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

785017

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785017

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SPECIAL ALLIED A/C FOR IAF
AUG. 1944

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

785017

AFSC

8A

OUTGOING MESSAGE.

To:- H.Q. H.A.A.P., G.H.F. (R) A.F.B.C., A.C.C. BARI. (By Hand)

From:- H.Q. BALKAN AIR FORCE.

Ref. No. 252.

7th. August, 1944.

SECRET.

YOUR MX. 27067 AIRPORT 4(.) A.O.C., B.A.F. ON RECENT VISIT
YOUR HEADQUARTERS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT YOU ARE NOW PROPOSING TO
RE-EQUIP TWO B.A.F. SQUADRONS WITH HURRICANE MARK FOUR REPEAT FOUR (.)
PROPOSAL AGREED (.)

PRIORITY: IMMEDIATE.
P.O.O.

LC

(H.D. JEFFERY),
Air Commodore,
Air Officer i/c Administration,
Headquarters, Balkan Air Force.

Distribution:-
RAF/305/1/000.
Signals (3).
A.F.B.C., A.C.C., Bari.
Circulation.

Prov Ref 3A, 5A, 6A, 7A
Recd Ref



3046

OUTGOING MESSAGE.

7A

FROM: AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, A.C.C. BARI.

TO: H.Q. M.A.A.F. C.M.F.

SECRET A.845 ^{5A} 7TH AUGUST (.) YOUR NZ.27067 AUGUST 4TH ^{3A}
 AND MY AMLE 837 AUGUST 5TH SECRET (.) FOLLOWING REPLY RECEIVED
 FROM HOME REPRESENTS PIACENTINI'S VIEWS (.) BEHNS (.)
 PIACENTINI AGREES THAT HISRICONE MARK IS SATISFIRE MOMENTARY
 OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT BUT FROM POINT OF VIEW OF I.A.F.
 MORALE CONSIDERS THAT AN OBSCURE SPITFIRE FIVE WOULD BE
 PREFERABLE (.) SPITFIRE ENJOYS HIGHEST REPUTATION AMONG
 ITALIAN PILOTS AS FORMER BRITISH FIGHTER (.) PILOTS WOULD
 BE PROUD TO FLY SPITFIRES (.) PIACENTINI SUGGESTS PARTIAL
 EQUIPMENT WITH SPITFIRES IT BEING ESSENTIAL I.A.F. FIGHTER
 PILOTS DO NOT FEEL THEY ARE ENTIRELY OUTCLASSED BY ALLIED
 SQUADRONS BETTER EQUIPMENT (.) ENDS (.)

TO BE ENCRYPTED
 IF SENT BY W/T.

T.O.O. 071000

PRIORITY: IMMEDIATE.

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

5045

0880

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

785017

SECRET

Equals British SECRET

URGENT
 OPER. PRY.
 PRIORITY ✓
 ROUTINE
 DEFERRED

HEADQUARTERS
 XV AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND
 INCOMING CODED MESSAGE

TIME OF ORIGIN 06.1453 BXV 5848M/C 2825CLK AK + JRP

6A.

39

22

1944

6

JUG

THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED IN U.S.

R.A.F.

COMBINED

TOP SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 RESTRICTED

CYPHER

AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION AGG BAR!

FROM AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION ^A AGG ROME AIRSTROKAROCER

FIVETHREE AUGUST SIX

SECRET

ENCIPHERED BY FOURTEEN SIGNALS CENTRE STOP FOR BUGNARLEY FROM
 DEHAAN STOP REPLYING YOUR ABLE EIGHTTHREESIX STOP FIRST SUBJECT
 PIACENTINI MOST CONCERNED AT UNFAVOURABLE IMPRESSION CREATED BY
 FRANCOIS ATTITUDE HAS ORDERED HIM TO EXECUTE MOVE OF TWO MAGCHI
 SQUADRONS WITHIN ONE WEEK FROM TODAY STOP PIACENTINI CONSIDERS
 THIS QUITE POSSIBLE WITH ASSISTANCE SUGAR EIGHTYTWO TRANSPORT
 AIRCRAFT BUT RECOMMENDS THAT ADDITIONAL MOTOR TRANSPORT BE PLACED
 AT FRANCOIS DISPOSAL STOP SECOND SUBJECT STOP PIACENTINI AGREES
 THAT HURRICANE MARK B ERASE TWO SATISFIES MOMENTARY OPERATIONAL
 REQUIREMENTS BUT FROM POINT OF VIEW OF IAF MORALE CONSIDERS THAT
 AN OBSOLESCENT SPITFIRE TYPE WOULD BE PREFERABLE STOP SPITFIRE
 ENJOYS HIGHEST REPUTATION AMONG ITALIAN PILOTS AS FOREMOST BRITISH
 FIGHTER STOP PILOTS WOULD BE PROUD TO FLY SPITFIRES STOP PIACENTINI

SECRET

Equals British SECRET

Prev. Ref.

Next Ref.

5044

0881

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785017

SECRET

Equals British SECRET

HEADQUARTERS

XV AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND
INCOMING CODED MESSAGE

URGENT

OPER. PRY.

PRIORITY ✓

ROUTINE

DEFERRED

TIME OF ORIGIN 061453BXV 5848M/C 2825CLK LKP-AK

THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED IN U.S.

R.A.F.

COMBINED

TOP SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED

CYPHER

SUGGESTS PARTIAL REEQUIPMENT WITH SPITFIRES IT BEING ESSENTIAL
 RAF FIGHTER PILOTS DO NOT FEEL THEY ARE ENTIRELY OUTGLASSED BY
 ALLIED SQUADRONS BETTER EQUIPMENT STOP THIS SIGNAL NOT REPEAT NOT
 REPEATED TO RAF

SECRET

Equals British SECRET

5043

0 8 8 2

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

785017

SECRET

Equals British SECRET

URGENT
 OPER. PRTY.
 PRIORITY ✓
 ROUTINE
 DEFERRED

HEADQUARTERS
 XV AIR FORCE SERVICE COMMAND
 INCOMING CODED MESSAGE

TIME OF ORIGIN 061453BXV 5848M/C 2825CLK LKP-OK

THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED IN U.S.

R.A.F.

COMBINED

TOP SECRET
 CONFIDENTIAL
 RESTRICTED

CYPHER

SUGGESTS PARTIAL REEQUIPMENT WITH SPITFIRES IT BEING ESSENTIAL
 IAF FIGHTER PILOTS DO NOT FEEL THEY ARE ENTIRELY OUTCLASSSED BY
 ALLIED SQUADRONS BETTER EQUIPMENT STOP THIS SIGNAL NOT REPEAT NOT
 REPEATED TO IAF

SECRET

Equals British SECRET

5043

5A

OUTGOING MESSAGE

FROM: AIR FORCE'S SUB-COMMISSION, A.C.C. BARI.

TO: H.Q. M.A.A.P. C.B.F.

E.3A

A.837 SECRET 5TH AUGUST (.) YOUR HQ.27067 AUGUST FOUR (.)
 ANTICIPATE PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE VERY BAD MORAL EFFECT ON ITALIANS
 WHO WOULD CONSIDER WE ARE GETTING RID OF ALL OUR OLD STUFF ONTO
 THEM (.) THOUGH THEY HAVE NEVER RECEIVED ANY HINT OF ITS
 POSSIBILITY I KNOW THEY HAVE BEEN HOPEING THAT WE WILL GIVE THEM
 SPITFIRE FIVES AT LEAST (.) PIACENTINI UNFORTUNATELY IN ROME
 BUT HAVE SIGNALLED FOR HIS REACTIONS (.) WITH HIS HELP I MAY
 BE ABLE TO SELL THE HURRICANES AS RELIABLE AND HARD HITTING
 AIRCRAFT SUITABLE FOR USE AS PROPOSED AGAINST GROUND TARGETS
 WITH NO ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION BUT IT WILL BE VERY HARD (.)

TO BE ENCRYPTED
 IF SENT BY W/T.

T.O.O. 0518153

PRIORITY: IMMEDIATE.

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

0042

4A

EXTRACT FROM SIGNAL TO AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, A.C.C. ROME.
(R) H.Q. B.A.F. C.M.F.

SIGNAL NO. A.836 SECRET DATED 5TH AUGUST 1944.

FOR DEHAAN FROM BUSCARLET (.) TELL PIACENTINI THAT IN VIEW LOW
SERVICEABILITY MACCHI AIRCRAFT AND POSSIBLE DIFFICULTY OF MAINTAINING
THESE TYPES IN FUTURE M.A.A.F. ARE EXAMINING POSSIBILITY OF
RE-EQUIPPING TWO SQUADRONS WITH HURRICANE MARK TWO (.) REQUEST HIS
REACTIONS BUT POINT OUT THAT HURRICANE IS RELIABLE AND HAS POWERFUL
ARMAMENT IDEAL FOR USE AS PROPOSED AGAINST GROUND TARGETS WITH NO
ENEMY AIR OPPOSITION (.)

5041

CYPHER MESSAGE IMMEDIATE NO 390/5

TO ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION BARI (11 SIGS CENTRE PASS)

RRR HQ BALKAN AIR FORCE

FROM HQ MAAF
MX 27067 AUG FOUR SECRET.

IN VIEW OF LOW SERVICE ABILITY OF MACCHI AND REGGIONE AIRCRAFT

AND POSSIBLE FUTURE DIFFICULTY OF MAINTAINING THESE TYPES

WE ARE EXAMINING POSSIBILITY OF REEQUIPPING

TWO SQUADRONS WITH HURRICANE MARK TWO AT ONE IXX SIX ITEM EASY.

REQUEST YOU REPLY IMMEDIATELY ON REACTIONS AND SUITABILITY

OF THIS PROPOSAL

TOD 051039B TOR - TOD 051500B

DEC DD/JAH DIST ACC BAIR



5/18/14
S/Casey, Denny
S/Casey, Denny

Air Sub. 2348
N 173/4

CIPHER MESSAGE

102/4

TO HQ USAF MSG ACC HERE (12, 8100 CIPHER PASS)

FROM HQ, HAWAIIAN AIR FORCE

10250 AUG 4

FOR SECRET. PERSONAL FOR REPLY (10) POINT BECAUSE FROM SECRET.

1. I HAVE NOW HAD AN OPPORTUNITY OF DESCRIBING YOUR GB555 AUGUST 1 WITH JOHN MUGGLEY, AND WHAT FOLLOWS REPRESENTS OUR JOINT VIEWS
2. PREFERING THE MESSAGE IN THE HAND TO THE MESSAGE IN THE BUSH (AN AIRCRAFT WHICH HOWEVER WE COULD USE WITH VARIOUS EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE NECESSARY). I THEREFORE AM CHANGING AS MY APPS NUMBER 354 EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD WITH RESULT IN DELAYING ITS ARRIVAL.
3. AS THERE IS EVERY PROSPECT THAT THE MACHINES WILL TAKE OUT IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS TIME WE WOULD WELCOME THE REQUIREMENT OF TWO ITALIAN SQUADRON WITH SPITFIRE. WHEREAS THE FIRST WAS ALREADY RE-EQUIPPED WITH SPITFIRE THE SECOND COULD SUBSIST ON MACHINES BY ORGANIZATION. FURTHER SPITFIRE WE WOULD WILLINGLY ACCEPT THEREFORE THAT WITH TWO CANTON AND LONG RANGE TROOPS.

T00 041715L
T0R 042000H
T0D 042030H

Deciphered by H.W. Jones sgt.

Acc Dist

INFO-ACTION: AIR S.C (12)
INFO: A/C
FILE (SKEL)

DISTRIBUTION: ACC HERE (FOR HAWAIIAN MUGGLEY)

5039

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27.
FROM : HEADQUARTERS, BALKAN AIR FORCE
TO : HEADQUARTERS, U.S.A.F. SPECIAL SIGNS OFFICE. - ACC. RGR.

RE/50. AUGUST /4.

TOP SECRET.
IMMEDIATE.

PERSONAL FOR BAKER (R) BOWEN RECENTLY INFORMED NOT.

ONE. I HAVE NOT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF DISCUSSING YOUR CB/553
AUGUST ONE WITH BOWEN BUCKLEY, AND WILL FOLLOWING
REPORTS OUR JOINT VIEWS (.)

TWO. PREFERRED THE VERIFIABLE IN THE HAND TO THE SPOTLIGHT
IN THE BUSH (AN ARGUMENT WHICH MONDOVER WE COULD USE
WITH TWO IF ARGUMENT BECOMES NECESSARY) I REPERGATE
ANY CHANGE AS REGARDS FLEET THREE FIVE ONE SQUADRON
WHICH WOULD ONLY RESULT IN DELAYING ITS ARRIVAL (.)

THREE. AS THERE IS EVERY PROSPECT OF THAT THE MACCOTS WILL
PAID OUT IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS TIME WE WOULD WELCOME THE
RE-EQUIPMENT OF TWO ITALIAN SQUADRONS WITH SPITFIRES (.)
WHILST THE FIRST WAS BEING RE-EQUIPPED WITH SPITFIRES THE
SECOND GROUP WOULD SUSTAIN ON BOMBING BY CANTERBURY (.)
FRIEDLAND SPITFIRES WE WOULD WILLINGLY ACCEPT INSTEAD
IT'S WITH TWO CANNONS AND LONG RANGE TURRET (.)

FOO. 041715/B.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL.

DISTRIBUTION:- A.A.S.O.

IN THE EVENT (AN ARGUMENT WHICH HOWEVER WE COULD USE WITH TITO IF ARGUMENT BECOMES NECESSARY) I RE-TECHNISE ANY CHANCE AS BECAUSE NUMBER THREE FIVE ONE-SQUAD WHICH WOULD ONLY RESULT IN DELAYING ITS ARRIVAL. (.)

THIR.

AS THERE IS EVERY PROSPECT OF THAT THE MACCHIS WILL FARE OUT IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS TIME WE WOULD WELCOME THE RE-EQUIPMENT OF TWO ITALIAN SQUADRONS WITH SPITFIRES (.) WHILE THE FIRST WAS BEING RE-EQUIPPED WITH SPITFIRES THE SECOND WOULD SUBSIST ON MACCHIS BY CANTERLISATION (.) ~~MACCHIS~~ SPITFIRES WE WOULD WILLINGLY ACCEPT HUGO BOSS II'S WITH TWO CANNONS AND LONG RANGE TANKS (.)

FRANK

100. 041715/B.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL.

DISTRIBUTION:- S.A.S.O.

A.O.A.

TS. 3/2/44r.

W/P/116.

3034

28

TOP SECRET CYPHER MESSAGE

IMMEDIATE

476/1

TO HQ BALKAN AIR FORCE ACC PARI ACC ROME

FROM HQ MAAF SSO

GB 553 AUGUST 1 TOP SECRET

PERSONAL FOR ELLIOT AND POWEN-ROSCARLETT FROM BAKER.

AIR MINISTRY SUGGEST A PREFERENCE THAT THE ITALIAN AIR FORCE SHOULD NOT BE EQUIPPED ENTIRELY WITH AMERICAN AIRCRAFT AND SUGGEST MOUNTING ONE OR MORE ITALIAN AIR FORCE SQUADRONS WITH EITHER SPITFIRES FIVE OR HURRICANES TWO. AIR STAFF HERE SUGGEST REPLACING TWO MACCHI SQUADRONS BY ONE OR OTHER OF THESE TYPES OF AIRCRAFT. WE ARE LOOKING INTO THE SUPPLY POSITION AND MEANWHILE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE. 2. AIR MINISTRY SUGGEST THAT THE REARMING OF ITALIAN AIR FORCE SQUADRONS WITH SPITFIRES FIVE MAY UPSET TITO WHO WAS GIVEN HURRICANES FOUR IN LIEU. THE OBVIOUS ANSWER WOULD APPEAR TO BE THAT THE HURRICANE FOUR IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT TYPE OF AIRCRAFT TO THE SPITFIRE FIVE AND IS EMPLOYED IN A DIFFERENT, I.E. RP, ROLE. 3. FOREGOING IS AT PRESENT TENTATIVE AND IS SENT TO OBTAIN YOUR REACTIONS.

TOO 011301B

TOD 011627B

DIST BAF (PERSONAL FOR AVM ELLIOT) ✓

ACC (PERSONAL FOR AVM POWEN-ROSCARLETT)

IMMEDIATE

- 1803

0890