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WEEKLY STAFF MEETINGS, AFSS ROME
FEB. - MAY 1947

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MINUTES OF WEEKLY STAFF CONFERENCE HELD IN ROME 7 MAY 1947.

All Officers. 1. Director's Opening Remarks. The Director stated that plans to authorize Italian Airlines to fly external routes and into Military Government Territory are now being considered; the former in Washington.

All Officers. 2. Re-equipment Scheme for the Italian Air Force. The Director stated that the combined Chiefs of Staff have approved a plan to re-equip the Italian Air Force. Air Ministry, London has offered the Italian Air Force most of the equipment now in Italy on a no price basis. The American Government has offered fifty Mustangs plus three ^{year} backlog of parts for a nominal cost. A training mission is also under consideration to give the Italians conversion training on the Mustangs. Director suggested that D.D. make enquiries from Germany to get more information about the conditions of the proffered aircraft.

S.E.O. 3. High Speed Launches. S.E.O. has stated that an offer of the high speed launches at present in the Middle East has been made to the Italian Air Ministry at minimum cost and an answer is expected by 10 May 1947.

ORG II. 4. Courier Service. Director made the suggestion that the Courier Service be regarded as an Allied component, prior approval being obtained from M.A.A. He suggested that the Rome - Venice - Milan run could be continued for a short time. It is felt that with curtailment of the Courier Service more personnel can be allotted for training.

S.T.O. 5. Radar Stations. S.T.O. noted that the radar stations at Lido di Venice and Treviso had been turned over to the Italian Air Force.

[Signature]
T.W. FWIN. 131. LT.
J.R. 131. LT.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS.
AIR FORCES BRANCH.
APO 794.

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AFB/358/3/ORG.

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17th April 1947.

MINUTES OF WEEKLY STAFF CONFERENCE HELD IN ROOM 16/4/1947.

- All Officers
1. Director's Opening Remarks. The Director requested that all letters of appreciation passing through this Headquarters be entered upon and then signed by the D. or D.D.
 2. Staff Officers' Visits to the Italian Air Ministry. The D.D. emphasized the necessity for Staff Officers visiting the I.A.M. to do so on an alternate basis whenever possible. If an officer does so alone a report should be made and circulated for information. Prior to visiting the I.A.M., topics to be discussed should be taken up with the D., D.D., or S.E.O.
 3. Minution of Milan to the Director. The Director requested that action taken on files be limited to him to aid him in getting acquainted with the work of the A.F.I.
 4. Alteration in the Courier Schedule. Org. I stated that the carrying of fare-paying passengers on the Rome-Milan, Rome-Catania and Rome-Palermo lines had been discontinued as civil aviation had begun along these routes. These lines will continue to operate on a twice weekly schedule carrying only military and other non-fare-paying passengers. Org. II to check on the number of personnel carried and if possible reduce the number of flights along these routes to once weekly. Org. II to circulate a copy of the new schedules.
 5. Milano Flight at Milan. Air I to investigate the possibility of returning the Baltimore flight at Milan to Guidonia, taking into consideration their air set rescue commitments in the north.
 6. High Speed Launching. The Director stated that a signal had been sent to the Ufficio Post Command requesting a report on launches available in the Canal Zone. The British Air Ministry has asked the C.O. M.E. to cooperate in obtaining launches for the I.A.F. When a reply is received the S.E.O. will send a letter to the I.A.M. asking for their views.
 7. Air Traffic Control. A representative from the Malta Traffic Control is coming to Rome on the 25 April 1947 to discuss the return of the Air Traffic Control, now handled by Malta, to the I.A.F. D.D. to call in the Traffic Control Officer from A.F.C. Ciampino for the discussion.
- All Officers
- Org. II.
- Air I.
- S.E.O.
- D.D.

ALL OFFICERS

2. Staff Officers' Visits to the Italian Air Ministry. The D.D. emphasized the necessity for Staff Officers visiting the I.A.M. to do so on an integrated basis whenever possible. If an officer does so alone a report should be made and circulated for information. Prior to visiting the I.A.M., topics to be discussed should be taken up with the D.D.D., or C.D.C.

All Officers

3. Living of Miles to the Director. The Director requested that Jackson taken on Miles be assigned to him to fill him in getting acquainted with the work of the A.C.F.

All Officers

4. Allocation in the Revision Schedule. Org. I stated that the carrying of Para-3 was permanently removed from the Home-Milan, Rome-Catania and Rome-Palermo lines and been discontinued as civil aviation had begun along these routes. These lines will continue to operate on a twice weekly schedule carrying only military and other non-fare-paying passengers. Org. II to check on the number of personnel carried and if feasible reduce the number of flights along these routes to once weekly. Org. II to circulate a copy of the new schedules.

ARQ. II.

5. Baltimore Flight at Milan. Air I to investigate the possibility of returning the Baltimore flight at Milan to Guidonia, taking into consideration their air sea rescue commitments in the north.

air I.

6. High Speed Launches. The Director stated that a signal had been sent to the Middle East Command requesting a report on launches available in the Canal Zone. The British Air Ministry has asked the O.C. M.E. to cooperate in obtaining launches for the I.A.F. When a reply is received the S.E.O. will send a letter to the I.A.H. asking for their views. (114)

S.E.O.

77. Air Traffic Control. A representative from the Malta Traffic Control is coming to Rome on the 25 April 1947 to discuss the return of the Air Traffic Control, now handled by Malta, to the I.A.F. D.D. to call in the Traffic Control Officer from A.F.C. Ciampino for the discussion.

D.D.

8. Replacement of the P.A.F. Ciampino by the I.A.F. C.C.O. stated that the I.A.F. is taken over the entire sector of P.A.F. Ciampino and are expected to have full control by the end of May. As soon as A.H.Q. Italy releases the present Yugoslav guards the I.A.F. will also assume the responsibility for security.

ALL OFFICERS

9. Sale of Curious American Weapons. The D.D. reported that the American C.T.L.C. has received instructions from Washington to dispose of 100 Browning machine guns and 3 Smith-Wesson revolvers. D.D. to pursue the subject with the I.A.M. and O.F.L.C.

D.D.

A.T. NEISS, 1ST. LT.,
ORC. II.

- 2 -

3.3.0.

8. High Speed Launches - The A.S.O. stated that the Italians will have either 7 or 8 High Speed Launches and no others.

9. Surplus Ammunition to I.A.F. - The Equipment Officer informed that the I. A. F. had received 50,000 rounds of 503 ammunition from IAF sources. It was brought out that the I.A.F. made up its mind too late to obtain the American ammunition at the time, but that more should become available soon.

10. I.A.F. Personnel to England - Intelligence said one I.A.F. General and Professor are going to England for discussion on sea-plane testing, tank construction and machine work at the invitation of Ministry of Supply (Mr.)

4th Paragard
H. A. PARAGARD, CAPT., A.S.
ONG, III.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
ITALIAN MILITARY AFFAIRS SECTION
AIR FORCES SUB SECTION
APR 794

SECRET

27th February, 1947.

DMAS/358/3/ORG/A.P.

MINUTES OF WEEKLY STAFF CONFERENCE HELD IN ROOM 26 FEB. 1947

1. Director's Opening Remarks - The Director stated that the Civil Aviation plan has been approved and the I.A.M. has been informed. The Under-Secretary for Air is extremely interested in Civil Aviation and ORG.I to find out how the new organisation of the Ministry of Defence (Italian Air Force) operates. ORG.IV to chase letter to I.A.M. requesting their views on the proposed A.I.I.I. ROSE - CATANIA - TRIPOLI Air Route.

ORG.I
ORG.IV

2. Director's Replacement - The Director stated that he is expecting to leave on the 15th March, 1947 and his replacement, Air Commodore BISHOP is arriving on Monday. All Section Heads are requested to have any information pertaining to their departments ready to present to the new A.O.C. at that time. S.I.O. to have a list of the principal officers in the I.A.M. and a brief sketch of each.

ALL SECTION
HEADS
S.I.O.

3. New Personnel in the A.F.S.S. - The Director stated that two new American Officers have been assigned to the A.F.S.S. They are: - Lt. L.R. MERRIFIELD, who is going to act as Assistant Pilot and P-51 Consultant, and Lt. J.J. TRUDDEL, who is going to replace Lt. Favino as PADD. L.A.C. HALL is taking over the position of DET.NCC.

ALL OFFICERS

AIR I to brief them on his work and give him the necessary backing in DET. matters.

AIR I

4. SR-95 Crash - The I.A.M. Aircraft Accident Investigation Board held a conference on the 24th February, 1947 concerning the SR-95 crash. The Board has dismissed the idea of icing as the cause. Divers are trying to recover the wreckage to enable the Board in their investigation. AIR II to check on the investigation and see if it follows 105 British or American procedure.

AIR II

5. American Publication to the I.A.F. - D.D. stated that a large number of American publications on aircraft maintenance, engines, etc., have arrived and were turned over to Col. BRENTA for distribution in the Italian Air Ministry.

COL. BRENTA

6. Ammunition and Bombs - S.E.O. to draft a letter for the Director's signature to the Under-Secretary of State expressing the Director's concern over the apparent failure of the I.A.F. and A.R.A.E. to agree, and that I.A.F. was stronger methods in dealing with A.R.A.E. Give

S.E.O.

785017

ORG.I
ORG.IV

ALL SECTION
HEADS
S.I.C.

ALL OFFICERS

AIR I

AIR II

COL.BRENTA

S.E.O.

S.E.O.

AIR I

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AIR I to brief HALL on his work and give him the necessary backing in LET. matters.

4. SM-95 Crash - The I.A.M. Aircraft Accident Investigation Board held a conference on the 24th February, 1947 concerning the SM-95 crash. The Board has dismissed the idea of icing as the cause. Divers are trying to recover the wreckage to enable the Board in their investigation. AIR II to check on the investigation and see if it follows I.U. British or American procedure.

5. American Publication to the I.A.F. - D.D. stated that a large number of American publications on aircraft maintenance, engines, etc., have arrived and were turned over to Col. BRENTA for distribution in the Italian Air Ministry.

6. Ammunition and Bombs - S.E.O. to draft a letter for the Director's signature to the Under-Secretary of State expressing the Director's concern over the apparent failure of the I.A.F. and A.R.A.R. to agree, and suggest the I.A.F. use stronger methods in dealing with A.R.A.R. Give the case of the ammunition and bombs as an example.

7. Baltimore Aircraft - The I.A.F. needs twelve (12) spare engines for their Baltimore Aircraft. S.E.O. to write to A.H. Italy direct for information on their availability.

8. Radar Equipment in the North - Authority has been given to hand over the R.F. Radar Equipment in the North of Italy to the I.A.F. The equipment will be turned over in full operating condition but due to a lack of I.A.F. personnel in the North it will probably be some time before they resume operations.

9. Closing Down of Ischia - AIR I to find out when the R.F. personnel on Ischia will pack up.

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