnello CAPREZZONE che in questi giorni ha avuto brutte notizie circa il trattamento usato all'a sua famiglia ed alla sua casa da parte dei tedeschi.

Conoscendo la sua bontà d'animo mi sono permesso di disturbarla con la certezza che farà quanto in suo potere per accogliere benevolmente la necessità suesposta.

Nel porgerle nuovamente le mie scuse la prego considerare mi a sua completa disposizione per quanto crede possa riuscirle utile.

Entro la prossima settimana dovrò recarmi a Napoli, se ha bisogno di me per tale circostanza la prego comunicarmelo tramite il Signor Maggiore WALTON, ad ogni modo sarà mio dovere venirli ad ossequiare e ringraziare di persona.

Con i più rispettosi ossequi

343

Roma solo 16 persone di cui N° 4 Ufficiali e N° 12 tra Sottufficiali
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Con i più rispettosì ossequi

suo obb/mo

Prof. Totoli, Montecarlo

(5)

143

FROM - AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, NAPLES.

TO - AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, BARI

DATE - 13th JUNE, 1944

RST - ASG/5

Sergente Maggiore IPPOLITO LUIGI

1. The above states he assisted an R.A.F. Sergeant Observer to make good his escape at the time when the Germans were still in occupation of the City of Naples. Having been informed that he is entitled to a reward or some other form of recognition, he called at this Office and described the circumstances as follows :-

2. Sergente Maggiore Ippolito Luigi was stationed at MISIDA, an island and seaplane station just North of Naples, connected to the Mainland by a breakwater. On the 12th September, 1943, eight Allied prisoners were in custody at Misida of whom six were American, one a Canadian and one a Britisher. Sergeant Observer Ronald Wilkins of Swindon. The latter was member of a crew of a Wellington which took off from Bone and was brought down in the neighbourhood of Cepus.

3. On the 12th September, the Allies having landed at Salerno, the attitude of the Germans still in occupation of Naples, became threatening, and Sergente Maggiore Ippolito Luigi, who was apparently on more or less friendly terms with Sergeant Ronald Wilkins, supplied him with an Italian uniform and took him to his home in Naples where he kept him until the 2nd October. The coast then being clear they both went to Naples Port where on making enquiries Sergeant Wilkins was told to report at VILLANOVA. This he did and Sergente Maggiore I 322 into Luigi never saw him again. Some ten days later he made enquiries at an R.A.F. Unit at that time in Pompei and saw a P/O Barret.

4. This Naples Detachment of the A.F.D.C. having approached A Force at M.A.A.F. in connection with this matter was informed that the application should be submitted to "N Section of A Force No 2 District" (Bari). It is, therefore, suggested that the matter be dealt with by you direct with N

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5. Please confirm that you will take ~~all~~ necessary action in this matter.

P/W

(P. de Haan)

Squadron Leader,

Air Vice-Marshal,

AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

342

SECRET

COPY

ADDED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

3.4719

VIA

TO: ACTION AND DRAW ATTENTION AT COLONEL BARSDORF

FROM: CG WATGUSA

SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER NO 2/05

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

REFERENCE NO T56227

PRECEDENCE

ROUTINE

DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN JUNE 071802. OFFICE OF ORIGIN SITE. LARGE

ACTION COPY

HERE IS A PARAPHRASE OF AGWAR CABLE NUMBER 46573 OF
5 JUL 44. " FOR THE IMMEDIATE RETURN OF MAJOR CARLO EMANUELE
BOSCHETTI ITALIAN PRISONER OF WAR ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE AS
RE-UNITED. YOU WILL BE INFORMED DATE OF DEPARTURE.

Original to War file

DATE AND TIME OF RECEIPT JUNE 080002

SECRET

341

File *AK* *138*

AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

Received from NO 2 A.P.W. - R.C.

Major LUIGI BRESSANELLI.

June 7th, 1944



(P. de Haan)
Squadron Leader,
Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

FROM - AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, WARREN.

TO - HEADQUARTERS,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.

DATE 5th JUNE, 1944

REF - AUC/5

ITALIAN AIR FORCES IN ROME.

It was proposed, upon the fall of Rome, to send an advance party from the Italian Air Ministry to make early enquiries into the conditions and whereabouts of the families of personnel of the Regia Aeronautica there.

Permission for this party to proceed to Rome has, however, been refused by Allied Control Commission until a later date when conditions are more settled.

It will be appreciated that many of the Regia Aeronautica - particularly those who came over at the Armistice - are desperately anxious to get in touch with their families; both to learn whether they are alive, and also to assist them financially.

The Air Vice-Marshal is particularly keen for this information to be obtained as soon as it is available, and for the advance party to be given permission to proceed as early as possible.

In the meantime any information regarding the families which you are able to pass on will be of material benefit to the morale of the Italian Air Force.

M. Denny

(F.M. Denny)
Group Captain,
for Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

334

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M. Denny

for (P.M. Denny)
Group Captain,
Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

339

COPY

136

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. & R.A. Section
AFC 394

R-4/433/20/OK

7 June 1944

SUBJECT / Welfare Enquiries of Italian Air Force.

TO / Air Forces Sub Commission.

1. I refer to your ABC/5 of 5 June 1944.

2. The Italian Red Cross are now organized to deal with welfare and whereabouts enquiries in all cases between Italians and their families, and you will no doubt wish to pass on this information to the Italian Air Force.

3. An announcement on this subject is being made in the press.

*Original taken to Paris
by the A.V.M. 8/1/44*

NORMAN B. FUSE
Colonel,
Deputy Executive
Commissioner.

338

EW/FR

CONFIDENTIAL

A.F.P.O.

488

128

ACTION AFHQ WASHINGTON INFO CG 303 MATOUSA, ACC(F)

W75/28

HQ MATOUSA SGD DEVERS

T51878

MAY281552

HEAVY
29 MAY 1944
A.C.C.

CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

CITE/NAGAP

ITALIAN AIR FORCE PRISONER OF WAR MAJOR C E BUSCAGLIA BELIEVED AT MONTICELLO ARKANSAS. REQUEST HE BE RETURNED TO THEATER FOR REPATRIATION TO REPORT TO COMMANDING OFFICER AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION BARI ITALY. WHEN WITH REGIA AERONAUTICA BUSCAGLIA COMMANDED FAMOUS SQUADRON NAMED AFTER HIM. ENEMY NOW TRYING TO ACTIVATE ITALIAN REPUBLICAN AIR FORCE AND HAVE MOVED ONE OF THEIR SQUADRONS "THE BUSCAGLIA SQUADRON" USING NAME FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES IN EFFORT TO LOWER MORALE ITALIAN AIR FORCE AND INCREASE MORALE REPUBLICAN AIR FORCE. BUSCAGLIA DESIRED AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY FOR WORK WITH PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH AND COUNTER PROPAGANDA. NO SECURITY OBJECTION HERE TO HIS RELEASE APR 3 AFHQ 3 NAUGHT 3 NAUGHT 1 IS ESTABLISHED FOR HIS FLIGHT TO BARI/ETA FURNISH

337

ACC DIST

ACTION/ AIR FORCE SC BARI

INFO/ AIR FORCE PO BLDG

DOC

FILE

FLOAT

MAY281823

CONFIDENTIAL

AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
29 MAY 1944
ORDERLY ROOM

5

MEMORANDUM TO : COLONEL GAVIRO

Italian Air Force Personnel on Leave Working
as Civilians with Allied Units

Receipt is acknowledged of letter 2/42/1/230 dated
17th May 1944.

I am afraid I cannot write to all Allied Units issuing
a General Order for the immediate return of all Italian
Air Force personnel working as civilians. If however, you
will adopt the same practice for the Naples area as you
have adopted here in Bari, that is, supply me with the name
of the airman who fails to return when recalled and the
name of the Allied Unit employing him, I will immediately
write to the Allied Unit in the same terms as I have used
in this area.

W. S. G.
J. WALTON, SQUADRON LEADER,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
19th May 1944.
Ref. AFSC/1/AIR.

TO: THE MINISTER.

I am greatly concerned at the increase in thefts of Royal Air Force equipment which are occurring at Units where I.A.F. personnel are employed. Further to my report of yesterday there have been reported two other incidents of theft of watches, parachutes etc. and spare wheels and tool kits from Officers cars.

2. In all cases Italian guards have been on duty, and one Italian guard who has been arrested was caught assisting a woman in stealing bales of clothing. Thefts so far are reported from 124 M.U., 114 M.U. and 113 M.U.

3. It is considered that unless those implicated receive very severe punishment it will encourage a repetition, and since the problem is likely to reach even a more serious proportion, I should be glad to have your assurance that effective deterrent action will be taken.

W.A.B. DOWEN-BUSCHLEY.

W.A.B. DOWEN-BUSCHLEY,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
19th May 1944.
REF: 708/1/P1.

FROM : Air Force Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
BAUL.

TO : Headquarters,
Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, C.M.F.

DATE : 10th May 1944.

REF. : AFSC/3.901/24.

Repatriation Of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War

Allied Force Headquarters letter G1/B/2210/A2 dated 18th April 1944, states that in agreement with Headquarters, M.A.A.F., all Italian Air Force prisoners of war in North Africa must remain there for duty with R.A.F. Units.

2. The soundness of this policy is appreciated; it is however pointed out that certain Army Units have brought Italian Air Force prisoners of war into Italy with them. It is known that some specialists and tradesmen are being employed as labourers, while the Italian Air Force is crying out for these men in order to meet its undertakings given to the Allied Air Forces.

3. It would be appreciated if Headquarters, M.A.A.F., would indicate that there is no objection to those Italian Air Force prisoners of war who are in Italy working with Army Units, being absorbed into the Italian Air Force.

W.A.B. Bowen-Buscalet

W.A.B. BOWEN-BUSCALET,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

Circular
TO: GENERAL PIACENTINI.

CONFIDENTIAL. 115A

FLYING DISCIPLINE - I.A.F.

Regarding Headquarters Allied Control Commission (Lecce) letter POL/122 dated 26th April 1944, forwarded to you on 28th April, in which complaints were made that the practice of dangerous low flying over Lecce town by I.A.F. fighter pilots was on the increase, a further complaint has been received from Headquarters A.C.C. Region 2 in their letter Ref. A/56 dated 8th May 1944, copy attached.

2. On the 28th April an assurance was given that immediate action would be taken prohibiting I.A.F. fighter pilots to fly within 2 miles of Lecce town, and ~~that~~ disciplinary action would be taken against any future offenders.

3. Will you please state what action was taken to put a stop to this breach of flying discipline, and what further action you propose to take in this matter.

W.A.B. Bowen-Buscarlet.

W.A.B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission.
Ref: 23/AIR.
16th May 1944.

333

TRANSLATION.

FROM : HEADQUARTERS, ITALIAN AIR FORCE, NAPLES.

TO : AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.

DATE : 15th MAY, 1944.

REF : Ufficio Comando Protocollo 1/01076/R.

In accordance with our verbal agreement you will find enclosed statements of the two Officers who were attached to San Rocco.

The undersigned much regrets what has taken place at San Rocco and has taken severe disciplinary action so far as concerns the Italian airmen, viz:-

6 airmen have been denounced to the Military Tribunal.

Five airmen have been given the maximum punishment, i.e.; 15 days solitary confinement followed by 30 days field punishment.

Warrent Officer PIU'ETTO Franco, who was originally in command of the detachment and who right from the first had shown himself incapable of maintaining discipline, has been given the maximum punishment of 30 days confined to barracks, and transferred to Bari.

The airmen, all of whom are from the Naples Area, have been confined to the Casanova Barracks pending being transferred by train to Bari as a punishment.

The pay of the whole detachment, M.O.O.'s and O.R.'s has been stopped for the month of April. 332

As you will see from the above the undersigned could not have taken severer disciplinary action so far as concerns the Italian personnel.

It is his duty however, to point out that what has happened at San Rocco should not be attributed only to the Italian personnel, because the treatment, both material and moral, meted out to the Italians, right from the start by the English personnel, especially on the part of the Adjutant, has been exceptionally hard and lacking in understanding.

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Such treatment is in complete contrast to that habitually used in regard to the Italian personnel by all the other Units where they serve (Capodichino, Portici, Castellammare, Caserta, Pomigliano etc. etc.)

Signed Officer Commanding,
Lt. Col. Pilot L. DENNICE.



COMANDO SUPREMO

UFFICIO INFORMAZIONI
Sezione Aeronautica

N. 38033 /S.A.di prot.

P.N. 151/A, li 9 Maggio 1944

OGGETTO: Maresciallo GIARDINI.

SQUADRON LEADER P. DE HAAN
AIR SUB COMMISSION OF A.C.C.
Palazzo R. Poste

= N A P O L I =

Si comunica che, nonostante le ricerche effettuate ad Ariano Irpino, il Maresciallo della R.A. GIARDINI non è stato trovato.

Fino ad ora egli non si è presentato nè a Bari nè a Terlizzi.

IL CAPO DELLA SEZIONE AERONAUTICA
(Maggiore Pilota Carlo SANDON)

Sandon

AIR FORCE'S SUB COMMISSION
ATTEND COM. SUB COMMISSION
MAY 1944. 10 Maggio 1944

Ref. ASD/S

UFFICIO INFORMAZIONI DEL

COMANDO SUPREMO

Sezione Aeronautica

Oggetto: Maresciallo GIARDINO

Con riferimento al foglio di cod. Ufficio in data 3 Maggio, n. di prot. 38880, dal quale risulterebbe che la ricerca effettuata ad Ariano Irpino ha avuto esito nullo e che il Giardino non ed è presentato né a Bari né a Terlizzi, si ha presente quanto segue:

Il Giardino è ben noto al proprietario del ristorante BOCCACCINI ad Ariano Irpino. Difatti da il proprietario del predetto ristorante che chiede al Air Vice-Marshal Towne quando si desidera intrattenersi col Giardino il quale, così asseriva il proprietario del ristorante, ora se poco giunto da territorio occupato dal nemico.

Avendo l'Air Vice-Marshal espresso il desiderio di conoscere il Giardino il proprietario del ristorante lo fece chiamare. **339**

Flight Lieutenant Kennedy, aiutante di quartiere del Air Vice-Marshal, parla speditamente l'italiano e si intrattiene per parecchio tempo col Giardino il quale gli fece una relazione particolareggiata delle sue avventure in territorio occupato dal nemico.

Sarà quindi opportuno rinviare la ricerca indirizzata così in primo luogo al proprietario del ristorante Boccaccini ed eventualmente contemporaneamente presso altri ristoranti.

Il Giardino è pure noto ad un ufficiale delle Forze Armate italiane che in quella data si trovava ad Ariano Irpino e che accompagnò il Giardino al ristorante Bolognese.

CAPITOLO: PARACADISTO GIARDINO

Con riferimento al foglio si conchiude in data 2 maggio, n. di prot. 88880, dal quale risulta che le ricerche effettuate ad Ariano Irpino hanno avuto esito nullo e che il Giardino non si è presentato né a Bari né a Frosinone, si fa presente quanto segue:

Il Giardino è ben noto al proprietario del ristorante "L'Orchidea" ad Ariano Irpino. Infatti fu il proprietario del predetto ristorante che chiese ad Air Vice-Marshal Owen Hughes se desiderava intrattenersi col Giardino il quale, così asseriva il proprietario del ristorante, era un poco giunto da territorio occupato dal nemico.

Avevamo l'Air Vice-Marshal espresso il desiderio di conoscere il Giardino il proprietario del ristorante lo fece chiamare.

Il Lt Mon'omel Kennedy, aiutante il capitano del Air Vice-Marshal, parlò spontaneamente l'italiano e si intrattene con parecchio tempo col Giardino il quale gli fece una relazione particolareggiata della sua avventura in territorio occupato dal nemico.

Sarà quindi opportuno rinnovare le ricerche e dirigersi in primo luogo al proprietario del ristorante bolognese ed eventualmente estendendolo presso altri ristoranti.

Il Giardino è pure noto ad un ufficiale della Forze Armate Italiane che in quella data si trovava ad Ariano Irpino e che accompagnò il Giardino al ristorante bolognese.

(T. de Jean)

Mon'omel Kennedy
Air Vice-Marshal

AIR CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM :- Officer Commanding No. 114 M.U.,
Royal Air Force, C.M.F.

TO :- The Commandant,
Italian Air Force Headquarters.

DATE :- 8th May, 1944.

REF :- 11/30/1004/2/ORG.

Aviere OTTIERI GAETANO
1st " ABBOCCATO ALFREDO.

The above mentioned Italian Air Force personnel employed at this unit are handed over to you with a request that disciplinary action be taken against them.

2. In the case of OTTIERI GAETANO, while on duty on 6th May, 1944, as guard, allowing a civilian female to enter Transportation Site, thereby allowing the civilian to make an attempt at removing a bale of clothing, the property of the Air Council.

3. In the case of ABBOCCATO ALFREDO, being in improper possession of underpants and vests, the property of the Air Council.

4. With regard to the case against the first named it is stated that a further report will be forwarded, when received at this unit, as the case in the first instance is being investigated by the Special Investigation Branch of the Royal Air Force.

L. J. ... 329
WING COMMANDER, Commanding
NO. 114 MAINTENANCE UNIT,
ROYAL AIR FORCE, C.M.F.

Copy to:- Adv.H.Q.214 Group.
" " W/Cdr. MINTER. ✓

1
FROM : AIR FORCES SUR COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, NAPLES.

TO : HEADQUARTERS,
REGIA AERONAUTICA, NAPLES.

DATE : 11th MAY, 1944.

REF : ASC/5.

Marasciallo R.A. PECORELLA MARIO.

The above named warrant Officer is
at present working for R.Q., E.A.A.F., R.A.F.

2. It will be appreciated if he may be
officially attached to that Unit as they are
most anxious to retain his services.

3. He was previously with the R.Accademia
Aeronautica, Caserta, and is held on the strength
of the Caserma Casanova Presidio Aeronautica,
Napoli.

W.L. Minter
(W.L. Minter)
Wing Commander,
Air Vice-Marshal,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

328

Translated 7/2/44 Sgt. REED.

PRO -MEMORIA for A/CDR. R.M. POSTER

Ref. : 93/O.D.3
Date : 7/2/44.

Subject : RECUPERATION OF I.A.F. PERSONNEL IN ITALY

According to the programme outlined in my circular SG/R-45 of the 4th Jan. 1944, and which has been approved by common agreement, the thinning-out and re-organisation of the various Commands and Air Force Departments is being dealt with

This concerns in particular :

SARDINIA : the recuperation of specialist personnel and general duties personnel for the formation of guard companies has been commenced and is proceeding quite normally.

As soon as the present strength in SARDINIA has been sufficiently reduced in numbers, I will transform the SARDINIAN Air Force Command into a NUCLEUS.

CAMPANIA : the CAMPANIAN Air Force Command has been reduced to a Nucleus. LT. COL. DENTICE, who has assumed command, has received precise orders from me concerning the systemization and recuperation of personnel. This work has only just been started, but I consider that it will be finished quite quickly.

The question of salvage of equipment is also being developed.

SICILY : The arrangements for salvage of equipment have been applied for some time and have already given good results.

Recently I arranged for the formation of two Garrison Commands. This is only a temporary measure. The one at PALERMO has jurisdiction over the territory west of a line running from CEFALU' to GELA; the other at CATANIA has jurisdiction over the territory east of the same line.

327

The task of the above Commands is to deal with all the questions of administration and supply in such a way as to release the Salvage Squads from any duties that are not directly connected with their principal assignment, so that the work of these same Squads may be facilitated to the highest degree.

On the other hand, I consider it opportune to form the H.Q. of the SICILIAN Nucleus as soon as possible. The idea of this is to be able to start the work of recuperating the general duties and specialist personnel without delay. The need for this personnel is being felt more every day, both for the internal demands of the REPAREX I.A.F. and, above all, for the requests made by the ALLIES for guard companies and specialists.

101

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327

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In order to gain time, I consider it convenient for the formation of the Nucleus Command to be made independently from the passage of SICILY to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government, and I also consider it necessary that the position of all disbanded and P.O.V. personnel at present resident in SICILY should be defined as soon as possible, in order that these same may be utilised.

The Command of the Nucleus will be taken over by Col. G. Battista RAVERDINO.

I will be most grateful if you will let me know your point of view concerning the above.

(Sgt.) The MINISTER.
SANDALLI.

FROM : Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
BARI.

TO : Officer Commanding,
No. 159 M.U., C.M.F.

DATE : 2nd May 1944.

REF. : AFSC/7/5/AIR.

Italian Air Force Personnel.

DICASTRO	Vittoria
MARTINI	Angelo
VIOLA	Franco.

The above, while on leave, obtained employment with No.159 M.U. R.A.F., and have not reported back to their Unit.

2. The Commander in Chief has ruled that all Italian Air Force personnel are to be recalled to their Units to be prepared for work with the Allied Air Forces in substitution of Allied Air Forces manpower.

3. It is therefore requested that the above named be ordered to report immediately to "Affluenza di Riccione", Regia Aeronautica, or they will be treated as deserters.

J. Walton
J. WALTON, Squadron Leader,
Air Vice-Marshal,
Air Officer Commanding

326

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM : Air Force Liaison-Continental,
Allied Control Commission,
BAFL.

TO : Headquarters,
Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, C.M.A.F.
(attention Wing Commander Berlin).

DATE : 26th April 1944.

REF : AMCP/AFR.

COLLAPSE OF ITALIAN AIR FORCE MANPOWER

Some little confusion has been caused by the receipt of signals from Headquarters, No.2 District, concerning 3rd Italian Air Force personnel to proceed to reinforcements under Army arrangements, and it is felt that to avoid any future misunderstanding, the position of the Italian Air Force should be clearly stated.

2. The policy has been firmly established under authority of letter S.39/AMC dated 5th October 1943, that the Italian Air Force is controlled by this Air-Commission, which is the only authority for the movement, transfer, detachment or reassignment, of Italian Air Force personnel, without always to the direction of the Air Committee in Chief in Italy, as to the operational employment of the Italian Air Force.

3. During the last few months, a scheme has been prepared for the reorganization of all Italian Air Force personnel, not operationally employed, by drafting specially prepared units of the Italian Air Force, to R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F. units in substitution of Allied Air Force personnel. This demand for Italian Air Force personnel has been so great that strict scrutiny and a scheme of priorities has had to be resorted to, and all units of the Allied Air Forces requiring Italian Air Force personnel now have to submit their demands to Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, where they are considered in the light of the applicants establishment and operational commitments, and Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces request this Liaison-Commission to supply Italian Air Force personnel to those Allied units whose needs are considered most pressing.

WAR - binder.

TRANSITION OF ITALIAN AIR FORCE MATRONS

Some little confusion has been caused by the receipt of signals from Headquarters, No. 2 District, ordering 300 Italian Air Force personnel to proceed to headquarters under Army arrangements, and it is felt that to avoid any future misunderstanding, the position of the Italian Air Force should be clearly stated.

2. The policy has been firmly established under authority of letter 15.549/AMM, dated 5th October 1943, that the Italian Air Force is controlled by this Headquarters, which is the only authority for the movement, transfer, detachment or reassignment of Italian Air Force personnel, subject always to the direction of the Air Commander in Chief in Italy, as to the operational employment of the Italian Air Force.

3. During the last few months, a scheme has been proposed for the reorganization of all Italian Air Force personnel, not operationally employed, by creating specially proposed units of the Italian Air Force, to R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F. units in substitution of Allied Air Force personnel. ³²⁵
 As the Italian Air Force personnel has been so great that strict rationing and a scheme of priorities has had to be resorted to, and all units of the Italian Air Force regarding Italian Air Force personnel now have to submit their demands to Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, where they are considered in the light of the applicants establishment and operational commitments, and Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces request this Sub-Committee to supply Italian Air Force personnel to these Allied units where means are considered most pressing.

Wabman - Bureau

W.A.F. HEADQUARTERS
 Air Vice-Marshal,
 Air Officer Commanding

Copies to :- Headquarters, W.A.A.F. Detachment, 11th Group,
 Headquarters, No. 2 District - per Col. J. D. (Correspondence), R.A.F.
 Headquarters, No. 2 District, per Col. J. D. (Correspondence), R.A.F.
 Army HQ - Constantinople

Cir

Copy. 90A

From: Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, C.M.F.

To : Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Control Commission,
Bari.

Date: 13th April, 1944.

Ref : MAAP/1515/3/ORG. D

REPATRIATION OF ITALIAN AIR FORCE PRISONERS
OF WAR.

With reference to your letter AFSC/90IP4 dated 7th April, 1944, copies of the correspondence between this Headquarters and A.F.H.Q. quoted in A.F.H.Q. letter GI/B/2210/A2 dated 30th March, 1944, are forwarded for your information. It will be observed that they deal with priority of allocation for the R.A.F. of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War in North Africa.

2. Since all Italian Air Force Prisoners of War in North Africa are being employed in direct substitution of R.A.F. labour at Maintenance Units it is not the intention of this Headquarters that any transfer of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War should be effected from North Africa to Italy.

(SGD) R.D.BARLAS C/Cdr,
for Air Vice Marshal,
Air Officer i/c Administration,
MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCES.

324

Copy.

From: Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Force, B.N.A.F.
To : A.F.H.Q. G.I (Brit) A.2 Section.
Date: 17th March, 1944.
Ref : MAAT/1515/3/ORG.

ITALIAN AIR FORCE PRISONERS OF WAR.

It is considered that agreement should now be reached on the claims of the R.A.F. vis-a-vis the Army for the employment of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War, with particular reference to technicians. So far as the Western theatre is concerned it is understood that a review is now in process of being made with a view to exchanging Italian Air Force Prisoners of War in Companies allocated to the Army with the Army Prisoners of War in Companies allocated to the R.A.F.

2. There are, however, large numbers of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War both in the Middle East and in East Africa. It is the view of this Headquarters that all such Prisoners of War should be placed unreservedly at the disposal of the R.A.F. for employment against established vacancies.

3. It is requested, therefore, that you will confirm in principle that the R.A.F. has prior claim for the employment of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War both in the Western Mediterranean, Middle East and East Africa. In the case of Prisoners of War in East Africa it would probably be preferable to ship the majority of the personnel from East Africa to the Delta for employment with the Maintenance Units in that Area.

(SGD) H.D. JACKMAN A/Cdre
for Air Vice Marshal,
Air Officer i/c Administration,
MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCES;

323

Copy.

Subject: Italian Air Force Prisoners of War.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS;

Headquarters,
M.A.A.F.,
E.N.A.F.

GI/B/2180/A2

23rd March 44.Reference your letter MAAF/1515/3/ORG dated
17 Mar 44.

1. It has already been agreed that ex-Italian Air Force prisoners of war will be transferred to those Italian PW Pioneer Companies allocated to the R.A.F. In Consequence the one thousand and fifty odd ex-Italian Air Force personnel in this theatre will ultimately be incorporated within the War Establishment of formations under RAF control, ex-Italian Army prisoners of war being returned to Army units, where necessary, in exchange.
2. The control of Prisoners of War in the MIDDLE EAST and EAST AFRICA is not vested in this Headquarters and it cannot therefore give the assurance asked, which could only be obtained from the War Office.

(SGD) A.L.ELSWORTHY, Brigadier, ADAG(O)
for Major General,
G.q.(B).

322

COPY.

SECRET

FROM : Air Division,
Allied Control Commission,
Bari.

TO : Rear Headquarters,
M.A.A.F. (Air Intelligence).

DATE : 28th January 1944.

REF : 901/P5.

Prisoners of War for Italian Air Force.

Reference your S. 6780/Air Int. dated 20th January 1944, the following general policy is at present being followed.

1. The Allied authorities are prepared to repatriate Italian prisoners of war to Italy who are required by the Italian services to reinforce the Italian effort. The requests, in so far as the Regia Aeronautica is concerned, are made through the Air Division of the Allied Control Commission to A.F.H.Q.
2. The organisation to whom these requests are made is The Chief Administrative Officer, A.T.H.Q. Lt.Col. Barnsdorf A.A.G. has been handling these questions lately.
3. The Italian Air Ministry are, for the time being, only anxious to receive back personnel who can actually be put to good service and whose intentions are above suspicion. A list of some two hundred names has been submitted to A.F.H.Q. for immediate repatriation. These people had been personally vetted by General Fiacentini and Captain recently returned from India and Kenya respectively, or asked for by the Italian Air Minister.

4. The Italian Air Force has already a large quantity of surplus officers and men who are being combed with a view to retaining only those of real value. It is the intention of the Minister to maintain a force strictly commensurate with the duties assigned by the Allies and to avoid keeping on its strength large quantities of men with little or nothing to do. The strength of the Italian Air Force will be increased or reduced according to the commitments entered into with the Allies. This includes at present the maintenance of the Italian operating Wings; the salvage of Italian Air Force materials and the reconstruction of aircraft with the materials which are widely dispersed in Italy, Sicily and North Africa. The maintenance of Italian Air Force fixed installations whether they are in use by the Allies or not. The supply of specialists, M.F. companies, Guard battalions and Labour

321

Reference your S. 6750/Air Int. dated 20th January 1944, the following general policy is at present being followed.

1. The Allied authorities are prepared to repatriate Italian prisoners of war to Italy who are required by the Italian services to reinforce the Italian effort. The requests, in so far as the Regia Aeronautica is concerned, are made through the Air Division of the Allied Control Commission to A.F.H.Q.

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4. The Italian Air Force has already a large quantity of surplus officers and men who are being content with a view to retaining only those of real value. It is the intention of the Minister to maintain a force strictly commensurate with the duties assigned by the Allies and to avoid keeping on its strength large quantities of men with little or nothing to do. The strength of the Italian Air Force will be increased or reduced according to the commitments entered into with the Allies. This includes at present the maintenance of the Italian operating Wings; the salvage of Italian Air Force materials and the reconstruction of aircraft with the materials which are widely dispersed in Italy, Sicily and North Africa. The maintenance of Italian Air Force fixed installations whether they are in use by the Allies or not. The supply of specialists, N.M. companies, Guard battalions and labour companies to the Allied Air Forces. If these demands increase and when present enrolled personnel is insufficient, greater demands on P.W. resources must be foreseen.

5. It is necessary that the control of the repatriation of all Italian Air Force personnel should remain with the Italian Air Ministry, which in turn is controlled by the Air Division of the Allied Control Commission; otherwise confusion will obviously occur. There is no doubt that many requests will be made by Italian P.W.'s for repatriation on the score of a desire to fight the Germans, but in reality these requests will be merely a pretext to get home. These and other elements must be held off until the economic situation is so improved that they can be absorbed into civilian life without difficulty.

6. Nominal rolls of all Italian Air Force Prisoners of War are at present being made up by A.F.H.Q. With this information, the Italians will be able to select further names should they be required.

(Sd). R.M. FOSTER,
AIR COMODORE.

MEMORANDUM TO : COLONEL GAVILLO

STRENGTH OF ITALIAN AIR FORCE

On the 11th April 1944, I addressed a Memorandum to General Grande, which I understand has been passed to your Department.

2. Mediterranean Allied Air Forces are pressing for a return by trade categories of Italian Air Force personnel available for substitution in Allied Units, and the whole future development of the Italian Air Force may easily turn on this problem, and it is desired to furnish M.A.A.F. with all particulars at the earliest opportunity.

3. The position roughly, as I see it, is as follows :-

Total Strength allowed	32,000
Operational Personnel	8,000
Various Italian Air Force Units and Establishments	8,000
Italian Air Force personnel at present working with Allied Units	10,000
Available now	320
Add approx. number to be returned from Dock Labour	26,000
	6,000
	3,000
	9,000

4. It is being questioned whether the figure of 8,000 non-operational personnel for the Italian Air Force itself, can be justified, and I would like your views.

J. W. S. S. S. S.

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	26,000	
Available now	6,000	
Add approx. number to be returned from Dock Labour	3,000	
	9,000	

4. It is being questioned whether the figure of 8,000 non-operational personnel for the Italian Air Force itself, can be justified, and I would like your views.

J. Walton

J. WALTON,
Squadron Leader,
Air Officer Commanding

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
19th April 1944.
Ref. AFSC/7/4/Air.

84

COPY.SECRET.SUBJECT :- Repatriation of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

GI/B/2210/A2.18 Apr. 44.

Air Forces Sub Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
C.M.F.

1. Reference is made to your AFSC/901/P4 dated 7 Apr 44.
2. Copies of AAF/1515/3/ORG dated 17 Mar 44, GI/B/2180/A2 dated 23 Mar 44, and C-inc's signal 42781 dated 25 Jan 44, are enclosed herewith for your information, in accordance with the request contained in your above mentioned letter.
3. As stated in this Headquarters' letter GI/B/2210 of 30 Mar 44, it has been agreed with HQ, AAAF, RAF, C.M.F. that ex-Italian Air Force prisoners of war in this theatre will be held at the disposal of the RAF.

These Italians are already employed, or earmarked for employment, with the RAF in substitution for RAF manpower, and HQ, AAAF has ruled that they shall not be released from North Africa for employment with the Italian Air Force.

319

(Signed) A.L.Elsworthy. Brig.

A.L.Elsworthy, Brigadier, A.D.A.C.(C)
for Major General,
G-I. (B).

SAP/wel
Encl.

Copy to :- Headquarters,
AAAF, RAF, C.M.F.

(Original sent to Bari)

COPY.

COPY.

86A

From : Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, B.M.A.F.

To : A.F.H.Q., G.I (Brit), A-2 Section.

Date : 17th March, 1944.

Ref : MAAF/1515/5/ORG.

ITALIAN AIR FORCE PRISONERS OF WAR.

It is considered that agreement should now be reached on the claims of the R.A.F. vis-a-vis the Army for the employment of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War, with particular reference to technicians. So far the Western theatre is concerned it is understood that a review is now in process of being made with a view to exchanging Italian Air Force Prisoners of War in the Companies allocated to the Army with the Army Prisoners of War in companies allocated to the R.A.F.

2. There are, however, large numbers of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War both in the Middle East and East Africa. It is the view of this Headquarters that all such Prisoners of War should be placed unreservedly at the disposal of the R.A.F. for employment against established vacancies.

3. It is requested therefore, that you will confirm in principle that the R.A.F. has prior claim for the employment of Italian Air Force Prisoners of War both in the Western Mediterranean, Middle East and in East Africa. In the case of Prisoners of War in East Africa it would probably be preferable to ship the majority of the personnel from East Africa to the Delta for employment with the Maintenance Units in that Area.

318

(Signed) H.D.Jackson.
for Air Vice Marshal,
Air Officer i/c Administration,
MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCES.

(Original sent to Bari)

COPY.

84B

C O P YSUBJECT :- Italian Air Force Prisoners of War.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.

GI/B/2180/A223 MAR 44.

Headquarters,

M A A F

B N A F

Reference your letter MAAF/1515/3/ORG dated 17 Mar 44.

1. It has already been agreed that ex-Italian Air Force prisoners of war will be transferred to those Italian P W Pioneer Companies allocated to the RAF. In consequence the one thousand and fifty odd ex-Italian Air Force personnel in this theatre will ultimately be incorporated within the War Establishments of formations under RAF control, ex-Italian Army Prisoners of War being returned to Army units, where necessary in exchange.

2. The control of prisoners of war in the MIDDLE EAST and EAST AFRICA is not vested in this Headquarters and it cannot therefore give the assurance asked, which could only be obtained from the War Office.

317

(Signed)

A.L.Elsworthy, Brigadier; A.D.A.G (O)

for Major General,

G.I. (B).

(Original sent to Bari)

3-

C O P Y

COPY.

SECRET.

TO : FOR ACTION : HQ ACME
FOR INFORMATION : FATIMA, FLAMBO.
REF NO : 42781
SIGNED CINC CITE FHGCT

Refer to our 30217 of 17 January and paragraph 9 of letter AG 400-I (ITALY) GCT-ANG subject " Disposal of Italian Army" dated 2 January.

As a matter of policy it is impractical to release any Italian PW, either officers or men, now in service units, and such request from the Italian Government should be discouraged. Above letter should be amended accordingly. Instructions have been issued to hold all Italian prisoners not formed into service units now in order that their formation into such units may be considered. The above is due to manpower shortage necessitating the utilisation of these PW to replace US and British service units for the duration of the war in this theatre.

ORIGINATOR : G - 3 (OPS)

316

Original sent to Bari.

(81)

MEMORANDUM TO : WING COMMANDER W.I. MINSTER

Italian Air Force Personnel for U.S.A.A.F.

Receipt is acknowledged of your S.5 dated 7th April 1944, and no doubt you have now discussed the matter with the Air Commodore. Are we interested in Civilians?

2. Squadron Leader Crosbie of Headquarters, E.A.A.F., has been in to discuss the whole position of substitution and is endeavouring to get some definite policy formulated, whereby all applications for manpower, come through E.A.A.F.
3. The position at the moment is quite hopeless, when any Unit, American or British, thinks it can make direct application for as many men as it likes.
4. The proposal made to Squadron Leader Crosbie, was that the number of Italian Air Force personnel employed should bear a direct relationship to the Establishment of the receiving Unit; and that Italian Air Force personnel should be used in substitution of, not as auxiliary to, Allied manpower.

J. Walton s/c.

J. WALTON,
SQUADRON LEADER

315

Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
13th April 1944.
Ref. 7/1/Air.

INCOMING MESSAGE

TO : HEADQUARTERS, M.A.A.F.
 FROM : AIR FORCE SUB-COMMISSION, A.C.C., BARI.

CONFIDENTIAL (.) 0.541 (.) 12TH APRIL 1944 (.)

REFERENCE YOUR 0.9 OF 11/4 (.) HAVE ASKED MIDDLE EAST TO SUPPLY
 BY FAST MAIL NOMINAL ROLL BY TRADES (.) (FIRST HALF NOW RECEIVED
 AND ELIMINATION IN PROGRESS (.) AM ACCEPTING ONLY TRADESMEN CAPABLE
 OF USE IN SUBSTITUTION OF ALLIED PERSONNEL (.) CANNOT ACCEPT ALL
 AND SURVEY AS TOTAL PERMITTED STRENGTH OF ITALIAN ARMED FORCES LIMITED
 TO FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND AND ~~AND~~ ITALIAN AIR FORCE AT PRESENT LIMITED
 TO THIRTY TWO THOUSAND AND ~~THE~~ STRENGTH NOW APPROXIMATELY
 THIRTY THOUSAND (.)

TO BE RECORDED IF SENT BY W/T.

T.O.O. 121525B.....

PRIORITY ..*Radio*.....

J. Walker s/c
 J. WALKER, Squadron Leader,
 AIR COMMISSION,
 AIR OFFICE COMMISSION

314

(74)

FROM : Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
BARI.

TO : Headquarters,
No. 214 Group, R.A.F.,
C.M.F.

DATE : 6th April 1944.

REF. : AFSC/314/Org.

TRANSIT ACCOMMODATION
ITALIAN AIR FORCE DRIVERS

1. With further reference to Headquarters, 214 Group letter 937/Org. dated 17th March 1944, and this Headquarters letter of even reference dated 1st April 1944, the following arrangements for the Naples area have now been made.
2. Transit accommodation for up to 20 men will be available at Caserma Cavour, via Constantinopoli, Naples up to the 20th April 1944, and thereafter for 50 Italian Air Force drivers per night.
3. Should any difficulties be experienced with the Naples arrangements, Wing Commander Minter or Squadron Leader De Haan of this Sub-Commission's Naples Detachment at Headquarters, Allied Control Commission, will always do everything in their power to help.

313

W. A. B. Bowen-Buscarlet
J. WATSON, F/LT.,
W. A. B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET,
AIR COMMODORE,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

FROM : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, NAPLES;

TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, BARI.

DATE : 12th APRIL 1944.

REF : ABC/S. 5.

Italian Air Force Personnel for U.S.A.A.F.

1. Reference our ABC/S. 5 of 7th April 1944.
2. Col. W. Phillips of Headquarters XII Air Service Command has been in touch with this Sub Commission, and explained that, owing to recent changes, he is now only interested in the Italian Guard Companies, and that the A.A.F.S.C./A.T.G. will be concerning themselves with the civilian specialists etc.
3. Col. Phillips is most anxious to have the Guard Companies as soon as possible.
4. In view of the above, immediate action has been taken with Lt. Col. Dentice of the Regia Aeronautica, and he is looking into the situation, and will let us know the best he can do in the course of a few days.
5. As you know Col. Phillips requires 4 Companies of 150/200 men each, and Col. Dentice foresees great difficulty in getting these men, and the necessary Officers, from this area.
6. It is recollected that at one time it was hoped to get substantial numbers of Italian Air Force personnel from Sardinia. May this Office please be informed whether there is any prospect of these hopes materialising, and/or whether there is any other source, which can be tapped?
7. These I.A.F. Guard Companies are becoming more and more sought after, and we should therefore like to have a clear view of the personnel situation, so as to know how to best handle future requests.

N.H.
(S. L. Minter),
Wing Commander,
Air Forces Sub Commission.

FROM : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, NAPLES;

TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, BARI.

DATE : 12th APRIL 1944.

REF : ASO/S. 5.

69

Italian Air Force Personnel for U.S.A.A.F.

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(W. L. Minter),
Wing Commander,
Air Forces Sub Commission.

To: THE ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION FOR ITALY-Palazzo della Posta-
 From: H.Q.'s Italian Air Force of Campania-
 Date: April the 7th 1944
 N...0.0.9.12/20...

-NAPLES-

-NAPLES-

Subject: Organisation of the Ground Services/ Units of the Italian Air Force.

With reference to the request made by the 12th H.Q.'s of the Ground Services of the Allied Air Forces, it is pointed out that:

1°)

Only part of the civilian personnel of which the 12th H.Q.'s speaks can be found and of these not all will be free to take service, in so far as a long period of time having elapsed, they will have found other work in the interval. However, if you wish, we can inquire into the matter. It would be necessary however to know the probable destination of the Offices and the monthly rate of pay in order to enable us to give these particulars to the employees.

2°)

With regard to the military personnel mentioned by the 12th H.Q.'s we will satisfy your demands as the necessity arises.

As you are aware groups have already been established at Capodichino, S. Recco di Capodimonte and one is now being formed for Castellammare.

Awaiting the favour of your reply

THE COMMANDER
 310
 (Ten. Col. Fil. J. Dentice di Accadia)

.....
 TRADUZIONE

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI
 CONTROLLO PER L'ITALIA
 Palazzo della Posta - Napoli-

OGGETTO: Organizzazione di Reparti Servizi con personale dell'Aeronautica Italiana.

Con riferimento alla richiesta avanzata dal 12° Comando Servizi Forze Aeree Alleate, si fa presente quanto segue:

1°) - Del personale civile cui il 12° Comando fa menzione, solo una parte è reperibile, ed anche di questa parte non tutti attualmente saranno liberi per prendere servizio, in quanto essendo trascorse

1°) Only part of the civilian personnel of which the 12th H.Q.'s speaks can be found and of these not all will be free to take service, in so far as a long period of time having elapsed, they will have found other work in the interval. However, if you wish, we can inquire into the matter. It would be necessary however to know the probable destination of the Offices and the monthly rate of pay in order to enable us to give these particulars to the employees.

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Awaiting the favour of your reply

316

THE COMMANDER
(Ten. Col. Pil. J. DENTICE di ACCADIA)

[Handwritten signature]

TRADUZIONE

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI
CONTROLLO PER L'ITALIA
Palazzo della Posta - Napoli-

OCCORRENZA: Organizzazione di Reparti servizi con personale dell'Aeronautica Italiana.

Con riferimento alle richieste avanzate dal 12° Comando Servizi Forze Aeree Alleate, si fa presente quanto segue:

1°) - Del personale civile cui il 12° Comando fa menzione, solo una parte è reperibile, ed anche di questa parte non tutti attualmente saranno liberi per prendere servizio, in quanto essendo trascorso molto tempo, avranno trovato già una sistemazione. Comunque questo Comando potrebbe informarsi in merito. Sarebbe necessario conoscere però la probabile dislocazione degli Uffici e corrispondenti mensili al fine d'informare in merito gli impiegati.

2°) - Del personale militare cui il 12° Comando fa menzione, questo Comando esaudisce di volta in volta le richieste. Come già noto, sono stati costituiti Nuclei a Capodichino, S. Recco di Capodimonte e attualmente è in costituzione un Nucleo per Castellammare.

Si rimane in attesa di riscontro.

IL COMANDANTE
(Ten. Col. Pil. J. DENTICE di ACCADIA)

[Handwritten signature]

FROM : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, NAPLES.

TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, BARI.

DATE : 7th APRIL 1944.

REF : AGO/S. 5.

I.A.F. Personnel for U.S.A.A.F.

1. Reference your memorandum 7/2/AIR dated 30th March 1944.
2. Attached is reply from the Regia Aeronautica, and it will be observed from paragraph 1 that it is necessary to know where it is contemplated employing these Italian civilians, rates of pay, conditions etc.
3. As regards paragraph 2, it should be borne in mind that it has taken the Regia Aeronautica several weeks to supply the 200 odd Guards for 113 M.U. and 114 M.U.
4. It would therefore probably take some considerable time to supply and equip the 1,400 bodies requested by XII Air Force Service Command, although certainly the position will be eased when we get Casalta going, and are gradually able to build up resources.

W.L.M.
(W. L. Minter)
Wing Commander,
Air Commodore,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

S E C R E T

HEADQUARTERS
XII AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND
APO 650

F-1-4
5 March 1944

SUBJECT: Organization Of Italian Air Force Service Units.

TO : Commanding Officer, Italian Air Forces, West Coast Area.

1. An investigation of the requirements of the XII AFSC for Italian Air Force Service personnel indicates that the following numbers and classifications can be used to advantage:

a. AIR DEPOT SUPPLY

(1). Administrative and Technical clerks (For receipt, storage and issue of engines)	45
(2). Clerk, typist (General typing work)	75
(3). Carpenters, construction (Packing and crating Air Corps supplies)	36
(4). Basics (General duty in various classes of AC supply and in shipping and receiving dept.)	300
(5). Technical clerks (For use in AC supply as stock keepers and to supplement trained American soldiers in classes as far as their training and knowledge of English will permit.	300

308

b. AIR DEPOT ENGINEERING

(1). Aircraft and engine mechanics	100
(2). Fuel oil repairmen (Rubber workers)	4
(3). Dope and fabric workers	4
(4). Painters, aircraft	4
(5). Aircraft sheet metal workers	40
(6). Tubing and cable specialists	2
(7). Propeller overhaul specialists	20
(8). Hydraulic specialists	5
(9). Aircraft instrument repairmen	6
(10). Aircraft electricians (Overhaul)	15
(11). Spark plug specialists	10
(12). Machinists	4
(13). Airplane radiator repairmen	6
(14). Welders	5
(15). Carpenters, cabinet	20
(16). Airplane carburetor specialists	6

8-13631
S E C R E T
-1-

S E C R E Tc. AIR DEPOT GUARDS

- (1). To provide guards for Depot installations 300

d. ORDNANCE DEPOT GUARDS

- (1). To provide guards for Ordnance installations 300

e. ORDNANCE TRANSPORTATION SECTION

- (1). To provide drivers for motor vehicles 150

f. ORDNANCE DEPOT SUPPLY SECTION

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| (1). Storekeepers | 12 |
| (2). Chief clerks | 2 |
| (Supervisors) | |
| (3). Shipping and receiving clerks | 10 |
| (4). Stock record clerks | 6 |
| (5). General clerks | 40 |
| (6). Carpenters, general | 8 |
| (7). Carpenters, packer | 6 |
| (8). Laborers | 30 |

g. ORDNANCE MAINTENANCE SECTION

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----|
| (1). Foreman, shop, automotive | 1 |
| (2). Foreman, assistant | 3 |
| (3). Machinist, general | 2 |
| (4). Mechanic, automotive | 40 |
| (5). Mechanic, automotive, helpers | 20 |
| (6). Welders, acetylene | 2 |
| (7). Welders, electric | 2 |
| (8). Blacksmith | 1 |
| (9). Tinsmith | 1 |
| (10). Trimmer and upholsterer | 1 |
| (11). Electrician, automotive | 4 |
| (12). Electrician, general | 1 |
| (13). Electrician, storage battery | 2 |
| (14). Painter, automotive | 2 |
| (15). Bodyman, automotive | 6 |
| (16). Radiator repair man | 2 |
| (17). Carburetor specialist | 4 |
| (18). Mechanic, automotive engine | 6 |
| (19). Basic | 50 |

307

h. GUARD COMPANIES

- (1). Approximately four Guard Companies of 150 to 200 men are required to guard air base installations, pipe lines and dumps.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

2. The XII Air Force Service Command is prepared to supply certain items of clothing and equipment, including shoes, blankets, stoves, and tentage. Details regarding these may be obtained from the Quartermaster. The A-4 Section will arrange transportation, and, in conjunction with the Engineer, will aid in selecting and organizing billets or bivouac areas.

3. You will note that in the list of personnel requirements no attempt was made to specify the number of offices and administrative and "housekeeping" personnel. It is presumed that you will organize the various units in a manner best suited to their particular needs.

4. The need for the personnel is immediate, and this Headquarters is prepared to do everything possible to help expedite the formation of the units so that the men may take over their duties with the least possible delay.

For the Commanding Officer:

Paul M. Jacobs
PAUL M. JACOBS,
Lt. Col., G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff.

306

S E C R E T
-3-

FROM:- AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
BARI.

TO:- S/LDR. F.A. CLOSHE,
C/O F/LT. FULLOCK,
H.A.214 GROUP.

DATE:- 31st March 1944.

REF:- 7/1/AIR.

I.A.F. MANPOWER FOR I.A.F.

With reference to your call at this H.Q. the information requested is as follows :-

- (1) I.A.F. personnel employed to date by the R.A.F.

Total 798.

- (2) Distribution.

* 117 W.I.	123.
* 114 K.U.	67.
110 M.U.	195.
124 M.C.	71.
267 Squadron.	93.
141 K.U.	57.
6 S.A.T.C.	40.
336 Wing.	102.
* 334 Wing.	47.
	798

Since the trade classification differs between the I.A.F. and the R.A.F. the exact sub-divisions cannot be given. The units, however, employing specialists personnel will, no doubt, on application furnish the necessary information.

- * Denotes specialists.

W.A.B. Bowen-Buscalet
W.A.B. BOWEN-BUSCALET,
AIR COMMODORE,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

With reference to your call at this H.Q. the information requested is as follows :-

(1)	I.A.F. personnel employed to date by the R.A.F.	Total	798.
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*	117 M.U.		125.
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	110 M.U.		195.
	124 M.U.		71.
	267 Squadron.		93.
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	6 S.A.T.C.		40.
	336 Wing.		102.
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Since the trade classification differs between the I.A.F. and the R.A.F. the exact sub-divisions cannot be given. The ³⁰⁵ however, employing specialists personnel will, no doubt, on application furnish the necessary information.

* Denotes specialists.

[Signature]
 J.W.A.B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET,
 AIR COMMODORE,
 AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

[Handwritten mark]

[Handwritten mark]

FROM:- AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
BARI.

TO:- *148* M.A.A.F. *CRASCATA*

DATE:- 27th March 1944.

Ref:- AFSC/S.826/ENG.

ENGINE CHANGE PARTY AT POMILIANO
AERODROME.

It is requested that permission be granted to have a detachment of Italian Air Force and civilian personnel numbering about 60 in all on Pomiliano aerodrome.

2. These airmen and civilians, approximately 60 in number, under an Italian Air Force Officer, are urgently required to carry out engine changes on MACCHI 202 aircraft of the I.A.F.
3. The party will be completely self-contained and will provide their own Offices, workshop and stores consisting of 2 huts.
4. If this is agreed to, considerable amount of transport will be saved carrying overhauled engines from the Naples area to Lecce for installation in airframes at Lecce, and it is therefore earnestly hoped that you will consent to this arrangement.

W. A. B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET.

W. A. B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET,
AIR COMMODORE.

304

Up to 1st floor
No objects shown
On 15th May possible
Held : in accessible

60

FROM: AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION H.Q.
TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION HEADQUARTERS, BARI
DATE: 5th ~~March~~ ^{Feb} 1944
REF.: A.S.C./5

Colonel Moscatelli

S/Ldr. Francis informed this office by 'phone that when Col. Moscatelli visited you in Bari and also saw General Sandalli, he did not leave the address of the American Unit which employs him. In order to regularise his position with the I.A.F. the Unit in question must be approached in order to know whether or not Col. Moscatelli's services are of value to them.

Col. Antonio Moscatelli, whose pseudonym is "Musetti", called this morning and gave the address of the Unit, to whom you should write, as:

O.S.S. Detachment

A.C.I.F.

A.P.O. 774

303

*Copy to P. de Haan
Rome 17/12/44. See
AFSC/114/114
15/12/44*

(P. de Haan)
Squadron Leader
AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION

From : Medical Office No. 2 Echelon, 113 M.U. R.A.F. C.M.F.
 To : Air Forces Sub Commission, Allied Control Commission,
 Date 30th., March, 1944. C.M.F.
 Ref : CAS/113/312/MED.

ITALIAN PERSONNEL - MEDICAL ATTENTION.

- (1). Reference your letter A.S.C/5 regarding Medical Attention for Italian Personnel employed on this Unit.
- (2). It is requested that the enclosed indent for Medical Supplies required to give necessary Medical Attention to these personnel be supplied to this Unit Sick Quarters at earliest opportunity.
- (3). The number of Italian Civilians now employed at this Echelon is 1025.

Capt. 2196

The Central Medical Group

Wandsworth Station

to Port Road

G. M. Evans

F/Lt.

Medical Officer No. 2

Echelon, 113 M.U. R.A.F. C.M.F.

Major J. H. Public Health Sub-Commission - Reception 32429

allied Medical Units must supply needs for Emergency Medical Services Cases to Civil Hospital and must change reports to British. Outpatients must obtain regular medical insurance from British. See A.F.M. Order

FROM : Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
BARI.

TO : The Commanding General,
Headquarters, A.A.F.S.C.,
Mediterranean Theatre of Operations.

DATE : 23rd March 1944

REF. : AFS/7/2/AIR.

Italian Air Force Personnel for U.S. FORCES

Reference is made to the verbal notification to this Headquarters by Colonel Sneed that your Command is prepared to accept additional Italian Air Force personnel for work with various U.S. Units.

2. Recently this Headquarters have restricted further mustering for the U.S.A.A.F. owing to your expressed inability to supply deficiencies in equipment to the scale agreed by A.F.H.Q., due to uncertainty in deliveries. This course was made necessary by the limited accommodation available to the Italian Air Force for assembling the personnel. The position has been further complicated by various smaller formations which have submitted requests direct to this Headquarters being unable to collect at the time agreed owing to difficulties with transport.

3. To clarify the position and to facilitate quicker clearance of mustered personnel, it is desirable to recapitulate the conditions under which they are supplied to Allied Units :-

(a) The employing Unit is expected to supply transport from Italian Air Force Depots to destination.

(b) Sleeping accommodation, boots, field kitchen, eating utensils, lighting and transport to fetch rations from the Central Italian Air Force Ration Depot, Mungivacca.

4. Further, it is recommended that in cases in which the efficiency of the Italian Air Force Unit would be impaired by lack of soap or medical supplies, that the Commanding Officer of the U.S. Unit concerned be empowered, at his discretion, to make good these deficiencies from local sources.

5. Assuming that difficulties in the way of supplies have been overcome, it is requested that your Command submit a plan for the acceptance of these men, showing the numbers required, whether skill or unskilled, destination, unit to which they will be attached and date by which required.

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W.A.B. BOWEN-BUSCARLET,
AIR COMMODORE,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

FROM : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, NAPLES.

TO : AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION, BARI.

DATE : 28th MARCH 1944.

REF : ABC/5.

Organization Italian Air Force Service Units.

1. Attached is a letter dated 5th March 1944 from the XII Air Force Service Command to Commanding Officer of the Italian Air Forces, West Coast Area, which has to-day been handed to us by Lt.Col. Dentice.

2. We are at loss to understand why this letter was not brought to our attention earlier, when the whole matter could have been handled on the spot with Air Commodore Foster, and Air Commodore Bowen Buscalet when they were here. We have not failed to express to Lt.Col.Dentice our opinion of his dilatory methods.

3. You will observe that the XII Air Force Service Command are asking for over 2,600 bodies, and the Regia Aeronautica state that it is quite impossible to fully implement this number from here.

4. In any case it is presumed that you will wish us to do what we can to meet the demands of the XII Air Force Service Command, in which case perhaps you would be good enough to give us detailed instructions as possible.

5. This Office has not retained a copy of the letter from XII Air Force Service Command, so will you please return same with your reply.

(W. L. Minter)
Wing Commander,
Air Forces Sub Commission.

Incl.

OUTGOING MESSAGE.

FROM:- AIR DIV, A.C.C. MARI.

TO:- A.F.H.Q. (R) PATIMA.

SECRET (.) Q.26 (.) MARCH 7 (.) CITE PHAIR NO.60541
OF 5/3 (.) STRENGTH OF ITALIAN AIR FORCE (.) (1) PERSONNEL
OPERATIONALLY EMPLOYED (A) OPERATIONAL WINGS 6735 (B) BASE
ESTABLISHMENTS ITALY 3744 (C) BASE ESTABLISHMENTS SARDINIA
3424 (D) BASE ESTABLISHMENTS SICILY (ESTIMATED) 1000 (E)
BASE ESTABLISHMENTS CAMPAGNIE (ESTIMATED) 1000 (2) PERSONNEL
EMPLOYED OTHERWISE BY ALLIES (A) BY ALLIED AIRFORCES ITALY
3484 (B) BY ALLIED PORT LABOUR 2358 (C) BY ALLIED AIRFORCES
SARDINIA 3576 (3) MIL (4) 2000 TOTAL 32321 (.)

To be encyphered if sent by
W/E.

Time of origin: 07/050A

J. Walton
J. Walton, F/Lt.
Air Commodore,
Air Officer Commanding.

Priority: IMPORTANT

294

*H. Pearson**are*

SECRET

INCOMING MESSAGE

10 MAR

5037

Air Forces SC PO Bldg.

(36)

TO: AFHQ RPTD FATIMA FOR DEHAAN

FROM: AIR DIV ACC BARI (ENCIPHERED AT FATIMA REAR)
No. Q261 TOO V71659A MPT

SECRET SECRET

See 19

CITE THEIR (QUERY) No. 60541 OF MARCH 50 STRENGTH ITALIAN AIR FORCE.

(1) AWAIT REPLY OPERATIONALLY EMPLOYED

(a) OPERATIONAL WINGS 6735

(b) BASE ESTABLISHMENTS ITALY 8744

(c) BASE ESTABLISHMENTS SARDINIA 3424

(1) BASE ESTABLISHMENTS SICILY (ESTIMATED) 1,000

(b) BASE ESTABLISHMENTS CAMPAGNE (ESTIMATED) 1,000

(2) PERSONNEL EMPLOYED OTHERWISE BY ALLIES

(a) BY ALLIED AIR FORCES ITALY 3404

(b) BY ALLIED PORT SALOUR 2350

(c) BY ALLIED AIR FORCES SARDINIA 3576

(3) NIL

(4) 2,000

TOTAL 32321



298

ACC-DIST

INFO-AIR FORCES-SC. POMDGE

" - DEP. CC

" - C.A.B...

- File

- Pilot

SECRET

E

MAR 8 1944

From : Headquarters, No. 214 Group, R.A.F., C.M.F.

To : Allied Control Commission, NAPLES. (Att: W/C. MINSTER).
Copies to : 214 Group, Advanced.
114 Maintenance Unit.

Date : 4 March 1944.

Ref : 214G/957/3/ORG.

SECRET

GUARDS - ITALIAN AIR FORCE.

May the following please be supplied at the earliest possible date for local defence of R.A.F. installations and equipment at No. 114 M.U., SAN ROCCO CAVES, NAPLES.

2. 1 platoon - I.A.F. personnel. (total all ranks 54+). Accommodation and cooking facilities are available. It is confirmed that boots will be issued and Form 503 action taken. Transport is available at short notice to collect this force from a local source, and rations will be collected in accordance with instructions issued by you.

297

3. The request for this force has been long outstanding, but since it was passed to A.C.C. BARI, no action has been taken. The provision of guards is, at present, throwing an undue strain on R.A.F. technical personnel. It is therefore requested that this matter be treated as urgent.

4. May arrangements for the uplift of the men please be made direct with No. 114 M.U.

for J.L. WHITBREAD, S/Ldr.
Air Commodore,

GUARDS - ITALIAN AIR FORCE.

May the following please be supplied at the earliest possible date for local defence of R.A.F. installations and equipment at No. 114 M.U., SAN ROCCO CAVES, NAPLES.

2. 1 platoon - I.A.F. personnel. (total all ranks 51-). Accommodation and cooking facilities are available. It is confirmed that boots will be issued and Form 603 action taken. Transport is available at short notice to collect this force from a local source, and rations will be collected in accordance with instructions issued by you.

297

3. The request for this force has been long outstanding, but since it was passed to A.C.O. BARI, no action has been taken. The provision of Guards is, at present, throwing an undue strain on R.A.F. technical personnel. It is therefore requested that this matter be treated as urgent.

4. May arrangements for the uplift of the men please be made direct with No. 114 M.U.

for

J.L. Whitbread
J.L. WHITBREAD, S/Ldr.
Air Commodore,

Air Officer Commanding,
No. 214 Group, R.A.F., C.M.F.

FROM : Air Forces Sub Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
C.M.F.

TO : Officer Commanding,
No.1 District,
C.M.F.

DATE : 24th February 1944.

REF : 1/IR.

24
Copy for ASC/5.
Original in ASC/10.

The bearer of this note :-

COLONEL RAVERDINO

has been appointed Officer Commanding the Italian Air Force Units in Sicily. His duties will be as follows :-

- (a) The administration and co-ordination of all Italian Air Force activities on the Island. At present these activities are concerned chiefly with the salvage of aeronautical engines, airframes and spares.
- (b) The organisation and despatch of Italian Air Force specialist tradesmen and other personnel who are required for duty with the Allied Air Forces. 296
The substitution plans now being put into operation.
- (c) Responsibility towards the Allied authorities for the discipline and behaviour of all Italian Air Force personnel on the Island.

2. It will be appreciated if Colonel Raverdino could be given every possible assistance in carrying out these duties.

R.M. PORTER,
AIR COMMODORE.

Same letter to Lt.Col.Hamcock,
Allied Control Commission,
Sicily.

SECRET.

FROM:- AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION,
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION,
BARI.

TO:- AIR COMMODORE F. WOOLLEY, D.F.C.
H.Q. M.A.A.F.
ALGIERS.

DATE:- 28th February 1944.

REF:- 901/P4.

ITALIAN AIR FORCE P.W. - SICILY.

Reference your PW/DC.305 addressed to Air Commodore Foster who at present is absent from Bari, the exact number of I.A.F. P.O.W. withdrawn from Sicilian P.O.W. Camps to increase the strength of the Salvage Groups is not known. Enquiries are being made when a more precise reply will be forwarded. However, it can be safely stated that only a fraction of the 62 required have been found, which confirms that the figure of 24 mentioned in your letter may well represent the official holding of I.A.F. Prisoners of War on the Island.

2. The situation of I.A.F. personnel in Sicily is still somewhat obscure. It is known that numbers remained after the Allied break through. However, the majority of these threw away their uniforms and affected civilian status, remaining where they were or filtering through to the mainland. 295

3. Now that the Island comes under Italian Government jurisdiction, the I.A.F. have set up a small section and one of its duties is to enquire into and regularise the personnel question.

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R.M. FOSTER,
AIR COMMODORE.

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Handwritten signature
R.M. FOSTER,
AIR COMMODORE.

Cure

Copy to Wing Commander W. L. W. G. R.

FROM : Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission,
BARI.

TO : Commanding General,
42 Bomb Group,
SARDINIA.

DATE : 26th February 1944.

REV. : 7/AIR.

Utilisation of Italian Air Force Manpower in
Allied Air Forces

1. It is now the accepted policy in this theatre that as much use as is possible should be made of Italian Air Force manpower in substitution of Allied Air Force personnel.

2. In order to provide Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, with an estimate of the amount of substitution which can be effected with Italian Air Force personnel, a detailed review of Italian Air Force resources in manpower has now been completed. In the statement submitted to me by the Italian Air Command in Sardinia, the following figures of Italian Air Force personnel employed by the Allied Air Forces are given :-

Officers	24	294
Skilled N.C.O.'s and other ranks	631	
Unskilled N.C.O.'s and other ranks for guard and general duties	2861	
<u>Total</u>	<u>3516</u>	

In addition it is stated that the Allied Air Forces are asking for an additional 2,000 men for guard duties at new airfields.

This will make a grand total of 5,576 (of whom 4,861 are unskilled) - a figure almost double the 3,000 which, you recollect, was originally given by you as your maximum requirement of Italian Air Force personnel, and also one beyond the capacity of the present Italian Air Force garrison to provide.

3. On the mainland the Allied Air Forces have, up to the present, asked for a total of approximately 12,000 men from the Italian Air Force; and I have been counting on the surplus in Sardinia to cover a proportion of this figure. With the new demands from Sardinia, however, it is clear that there are at present insufficient resources to meet all requirements and eventually it may become necessary for Headquarters, M.A.A.F., to allot priorities.

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Officers	84	294
Skilled N.C.O.'s and other ranks	631	
Unskilled N.C.O.'s and other ranks for guard and general duties	2861	
<u>Total</u>	<u>3576</u>	

In addition it is stated that the Allied Air Forces are asking for an additional 2,000 men for guard duties at new airfields.

This will make a grand total of 5,576 (of whom 4,861 are unskilled) - a figure almost double the 3,000 which, you recollect, was originally given by you as your maximum requirement of Italian Air Force personnel, and also one beyond the capacity of the present Italian Air Force garrison to provide.

3. On the mainland the Allied Air Forces have, up to the present, asked for a total of approximately 12,000 men from the Italian Air Force; and I have been counting on the surplus in Sardinia to cover a proportion of this figure. With the new demands from Sardinia, however, it is clear that there are at present insufficient resources to meet all requirements and eventually it may become necessary for Headquarters, M.A.A.F., to allot priorities.

4. The position on the mainland at the moment is that both the Italian Army and Air Force are short of personnel to meet Allied needs. In Sardinia the Army has a large surplus, as did the Italian Air Force until your recent demands were received. The only immediate solution therefore is for the Italian Army in Sardinia to supply you with the additional two thousand men for which you are now asking. Furthermore, I would like to know how many of your present total of 3,576 (of whom 4/5th's are unskilled men) can be replaced by Sardinian Army Units. I am particularly anxious to reduce the number of Italian Air Force personnel in Sardinia to an absolute minimum as the meagre air post services and the embargo on all Italian Air Force W/T traffic make satisfactory administration of the Italian Air Force in Sardinia practically impossible.

5. I would like an early reply on these points so that your requirements can be incorporated in the substitution plans for the Allied Air Forces in this theatre which is being prepared for M.A.A.F. Headquarters.

R.A. John

R.A. JOHN, Air Commodore.

Lucas

FROM : Air Division,
Allied Control Commission,
HARE.

TO : Military Sub-Commission,
Allied Control Commission.

DATE : 18th February 1944.

REF. : 901/H.

(11)

Italian Air Force Prisoners of War

Attached is a copy of a memorandum addressed to this Sub-Commission by the Italian Air Ministry.

Your comments will be appreciated. As you are aware, a large programme for the substitution in the Allied Air Forces of Allied manpower by Italian is under way and one of the most useful fields is that of mobilising all available specialist personnel trained in the various aircraft maintenance trades and directing these men to the various Allied Maintenance Units and Servicing Commands.

If the contention of the Air Minister is correct and in fact large numbers of Italian Air Force specialist personnel are serving in Pioneer Corps and similar units in Italian territory, it would seem well that steps are taken to have these men returned to the Regia Aeronautica and redirected to work more in line with their capacity

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[Signature]
H.M. POTTER,
AIR COMMISSIONER

Letter

FROM : Air Division,
Allied Control Commission,
C.M.F.

TO : Prisoner of War Section,
Allied Force Headquarters,
(attention of Lt.Col. A.S. Barsdorf, A.A.G.)

DATE : 17th February 1944.

REF. : 901/P4.

(10)

TEN. COL. ZAFETTA GIOVANNI

The above named Officer of the Regia Aeronautica is at present in P.O.W. Camp No. 211 in Tunisia, and is required for duties with the Italian Air Force.

Can his release be arranged please? Under cover of our letter Reference 901/P4 dated 12th February 1944, we sent you a list of those prisoners of war who are now needed for immediate employment. The difficulty of collecting these men at a point where they can be picked up by air transport is perfectly appreciated; however an indication from you as to when you anticipate that this can be done in whole or in part, will be most helpful so as to permit the making of a programme for the air lift required.

[Signature]
R. M. FOSTER,
AIR COMMODORE

SECRET

FROM : Air Division,
Allied Control Commission,
EAME.

TO : Headquarters,
Allied Control Commission,
C.M.F.

DATE : 15th February 1944.

REF. : 901/24.

Prisoner of War Policy

1. The American and British Air Forces are now making increasing demands for Italian Air Force personnel to meet their substitution programmes. My undertakings in this respect already amount to over seven thousand men; and, if various substitution plans which are now under examination by Mediterranean Allied Air Forces Headquarters are adopted, the number will eventually be brought up to more than twelve thousand.

2. The Italian Air Ministry is taking active steps ²⁹¹to meet our demands, but it is evident that the limited manpower available in liberated Italy, will soon be exhausted. I am anxious therefore, to draw on prisoner of war sources to augment our resources and would like all Italian Air Force prisoners of war now in Sicilian camps, to be handed back to the Italian Air Force, priority being given to specialists and tradesmen. Moreover, as the substitution programme of the Allied Air Forces expands, it seems probable that I shall have to ask for the return of personnel in prisoner of war camps further afield than Sicily.

3. I am uncertain of the exact policy in force regarding prisoners of war. Up to the present, only named individuals have been asked for, and these have been forthcoming; but now the return of personnel in bulk is needed. I would therefore, like an indication as to whether I can count on the return of prisoners of war in planning for Allied Air Force needs in manpower. I would also like to be in a position to give some positive answer to the constant enquiries which I receive on this matter from Italian Air Officers.

R.N. Foster.
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AIR COMMODORE

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R.N. Data.

R.A. PORTER,
AIR COMMODORE

Allen

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION INCOMING MESSAGE

SECRET.
PRIORITYW/C No. 1/7
REF. NO. WM. 253
FILED Feb. 061300A
RXCD. Feb. 070255AFROM : WEBSTER CITE AGS E-8
TO : FALFA FOR FOSTER.

YOUR A.263.

DUE TO EXPANSION OF ALLIED AIR FORCES IN SARDINIA IS OPERATIVE THAT MINIMUM OF 40000 ITALIAN AIR FORCE PERSONNEL REMAIN IN SARDINIA. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE NUMBER THE COMMANDING GENERAL ITALIAN AIR FORCES IN SARDINIA STATES THAT HIS MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PRESENT ITALIAN AIR FORCE HERE ARE 4846 OFFICERS AND MEN.

DISTRIBUTION :-

- 2 - AG
- 1 - DIARY.
- 1 - Air Sub. Comm - ACTION.

290

OUTGOING MESSAGE

(4)

FROM : FATIMA (AIR DIVISION)
TO : USAAF HEADQUARTERS, SARDINIA.

SECRET (.) A.263 (.) 3RD JANUARY 1944 (.)

FOR GENERAL WEBSTER FROM AIR COLONEL FOSTER (.)

ALLIED AIR FORCES ON MAINLAND ARE MAKING INCREASING DEMANDS FOR ITALIAN
AIR FORCE PERSONNEL FOR SERVICE BASE ORGANISATIONS (.) I AM CALLING ON I.A.F.
SARDINIA TO CONTRIBUTE TO THESE REQUIREMENTS (.) YOUR CHIEF OF STAFF TOLD ME THAT
U.S. AIR FORCES REQUIREMENTS FOR ITALIAN PERSONNEL IN SARDINIA WOULD AMOUNT TO NOT
MORE THAN 3000 MEN (.) GRATEFUL IF YOU CAN CONFIRM THIS FIGURE (.)
I.A.F. SURPLUS WILL THEN BE TRANSFERRED TO MAINLAND AS TRANSPORT PERMITS (.)

TO BE ENCRYPTED IF SENT BY
W/T.

T.O.O. 1840 hours
289
PRIORITY - IMPORTANT.

R.M. FOSTER,
AIR COLONEL.
))))))))))

E

FROM: AIR SUB COMMISSION, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

TO: AIR COMMISSIONER R.M. ROSE

DATE: 29th December 1945

REF. ACC/PEH/64

MORALE IN THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE

I enclose my report on the above subject and would lay stress on the fact that I am merely reporting what Major Magini told me. That Airmen at Baraccasanti Giordano should burst into tears scarcely seems believable but for the fact that they are Italian and consequently emotional. It impressed Major Magini and I consequently mentioned the incident.

With regard to equal messing for officers and men, this has been instituted by Major Vasallo of Reparto "7" and has proved a great success. Airmen and W.C.O.s mess in one hut and the officers in another and pool their rations and ~~mess~~ their mess funds and eat the identical food. No complaints regarding messing from Reparto "7".

On Christmas day General Sandalli paid a surprise visit to Lecce where officers and men were seated together in the same hut for their Christmas dinner. The fact that the Air Minister was sharing their meal and their Christmas festivities made a great impression on the men, the more so as he personally distributed presents from a Christmas tree after having personally contributed money gifts.

With regard to the problem of finding work for airmen discharged from the Air Force, I was yesterday informed by Captain Albright of the Labour Sub Commission that there still is a big demand for labour generally and that they occasionally receive pencilled notes from Italian Army O.R.s asking whether, if they obtained their discharge, they would be offered work. No action is taken in such cases.

On the other hand, Major Wilson of the Sub Commission of Public Works has informed me that the Ministry of Public Works has now been authorised to proceed with the rebuilding of devastated areas and the repair of roads, bridges etc. in the provinces South of Naples. This being the case there will shortly be a demand for labour and for skilled workers.

According to Major Sandon, General Sandalli was much concerned with what Major Magini stated in his report. To begin with he is having a list drawn up in which officers are being classified in grades A, B, and C. He proposes to retain all A grade officers, B grade will be retained for the time being and kept under observation, whilst C grade officers will be removed.

AIR SUB COMMISSION
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

FROM: AIR SUB COMMISSION, ALLIED COW REL COMMISSION
 TO: AIR COMODORE R.M. FOSTER
 DATE: 29th. December 1943
 REF.: ACC/PDX/64

MORALE IN THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE

Major Magini, having heard from various sources that the morale of I.A.F. personnel left much to be desired, drew the Air Minister's attention to the matter and suggested that he be authorised to visit the various wings and detachments in order to determine the cause and the extent of the discontent and endeavour to find a remedy. The Air Minister gave him consent and Major Magini, on completion of his mission which lasted about a fortnight, submitted his report to the General.

2. From information supplied to me by Major Soudon, who saw the actual report and from a talk I have had with Major Magini it would seem ²⁸⁷the position is as follows:

3. AIRMEN The procedure Major Magini adopted in every case was to address the men in a friendly manner in order to gain their confidence and, his address ended, to put questions to them and call for an answer by show of hands.

Results were disappointing. Some 50% answered affirmatively to the question whether they wished to return home. Few showed any desire to volunteer for service with the "Battaglione Azzurro", a volunteer force which is being formed and intended to operate with the Allied Armies. Fewer still showed any desire to be employed on sabotage or similar missions in German occupied territory.

4. Major Magini subsequently had private talks with individual airmen and eventually reached the following conclusions:

a) Discipline as it was understood in the old days in the I.A.F. no longer exists. The men have become critical. Generally speaking they are loyal and willing to carry out orders issued by their immediate superiors, but they are very critical of officers of Field rank. Some Majors are popular but very few Lt. Colonels and Colonels.

b) Broadcast propaganda by the Republican Air Force has also had its effect. According to this propaganda, messing for airmen and officers of the Republican Air Force is the same. Airmen, therefore, consider that they too should receive the identical food as their officers.

c) In many instances airmen, with whom Major Magini conversed privately, refrained from making any complaints and merely expressed a desire to return to civilian life.

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c) In many instances airmen, with whom Major Magini conversed privately, refrained from making any complaints and merely expressed a desire to return to civilian life.

5. Major Magini gave it as his opinion that this is a natural result of events of the last six months. When Mussolini was overthrown these Airmen hoped that Peace would follow, instead of which Badoglio declared "The War goes on". When the Armistice was announced they again hoped that Peace and an early return home would follow. Again they were disappointed.

6. The treatment meted out to Airmen ~~which~~ were transferred to the Army for employment as Dock laborers has also created a very bad impression. These men, especially those housed at the "BARRACCALENTI GIOVEDANO" at Bari, are neglected, verminous, suffering from scabies, have no change of underwear, never have a bath, sleep on the floor with two blankets, have no proper footwear, are made to work for very long hours without any lavatory accommodation, sleep in leaky huts and are bullied by the Army officers who treat them like cattle. When some airmen complained to the Camp Commandant at Bari that the rain was leaking through the roof of their hut, ten men were picked, placed under arrest and passed to the Military Tribunal.

2

When Major Magini visited these hutments he was greeted with shouts of protest and nearly mobbed. He eventually pacified the men and, when he had finished his address and had praised to have the matter looked into, some of the men burst into tears whilst others asked to shake hands with him.

7. In Major Magini's opinion the I.A.F. as at present constituted, and unless it is proposed to increase the force, could dispense with at least two thirds of the Airman now still serving. Those who wish to go home and whose homes are in liberated Italy should, in his opinion be permitted to obtain their discharge if they so wish. There are thousands, however, whose homes are not in the South and who, if discharged would have neither home nor employment. The problem of finding work for men thus discharged is one which not only affects the Air Force but also the Army and Navy and should, therefore, be tackled by the Italian Armed Forces as a whole. The Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Public Works would have to be approached and invited to provide work for discharged Airman. They could be employed on rebuilding of devastated areas, on road work, bridge building but not as Airman but as civilians. On no account should Airman be transferred to the Army to 286 under Army officers as dock laborers.

8. OFFICERS AND FLYING CREWS Officers who take part in operational flying complain that though they incur greater risks than officers employed in Administration and similar duties, they do not receive any additional pay. This is due to the fact that all officers who hold a pilot's certificate receive the "Indennita di Volo" i.e. flying pay, whilst the "Indennita di Operazioni", operational flying pay, which at one time was accorded only to personnel actually participating in operations, has been extended to all and sundry who hold a Pilot's certificate. This concession to non-flying personnel came into force under the Fascist regime and was intended to compensate them for the increased cost of living, but nothing was done to improve the lot of the operational crews. Consequently, a Colonel who once flew but now sits as Supercreo gets the same pay as the Pilot of Transport pilot who risks his life over Albania. Major Magini suggests that this should be put right by granting operational crews as also Transport crews a bonus in relation with the duties performed.

9. As in the case of the Airman, Flying crews are very critical of their commanding officers. Some they consider incompetent, others are just indifferent and not interested. The latter remark applies to certain officers at Supercreo who just do not think. Major Magini quoted a case where a Fighter Squadron was ordered to take off at 15.30 for an operation over Albania. Did they not now at Supercreo that it gets dark at 1700 hours and that for an Italian Fighter to land at dark would be more than just awkward.

10. There also appears to be a feeling of despondency arising from the fact that these pilots and crews, many of whom flew over on the Allies' invitation, are now ordering what the future has in store for them. They realize that, in spite of the salvaging of material, the strength of the Italian Air Force in actual aircraft is bound to dwindle as time goes on. Will the Allies supply them with aircraft in replacement? Many of the engines still in use

provide work for discharged airmen. They cannot be employed in demilitarized areas, on road work, bridge building but not as airmen but as civilians. On no account should airmen be transferred to the Army to 286
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To sum up this situation, what is worrying the Italian pilots, and more especially the Fighter pilots, is the future. What is to become of him when his Squadron is disbanded for lack of aircraft?

11. Major Sandon quoted the case of Captain Cimicelli, their ace torpedo bomber pilot. As he cannot participate in any operations he has asked to be employed on sabotage work in German occupied territory. In Major Sandon's opinion it is a pity to lose such an excellent pilot, well liked by both officers and men and who, flew over on the Allies' invitation.

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