

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

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COMMANDERS' CONFERENCES, IAF
JAN. - MAR. 1946

-1-

Minutes 1A and 2. Extracted from file AFSC/366/OW to start this file. Two policy letters concerning conferences still on AFSC/366.

A.B.

Now on this file *September 16*
20/1/61.

1700

W 28/3

FROM : S/Ldr. D.H.G. Smith

TO : Director
Deputy Director

SUBJECT : Meeting of Territorial Commanders
Notes at IAM on 23 March 25 March 1946

done 18/4
→ this to Mr. Legats & no other
action until we get minutes & reports from the IAF (as promised)
18/28/3

1. The following are the impressions obtained during the meeting after AVM Brodie and Brig. General Lee had left.

2. (See paras. 2-10 Flt/Off Legats' notes). During the discussion of subjects "A and B" on the agenda, every effort was made to place before the meeting the disastrous point at which the IAF had arrived. The various difficulties reported by the Regional Commanders, e.g., effect on moral of discrimination, lack of financial assistance for reconstruction, the fact that though the IAF was nominally 30,000 strong they had still to administer their pre-armistice personnel to the total of 250,000, were answered by General Ajmone-Cat and his Air Ministry Director Generals by means of a prayer for patience because they fully understood the difficulties but were absolutely incapable of performing the necessary miracles to improve matters which are in perfect keeping with the Italian internal situation.

3. Coupled with the prayer for patience was the request for 100% efficiency, discipline, and honesty in the hope that the IAF could justify its existence to the Italian Government and people.

4. General Ajmone-Cat also quoted the ridiculous state of affairs whereby he himself earns 21,000 lire per month, his lieutenant 11,000, but the civilian porter at the main entrance to the IAM earns 16,000. Col. Girando (1 ZAT Milan) pointed out how dangerous this state of affairs was when everybody was tempted to supplement their incomes by rather dubious means, especially when a junior officer is posted and has to keep a home going on his miserable pittance (see Flt/Off Legats' report, para. 7).

5. The pay problem was agreed to be most serious and though no increases could be made recommendations were made to General Pellacci (Director of Service) and General Agnesi (in Personnel/Postings) to make every effort to cut down unnecessary transfers of personnel and where they were unavoidable if possible to place service transport on repayment at the disposal of personnel (N.B. at civilian rates it would cost some 500,000 lire for an officer to remove his wife, family, and furniture from Milan).

123

-2-

to Rome ((see also Flt/Off Legats' report para 8 & 9)).

6. General Pellacci said that everything possible would be done in this direction, but that the shortages of petrol and transport did not permit assistance to be rendered every time.

7. (See para. 11 and 13 Flt/Off Legats' report). General Ajmone-Cat stated most firmly that he was absolutely against direct control by the IAM of units (ZAT Commanders Areas, i.e. salvage units, etc.). General Pellacci stated equally firmly that he wished to retain control.

8. General Ajmone-Cat was forced to bring this discussion to a belated end and the meeting was definitely in favor of the responsibility and control being given to the ZAT Commanders.

9. The discussions were carried out in most satisfactory manner with little acrimony (except when General Pellacci endeavored to retain control of this salvage empire). Everyone seemed to be ready to face the almost unsurmountable difficulties in good humour and the wish to cooperate was apparent in both Regional Commanders and Civil Ministry Heads of Departments.

10. It is difficult to be convinced that the meeting will serve any useful purpose other than being (a) a useful interchange of ideas between IAM heads of departments and the Regional Commanders, and (b) a safety valve for very harassed generals who find themselves with very difficult jobs to do and no means to do them.

11. It is a pity, even though the meeting had no powers to take action, that a vote or decision was not taken on specific proposals rather than the CAS closing the discussion on each subject with a short speech giving his own views.

[Signature]
S/Ldr. D. H. G. Smith 27/3

0122

Matters discussed at the Meeting of Unit Commanders at Italian Air Ministry on 23.3.46.

1. C.A.S. opened the conference by recalling similar meetings of Unit Commanders which used to be held regularly and which will be particularly useful in the present circumstances in order to give Officers an opportunity of airing their difficulties and generally getting the innumerable worries with which they are at present having to deal, off their chests.
2. Most things which are going wrong are due to the present national situation and not to the organisation of the Aeronautica itself.

Personnel and Discrimination.

3. General Raffaelli (Padua) said that the personnel situation has improved but there are still moral and material worries. Discrimination and Epuration are causing a good deal of bitterness. Many people who received light sentences are still employed but are under constant fear of dismissal. This means that there is unrest for instance between personnel of equal rank but with different disciplinary records. Bad characters who are not employed are attacking those who are still employed but have not been fully discriminated. Many people at the time of the armistice had no opportunity of showing their capabilities because of the locality they happened to be in at the time and therefore it is very difficult to judge which are the best elements. There are undoubtedly a great many very good men who served with the Republic and have therefore been irretrievably lost.

4. It is necessary to give a feeling of security to those who are good characters by letting them know as far as possible what their position will be in the near future. To this end Commissions for selection of personnel should start as soon as possible.

5. C.A.S. pointed out that the Discrimination Law is a state law which has never been properly applied. For instance an officer can be judged by a commission composed of Officers junior in rank to him.

Pay.

6. Although improvements to pay can be proposed by Air Ministry they have to be approved by the Government. So far everything possible has been done at the Air Ministry and without the least possibility of the uncertainty of the future and the precarious

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Pay.

6. Although improvements to pay can be proposed by Air Ministry they have to be approved by the Government. So far everything possible has been done at the Air Ministry end without the least success. In view of the uncertainty of the future and the precarious general financial position of the country the Government will not do anything at the moment.

Results of Low Level of Pay.

7. There is a general lack of enthusiasm. Technical personnel and good junior officers have found better paid jobs as civilians. In many cases a posting almost results in tragedy as it takes considerable time to get a family sufficiently organised in one place to make a totally inadequate income stretch as far as possible.

8. Owing to the extraordinary cost of transport it is often necessary to suspend postings because of lack of funds. The cost of transporting a family from Padua to Rome area is estimated at 500,000 Lire.

9. This high cost of living also explains the delay which we often find in carrying out plans for courses, transfers etc.

C.A.R.'s (Personnel Dispersal Centres).

10. There is an enormous amount of work to be done with this personnel which includes all prisoners of war who have still to return and be processed. C.O.'s were requested by C.A.R. to deal as sympathetically as possible with these people and not to turn them away without listening to their story even though practical assistance could not be given.

Equipment.

11. There was a long discussion on the necessity for decentralising departments, particularly Equipment. C.A.R. was convinced that Regional Commanders should be in charge of all services in their area. As General Officers they ought to be capable of attending to all problems and it was inadmissible that certain departments in the provinces should be alien unto themselves. When this happened there was no effective control from either end. The Equipment Officer (Gen. Pellacci) appeared to be the only one to disagree with this.

12. Gen. Pellacci also stated that his budget had been cut down from the 1,000,000,000 requested, to 200,000,000 Lire.

Salvage of Material.

13. Gen. DONSO (Sardina) referred to the difficulty of salvaging and guarding materiel due to lack of personnel, transport, workshops and funds. A great many people were employed on work which had no bearing on the future of the aeronautica such as the guarding and administering of material which would never be of any use. This they were obliged to do by law although the material was deteriorating, being stolen or was not worth the cost of transport to another locality for processing. Also certain airfields had to be maintained in the condition in which they had been handed over.

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Appendix 'B'.

Matters discussed at the meeting of Unit Commanders at I.A.M.
on 25th March 1946.

1. Gen. Gaeta spoke of the necessity for the dismissal of inefficient personnel. Commanding Officers are inclined to be too lenient because of the present situation. Proper assessments should be given on personal reports.
2. The question of cancelling or delaying postings due to individual economic circumstances was again discussed. In order to avoid abuses it was suggested that a "means test" should be carried out by the Carabinieri and Questura in these cases.
3. There was widespread use of the system of recommendations, especially from political sources, which they were powerless to resist. The severest measures should be taken against these Fascist practices.
4. Personnel, particularly N.C.O.'s, from the north of Italy, who had served for 5 or 6 years during the war, should now be rewarded by postings near their families.
5. Col. Remondino pointed out that severity should be applied but with discretion on account of the national situation.
6. Col. Remondino asked the Allies to give warning before handing over airfields in order to avoid a period of abeyance which at present results in the thieving and destruction of airfield equipment.
7. Gen. Raffaelli proposed the formation of flying sections with small touring aircraft. This would improve and maintain morale with the minimum of flying activity. At present this was not practicable due to lack of material and funds.
8. Col. Girardo (Milan) referred to the difficulties of restoring and maintaining discipline when barrack accommodation was not available for all and when even Officers possessed no standard uniform.
9. Col. De Vincenti said that English courses were not giving very good results due to lack of good teachers and practice. It was suggested that courses for pilots, who would have to speak to Control Towers in English, should be run with gramophone records (linguaphone etc.) which might be obtained from Allied sources. In order to give practice in conversation and Air Force terms the assistance of

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like to know
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Air
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are employed on Commissions, in judicial functions.

By law, the I.A.F. is still regarded as having 2,000 planes, with the corresponding great number of personnel, and promotions are still worked out on that assumption. Relief of the present inflationary situation does not lie with the I.A.F. but with the Government which should alter the Air Force establishment. This situation is nevertheless likely to continue until after political stability has been restored.

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5118

From : Ministero Aeronautica - ROME.
To : The Commander of the Unita' Aerea - BARI, etc.
Date : 11th March, 1946.
Ref. : 00580/S.12/1002 Coll.

AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AT THE FIRST MONTHLY MEETING OF THE MAIN
TERRITORIALS COMMANDS (G.U.)

Following our letter No. 003741/S.12 dated 16-2-1946 of this "Stato Maggiore" relative to the discussion mentioned in subject.

We notify you that on the first monthly meeting of the main Territorial Commands which will take place on the 22nd of March 1946 at the R.A. "Stato Maggiore", the following agenda will be discussed :

- A) - Function of the various Regia Aeronautica Commands relative to the present situation (morale, economy, general aid and advise) of the
 - service personnel,
 - personnel awaiting allocation,
 - personnel still under discriminational screening (whether passed through R.S.I. or, not),
- B) - Activity of the C.A.Rs Command Nucleus of the 1st and 2nd Z.A.Ts.
- C) - Z.A.Ts Commands and R.A. Commands - Their Territorial Organisation with regard in particular to the Regional Garrisons and all the activities which are carried out under their jurisdiction (assistance to flying, S.A.T.A., technical services, administration services, salvages), - difficulties encountered in carrying out the above mentioned duties - territorial circumscription of the Z.A.Ts.
- D) - Administration of the Z.A.Ts and R.A. Commands - administration of the Commands and Units of the Unita',
- E) - Taking over of duties between personnel of the Unita' Aerea Sections and Territorial Commands - measures to be applied with the present situation - discharge of elements which does not prove to be efficient taking over of duties between personnel in services and returned prisoners of war with good records, or personnel awaiting allocation,
- F) - State of airfields - their classification - information to be supplied to the "Stato Maggiore" for any eventual alterations in regard.
- G) - Observers course to be carried out on Frosinone Airport.
- H) - Formation of Z.A.Ts flying sections,
- I) - Previsions on types and number of A/Cs to be utilised for the future pilots schools.
- L) - Interference of personalities, civil or military whom are trying to stop or delay movement of personnel.

- 2 -

- M) - Recruits - and relative barracks - selection and classification of specialists,
- N) - Uniform - discipline - transfers,
- O) - English language courses.

CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
GENERAL
(Mario Ajmone-Cat)

5116

37A
Note of remarks by A.V.M. Brodie at the first Meeting
of Italian Territorial and Other Commanders on 23 March 1946. 5A

1. General Lee and I are glad to accept the C.A.S.'s invitation to this meeting and are glad to take this opportunity of meeting old and new friends.
2. We welcome the C.A.S. decision to hold these meetings because they afford an:
 - (i) opportunity to exchange ideas, both inside and outside the conference room.
 - (ii) opportunity to improve one's general knowledge outside our own job or territory.
 - (iii) a change of air - 'variety is the spice of life'.
3. Our presence:
 - (i) to be of help towards the reconstruction of a comparatively small but highly efficient air force. We will leave an observer if only to be better informed on the Italian point of view.
 - (ii) in spite of which, I hope you won't find our presence in the least embarrassing - we like frankness.
 - (iii) We hope that if the C.A.S. wishes advice or information from the A.F.S.C, he will ask our specialists to come to these meetings as and when required.
4. Finally we wish you and these meetings every success.

AFB.

Orig.

Place in relevant file pt.

0110

From : Ministero Aeronautica Roma

To : The Commander of the Unita' Aerea
 The Commander of the 1st Z.A.T. Nucleus
 The Commander of the 2nd Z.A.T. Nucleus
 The Commander of the 3rd Z.A.T. Nucleus
 The Commander of the 4 Z.A.T.
 The Commander of the R.A. Sardinia
 The Commander of the R.A. Sicily Nucleus
 The Commander of the Campania Nucleus

BARI
MILAN
PADOVA
ROME
BARI
CAGLIARI
PALERMO
NAPLES

Date : 11th March 1946

Ref : 005580/S.12/1002. Coll

For information : To Air Forces Sub Commission ROME
 To the Minister Office ROME
 To all the Ministry Directions
 of the Regia Aeronautica ROME

AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AT THE FIRST MONTHLY
MEETING OF THE MAIN TERRITORIALS COMMANDS

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 - personnel awaiting allocation;
 - personnel still under discriminational screening (whether passed through R.S.I. or not)
- b) - Activity of the C.R.P.'s Command Nucleus of the 1st and 2nd

Z.A.T.'s.



147

The Commander of the Campania Nucleus NAPLES

Date : 11th March 1946

Ref : OC5580/S.12/1002. Coll

For information : To Air Forces Sub Commission ROME
 To the Minister Office ROME
 To all the Ministry Directions
 of the Regia Aeronautica ROME



AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION AT THE FIRST MONTHLY
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147

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- d) - administration of the Z.A.T's and R.A. commands - administration of the commands and Units of the Unita';
- e) - Taking over of duties between personnel of the Unita' Aerea Sections and Territorial Commands - measures to be apply with the present situation.- discharge of elements which does not prove to be efficient.- Taking over of duties between personnel in services and returned prisoners of war with good records, or personnel awaiting allocation;
- f) - State of airfields- their classification- informations to be supplied to the Stato Maggiore for any eventual alterations in regard.
- h) - Observers course to be carried out on Frosinone Airport.
- i) - Formation of Z.A.T's flying sections.
- l) - Previsions on types and number of A/C's to be utilised for the future pilots schools.
- m) - Interference of personalities, Civil or Military whom are trying to stop or delay movement of personnel.
- n) - Recruits- and relative barracks- selection and classification of specialists -
- o) - Uniform- discipline- transfers-
- p) - English language courses.

CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE

GENERAL

(Mario Ajmone-Cat)

Translated by Sgt. ALBERTINI.M.

5113

*DD For information. I propose to take ^{Spidey} Smith as his
 Org's capacity & not take, also the Carabinieri & P4/M4 Legat as
 interpreters for you & me. Suggest an report on this matter.*

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 Org's capacity & with others, also the Barabini & Pithoff Light as
 in hospital for you & me. Suggest an appointment on this matter.

Goel 18/3.
 Seems to me like they have a hell of a lot to take up
 at one meeting. The meeting will probably last for hours
 and to me will be very boring and a waste of my
 time to be present at the whole meeting. I suggest we
 be there when they assemble, say awhile, then take off, and
 let them send us the minutes of the meeting later. If there
 are any special points they want to take up with us, they
 can write down one present. VXX DD

Roma 11, 11 MAR 1946

STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

Prot.n°: 005580/8.12.4002.001

AL COMANDANTE DELL'UNITA' AEREA
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 1° Z.A.T.
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 2° Z.A.T.
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 3° Z.A.T.
 AL COMANDANTE DELLA 4° Z.A.T.
 AL COMANDANTE DELL'AERONAUTICA
 DELLA SARDEGNA
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO
 AERONAUTICA DELLA SICILIA
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO
 AERONAUTICA DELLA CAMPANIA

= BARI =
 = MILANO =
 = PADOVA =
 = ROMA =
 = BARI =
 = CAGLIARI =
 = PALERMO =
 = NAPOLI =

e per conoscenza:

ALL'A.F.S.C. / A.C.
 AL MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA
 - Gabinetto del Ministro -
 A TUTTE LE DIREZIONI DEL MINISTERO
 DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

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 = ROMA =

OGGETTO: Schema degli argomenti da svolgere nel primo rapporto mensile dei Comandanti di G.U.-

Si fa seguito al foglio n. 003741/S.12 in data 16.2.46 di questo Stato Maggiore relativo all'argomento segnato in oggetto.-

Si comunica che nel primo rapporto mensile dei Comandanti di Grandi Unità che sarà tenuto il giorno 22 c.m. presso lo Stato Maggiore R.A., saranno trattati i seguenti argomenti:

- Funzionamento dei vari Comandi di Aeronautica relativamente alla situazione contingente (morale, economica, assistenziale in genere) del
 - personale in servizio;
 - personale a disposizione;
 - personale ancora in discriminazione (avente o no aderito alla R.S.I.).
- Attività dei C.A.R. dei Nuclei Comando 1° e 2° Z.A.T.;
- Comandi di Z.A.T. e di Aeronautica - loro organizzazione territoriale con particolare riguardo al funzionamento dei Presidi Regionali, nei confronti di tutte le attività che si svolgono nell'ambito della loro giurisdizione (assistenza al volo, S.A.

AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 2° Z.A.T.
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 3° Z.A.T.
 AL COMANDANTE DELLA 4° Z.A.T.
 AL COMANDANTE DELL'AERONAUTICA
 DELLA SARDEGNA
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO
 AERONAUTICA DELLA SICILIA
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO
 AERONAUTICA DELLA CAMPANIA
 =PADOVA=
 =ROMA=
 =BARI=
 =CAGLIARI=
 =PALERMO=
 =NAPOLI=

e per conoscenza:

ALL'A.F.S.C./A.C.
 AL MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA

-Gabinetto del Ministro -
 A TUTTE LE DIREZIONI DEL MINISTERO
 DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

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- b) - Attività dei C.A.R. dei Nuclei Comando 1° e 2° Z.A.T.;
- c) - Comandi di Z.A.T. e di Aeronautica - loro organizzazione terri-
 toriale con particolare riguardo al funzionamento dei Presidi
 Regionali, nei confronti di tutte le attività che si svolgono
 nell'ambito della loro giurisdizione (assistenza al volo, S.A.
 T.A., servizi tecnici, servizi logistici, ricuperi) - difficoltà
 incontrate nell'espletamento delle funzioni di cui sopra - cir-
 coscrizioni territoriali delle Z.A.T.;

.../...

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STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

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- d) - Organici dei Comandi di Z.A.T. e di Aeronautica - Organici dei Comandi e Reparti dell'Unità;
- e) - Avvicendamento del personale tra Reparti dell'Unità Aerea ed Enti Territoriali - criteri da applicare nella situazione attuale - collocamento a riposo degli elementi di scarso rendimento e poco capaci - avvicendamento tra personale in servizio con personale meritevole rientrato dalla prigionia od a disposizione;
- f) - Situazione campi di volo - loro classifica - informazioni da fornire allo Stato Maggiore per ogni eventuale variazione al riguardo;
- g) - Trasporti aerei straordinari - preventiva autorizzazione dello Stato Maggiore;
- h) - Corso Osservatori da svolgersi sull'Aeroporto di Frosinone;
- i) - Costituzione Sezione di Volo di Z.A.T.;
- l) - Previsioni sui tipi e numero di velivoli da utilizzare per le future scuole di pilotaggio;
- m) - Interferenze di personalità Civili e Militari che ostacolano o ritardano il movimento del personale;
- n) - Reclute - relativo accasamento - selezione e classifica specialisti;
- o) - Uniforme - disciplina - trasferimenti;
- p) - Corsi di lingua inglese. =

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
Generale di Squadra Aerea
(Mario Ajmone-Cat)

pergamini

- a) - Organici dei Comandi di Z.A.T. e di Aeronautica - Organici dei Comandi e Reparti dell'Unità;
- e) - Avvicendamento del personale tra Reparti dell'Unità Aerea ed Enti Territoriali - criteri da applicare nella situazione attuale - collocamento a riposo degli elementi di scarso rendimento e poco capaci - avvicendamento tra personale in servizio con personale meritevole rientrato dalla prigionia od a disposizione;
- f) - Situazione campi di volo - loro classifica - informazioni da fornire allo Stato Maggiore per ogni eventuale variazione al riguardo;
- g) - Trasporti aerei straordinari - preventiva autorizzazione dello Stato Maggiore;
- h) - Corso Osservatori da svolgersi sull'Aeroporto di Frosinone;
- i) - Costituzione Sezione di Volo di Z.A.T.;
- l) - Previsioni sui tipi e numero di velivoli da utilizzare per le future scuole di pilotaggio;
- m) - Interferenze di personalità Civili e Militari che ostacolano o ritardano il movimento del personale;
- n) - Reclute - relativo accasermamento - selezione e classifica spcialisti;
- o) - Uniforme - disciplina - trasferimenti;
- p) - Corsi di lingua inglese. =

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
Generale di Squadra Aerea
(Mario Ajmone-Cat)

Mario Ajmone-Cat

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED COMMISSION,
ROME.

21st February, 1946.

AFSC/366/OPC.

Dear

Thank you for your letters 00531/Sg.U/709.Coll and 003741/S.12 dated 16th and 18th February respectively. We are very glad to hear that you are reconstituting these monthly meetings and we are honoured by your invitation to us to attend, at any rate, the first meeting. If, after the first meeting, you think that our presence, or that of other Staff Officers of the A.F.S.C., would be an embarrassment to frank discussion amongst yourselves, I trust that you will inform me.

Yours

General M. Almone Cat,
Chief of Air Staff,
Italian Air Ministry,
Rome.

5110

STATO MAGGIORE DELLA F. AEROMATICA.

ROME.
14 February, 1946.

Prot. 00531/Sg. U/709. Cell.

Dear Air Vice-Marshal,

In answer to your letter AFSC/366/ORG.

1. My comments on your letter cannot be other than favourable, for the simple reason that the conferences of the Territorial Commanders do not constitute for us a change of policy since they were always held in normal times.

2. Periodical monthly conferences had always been held in the Italian Air Force by all Units and Zone Commanders, and when the occasion demanded it, by the heads of departments.

The system adopted by the Army is, therefore, a renewal of an old method which in effect presents the advantages expounded in your letter.

3. If, up to the present, the P.A. has not adopted once more this method, it has been principally because of the dissimilarity of functions which have so far been given to the various Territorial Commands, and for the resulting economy in time. As a matter of fact up to a short time ago the two Commands of the 1st and 2nd ZAT, both under one High Command, had the function of recuperating personnel and material, that of Central Italy had administrative and conservative functions; the 4th ZAT added to its administrative and conservative functions, technical and logistic function of interest to the Unit, the two Insular Commands were responsible for the establishments of both personnel and buildings. Thus each Command dealt with problems which did not concern the other.

4. The present situation in fact calls for the readoption of these conferences, and this will take place in due course and will be made known to you. The conferences will take place once a month and will start in March, as this month the Ministry and Stato Maggiore will be moving to its old quarters.

5. I am extremely glad to know your wish that the Officers of the Allied Commission participate at the Conferences. The minutes of the conferences will be communicated in good time to everyone.

For the first conference I will let you know the date and the questions to be discussed.

6. I shall naturally be happy if at this first conference you and General Lee will participate.

7. Whilst waiting to correspond further with you on this matter,

I remain,

Yours etc.

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2. Periodical monthly conferences had always been held in the Italian Air Force by all Units and Zone Commanders, and when the occasion demanded it, by the heads of departments.

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7. Whilst waiting to correspond further with you on this matter,

I remain,

Yours etc.

M. ALMONTE CAT.

See 15A

3102

Handwritten signature

Roma, li 16 FEB 1940

STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

Prot.n. 00531/Sg.V. 20/6/40

AIR VICE MARSHAL I.E. BRODIE
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING
AFSC/AC

- R O M A -

Caro Maresciallo Brodie,

rispondo alla Sua lettera AFSC/366/Org.

1. I miei commenti relativi alla Sua lettera non possono che essere favorevoli, per la semplice ragione che le riunioni dei Comandanti Territoriali periferici non costituiscono per noi una novità, essendo sempre stato seguito ed applicato questo criterio, in tempi normali.

2. Nell'Aeronautica Italiana, infatti, erano istituite riunioni periodiche (mensili) di tutti i Comandanti di Squadra e delle Aviazioni Insulari, delle riunioni di tutti i Comandanti di Zona per questioni di loro competenze e, a seconda dei casi, delle riunioni dei Capi Servizio responsabili dei vari Enti e Comandi.

Il sistema adottato dall'Esercito è quindi il ripristino di un vecchio metodo che effettivamente presenta i vantaggi che Lei espone nella Sua lettera.

3. Se sino ad ora l'Aeronautica non ha rimesso in vigore questo metodo, è stato più che altro per l'eterogeneità delle attribuzioni che sono state fino ad ora devolute ai vari Comandi Territoriali e per conseguente economia di tempo. Infatti, fino a poco tempo fa, i due Comandi della 1^a e 2^a Z.A.T., riuniti sotto un Comando Alta Italia, avevano funzioni di recupero del personale e del materiale; quello dell'Italia Centrale aveva funzioni

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rispondo alla Sua lettera AFSC/366/Cr5.

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STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

- 2 -

4. Uniformandosi alla situazione del Paese, conviene di fatto che queste riunioni siano ripristinate; il che verrà disposto con apposita comunicazione che ~~le~~ verrà inviata per conoscenza.-

Le riunioni saranno mensili e potranno avere inizio con il mese di marzo, tenuto conto che nel corrente mese di febbraio il Ministero e lo Stato Maggiore saranno impegnati nel trasferimento dalle numerosi sedi che attualmente occupano, nei locali del Ministero dell'Aeronautica.-

5. Accolgo di buon grado il desiderio che gli Ufficiali della Commissione Alleata partecipino a queste riunioni a seconda dei programmi delle riunioni stesse che saranno comunicate con anticipo, sia agli interessati, sia alla Commissione Alleata.-

Per la prima riunione mi riservo di informarla circa il giorno e gli argomenti che verranno trattati e sui quali dovranno riferire i singoli comandanti.-

6. Sarò naturalmente ben lieto se a questa prima riunione vorranno partecipare Lei ed il Generale LEE.-

7. Mi riservo di inviarle ulteriori comunicazioni in merito.-

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
GENERALE DI SQUADRA AEREA
(Mario AJMONI-CAT)

Luigi Abbat - 11/11/1947

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IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
GENERALE DI SQUADRA AEREA
(Mario AJMONTE-CAT)

Per l'Ufficio *M. Ajmonte-Cat*

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED COMMISSION,
ROME.

AFSC/366/ORG.

1st February, 1946.

Dear

I understand that the Italian War Ministry (Stato Maggiore) has instituted a Monthly Meeting of Territorial Commanders, and that these meetings are proving to be a great success in that the Italian Chief of Staff is able better to keep in touch with problems arising within the Territorial Commands, and the advice of the Generals Commanding is useful to him; furthermore the Territorial Commanders themselves are extremely pleased with this idea as they are able to air their views and feel that they themselves are being consulted; also the Territorial Commanders get together and exchange views on various problems. All of this, if taken in the democratic spirit, must lead to higher efficiency.

2. You may like to adopt a similar procedure with your four E.A.T. Commanders, the Commanders of the Station Commands in Sardinia and Sicily, and the General Commanding Unità Aerea (so long as that Formation remains in existence.)

3. General Lee and I would very much like to attend as observers at the first meeting, and thereafter you may like to have representatives of the A.F.S.C. as observers. I like the idea of our sending Officers to your meetings as that too would keep us in better touch with problems arising in the Italian Air Force generally, and it may appear that certain problems may be solved more easily if A.F.S.C. representatives do attend your meetings as they may be in a position to answer any queries which may arise, from the Allied standpoint.

4. I would be glad to receive your comments on this matter.

Yours

General M. Airone Cat,
Chief of Air Staff,
Italian Air Ministry,
Rome.

8105

Translation : Sgt. TAYL

From : General Staff
ITALIAN AIR FORCE

To : Air Forces Sub Commission
ALLIED COMMISSION ROME.

Date : 16/2/46

Ref. : 003741/S.12

MONTHLY REPORTS



1. In order to facilitate relations between the General Staff, Centralised Units and Boundary Units (ie. Detachments), and because the duties assigned to the latter are on the point of being definitely settled, is being reinstated the system of monthly reports from Commanding Officers of Main Units, Z.A.T.s and of Insular Air Force H.Q.s to the General Staff.
2. The carrying out of this program will take place with effect from next month.
3. The date and time of the first meeting will be brought to notice in time.
4. The subjects which will be referred to by the Commanding Officers of these Boundary Units (ie. Detachments) and which will be brought up at this first meeting will be in regards to personnel, salvage, routine and estrangement activities.
5. The arguments will have to be stated clearly and precisely in order to save time and avoid confusion.
6. The Officer Commanding the Unità Aerea will have to refer, instead, to problems dealing with flying, Flying Schools, technical and admin. training.
7. The Air Vice Marshal Director and the General Director of Allied Commission will assist to the first meeting. These mentioned Officers will also attend to the next meetings, or appoint their delegates according to the problems in discussion.

- 2 -

8. In order to facilitate the preparations for this meeting, a detailed plan of the problems to be dealt with and referred to in paragraph 4 will be forwarded to the persons concerned.

9. The H.Q. of the 3 rd. Z.A.T. having been informed in time by the General Staff will make all possible convenient arrangements in order to assist from the Administrative angle the various Commanding Officers called up to Rome for this meeting.

10. Would you please acknowledge receipt of this letter.

(Sgd) Chief of the General Staff
General AJMONE-CAT

Arg
acknowledged
11/24/54

sent 25/54

5104



STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

Roma, li _____

16 FEB 1940

Prot.n. 003741/s.12

AL COMANDANTE DELL'UNITA' AEREA - BARI
AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 1° Z.A.T. - MILANO
AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 2° Z.A.T. - PADOVA
AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 3° Z.A.T. - ROMA
AL COMANDANTE DELLA 4° Z.A.T. - BARI
AL COMANDANTE DELL'AERO-NAUTICA DELLA SARDEGNA - CAGLIARI
AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO AERONAUTICA DELLA SICILIA - PALERMO

e, per conoscenza:

ALL'A.F.S.C./A.C. - ROMA
AL MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA - ROMA
Gabinetto del Ministro
A TUTTE LE DIREZIONI DEL MINISTERO DELLA R.AERONAUTICA - ROMA

OGGETTO: Rapporti mensili.-

- 1°. Poichè la situazione degli Enti Periferici e le attribuzioni ad essi affidate sono in procinto di uniformarsi e normalizzarsi, allo scopo di agevolare i rapporti fra Stato Maggiore, Enti Centrali ed Enti Periferici, viene ripristinato il rapporto mensile dei Comandanti di Grande Unità, di Z.A.T. e di Aeronautica Insulare, presso lo Stato Maggiore.-
- 2°. L'attuazione di tale disposizione avrà inizio con il prossimo mese di marzo.-
- 3°. Verrà comunicato tempestivamente giorno ed ora del prossimo mese, in cui avrà luogo la prima riunione.-
- 4°. Gli argomenti sui quali dovranno riferire i Comandanti Periferici, in questa prima riunione sono tutti quelli di interesse

AL COMANDANTE DELL'UNITA' AEREA - BARI
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 1° Z.A.T. - MILANO
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 2° Z.A.T. - PADOVA
 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO 3° Z.A.T. - ROMA
 AL COMANDANTE DELLA 4° Z.A.T. - BARI
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 AL COMANDANTE DEL NUCLEO AERONAUTICA DELLA SICILIA - PALERMO

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4°. Gli argomenti sui quali dovranno riferire i Comandanti Periferici, in questa prima riunione sono tutti quelli di interesse contingente che riguardano il personale, i recuperi e le attività conservative e di alienazione.-

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STATO MAGGIORE DELLA R. AERONAUTICA

- 2 -

5°. Gli argomenti dovranno essere esposti nel modo più sintetico e chiaro per economia di tempo e facilità di comprensione.-

6°. Il Comandante dell'Unità Aerea riferirà, invece, sui problemi che interessano le Unità di volo, le Scuole ed attività relative di addestramento tecniche e logistiche.-

7°. A questa prima riunione assisteranno probabilmente il Vice Maresciallo Direttore ed il Generale Vice Direttore della Commissione Alleata.-Alla successiva riunione parteciperanno i suddetti Ufficiali ed altri da loro delegati, a secondo degli argomenti in discussione.-

8°. Per facilità ed uniformità di preparazione della riunione, verrà inviato un dettagliato schema degli argomenti da svolgere di cui è fatto cenno al n.4.-

9°. Il Comando della 3^a Z.A.T., preavvertito dallo Stato Maggiore predisporrà a suo tempo, nel miglior modo consentito dalle circostanze, l'assistenza logistica dei Comandanti convenuti nella Capitale.-

10°. Accusare ricevuta.-

IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
GENERALE DI SQUADRA AEREA
(Mario AJMONE-CAT)

2015
2015

- 5°. Gli argomenti dovranno essere esposti nel modo più sintetico e chiaro per economia di tempo e facilità di comprensione.-
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IL CAPO DI STATO MAGGIORE
GENERALE DI SQUADRA AEREA
(Mario AJMONE-CAT)

Mario Ajmone-Cat

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