

ACC

10000/135/105

AIR SUB-COMMISS  
MAY-OCT. 1944

10000/135/105

AIR SUB-COMMISSION, ACC, A.V. I.S.  
MAY-OCT. 1944

AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

To :- Major Huggan,  
Town Major, NAPLES.

Date :- 12th October, 1944.

The bearer of this letter is

Ing. ROPOLO DE LIETO

6638

proprietor of the A.V.I.S. Aircraft factories.

Mr De Lieto has close connections with this Sub-Commission as his factories are carrying out work of considerable importance for both the Allied Air Forces and the Italian Air Force.

Any assistance, therefore, you are able to render Mr De Lieto will be greatly appreciated by this Sub-Commission.



(W.L. Winter)

King Commander,

for Air Vice Marshal,

AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Naples

OFFICE FOR NAVALS OFFICE

REFERENCE:

SIRA/0005, AND.

HEADQUARTERS,  
NO. 211 GROUP,  
ROYAL AIR FORCE  
C.M.F.

10th OCTOBER, 1944.

Dear Sirs,

With reference to our recent discussions on the subject of the A.I.S. company operating a portion of the A.I.S. factory at Castellana under contract for the Royal Air Force, instructions have now been received from Headquarters, M.A.A.F., D.A.A.F. to the effect that no further negotiations are to be undertaken.

Your co-operation in the past has been appreciated by this Headquarters.

Yours faithfully,

(S. H. DAVIES) Group Capt. 6637  
for Group Captain, Commanding,  
NO. 211 GROUP, RAF C.M.F.

MOORE THE A.I.S. (Capt. H. H. H.),  
CASTELLANA

*Is this sent to Rome & Bari.*

Record Copy to Replace Unstable Original  
Property of the National Archives

COPIES FOR LIAISON OFFICE

Reference:

2140/3003/LAC.

Headquarters,

NO. 214 GROUP,

ROYAL AIR FORCE

C.M.A.

4th October, 1944.

Dear Sirs,

With reference to our recent discussions on the subject of the A.I.S. company operating a portion of the A.I.S. Factory at Castellammare under contract for the Royal Air Force, instructions have now been received from Headquarters, M.A.A.F., D.M.A.F. to the effect that no further negotiations are to be undertaken.

Your co-operation in the past has been appreciated by this Headquarters.

Yours faithfully,

6637

(S.M. DAVENPORT) Group Captain, Commanding,  
NO. 214 GROUP, RAF UNIT.

Messrs The Avis (Caproni) Works,  
CASTELLAMMARE

*This sent to Rome 1 Dec.*

Copy.

COPY FOR NAPLES OFFICE. 27A

Reference:  
2I4G/3609/ENG.

Headquarters,  
No. 2I4 Group,  
ROYAL AIR FORCE  
C.M.F.

4th October, 1944.

Dear Sirs,

With reference to our recent discussion on the subject of the AVIS Company operating a portion of the AVIS Factory at Castellammare under contract for the Royal Air Force, instructions have now been received from Headquarters, M.A.A.F., B.N.A.F. to effect that no further negotiations are to be undertaken.

Your co-operation in the past has been appreciated by this Headquarters.

Yours faithfully,

6636

(J.W.BAYLEY) G/Capt.  
for Group Captain, Commanding,  
No 2I4 Group, RAF CMF.

Messrs The Avis (Caproni) Works,  
CASTELLAMMARE

1

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

TO : Officer Commanding,  
94th Compressed Gas Depot, 80 E.B. . ., C.M.S.

DATE : 4th Oct. 1944.

REF : ASC/42

26

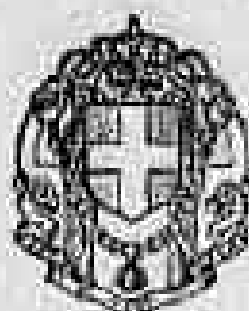
A.V.I.S.

Reference our ASC/42 dated Sept.  
10th, 1944, we are informed by the local Com-  
mand of the Italian Air Force the the Acetylene  
Plant with Gasometer cannot be returned to the  
A.V.I.S. by your Unit as it has already been des-  
patched to Florence.

It is requested therefore, that at  
any rate, a proper Form of Requisition may be  
made out by your Unit and handed over to the  
A.V.I.S.

6635

*[Signature]*  
(J.L. Minter)  
Wing Commander,  
*[Signature]* Air Vice-Marshal,  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.



DIREZIONE DELLE  
COSTRUZIONI AERONAUTICHE  
di NAPOLI

Napoli, li

194  
ANNO XXI

ALLA COMMISSIONE ALLEATA DI  
CONTROLLO - SOTTOSEZIONE AERONAUTICA

UFFICIO Industria

N A P O L I

~~XXXX~~ AV.

Prot. N. 2/66274/5 All.

Risp. foglio N.

OGGETTO; Gassogeno della Ditta A.V.I.S. di Castellammare di Stabia.

6634

Si comunica che all'incaricato della Scrivente per il ritiro del gassogeno della Ditta A.V.I.S. dal 94° Compressed Gas Depot, fu risposto che il gassogeno non poteva essere restituito essendo già stato spedito a Firenze.-

La Ditta A.V.I.S. prega codesta Commissione voler si interessare perchè le sia rilasciato dal detto 94° Depot regolare buono di requisizione.==

IL DIRETTORE  
(Magg. G.A.R.I. CELI Salvatore)

Si prega trattare per ogni lettera un solo argomento e indicare nella risposta il N. di protocollo.

frutto  
10 P 34  
137  
Bello

From :- Air Forces Sub-Commission,  
Allied Control Commission, NAPLES. 26

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

Date :- 1/10/44.

Ref :- ASC/42.

A.V.I.S. FACTORY - CASTELLAMARE.

Attached please find copy of letter  
MAAF/7234/DDMS dated 28th Sept. 1944 from HQ.  
M.A.A.F. (Rear), B.N.A.F. to H.Q. No. 214 Group  
R.A.F., C.M.F.

This is a bitter disappointment after  
all the hard work which has been put in on this  
matter and it appears to be also equally regret  
ted by the Chief Equipment Officer of 214 Group. 6633

It is hoped that the matter may be re-  
opened at a more opportune moment a little later  
on.

*W.L.*  
(W.L. Minter)

Group Commander.

*W.L.* Air Vice-Marshal,  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Copy 2148  
From : Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces,  
(Rear) B.N.A.F.

To : Headquarters, No. 214 Group.  
Headquarters, M.A.A.F. C.M.F.

Date : 28th September 1944.

Ref : MAAF/1234/DDMS.

AVIS FACTORY = CASTELLANARE.

Reference is made to the correspondence on the above subject culminating in HQ. M.A.A.F. C.M.F.'s signal 0 78 of 22nd September 1944.

6632

2. The matter has now been discussed fully by a representative of this Headquarters with both The Deputy Air Officer Administration H.Q. M.A.A.F. C.M.F. and H.Q. 214 Group, and it has been decided that for the time being it would be wiser not to proceed with the project even to the extent quoted in this Headquarters letter MAAF/S.7234/DDMS of 11th September 1944.

3. Should the Caproni Company refer again to this matter they should be informed that the time is not yet opportune for the approval of a contract such as the one under discussion.

5235/28

(signed)

E/B. LUDLOW  
AIR COMMODORE.

for DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE & SUPPLY  
HEADQUARTERS, M.A.A.F. (Rear) B.N.A.F.

Headquarters, M.A.A.F. C.M.F.

Date : 28th September 1944.

Ref : MAAF/7234/DDMS.

AVIS FACTORY = CASTELLAMARE.

Reference is made to the correspondence on the above subject culminating in HQ. M.A.A.F. C.M.F.'s signal O 78 of 22nd September 1944.

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5235/28

(signed)

E/B/ LUDLOW  
AIR COMMODORE.

for DIRECTOR OF MAINTENANCE & SUPPLY  
HEADQUARTERS, M.A.A.F. (Rear) B.N.A.F.

Copy to :- A.F. S.C. A.C.C.  
No. 113 M.U. C.M.F.

No 113 M.U. Q.H.P.

22  
From : Headquarters Mediterranean Allied Air Forces R.A.F., C.M.F.  
To : Headquarters, No 214 Group R.A.F., C.M.F.  
Date : 17th September 1944  
Ref. : MAAF/1647/1/ORG.

A.V.I.S. FACTORY. CASTELLAMARE

Reference is made to your letter 214G/3604/ENG.

dated 4th September 1944, and in connection with this matter your attention is invited to the letter from D.6630 of M.&S, M.A.A.F. Rear, under reference MAAF/S.7234 ODMS of 11th September 1944.

2. It is agreed that the A.V.I.S. Company should be allowed to operate a portion of the A.V.I.S. factory at Castellamare, under R.A.F. supervision, in order to provide M.T. Engine repair services for the R.A.F., and the Financial Adviser has already agreed a fixed contract rate of 53 lire per hour for all productive skilled work - this figure to include all overhead charges.

The Financial Adviser has informed this Headquarters that the figure of 53 lire is subject to review in 3 months.

3. It is felt that there are several points in connection with your proposal which need to be made clear before you proceed with any action towards effecting a contract with the A.V.I.S. Company, and these points appear to be as follows:

1. D. of M.&S. has stated, in the letter referred to, in para 1 above, that no reduction in the present output can be allowed. Therefore, the transfer of work to the A.V.I.S. Company should be dependant entirely upon that Company's ability to maintain a production figure no lower than one which would obtain were the R.A.A.F. to continue to handle the work.

2. Any contract entered into with the A.V.I.S. Company would be for a period longer than 3 months.

A.V.I.S. FACTORY. CASTELLAMARE

Reference is made to your letter 214G/3604/ENG. dated 4th September 1944, and in connection with this matter your attention is invited to the letter from D.6630 of M.&S., M.A.A.F. Rear, under reference NAAF/S.7234 ODMS of 11th September 1944.

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1. D. of M.&S. has stated, in the letter referred to, in para 1 above, that no reduction in the present output can be allowed. Therefore, the transfer of work to the A.V.I.S. Company should be dependant entirely upon that Company's ability to maintain a production figure no lower than one which would obtain were the R.A.A.F. to continue to handle the work.

2. Any contract entered into with the A.V.I.S. Company should not be for a period longer than 3 months and should contain a clause to the effect that if hostilities cease in the European Theatre of War during that period, R.A.F. personnel may take over some or all of the work then being carried out by the A.V.I.S. Company.

3. Such contract should also contain a clause to the effect that the buildings of the A.V.I.S. factory which are now requisitioned by the R.A.F. should continue to be so requisitioned.

42

(a) although the A.V.I.S. Company occupy all part of the buildings while working for the R.A.F.,

(b) whether the contract entered into is renewed or terminated at the expiry of the 3 month period, and

(c) whether or not European hostilities cease during the period of the contract, or for any further period for which it might be renewed.

4. With the above points made very clear, it is anticipated that, firstly, economic use will be made of R.A.F. manpower by the employment of civilians during the period of hostilities remaining; secondly, that the output of work by the company will be of benefit to the Royal Air Force - providing that the A.V.I.S. Company work to R.A.F. standards and is subject to adequate R.A.F. inspection; thirdly, that employment will be found for some Other Ranks of eligible trades on the cessation of hostilities, and fourthly, the A.V.I.S. Factory remains requisitioned by the R.A.F. until such time as the R.A.F. finally have no further use for it.

5. Subject to these conditions, therefore, and to the limitations regarding expansion imposed in the letter from D. of M. & S. referred to in para 1 above - (i.e. that the A.V.I.S. Company should not be given additional contractual work until such time as a report has been made on the success or otherwise of that Company's effort - the proposal for setting up an M.T. Engine Repair Section operated by the A.V.I.S. Company under R.A.F. supervision and inspection, as outlined in para 3 of your letter of the 4th September, is agreed.

(S.A. PALMER) S/Tdr  
for Air Vice Marshal  
Air Officer i/c Administration

Copies to: C.M.S.C.

D. of M. & S. HQ., M.A.A.F. (Pear) E.N.A.F.  
A.T.S.C., Allied Control Commission, Bari  
A.T.S.C., Allied Control Commission, Rome  
Financial Adviser, HQ M.A.A.F.

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

(c) whether or not during the period of the contract, or for any further period for which it might be renewed.

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(S.A. PALMER) S/Mdr  
for Air Vice Marshal  
Air Officer i/c Administration

Copies to: C.M.S.O.  
D. of M. & S. HQ., W.A.A.F. (Rear) B.N.A.F.  
A.F.S.C., Allied Control Commission, Bari  
A.F.S.C., Allied Control Commission, Rome  
Financial Adviser, HQ M.A.A.F.  
113 M.U., R.A.F., C.M.F.

From : Rear Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces, N.W.A.F.

To : Headquarters, No. 241 Group.

Date : 14th September, 1944.

Ref : MAP/9.7234/DMM.

A.V.I.S. BUREAU - CANTERBURY.

Reference is made to your letter 2145/364/AM, of 10th August and 14th September, 1944, and to conversations between Staff Officers of your Group and Group Captain W.J.S. Burrows during his visit to Italy last September, 1944.

6628

2. It is considered that it would be advantageous to enter into an agreement with the management of the Gaydon Company in order that a portion of the A.V.I.S. Factory at Canterbury may be developed to produce repair facilities for the Royal Air Force. The Company should be encouraged to introduce machinery and manpower for this purpose, but its activities should be limited at the present time to such portions of the works as is not at present occupied by the Royal Air Force.
3. The facilities now available for the repair of Mechanical Transport must not in any way be reduced, and it is considered therefore that any alteration to the present arrangements which might in any way reduce the output should not be undertaken until experience has shown that the efforts of the Gaydon Company have been successful.

4. It is therefore requested that you will proceed on the above lines. You should not at present extend the operations of the Gaydon Company as visualised in paragraph 5 of your letter of the 10th August and paragraph 3 of your letter of the 14th September without first gaining experience and reporting on the general position to this Headquarters.

5. It will be realised that in making this decision it is necessary on the one hand to consider the economical use of British (other) funds should the war continue, but on the other hand we may be faced with the necessity for finding employment for additional other works should the war in Europe suddenly cease. It is appropriate at this time to adopt a course suitable to both of these eventualities.

6. It is requested that the Financial Adviser will record his comments on the foregoing as soon as possible. Also will Organisation and Establishments take similar action.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Reference is made to your letter 244/300/100, of 10th August and 14th September, 1944, and to conversations between staff officers of your Group and Group Captain W.J.S. Bennett during his visit to Italy 1st September, 1944.

6628

2. It is considered that it would be advantageous to enter into an agreement with the management of the Caproni Company in order that a portion of the A.V.I.S. factory at Cantoliano may be developed to produce repair facilities for the Royal Air Force. The Company should be encouraged to introduce machinery and manpower for this purpose, but its activities should be limited at the present time to such portion of the works as is not at present occupied by the Royal Air Force.

3. The facilities now available for the repair of mechanical equipment must not in any way be reduced, and it is considered therefore that any alteration to the present arrangements which might in any way reduce the output should not be undertaken until experience has shown that the efforts of the Caproni Company have been successful.

4. It is therefore requested that you will proceed on the above lines. You should not at present extend the operations of the Caproni Company as visualised in paragraph 3 of your letter of the 10th August and paragraph 3 of your letter of the 14th September without first gaining experience and reporting on the general position to this Headquarters.

5. It will be realised that in making this decision it is necessary on the one hand to consider the economical use of British. Other factors should be taken into account, but on the other hand we may be faced with the necessity for finding employment for additional other hands should the war in Europe suddenly cease. It is appropriate at this time to adopt a course suitable to both of these eventualities.

6. It is requested that the Financial Advisor will record his comments on the foregoing as soon as possible. Also will Organisation and Establishments take similar action.

(S. R. HENSON) Air Controller,  
for Director of Maintenance and Supply,  
Headquarters, M.I.C., Royal Air Force.

Copy to: M.C., M.I.C., C.M.F.,  
A.F.S.C., A.C.O.,  
No. 113 M.C., A.A.N.

3939/12

62

C O P Y

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

To : - Headquarters, M.A.A.F. (Hear) B.N.A.F.  
 Headquarters, M.A.A.F., C.M.F.  
 Headquarters, A.F.S.C., A.C.C.  
 No. 113 Maintenance Unit, R.A.F., C.M.F. (2)

Date: - 4th September, 1944.

Ref : - 214G/3604/ENG.

A.V.I.S. FACTORY - CASTELLAMARE

6627

Further to this Headquarters' letter of even reference dated 10th August 1944., a conference was held at Headquarters, No. 214 Group on August 25th 1944., to ascertain the best means of making full use of the A.V.I.S. Company.

2. It was decided that A.V.I.S. should take over one section of the A.V.I.S. Factory at Castellamare, and undertake work for the R.A.F., at a fixed contract rate of 53 lire per hour for all productive skilled man hours, this figure to include all overhead charges.

Group Captain Bowden, Financial Adviser, R.A.F., was present at the meeting and agreed to this figure.

3. It has since been decided that A.V.I.S., should operate the M.T. Repair Section under R.A.F. supervision and inspection.

It is estimated that eventually a saving of British Other Ranks will be affected by this arrangement.

4. If A.V.I.S., prove themselves competent workers and cooperative managers and also if they increase the present output, they will be given further R.A.F. work under a similar contract.

5. It is requested that Organisation and the Financial Adviser will comment on this suggestion.

6. An early reply would be appreciated, as it is desired to put this scheme into action forthwith.

Date: - 4th September, 1944.

Ref : - 214G/3604/ENG.

A.V.I.S. FACTORY - CASTELLAMARE

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Group Captain Bowden, Financial Adviser, R.A.F., was present at the meeting and agreed to this figure.

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It is estimated that eventually a saving of British Other Ranks will be affected by this arrangement.

4. If A.V.I.S., prove themselves competent workers and cooperative managers and also if they increase the present output, they will be given further R.A.F. work under a similar contract.

5. It is requested that Organisation and the Financial Adviser will comment on this suggestion.

6. An early reply would be appreciated, as it is desired to put this scheme into action forthwith.

(J.W.BAILEY) G/CAPT.,  
For Air Commodore,  
Air Officer Commanding,  
No. 214 Group, RAF, CMF.

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

TO :- Officer Commanding,  
II S.M., R.A.F., Castellammare.

DATE:- 11th Sept. 1944.

REF :- ASC/42.

It is requested that you will allow the Italian Air Force to withdraw certain spare parts of Italian aircraft stored at the A.V.I.S. works, provided they are not required by the R.A.F. and also that the A.V.I.S. works authorises their removal by the I.A.F.

The Italian Air Force Officer withdrawing the spare parts in question will leave a receipt setting forth exactly what he has taken.

*MLL.*  
(S.M. Inter)

Chief Commander.

*M* Air Vice-Marshal.

AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

6626

F

18

FROM :- Air Forces sub-Commission.  
Allied Control Commission. BARLVS. (53625 - 27)

TO :- Officer Commanding, 34th Compressed Gas Depot.  
EO D.F.S. 1.2.4.

DATE :- 10th Sept. 1944

REF :- 430/42

A.V.I.S.

It is reported that the 34th Compressed Gas Depot, EO D.F.S. 1.2.4. have taken away from the site works an outside plant with compressor.

This is directly contrary to the instructions laid down by H. A. A. I. S. D. S. ref. 2050/12-1/4 dated 1st July. 1944. copy attached.

This plant will be essential to the A.V.I.S. works and may not be replaced recently entered into with H. A. A. I. S. D. S. Group. R. A. S.

It is requested therefore that you will give instructions for the immediate return to the site of the above-mentioned plant and Gasometer which was illegally taken.

6625

(S. L. Winter)  
Major Commander.  
Air Vice-Marshal.  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

From : Air Forces Sub-Commission.  
Allied Control Commission. RATHES. 1F

To : Officer Commanding,  
No 113 B.U. R.A.F., Castellammare.

Date : 7/9/44

Ref : ASC/42

A.V.L.S.

It is reported that the 94th Compressed Gas Depot, 80 B.U., C.B.S. have taken away from the AVIS works an Acetylene Plant with Gasometer.

This is directly contrary to the instructions laid down by H.Q., A.A.I., C.B.F. ref 2030-1/12/42 dated 1st July, 1944. copy attached.

This plant will be essential to the AVIS works to carry out the new commitments recently entered into with H.Q. 214 Group, R.A.F.

It is requested therefore that you will instruct the 94th Compressed Gas Depot to immediately return to the AVIS the above-mentioned plant and gasometer which they have illegally taken.

6624

*W.H.*  
( .L. Winter )  
ing Commander,  
Air Vice-Marshal.  
*M* AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

16A

FROM: Headquarters, No. 214 Group, Royal Air Force, C.M.F.

TO : Headquarters, M.A.A.F., B.M.A.F.

Copies to: Headquarters, M.A.A.F., C.M.F.

Headquarters, A.F.S.C., A.C.C.

No. 113 Maintenance Unit, R.A.F., C.M.F. (2)

DATE: 10th August, 1944 -

REF : 214G/3604/Eng.

A.V.I.S. FACTORY - CASTELLAMARE

The above premises were requisitioned by the R.A.F., in October 1943, and are occupied by No. 2 Echelon, No. 113 M.U.

2. Following the fall of Rome, officials of the Caproni Company, of which A.V.I.S. is a subsidiary, have approached us with a view to furthering rehabilitation of their premises to our mutual benefit.

3. Discussions have been held with representatives of the Caproni Company and the matter has already been referred verbally to D.M. & S., M.A.A.F.

4. The proposals now reached are that the Company shall be allowed to instal itself in a part of the A.V.I.S. factory in- to which it will introduce both men and machines from Rome and where it will operate on a contract basis for the benefit of the R.A.F.

5. If the Company prove themselves competent and co-operative managers and their work is satisfactory, it is agreed that it should then be possible to permit them to take over certain of the shops at present by the R.A.F.; the machine shop, carpenter's shops and metal workers' shop could probably be the first to be considered.

6. The first building which it is suggested the Company should enter is the Marine Craft hanger, and in the yard adjoining this the Company will then accumulate all unserviceable materials and equipment lying in the remainder of the premises for repair or reduction to salvage.

7. After consultation with the M.A.A.F. financial adviser, the basis on which a contract would be entered into has been explained to the Company, and their financial proposals on this basis are now awaited.

6623

The above premises were requisitioned by the R.A.F., in October 1943, and are occupied by No. 2 Echelon, No. 113 M.U.

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3. Discussions have been held with representatives of the Caproni Company and the matter has already been referred verbally to D.M. & S., M.A.A.F.

4. The proposals now reached are that the Company shall be allowed to instal itself in a part of the A.V.I.S. factory in- to which it will introduce both men and machines from Rome and where it will operate on a contract basis for the benefit of the R.A.F.

5. If the Company prove themselves competent and co-operative managers and their work is satisfactory, it is agreed that it should then be possible to permit them to take over certain of the shops at present by the R.A.F.; the machine shop, carpenter's shops and metal workers' shop could probably be the first to be considered.

6. The first building which it is suggested the Company should enter is the Marine Craft hangar, and in the yard adjoining this the Company will then accumulate all unserviceable materials and equipment lying in the remainder of the premises for repair or reduction to salvage.

7. After consultation with the M.A.A.F. financial adviser, the basis on which a contract would be entered into has been explained to the Company, and their financial proposals on this basis are now awaited.

8. It is also noted that Cantieri Navali Stabiensi, which is across the road from the A.V.I.S. factory, is another Caproni subsidiary and that the woodworking facilities of this company would be available to the R.A.F., indirectly through any contract entered into with A.V.I.S.

9. It is requested that the proposals in this letter may be approved, and should any other addressees have comment to make, it is requested that they be submitted.

(A.F. BRITTON) G/Capt.  
for Air Commodore,  
Air Officer Commanding;  
No. 214 Group, RAF. CME.

File

15

FROM - AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION.  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION. NAPLES. (53625 - 27)

TO - HEADQUARTERS, 214 GROUP, R.A.F., C.M.F.  
(Attention Group Captain Britton)

DATE - 22nd AUGUST, 1944

REF - ASC/42.

A.V.L.S. WORKS AT CASTELLAMARE.

Attached please find list of materials required by the above Firm for the re-construction of Building No. 26 at Castellammare.

Telephone conversation Group Captain Britton/Wing Commander Winter of 21/8/44 refers.

*W.L.*  
(W.L. Winter)  
Wing Commander.  
*W* Air Vice-Marshal.  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

662

14  
MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF THE CONSTRUCTION BUILDING NO. 26.

OF THE A.V.I.S. 1945 AT - CASTELLANOS

36 Pieces Irons at angles of equal profile

11 mm 120 x 110 x 12 - 10.5 metres each

36 Pieces Irons at angles of equal profile

7 mm 75 x 75 x 10 - 5.4 metres each

300 metres Irons at angles of equal profile

6 mm 65 x 65 x 5

200 metres Irons at angles of equal profile

5 mm 50 x 50 x 7

260 Pieces Irons at 0

12 mm 120 x 55 x 7 - 6 metres each

12 Iron Sheets 10 mm thick 1 x 2 metres.

2,000 Round Hooked Iron Nails 18 mm diameter. 66 mm length. 2

1,400 Iron Bolts 18 mm diameter - 50 mm length.

2,000 Corrugated Sheets in Galvanised Iron for Roofing

usual dimensions 2.15 x 0.70

12,000 Hooked Bolts with Nuts and Grover to fix sheets to profile.

10 Bags cement for repairs to pavement.

In order that the firm may be able to carry out the work under present conditions it is necessary that the following facilities should be conceded to them :-

6621

6621

36 Pieces Irons at angles of equal profile

71 mm 75 x 75 x 10 - 9.4 metres each

500 metres Irons at angles of equal profile

51 mm 65 x 65 x 5

200 metres Irons at angles of equal profile

5 mm 50 x 50 x 7

260 pieces Irons at 0

12 mm 120 x 55 x 7 - 6 metres each

12 Iron sheets 10 mm thick 1 x 2 metres.

2,000 Round Headed Iron nails 18 mm diameter, 60 mm length, 2

1,400 Iron Bolts 28 mm diameter - 50 mm length.

2,000 Corrugated sheets in Galvanized Iron for Roofing

usual dimensions 2.15 x 0.70

12,000 Hooked Bolts with nuts and grover to fix sheets to profile.

10 Tons cement for repairs to pavement.

In order that the firm may be able to carry out the work under present conditions it is necessary that the following facilities should be conceded to them:-

(a) The award of specialist Iron workers, at present employed by IIS M.U., R.A.F., should be ceded to the AVIS until the repairs to building 26 are completed.

(b) That the award should be given the use of the equipment, cutting machine and machine for straightening the profile belonging to AVIS but requisitioned by IIS M.U., R.A.F.

Continued.....over

(e) That the above-mentioned materials should be delivered to the Corps or that the necessary means of transport should be supplied.

It is estimated that the building should be completed within three months of receipt at the works of the necessary materials.

1943

(A. J. Inter)  
The Commander,  
Air Vice-Marshal.

AIR OFFICER CORPS SUPPLY.

AIR FORCE SUB-COMMITTEE  
AIR AND CONTROL COMMISSION  
MAY 1945.

22/5/44

XSC/42

FROM HEADQUARTERS

"Ufficio Industrie Costruzioni Aeronautiche "

TO HEADQUARTERS

" 214 Group R.A.F. "

to the attention G/C BRITTON

n° 2/03443/3

Date : July 7 th - 1944

A V I S - CASTELLAMARE

The firm proposes:

- a) To put at your disposal the required machine tools - in case they are available. The thing should be verified by a delegate of yours who should go to Rome for the necessary inspection & control.
- b) When possible you should pay in return a rent to be agreed upon. 6620
- c) The premises - N° 42 - 43 - 44 - of the works at Castellamare should be given back to the firm without you asking in return the rehabilitation of building N° 26.

These premises are completely separated by the highway from the rest of the works - and they are only partially used by 113 N.U. as stores. You have already agreed to give them back to A.V.I.S. under the condition above mentioned ( see your letter - Re.A.V.I.S. - Castellamare - N.2143/906/10rg. - dated April 24th - addressed to Air Forces Sub Commission.).

This solution, which we think is a fair one, will allow the firm to start its rehabilitation on which the I.A.F. is certainly interested.

- d) The firm asks that the machines mentioned in paragraph a) be transferred - when possible - only at the A.V.I.S. works in Castellamare.-

Col.A.A.r.n.Giacomo BRENTA

*J. Brenta*

FROM HEADQUARTERS

"Ufficio Industrie e Costruzioni Aeronautiche "

TO HEADQUARTERS

" 214 Group R.A.F.

to the attention G/O BRITTON

N° 2/03448/3

Date : July 7 th - 1944

A V I S - CASTELLAMARE

The firm proposes

- a) To put at your disposal the required machine tools - in case they are available. The thing should be verified by a delegate of your who should go to Rome for the necessary inspection & control.
- b) When possible you should pay in return a rent to be agreed upon.
- c) The premises - N° 42 - 43 - 44 of the works at Castellamare should be given back to the firm without you asking in return the rehabilitation of building N° 26.

6619

These premises are completely separated by the highway from the rest of the Works - and they are only partially used by 113.M.U. as stores. You have already agreed to give them back to A.V.I.S. under the condition above mentioned ( see your letter - Re.A.V.I.S. - CASTELLAMARE - N.214G/906/10rg. + dated april 24th. - addressed to Air Forces Sub Commission.).

This solution, which we think is a fair one, will allow the firm to start its rehabilitation on which the I.A.F. is certainly interested.

- d) The firm asks that the machines mentionen in paragraph a) be transferred - when possible - only to the A.V.I.S. works in Castellamare.

Col.A.A.R.N. G.Brente.

*IB. [signature]*

COPY

MACHINE TOOLS - REQUIRED FOR 113 H.U.

Description.

| <u>Description.</u>                                                           | <u>Qty.</u> | <u>Required for.</u>                                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Electric Hand drilling machine up to 1 1/2" drill capacity.                   | One         | For drilling and fitting of inserts on engine components.                       |
| Electric Hand drilling machine up to 1/4" drill capacity with 45° angle chuck | One         | For stoping of cracks in Engine Components.                                     |
| Lathe 4 1/2" centre swing x 3' 6" - 4' 6" length.                             | Three       | General Manufacture of parts for sections.                                      |
| Lathe 5 1/2" - 6 3/4" centre swing x 4' 9" - 5' 6" length.                    | Three       | Machining of pistons for M.T.R.S. and P.E. Speed of 1200 rpm. to be obtainable. |
| Lathe 2 3/4" - 3 1/4" centre swing bench lathe Atlas type.                    | Two         | Manufacture of small parts e.g. Special nuts and bolts for S.R.S.               |
| Surface grinder - horizontal traverse type.                                   | Two         | Grinding piston rings and cylinder blocks for MTRS.                             |
| Hydraulic press 100-200 tons.                                                 | One         | Manufacture of JAP con rods.                                                    |
| Crank grinder 12" - 14" centre swing 12' length                               | One         | Grinding Lister Diesel Crankshafts.                                             |
| Radial Drilling machine.                                                      | One         | Drilling large castings etc.                                                    |
| Shaping machine.                                                              | Two         | Manufacture of General Work arising.                                            |
| Vertical Milling Machine.                                                     | One         | General use on work arising in sections.                                        |
| Universal Milling Machine.                                                    | One         | General use on work arising in sections.                                        |
| Capstan lathes 6 3/4" centre swing.                                           | Two         | General Manufacture AGS. part                                                   |
| Fuel pump test rig. Diesel.                                                   | one         | For use in generating set repairs.                                              |
| Injector Test rig - Diesel.                                                   | One         | For use in generating set repairs.                                              |
| Drill, sensitive radial.                                                      | One         | For use in GSS/Wags. shop.                                                      |
| Press, hand small                                                             | One         | " " "                                                                           |
| Horizontal boring machine. (for mortising), with drills.                      | One         | For use in GSS/Carp. shop.                                                      |

|                                                                                                                                    |       |                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lathe 4 1/2" centre swing x 3' 6" length.                                                                                          | Three | General Manufacture of parts for sections.                                      |
| Lathe 5 1/2" - 6 3/4" centre swing x 4' 9" - 5' 6" length.                                                                         | Three | Machining of pistons for M.T.R.S. and P.E. Speed of 1200 rpm. to be obtainable. |
| Lathe 2 3/4" - 3 1/4" centre swing bench lathe Atlas type.                                                                         | Two   | Manufacture of small parts e.g. Special nuts and bolts for S.R.S.               |
| Surface grinder - horizontal traverse type.                                                                                        | Two   | Grinding piston rings and cylinder blocks for MTRs.                             |
| Hydraulic press 100-200 tons.                                                                                                      | One   | Manufacture of JAP con rods.                                                    |
| Crank grinder 12" - 14" centre swing 12' length                                                                                    | One   | Grinding Lister Diesel Crankshafts.                                             |
| Radial Drilling machine.                                                                                                           | One   | Drilling large castings etc.                                                    |
| Shaping machine.                                                                                                                   | Two   | Manufacture of General Work arising. <b>6618</b>                                |
| Vertical Milling Machine.                                                                                                          | One   | General use on work arising in sections.                                        |
| Universal Milling Machine.                                                                                                         | One   | General use on work arising in sections.                                        |
| Capstan lathes 6 3/4" centre swing.                                                                                                | Two   | General Manufacture ACS part                                                    |
| Fuel pump test rig. Diesel.                                                                                                        | one   | For use in generating set repairs.                                              |
| Injector Test rig-Diesel.                                                                                                          | One   | For use in generating set repairs.                                              |
| Drill, sensitive radial.                                                                                                           | One   | For use in GRS/Mags. shop.                                                      |
| Press, hand small                                                                                                                  | One   | " " "                                                                           |
| Horizontal boring machine. (For mortising), with drills.                                                                           | One   | For use in GRS/Garp. shop.                                                      |
| Spindle moulding machine.                                                                                                          | One   | For use in GRS/Garp. shop.                                                      |
| Heavy duty electric hand drilling machine                                                                                          | One   | For use in No.1 Carp. shop.                                                     |
| Automatic Band saw sharpening machine                                                                                              | One   | For use in HQ. Carp shop.                                                       |
| Grindstone                                                                                                                         | One   | For use in HQ. Carp shop.                                                       |
| Universal grinder type: Soudaria e-rafi(Modena)- Churchill; centres : Longl. traverse 24"; hydraulic action; complete accessories. | One   | For use in GRS/Machine shop.                                                    |

at'd... .

| <u>Description</u>                                                                                                              | <u>Qty.</u> | <u>Required for.</u>            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Japstan automatic (Semi) type<br>Alfred Herbert No.4 : centre full<br>oppat an; 4' bed, self contained<br>complete accessories; | One         | For use in GES/Machine<br>shop. |
| Shaping machine. 8" stroke; 1'6" table, One<br>all geared; self contained.                                                      | One         | For use in GES/Machine<br>shop. |

6617

HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION  
INDUSTRY & COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION  
APO 394

ASA/oc

Ref. ACC/5000/IC

17 May 1944

SUBJECT: A.V.I.S. Airplane Works - Castellammare.

TO : Air Forces Sub-Commission

1. This will acknowledge your letter dated 15 May on above subject. This information will be communicated to Local Resources Board, AAI. The inventory of this material, when ready, will be appreciated for information.

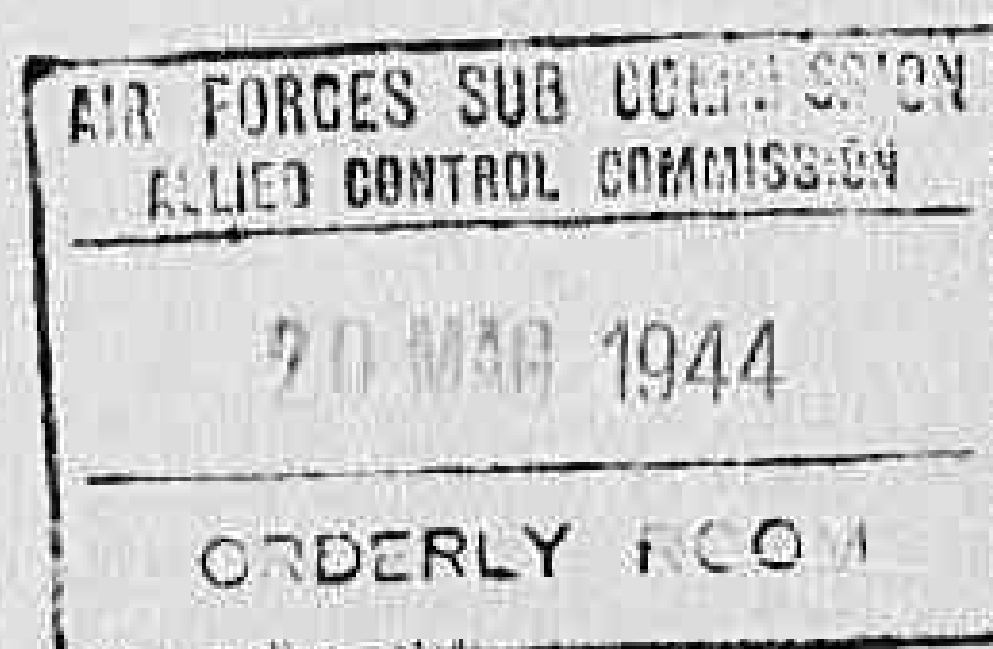
2. A request has just been received from Ord.(Br) for small supplies of various non-ferrous metals, as detailed on Appx. A. If any of the items requested are available from stocks under your control, and can be spared to Ord (Br) it will be much appreciated. No other sources for these materials are known to this Sub-Commission.

*W. P. Evans*  
W. P. EVANS  
Colonel  
Director, Industry & Commerce  
Sub-Commission

6616

1 Incl:  
Appendix A  
Non-ferrous Metal Requirements.

*Sent copy to Bari 20/5/44.  
Mks to 11/7/44 no reply  
received from Bari.*



11

FROM - Air Forces Sub-Commission,  
Allied Control Commission, NAPLES.

TO - Headquarters, 214 Group, R.A.F., C.M.F.  
(Attention Group Capt. Britton)

DATE - 1st July, 1944

REF - ASC/42

A.V.I.S. Factory - Castellammare.

It will be appreciated if the under-mentioned Italians may be given permission to visit and inspect the AVIS Factory, Castellammare, now occupied by No. 113 B.U., R.A.F., with a view to possible rehabilitation in accordance with letter from your Headquarters ref. 2140/3420 / 2/ESA dated 21st June, 1944.

The Italians in question are-

General Imadio FIGURE.  
Mr Arturo BERGONE.  
Mr Mario BORSO,  
Mr Venturino VENTURINI.

*W.L. Minter*  
(W.L. Minter)  
Wing Commander,  
*W* Air Vice Marshal,  
AIR OFFICERS COMMANDING.

6615

From : Headquarters, No. 214 Group, R.A.F., C.M.F.  
To : Air Forces Sub-Commission, Allied Control Commission. ✓  
Date : 24 April, 1944.  
Ref. : 214G/906/1/Org.

RESTRICTED

AVIS FACTORY - CASTELLAMARE

Reference your ASC/S.I, of 18th April, 1944, requesting that we hand over items 42, 43, and 44, as marked on the plan of the AVIS Factory, we would point out that the R.A.F. has gone to considerable trouble and expense to re-roof and repair many of the buildings as well as repairing machine tools and equipment.

2. We have at the same time tried to avoid committing the British Government to any unnecessary expense, and have therefore not repaired any more accommodation than we definitely need and are occupying.

3. If, however, the Italian Air Force is willing to rehabilitate building No. 26 as shown in the plan, in order that we could use that ourselves, we might consider the release of the accommodation you request in lieu.

4. Will you please state your reactions to such a proposal and the estimated date of completion in order that we may discuss further.

*Ing. cell.*  
*4 fac. avia alla AVIS*  
*3*  
A.F. BRITTON, G/Capt.  
for Air Commodore,  
Air Officer Commanding,  
No. 214 Group, R.A.F.

Copy to:-  
No. 214 Group Adv.

*for copy*  
*HL*  
6614

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

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

DATE:- 21st June 1944.

REF:- AFSC/S.823/ENC.

Attached herewith is copy of letter just received from  
H.Q. 214 Group.

2. From it you will see that most of our requests have been  
granted, and you should proceed with the rehabilitation of this  
factory. This should be done in collaboration with the Sub-  
Commission for Industry and Commerce.

3. I am taking up the question of the sharing out of the  
fabric separately, and will let you know about this in due  
course.

4. With regard to the Metalascope, if Colonel Brenta can  
find out where this is, I suggest that he goes and lays his hands  
on it.

*W.A.B. Bowen-Buscarlet.*

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

*Copy of this letter & enclosure given to  
Col. Brenta 24/6/44.*

6613

COPY.

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

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

Date : 21st June, 1944.

Ref : 214G/3420/2/E5A.

AVIS Works - Castellonare.

In reply to your AFSC/S.823/RQ dated 9th June, this Headquarters has no objection to representatives of the AVIS Company approved by you, entering the works for the purposes of rehabilitation as outlined in your letter. This Headquarters is not directly concerned with either the Stabiersi Navali property or the villa referred to.

2. Any machinery or equipment not in use or intended for immediate use by No.115 H.Q. may be de-requisitioned and taken over by the firm. All items listed in Appendix "B" to your letter come under this heading except materials.

3. We will accept the distribution of the materials from the Castellonare villa proposed by you if you are satisfied that this is a fair basis. We note that certain materials, notably fabric are not bid for by the AVIS Company and would appreciate two thirds of the fabric for Wellington repairs if you can spare it, and suggest any other items not bid for by AVIS be shared by us 50/50 with the I.A.F.

4. The Metascope is not immediately known and recognised, but it is certain that it can be returned to us if not in use by us.

(Sgd). A.F. Britton, C/O **6612**  
for Air Commodore,  
Air Officer Commanding,  
No.214 Group, R.A.F. C.M.F.

FROM - Air Forces Sub-Commission,  
Headquarters, Allied Control Commission.

TO - 115 A.S. 2nd Echelon,  
R.A.F., C.A.F.

DATE - 19th June, 1944

REF - 430/42

A.V.I.S. Factory - Castellammare.

Authority has been given to the above  
firm to withdraw from their premises at Castell-  
ammare their damaged machine tools and their  
damaged materials which are not being used by  
your Unit.

It is requested therefore that you will  
allow them to carry out this operation.

*W.A.B. Bowen-Buscarlet*

(W.A.B. Bowen-Buscarlet)  
Air Vice Marshal,  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

6611

FROM - Air Forces Sub Commission.  
H.Q., Allied Control Commission.

TO - The Manager. A.V.I.S. Factory.  
Castellammare.

DATE - 19th June, 1944

REF - ABC/42

You are hereby authorised to withdraw  
from your premises at Castellammare, at pre-  
sent occupied by 113 A.U., 2nd Echelon, R.A.F.,  
the damaged Machine Tools and damaged Materials  
belonging to your Firm, provided they are not  
being utilized by the above-named R.A.F. Unit.

*M.L.*  
(M.L. Linter)

Wing Commander,

Air. Vice-Marshal.

AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

6610

FROM - Air Forces Sub-Commission,  
Allied Control Commission, NAPLES.

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

DATE - 16th June, 1944

REF - ASC/42

AVIS WORKS - CASTELLAMARE.

Reference letter written by the  
A.O.C. to 214 Group, ref. AFSC/S.623/ENG  
dated 9th June, 1944, attached please find  
further letter from Col. Brenta, ref 2/02957/3  
dated 15th June, together with letter from  
A.V.I.S. ref 7705 Ing.CO/Drt dated 9th June,  
dealing with the subject matter.

*W.L.Minter*  
(W.L.Minter)

Wing Commander,

*W* Air Vice-Marshal

AIR OFFICER COMMANDING

6609

6608

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

TO - INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION,  
HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION.

DATE - 18th JUNE, 1944

REF - A36/42

A.V.I.S. FACTORY, CASCEDUMARE - INVENTORY.

Attached please find letter from A.V.I.S. dated 12th May, 1944, addressed to IJ M.U., R.A.F., 2nd Echelon, and letter from IJ M.U., R.A.F., dated 9th June 1944, addressed to the A.C.C. Also enclosed is the copy of the Inventory referred to in the correspondence.

2. It will be noted that the A.V.I.S. require the copy of the Inventory returned to them duly signed, but in view of the fact that no Inventory was taken by IJ M.U., R.A.F., when they took possession of the factory, they are not in a position to vouch for the accuracy of the Inventory now submitted by the A.V.I.S.

3. It will be appreciated, therefore, if you will give a ruling as to whether your Sub-Commission, this Sub Commission or the IJ M.U., R.A.F., are authorised to sign the copy of Inventory under the circumstances. Failing which, what is the utmost which can be done to satisfy the wishes of the A.V.I.S.

4. Please return the attached correspondence and copy of Inventory with your reply.

(A.V.I.S. Winter)

Wing Commander,

Air Vice-Marshal,

AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

DATE - 16th JUNE, 1944

RSM - ABC/42

A.V.I.S. FACTORY, CASTLEBAR - INVENTORY.

Attached please find letter from A.V.I.S. dated 12th May, 1944, addressed to IIS M.U., R.A.F., 2nd Echelon, and letter from IIS M.U., R.A.F., dated 9th June 1944, addressed to the A.C.C. Also enclosed is the copy of the inventory referred to in the correspondence.

6608

2. If it will be noted that the A.V.I.S. require the copy of the inventory returned to them duly signed, but in view of the fact that no inventory was taken by IIS M.U., R.A.F., when they took possession of the factory, they are not in a position to vouch for the accuracy of the inventory now submitted by the A.V.I.S.

3. It will be appreciated, therefore, if you will give a ruling as to whether your sub-Commission, this Sub Commission or the IIS M.U., R.A.F., are authorized to sign the copy of inventory under the circumstances. Failing which, what is the utmost which can be done to satisfy the wishes of the A.V.I.S.

4. Please return the attached correspondence and copy of inventory with your reply.

*W.L.*  
(S.L. Minter)

Wing Commander,  
Air Vice-Marshal,  
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Encls.....3

From: Air Forces Sub-Commission,  
Allied Controlled Commission, Naples.

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

Date: 5th June, 1944.

Ref: ASC/1.42.

A.V.I.S. CASTELLAMARE.

1. Attached please find letter from Colonel Brenta, ref. 2/02669/3, dated 3rd June, regarding the proposed rehabilitation of the above firm. The letters from A.V.I.S. referred to in Colonel Brenta's letter are also attached.

2. It will be noted that the whole matter is of considerable importance and requires careful study.

3. It is suggested that Air Vice Marshal W.A.B. Bowen-Buscarlet may desire to handle this matter personally on the spot when he is next in Naples.

(W.L. Winter)

Wing Commander  
Air Vice Marshall  
Air Officer Commanding.

660

3 June 1944

FROM HEADQUARTERS

"Ufficio Industria e Costruzioni Aeronautiche"

Naples - 223 Via Posillipo - Tel. 14153 -

TO HEADQUARTERS

Air Forces Subcommittee - A.O.C.

2/22669/3

Naples

copy

A V I S

- 1) This firm is in the same situation of BREDA. They both had their works shops and the biggest part of their machinery and material requisitioned by Allied Units - and because of our incapacity to fulfill our engagements they had been left in the most difficult financial position. Only after we obtained from the Minister of Finance the authorisation to pay part of our debts they were given the opportunity to plan their rehabilitation. It is however understandable that these plans can not be carried out without a minimum of facilities and of guaranties which can only be given by Allied Authorities.
- 2) A.V.I.S. ask that the materials and machinery mentioned in their letter n° 7419 of May 24th be given back to them. My opinion is that as these materials and machinery are badly damaged and can not be used by 113 M.U. their request should be granted.
- 3) The enclosed copy of letter 7653 of May 31th gives a rather clear idea of A.V.I.S. programme and mentions some other requests. Among these are :
  - a) The one asking the restitution of the villa which was formerly occupied by the managing director and which is now occupied by

1/1/..

( 2 )

some American Officers. In this villa they intend to establish the offices and stores. We understand this is a delicate question and ask you to let us know your opinion on the matter before taking any steps. We think however that this villa should be given back to A.V.I.S. as soon as the unit to which belong the American Officers actually living in it will be displaced.

- b) The one asking a " cracks detector " which is absolutely essential to us for the overhauling of our engines. This machine is actually not in use and we think it should be, as soon as possible, be given back to us. 6605
- 4) The letter n.7656 of June 1st, which has been sent to you as well, touches probably the most delicate point of the whole A.V.I.S. problem. To give back to a firm a few damaged machines without giving back the materials which are needed to repair and to operate them, is of little or no practical use. Those materials are all which remain to A.V.I.S. of their belonging and we think it should not be impossible to find a solution satisfactory to everyone concerned.

After having admitted that all the fabric will be divided between 214 Group and I.A.F. I think it would be only fair to agree that bronze, copper, muntz metal, tin, brass, aluminium and ten should be divided in three equal parts, and that one of these parts be definitely allotted to A.V.I.S. -To avoid misunderstanding and contestations I venture to suggest that this agreement should be signed by you, a representative of 214 Group, and my self.-

Col. A.A.r.n. Giacomo BRENTA

*original with 2 annexes**JBrenta*

FROM HEADQUARTERS

" Ufficio Industrie e Costruzioni Aeronautiche "

Naples - 223 Via Posillipo - Tel. 14153

TO HEADQUARTERS

Air Forces Sub Commission A.C.C.-

- Naples -

Date : June 15th - 1944

A.V.I.S.

2/02957/3

6604

- 1) We enclose the original & a copy of a letter addressed to us by the firm above mentioned.-
- 2) The letter in question contains some requests which, we think, are justified. We should therefore be very grateful if, you would contact the authorities and units concerned and let us know if these requests can be accepted. In case they will the A.V.I.S. would really be put in a position to start an activity which might be very useful to us.-

Col. A.A.r.n. Giacomo BRENTA

*G. Brenta*

Two annexes

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

TO: - HEADQUARTERS, 214 GROUP, R.A.F. C.E.F.  
COPY TO: INDUSTRY & COMMERCE SUB-COMMISSION, A.C.G.  
COPY TO: A.F.S.C. NAPLES. ✓

DATE: - 25th June 1944.

REF: - AFEO/S.823/ENG.

A.V.I.S. WORKS - CASTELLAMARE.

The above-mentioned firm have now received a part payment of the amount owed to them by the Italian Government, and wish to rehabilitate themselves. They have and the greater part of their machinery and materials requisitioned by Allied Units, but given a certain minimum of facilities and guarantees, they will be able to proceed with their reconstruction. When this is done they will be in a position to produce materials in aid of the Allied war effort.

2. The policy of the firm is set out in Attachment "A" to this letter, and it will be seen that their rehabilitation is dependent upon the de-requisitioning of certain premises, upon the supply of certain raw materials, and on the return of certain requisitioned machinery which it is understood is not in use by the Royal Air Force.

6603

3. The small demands in the matter of de-requisitioning property are clearly shown in paragraph 2(e) of Attachment "A". If 214 Group has no objection to the remaining demands, this matter can be taken up through the Industry and Commerce Sub-Commission of the A.C.G.

4. Attachment "B" shows the machinery etc. which has been requisitioned, and which the firm wish to have returned to them.

5. Attachment "C" shows the raw material which the firm consider will be necessary, in order to commence work. It will be realised that it will be of little use to give the firm back their premises and some damaged machinery, unless they have the materials needed for the repair and operation of the machines. The raw materials asked for were originally the property of the A.V.I.S. Company being part of the materials recovered from the Castellammare Villa. (This H.Q. letter AFEO/S.823/ENG dated 4th June 1944 to 214 Group refers). The demands represent about one third of the material recovered. Unless there are other over-riding considerations, it is thought that it is reasonable to agree that the raw material should be divided into 3 parts, one each to go to the R.A.F. I.A.F., and to the A.V.I.S. Company.

6. The last paragraph of Attachment "A" refers to a microscope (crash detector) which was recovered undamaged from the air-raid shelter. It is understood that this is not being used, and is very urgently required by the I.A.F. to whom the firm is willing to lend it.

7. If 214 Group will signify their agreement to paragraph 3, 4, and 5,

The above-mentioned firm have now received a part payment of the amount owed to them by the Italian Government, and wish to rehabilitate themselves. They have and the greater part of their machinery and materials requisitioned by Allied Units, but given a certain minimum of facilities and guarantees, they will be able to proceed with their reconstruction. When this is done they will be in a position to produce materials in aid of the Allied war effort.

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6. The last paragraph of Attachment "A" refers to a metaloscope (crack detector) which was recovered unmanaged from the air-raid shelter. It is understood that this is not being used, and is very urgently required by the I.A.F. to whom the firm is willing to lend it.

7. If 214 Group will signify their agreement to paragraph 3, 4, and 5, I shall then be in a position to deal with para 2, through the appropriate Sub-Commission of the A.C.C.

8. Will 214 Group please state whether the metaloscope referred to in paragraph 6 is in their possession, and whether they are willing to return it.

9. It is felt that if the proposals set forth in this letter can be agreed to, the firm will soon be in a position to assist the Allied war effort.

*W.A.B. Bowen-Buckland*

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

COPY.

APPENDIX A

COMANDO SEZIONE  
CONSTRUZIONI, AERONAUTICA DELLA  
CAMPANIA, UFFICIO INDUSTRIE.  
Naples.  
Via Posillipo, 223.

For the attention of the O.C., Col. Brenta.

The a/m firm is happy to confirm that the a/m proposition, considered for some time to recommence industrial activity despite the total requisitioning of the a/m establishment, is now decisively confirmed. Therefore we think that the more serious difficulties can be eliminated or avoided.

We remember that the principle reasons that urge us on are the following:

1. To prepare as from now on a centre of production and industrial activity which could be rapidly employed just as soon as the workshops are returned to us.

If we do not take advantage of the present moment to carry out this preparatory work, which is of a technical, industrial, and commercial nature, we cannot overcome tomorrow the inevitable crisis due to the starting phase: it is this starting phase that we intend initiating now.

2. Augment the possibility of gradually substituting some of the workshops bit by bit as the needs of the occupying R.A.F. decrease.

6602

We intend to solve the principle difficulties in the following manner:

(a) Premises.

We are leasing a small part of the workshops of the Stableni Naval Dockyards, in which business house we are interested, and which is not requisitioned as it is dedicated to wooden naval constructions for the Royal Navy. We can thus profit from the electric power.

- (b) Finance. We are relying on a first payment up to L.5,000,000, on account of the a/m credits that the Air Force can allow us, other than the most urgent discharged debts, to overcome the first expenses.

(c) Materials.

We have relied upon certain materials from the villa in the Via Circouvallazione. We trust that 244 Group R.A.F. will leave us an appreciable part of that disposable, but we believe we shall find some systems so that we do not lose all the materials that we have saved from destruction by the Germans.

Herewith letter No. 7653 - Comando Aeronautica - Campania.

- (d) Machinery-Instruments etc. We believe that this difficulty can be overcome by restitution from 113 M.U. - R.A.F. of that which is in the workshops, which we could use and which is not being used by them. We would point out that a similar request was made by us to the R.A.F. Workshops Command some time ago, and said Command forwarded it to the 113 M.U. General Command.

The General Command replied with a letter of the 17/5/44, signed by Capt. Hurley stating that negotiations should be entered into directly through the Allied Control Commission and the firm.

1. To prepare as from now on a centre of production and industrial activity which could be rapidly employed just as soon as the workshops are returned to us.

If we do not take advantage of the present moment to carry out this preparatory work, which is of a technical, industrial, and commercial nature, we cannot overcome tomorrow the inevitable crisis due to the starting phase: it is this starting phase that we intend initiating now.

2. Augment the possibility of gradually restituting some of the workshops bit by bit as the needs of the occupying R.A.F. decrease.

6602

We intend to solve the principle difficulties in the following manner:

(a) Premises.

-----  
We are leasing a small part of the workshops of the Stableni Naval Dockyard, in which business house we are interested, and which is not requisitioned as it is dedicated to wooden naval constructions for the Royal Navy. We can thus profit from the electric power.

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We have relied upon certain materials from the villa in the Via Circouvallazione. We trust that 244 Group R.A.F. will leave us an appreciable part of that disposable, but we believe we shall find some systems so that we do not lose all the materials that we have saved from destruction by the Germans.

Herewith letter No. 7653 - Comando Aeronautica - Campagna.

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The General Command replied with a letter of the 17/5/44 signed by C/Capt. Hurley stating that negotiations should be entered into directly through the Allied Control Commission and the firm.

We may add that personally the C/O in Castellamare - Squadron Leader Newton has asserted that he has nothing against it, in fact he views it favourably in as much as they do not use the firm, whilst it can be made use of if returned to us, which would avoid further deterioration or dispersal.

which we

We should like the Allied Control Commission to authorise the R.A.F. to restore to us is indicated in the attached original letter addressed to the same A.C.C.

Cont'd.....

We are sending this letter to the Campania Section, and in particular for the attention of Col. Brenta, as he has shown himself to be the only person capable, because of his authority and personal influence, to be able to make the request with a good chance of receiving a favourable reply.

(e) Warehouse - Technical Office and Workshops.

In the premises which we have leased from the Stableni Naval Dockyards there is not sufficient space to install either a reasonable business office or a technical and administrative office.

Furthermore, the space for a store is extremely limited.

These difficulties could be overcome by obtaining permission from the Allied Control Commission for the de-requisitioning of the cottage situated in the via Circonvallazione No. 26, leased to Ing. Calligaris and at present requisitioned for two or three American Officers.

As is well known this cottage has a first-rate store-room, at present unused, it has a telephone installed and could be easily converted into offices.

The Town-Major at Castellammare has stated that the Allied Control Commission could easily give the order to de-requisitioned, especially in view of the fact that the said officers work is more at Torre Annunziata than at Castellammare. It would be a good thing if the de-requisitioning order included not only the house, but also the furniture and fittings which were requisitioned with the house itself.

Naturally if this de-requisitioning order is obtained the cottage will be effectively and exclusively adapted for offices and store-room, and not for a private dwelling.

Whilst extending our warmest thanks for this new manifestation of courtesy and interest, we should like to state that:

(1) We believe that with the machinery that will be recovered, to be able to assume a commitment for a/c radiators for the I.A.F.

We are at their disposition as from now, if you wish to send a design or a sample.

(2) Amongst the material that we intend recovering from the air-raid shelter (see attached letter) there is an undamaged Metalascope which according to the express desire of this Section, can be ceded by us to the I.A.F.

Respectfully.

APPENDIX B

COPY.

AVIO INDUSTRIE STABIANI.  
Annuaire 1944/45.

To the Allied Control Commission, Naples.  
24th May 1944.

Our firm of AVIO INDUSTRIE STABIANI at Castellammare di Stabia, requisitioned by the R.A.F. - 113 M.S. C.M.F. - 2nd Echelon, with the intention of recommencing industrial activity, either of a civilian nature to co-operate in the work of reconstruction, or eventually to try to recommence work for the I.A.F. asks that it may be permitted to take from the perimeter of the Workshops, in order that it may be utilised, the following:

1. From the Air Raid Shelter.

- (a) Damaged machine tools, that have been recovered and so far have not been taken away by the above mentioned Command.
- (b) Various used and damaged instruments.
- (c) Damaged screws, nails and bolts.
- (d) Two half-undercarriages, for the A/C CA/344.
- (e) One broken electric motor.
- (f) A certain quantity of burned-out electric cable.

2. From the Stores.

- (a) Two broken machine presses.
- (b) A certain quantity of steel that you will establish.
- (c) A certain quantity of tubing that you will establish.
- (d) A certain quantity of laminated steel, aluminium or duralumin that you will establish.

Letter No. 7419 of the 24/5/44 follows:-

(3) Construction material.

- (a) Demolition Sandstone blocks from the outer wall.
- (b) Tiles that it may be possible to salvage.

(4) From the Workshops.

- (a) A small damaged mechanical press.
- (b) The press for straightening metal-sheets.

(5) From the Square.

- (a) Salvage as much as is possible from the Square close to the new engine test-bench.
- (b) Salvage as much wreckage as is possible from the square.

(6) Electric motors.

6666

## following:

## 1. From the Air Raid Shelter.

- (a) Damaged machine tools, that have been recovered and so far have not been taken away by the above mentioned Command.
- (b) Various used and damaged instruments.
- (c) Damaged screws, nails and bolts.
- (d) Two half-undercarriages, for the A/C CA/34.
- (e) One broken electric motor.
- (f) A certain quantity of burned-out electric cable.

6666

## 2. From the Stores.

- (a) Two broken machine presses.
- (b) A certain quantity of steel that you will establish.
- (c) A certain quantity of tubing that you will establish.
- (d) A certain quantity of laminated steel, aluminium or duralumin that you will establish.

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- (a) A small damaged mechanical press.
- (b) The press for straightening metal-sheets.

## (5) From the Square.

- (a) Salvage as much as is possible from the Square close to the new engine test-bench.
- (b) Salvage as much wreckage as is possible from the square.

## (6) Electric motors.

- (a) No. 5 electric motors, to be overhauled.
- (b) No. 1 U/S transformer.

## (7) Various. The Ford lorry and trailer.

Whilst we formally declare that all the above indicated is exclusively the property of the above mentioned firm, we wish to state that an analogous request has been made to the 21st Group R.A.F., 2nd Echelon Command, 113 M.U., who replied that they have nothing against releasing that which they are not using, but that any decision is exclusively incumbent on the Allied Control Commission.

Awaiting your reply.

Copy 1

APPENDIX C

AVIO INDUSTRIE STARLENSI.

SPETT/LE  
COMANDO NUCLEO COSTRUZIONI  
AERONAUTICHE DELLA CAMPANIA  
UFFICIO INDUSTRIE. NAPLES.  
Via Posillipo, 223.

1/6/44.

For the attention of Col. Brenta.

With reference to the letter addressed to this section No. 7653 of the 31/5/44 and to the letter sent to 214 Group Command R.A.F. No. 7655 of the 31/5/44, we wish to state that these are the quantities of materials that this firm considers of the maximum importance for starting up again industrially and which they rely upon being restituted.

Bronze Group.

Bronze L.R.7 ~ FULCRO - ASTERIO -  
Forged bronze - DELTA - LIASE  
Bronze tubing.

Total quantity "existing" - about ..... Kg 15,000  
requested by the firm, about 30% for civilian production, repairs to machine tools - an amount kept in stock for various jobs - for I.A.F. Orders etc.

|        |         |       |    |     |
|--------|---------|-------|----|-----|
| mm.    | 21      | ..... | Kg | 500 |
| "      | 32      | ..... | "  | 350 |
| "      | 38      | ..... | "  | 350 |
| "      | 46      | ..... | "  | 450 |
| "      | 50 & 51 | ..... | "  | 450 |
| "      | 54 & 55 | ..... | "  | 450 |
| "      | 62 & 63 | ..... | "  | 500 |
| "      | 70 & 72 | ..... | "  | 550 |
| "      | 82 & 85 | ..... | "  | 600 |
| tubing |         | ..... | "  | 500 |

6599

Total requested 4,700 kg.

The part measures and quantities have only an indicative character as a large part of the material is indicated in the inventory as "various amounts".

Copper Group.

"existing" Kg. 2. 369,500 "requested" Nil.

Copper bars: "existing" Kg. 504 requested Kg. 250.

Copper tubes: "existing" Kg. 661 requested. Kg. 250.

Copper plates: mm 0,3" existing about Kg 16,100 requested Kg 16,100  
" 0,4 " " 5,200 " " 25,000  
" 0,5 " " 72,000 " " 200,000  
" 0,8 " " 501,000 " " 200,000

3/2/44 we wish to state that these are the quantities of materials that are being restituted.

### Bronze Group.

Bronze L.R.7 - FULCRO - AETERNO -  
Forged bronze - DELTA - LIASE

Bronze tubing.

Total quantity "existing" - about ..... Kg 15,000  
requested by the firm, about 30% for civilian production, repairs to machine tools - an amount kept in stock for various jobs - for I.A.F. Orders etc.

|         |       |    |     |
|---------|-------|----|-----|
| mm.     | ..... | Kg | 500 |
| 21      | ..... | "  | 350 |
| 32      | ..... | "  | 350 |
| 38      | ..... | "  | 450 |
| 46      | ..... | "  | 450 |
| 50 & 51 | ..... | "  | 450 |
| 54 & 55 | ..... | "  | 500 |
| 62 & 63 | ..... | "  | 550 |
| 70 & 72 | ..... | "  | 600 |
| 82 & 85 | ..... | "  | 500 |
| tubing  | ..... |    |     |

6599

Total requested 4,700 kg.

The part measures and quantities have only an indicative character as a large part of the material is indicated in the inventory as "various amounts".

### Copper Group.

"existing" Kg. 2,369,500 "requested" Nil.

Copper bars: "existing" Kg. 504 requested Kg. 250.

Copper tubes: "existing" Kg. 661 requested. Kg. 250.

|                                                                     |   |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Copper plates: mm 0,3" existing about Kg 16,100 requested Kg 16,100 |   |           |
| " 0,4                                                               | " | " 5,200   |
| " 0,5                                                               | " | " 72,000  |
| " 0,8                                                               | " | " 501,200 |
| " 1                                                                 | " | " 145,700 |
| " 1,5                                                               | " | " 9,500   |
| " 2,5                                                               | " | " 388,000 |
| " 3,5                                                               | " | " 13,800  |

Total: " Kg. 1452,500 Requested Kg. 564,400.

-2-

Munt. Metal Group.

|                  |           |             |      |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|------|
| "existing" about | Kg. 3,756 | "Requested" | Nil. |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|------|

Zinc sheets Group.

|                  |         |             |     |
|------------------|---------|-------------|-----|
| "existing" about | Kg. 850 | "Requested" | 200 |
|------------------|---------|-------------|-----|

Brass Group.

Circular brass-hexagonal - machined shapes - tubing "Existing" Kg 11,279, 500.

|             |           |       |     |
|-------------|-----------|-------|-----|
| "Requested" | Hexagonal | mm    | Kg. |
|             | "         | 22    | 200 |
|             | "         | 25    | 250 |
|             | "         | 27,28 | 250 |
|             | "         | 32,33 | 400 |
|             | "         | 35    | 150 |
|             | "         | 40    | 150 |
|             | "         | 55,58 | 100 |
|             | Circular  | "     | "   |
|             | "         | 10    | 200 |
|             | "         | 20    | 200 |
|             | "         | 30    | 200 |
|             | "         | 40    | 200 |
|             | "         | 50    | 300 |
|             | "         | 60    | 300 |
|             | Tubing    | "     | 264 |

---

Total requested Kg 3.164

---

The measures and quantities have only an indicative character as a large part of the material is indicated in the inventory as "various amounts".

## Brass plates:

"existing" Kg. 1,796.

|                           |     |     |     |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| "Requested" thickness mm. | 0,7 | 0,8 | Kg. |
| "                         | 1,2 | 1,5 | 250 |
| "                         | 2   | "   | 80  |
| "                         | 3   | "   | 100 |
| "                         | 4   | "   | 100 |

Total requested:

Kg. 630.

Aluminium Group.

Sheets "existing"

Kg. 1243 requested Kg. 250

| "Requested" | Hexagonal | mm  | Kg. |
|-------------|-----------|-----|-----|
| "           | 22        | 200 | 200 |
| "           | 25        | "   | 250 |
| "           | 27,28     | "   | 250 |
| "           | 32,33     | "   | 400 |
| "           | 35        | "   | 150 |
| "           | 40        | "   | 150 |
| "           | 55,58     | "   | 100 |
| Circular    |           |     |     |
| "           | 10        | "   | 200 |
| "           | 20        | "   | 200 |
| "           | 30        | "   | 200 |
| "           | 40        | "   | 200 |
| "           | 50        | "   | 300 |
| "           | 60        | "   | 300 |
| Tubing      |           |     |     |
| "           | "         | "   | 264 |

Total requested Kg 3.164.

The measures and quantities have only an indicative character as a large part of the material is indicated in the inventory as "various amounts".

#### Brass plates:

"existing" Kg. 1,796.

| "Requested" thickness mm. | 0,7 | 0,8 | Kg. |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| "                         | 1,2 | 1,5 | 250 |
| "                         | 2   | "   | 80  |
| "                         | 3   | "   | 100 |
| "                         | 4   | "   | 100 |
| "                         | "   | "   | 100 |

Total requested:

Kg. 630.

#### Aluminium Group.

##### Sheets "existing"

Kg. 124,3 requested Kg. 250

##### Plates "existing"

| Kg. | 22.427,700 | "requested" mm | 0,8 | Kg.   |
|-----|------------|----------------|-----|-------|
| "   | "          | "              | 1   | 1.500 |
| "   | "          | "              | 1,5 | 1.500 |
| "   | "          | "              | 3,4 | 1.500 |
| "   | "          | "              | "   | 500   |

Total requested Kg. 5.000

#### Pure Tin Group.

Pure tin "existing" Kg. 476, "requested" Kg. 200.

#### Lead Group.

Lead: "existing" Kg. 603. "requested" Kg. 300.

