

ACC

10000/135/713

10000/135/713

ACTIVITIES, ITALY & SWITZERLAND, COUNT COMITO &
GEN. MARCHESI
SEPT. 1943; JUN., JULY 1945

51.285/L.1



IL MINISTRO DELL'AERONAUTICA

20 AUG 1945

Sir, *Gen Marchesi*

your letter dated 7th July concerning the repatriation from Switzerland of General Marchesi and Count Comito is hereby acknowledged.

Many thanks for your kind and appreciated communications.

Your sincerely

Gen M. Marchesi

S.I.O. for info & file

1/12/47

AM Marchesi

AIR VICE-MARSHAL
I.E. BRODIE
AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION A.C.
R O M A

2184

17A

AIR FORCE SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED COMMISSION
ROME.

AFSC/R/23/SPEC INT.

CONFIDENTIAL.

7th July, 1945.

Dear

With reference to DR. GASPAROTTO's letter to GENERAL BIFFI (MILAN) which was undated but probably sent on the 6th June, and to DR. GASPAROTTO's letter to CAPTAIN TAIT dated 23rd June, concerning the repatriation of GENERAL MARCHESI and COUNT COMITO from SWITZERLAND, I am glad to inform you that in all probability these gentlemen will be given permits to return to Italy by the British Consulate General, GENEVA, in the very near future.

2. If he has not already done so, I would suggest that CAPTAIN TAIT shall inform you fully about these gentlemen, and the excellent work which they have been doing on behalf of the Allies.

3. Anything which you can do to avoid any unpleasant and unjust actions being taken on the return of these gentlemen to Italy will be much appreciated, and I suggest that as DOCTOR GASPAROTTO is now in MILAN, you should communicate with him so that he will be able to take such action as may be necessary to avoid unpleasantness in that area. For your information it is likely that GENERAL MARCHESI and COUNT COMITO will be repatriated in the ordinary way with other Italian subjects in SWITZERLAND, and without any special arrangements being made so as to avoid the attention of the people being drawn to their return.

4. It is agreed, however, that they should face any charges which may be made against them in this country under Italian law, and we hope that your Ministry will give them all the support possible in recognition of the exceptionally good work done on behalf of the Allies.

Yours



2183

I.E. BRODIE,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

File & pass to 240. 2 9/7

Doctor Mario Cevolotto,
Minister for Air,
Italian Air Ministry,
Rome.

OUTGOING MESSAGE.

FROM: A.P. SUB COM (ROME).

TO: AIR MINISTRY, WHITEHALL FOR ACAS(I) PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO AA BERNE.

SECRET P.358 T.O.O 021600Z JULY 1945 (.)

FOR WEST FROM BRODIE (.)

REFERENCE GENERAL MARCHESI AND COMRE COMITA AFIA SERIAL FX.14272

TOO.261847Z ADDRESSED TO IV CORPS (.)

REQUEST PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICER BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL GENEVA TO GRANT ON APPLICATION ALLIED FORCE MEMBERS FOR ENTRY INTO ITALY OF THE TWO ABOVE NAMED ITALIANS (.)

THIS APPEARS TO ANSWER YOUR P.15903 OF 1ST JULY (.) AND PERMITS THE ABOVE MENTIONED ITALIANS BEING REPARTRATED AS FOR OTHER ITALIAN OFFICERS AND WITHOUT ANY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS EXCEPT PRIORITY SO AS TO AVOID SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THEIR ENTRY (.)

TO BE ENCRYPTED
IF SENT BY W/T.

For E. Brodie
I.E. BRODIE,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

*Despatched after my telephone
conversation with Brig. Upjohn 2. July 45
agreed that M. & C. should be allowed
to return to Italy. JWB 2/7*

TOP SECRETCYPHER MESSAGE

264/02

TO AIR DIVISION AIR FORCES SUB COMMISSION ALLIED COMMISSION
ROME

FROM HQ. 17AAF SSO SY 14 2ND JULY TOP SECRET

REQUEST FOLLOWING AIR MINISTRY WHITEHALL
SIGNAL REF. NO. MSW 755 DATED 30 JUNE 1945
BE REPEATED TO AIR VICE MARSHAL BRODIE
FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM AA BERNE
PLEASE GIVE BRIGADIER LUSH FOLLOWING MESSAGE.
YOUR LETTER 2215/37/EC JUNE 20 AND THREE
APPENDICES RECEIVED WITH MANY THANKS.
I SHOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU GIVE YOUR FULLEST
CONSIDERATION TO THE FOLLOWING REMARKS.
REFERENCE HEATH'S REPORT S/368 JUNE 16 ON
GENERAL QUOTE M UNQUOTE SOME FACTS GIVEN ARE
INACCURATE.
GENERAL M WAS NEVER APPOINTED AIR ATTACHE.
HE NEVER RECEIVED ANY APPOINTMENT THROUGH
GENERAL XXV BIANCHI CMA WHO CMA IN FACT
HE MUCH DISLIKES.
I PERSONALLY WITH HELP OF PCP AND PIGP OR
PCGP BRA QUERY BRA OF SWISS SUCCEEDED
IN LIBERATING GENERAL M FROM INTERMEN. 2184
THE PURPOSE OFFICIALLY OF LOOKING AFTER
ITALIAN AIRMEN INTERNEES.

IMMEDIATE

CONTINUED PAGE 2

CYRIL MESSAGE

264/02

TOP SECRETPAGE 2

HIS DUTIES CMA HOWEVER CMA WERE OF
A NATURE ALREADY KNOWN TO YOU.

I PERSONALLY SAW COPIES OF ORIGINAL
TELEGRAM DESPATCHED BY GENERAL M ON
SEPT 7 SEPT 8 1943 TO UNITS UNDER
HIS COMMAND.

HIS ORDERS FOR DESTRUCTION OF AIRCRAFT
AND RESISTANCE TO GERMANS APPEARED TO BE
VERY CLEAR.

HIS WORK FOR ALLIED AIR STAFF SINCE 1943
CAN ONLY BE ASSESSED AS EXCEPTIONAL.

UNDER EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS HE IS
ENTITLED TO BE REPATRIATED IN COMPANY
WITH ALL OTHER ITALIAN OFFICERS.

IN CONCLUSION I SUBMIT GENERAL M AND HIS
FAMILY SHOULD BE REPATRIATED WITHOUT DELAY.

HE SHOULD FACE HIS OWN COURTS OF ENQUIRIES.

ALLIED SUPPORT SHOULD ONLY BE GIVEN AS FAR
AS HIS WORK IN SWITZERLAND IS CONCERNED

To O 02 1100F

To R 02 1450F

To D 02 2180

A.D. A.F.S.C. AC.

Rome

Chunhoy P/O

IMMEDIATE

147

FROM: SACRED
TO: ALCOM FOR BRODIE.
TOP SECRET.
PRIORITY.
REFERENCE NO. F.15903.
CITE: FHGBI.
T.O.O 011932B.

FOLLOWS PARAPHRASE OF AIR MINISTRY WHITEHALL CABLE REFERENCE NO MSW.755
OF 30TH JUNE F.15903 ACTION TO ALCOM ROME FOR BRODIE SIGNED SACRED,

CITE FHGBI:

RECEIVED YOUR LETTER 2215/37/EC OF 20TH JUNE AND THREE APPENDICES (.)

MANY THANKS (.)

WILL BE GRATEFUL IF YOU GIVE FULLEST CONSIDERATION TO THE FOLLOWING (.)

WITH REFERENCE TO HEATH'S REPORT ON GENERAL MARCHESI, S/368 OF 16TH
JUNE, SOME FACTS STATED ARE NOT ACCURATE (.) GENERAL MARCHESI NEVER
APPOINTED AIR ATTACHE AND NEVER RECEIVED ANY APPOINTMENT THROUGH GENERAL
BLANCHI WHOM HE MUCH DISLIKES (.) WITH HELP OF PCP AND PCGP OF SWISS
I PERSONALLY BROUGHT ABOUT LIBERATION OF GENERAL MARCHESI TO LOOK AFTER
INTERRED ITALIAN AIRMEN (.)

NATURE OF HIS DUTIES HOWEVER, ARE KNOWN TO YOU (.)

I MYSELF SAW COPY OF ORIGINAL TELEGRAMS SENT BY GENERAL MARCHESI ON 7TH
AND 8TH SEPTEMBER 43 TO UNITS UNDER HIS COMMAND (.)

HIS ORDERS TO DESTROY AIRCRAFT AND RESIST GERMANS APPEARED VERY CLEAR (.)

WILL BE GRATEFUL IF YOU GIVE FULLEST CONSIDERATION TO THE FOLLOWING (.)
 WITH REFERENCE TO HEATH'S REPORT ON GENERAL MARCHESI, S/368 OF 16TH
 JUNE, SOME FACTS STATED ARE NOT ACCURATE (.) GENERAL MARCHESI NEVER
 APPOINTED AIR ATTACHE AND NEVER RECEIVED ANY APPOINTMENT THROUGH GENERAL
 BIANCHI WHOM HE MUCH DISLIKES (.) WITH HELP OF PCP AND PCGP OF SWISS
 I PERSONALLY BROUGHT ABOUT LIBERATION OF GENERAL MARCHESI TO LOOK AFTER
 INTERNED ITALIAN AIRMEN (.)

NATURE OF HIS DUTIES HOWEVER, ARE KNOWN TO YOU (.)

I MYSELF SAW COPY OF ORIGINAL TELEGRAMS SENT BY GENERAL MARCHESI ON 7TH
 AND 8TH SEPTEMBER 43 TO UNITS UNDER HIS COMMAND (.)

HIS ORDERS TO DESTROY AIRCRAFT AND RESIST GERMANS APPEARED VERY CLEAR (.) 217

REGARD HIS WORK FOR ALLIED AIR STAFF SINCE 1943 AS EXCEPTIONAL (.)

PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS ENTITLE HIM TO BE REPATRIATED AS ALL OTHER ITALIAN
 OFFICERS (.)

I SUBMIT THAT HE AND FAMILY SHOULD BE REPATRIATED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE,
 SHOULD FACE HIS OWN COURTS OF INQUIRY AND ALLIED SUPPORT GIVEN ONLY IN SO

FAR AS CONCERNS HIS WORK IN SWITZERLAND (.)

AS TO COUNT COMITO MANY FACTS ALSO NOT ACCURATE (.)

HE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ME SINCE 1940 (.)

IF THEY CAN, LET THESE OFFICIALS BRING CHARGES AGAINST HIM (.)

MORE FOLLOWS IN TELEGRAM X.211 (.)

COUNT COMITO NEVER CONTACTED COLONEL DENARI OR GENERAL BIANCHI AND ARE

KNOWN TO BE BITTER ENEMIES (.)

CONSIDER THAT HE HAS RIGHT TO MENTION HE HAD SUPPORT OF SOME ALLIED
AUTHORITIES AS, THROUGH ME, HE WAS ACAS(I)'S BEST INFORMANT FROM SWITZERLAND
SINCE 1941 (.)

HE ALSO FINANCED LEADING MEMBERS OF ITALIAN ROYAL FAMILY BUT HE EXTENDED HIS
AID TO COMMUNISTS AND MEMBERS OF OTHER ITALIAN PARTIES NEEDING FINANCIAL
AID IN THIS COUNTRY AS WELL (.)

I STATE MOST DEFINITELY THAT HE VERY MUCH DISLIKES MARINOTTI MOSTLY BECAUSE
OF LATTERS FASCIST ASSOCIATIONS (.)

CHIEFLY BECAUSE OF INFLUENCE OF THIS LEGATION COUNT COMITO WAS DETERRED FROM
ATTACKING MARINOTTI IN LOCAL PRESS (.)

COUNT COMITO IS ONE OF FEW ITALIANS WHO DESIRED TO HELP US THROUGH

CONVICTIONS AND WITHOUT FINANCIAL AID (.)

HE RISKED HIS LIFE FOR US SEVERAL TIMES (.)

ON THE FLIMSY GROUNDS THAT HE WILL NOT BE WELCOME IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES WHY
SHOULD WE DENY HIM RIGHT TO ENTER HIS OWN COUNTRY (.)

WE HAD FULL KNOWLEDGE OF HIS SIM COLLABORATION AND WE INSPIRED REPORTS HE
GAVE THEM (.)

THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM AA BERNE (.)

PLEASE GIVE BRIGADIER LUSH (.) - done 8.2/3

CONVICTIONS AND WITHOUT FINANCIAL AID (.)
HE RISKED HIS LIFE FOR US SEVERAL TIMES (.)
ON THE FLITSY GROUNDS THAT HE WILL NOT BE WELCOME IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES WHY
SHOULD WE DENY HIM RIGHT TO ENTER HIS OWN COUNTRY (.)
WE HAD FULL KNOWLEDGE OF HIS SIM COLLABORATION AND WE INSPIRED REPORTS HE
GAVE THEM (.)
THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM AA HERNE (.)
PLEASE GIVE BRIGADIER LUSH (.) - done *2. 2/3*

214b

PRIORITY TOP SECRET

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISS. ON INCOMING MESSAGE

MSG Center No : *N 148/01*
 Classification : *TOP SEC*
 Precedence : *PRIORITY*
 From : *SACMED*
 To : *ALCOM FOR BRODIE*

Date/Time Rec'd : *012212 B*
 Date/Time Sent : *011932 B*
 Reference NR : *F 15984*
 Cite : *FHGBI*

XYTOPSECRETX PD FOLLOWS PARAPHRASE OF ABLE MIKE CVA WHITEHALL

CABLE REFERENCE NUMBER MIKE SUGAR WILLIAM SEVEN FIVE FIVE OF THREE

ZERO JUNE PD FOX ONE FIVE NINE ZERO FOUR ACTION TO ALCOM ROME FOR

BRODIE SIGNED SACMED CITE FHGBI ~~EPWFHGBI~~ PD RECEIVED YOUR LETTER

TWO TWO ONE FIVE SLASH THREE SEVEN SLASH EAGER CHARLIE OF TWO ZERO

JUNE AND THREE APPENDICES PD MANY THANKS PD PARA PD WILL BE GRATEFUL

IF YOU GIVE FULLEST CONSIDERATION THE FOLLOWING COLON PARA WITH

REFERENCE ^{TO} HEATH APOSTROPHE SUGAR REPORT ON GENERAL QUOTE

MIKE QUOTE CVA SUGAR SLANT THREE SIX EIGHT OF ONE SIX ~~XXXXXX~~ JUNE

CVA SOME FACTS STATED ARE NOT ~~RETTOT~~ ACCURATE PD GENERAL 24077

MIKE QUOTE NEVER APPOINTED AV ⁽²⁾ ATTACHE AND NEVER RECEIVED ANYS

TOP SECRET

page 2

TOP SECRET

N 148/01

APPOINTMENT THROUGH GENERAL BIANCHI ~~NOT BIANCHI~~ ~~HOW HE MUCH XXXXPT~~
 MUCH DISLIKES PD WITH HELP OF PETER CHARLIE PETER AND PETER CHARLIE
 GEORGE PETER OF SWISS ITEM PERSONALLY BROUGHT ABOUT LIBERATION OF
 GENERAL QUOTE MIKE QUOTE OFFICIALLY TO LOOK AFTER INTERNED ITALIAN
 AIRMEN PD NATURE OF HIS DUTIES CMA HOWEVER CMA ARE KNOWN TO YOU PD
 ITEM MYSELF SAW COPY OF ORIGINAL TELEGRAMS SENT BY GENERAL MIKE
~~MIKE XXXXPT MIKE~~ ON SEVEN AND EIGHT SEPTEMBER ONE NINE FOUR THREE TO
 UNITS UNDER HIS COMMAND PD HIS ORDERS TO DESTROY AIRCRAFT AND
 RESIST GERMANS APPEARED VERY CLEAR PD REGARD HIS WORK FOR ALLIED
 AIR STAFF SINCE ONE NINE FOUR THREE AS EXCEPTIONAL PD PRESENT
 ARRANGEMENTS ENTITLED HIM TO BE REPATRIATED AS ALL OTHER ITALIAN
 OFFICERS PD ITEM SUBMIT THAT HE AND FAMILY SHOULD BE REPATRIATED AS
 QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE PD ~~SHOULD~~ ^{SHOULD} FACE HIS OWN COURTS OF INQUIRY AND
 ALLIED SUPPORT GIVEN ONLY IN SOPA AS CONCERNS HIS WORK IN
 SWITZERLAND PD PARA PD ASKED ^{ED} COUNT QUOTE CHARLIE QUOTE MANY FACTS
 ALSO ~~YFT NOT~~ NOT ACCURATE PD HE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ME SINCE
 ONE FOUR FOUR ZERO PD IF THEY CAN CAUSE THESE OFFICIALS BRING
 CHARGES AGAINST HIM PD MORE FOLLOWS IN TELEGRAM XRAY TWO ONE ONE PD
 PARA PD COUNT QUOTE CHARLIE QUOTE NEVER CONTACTED COLONEL DENARI
~~XPT DENARI~~ OR GENERAL BIANCHI AND ARE KNOWN TO BE BITTER ENEMIES

TOP SECRET

page 3

TOP SECRET

N 148/01

PD CONSIDER THAT HE HAS RIGHT TO MENTION HE HAD SUPPORT OF SOME
~~ALLIED~~ ~~AND~~ ALLIED AUTHORITIES AS CVA THROUGH WE CVA HE WAS ABLE
 CHARLIE ABLE SUGAR PAREN ITEM PAREN APOSTROPHE SUGAR BEST INFORMANT
 FROM SWITZERLAND SINCE ONE NINE FOUR ONE PD HE ALSO FINANCED
 LEADING MEMBERS OF ITALIAN ROYAL FAMILY BUT HE EXTENDED HIS AID TO
 COMMUNISTS AND MEMBERS OF OTHER ITALIAN PARTIES NEEDING FINANCIAL
 AID IN THIS COUNTRY AS WELL PD PARA PD I ~~NOT~~ ~~ITEM~~ STATE MOST
 DEFINITELY THAT HE VERY MUCH DISLIKES ~~MARINOTTI~~ ~~AND~~ MARINOTTI MOSTLY
 BECAUSE OF LATTERS FASCIST ASSOCIATIONS PD CHIEFLY BECAUSE OF
 INFLUENCE OF THIS LEAGATION QUOTE CHARLIE QUOTE WAS DETERRED FROM
 ATTACHING MARINOTTI IN LOCAL PRESS PD COUNT CHARLIE IS ONE OF FEW
 ITALIANS WHO DESIRED TO ~~HELP US~~ ~~THROUGH~~ CONVICTIONS AND
 WITHOUT FINANCIAL AID PD HE RISKED HIS LIFE FOR US SEVERAL TIMES PD
 ON THE FLIMSY ~~AND~~ ~~FLIMSY~~ GROUNDS THAT HE WILL NOT ~~NOT~~ BE WELCOME
 IN OFFICIAL CIRCLES WHY SHOULD WE DENY HIM RIGHT TO ENTER HIS OWN
 COUNTRY PD WE HAD FULL KNOWLEDGE HIS SUGAR ITEM ~~WAS~~ ~~COLLABORATION~~
 AND WE INSPIRED REPORTS HE GAVE THEM PD THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM
 ABLE ABLE CVA BERNE PD PLEASE GIVE BRIGADIER LUSH ~~IT LUSH~~ 21:5

TOP SECRET

FROM: A.F.H.Q.
 TO: ALLIED COMMISSION.
 REF NO: F.15903.
 CITE: FHGDI
 T.O.O: 011931B.
 TOP SECRET. PRIORITY.

PARAPHRASE FOLLOWS OF AIR MINISTRY WHITEHALL CABLE REFERENCE NUMBER

MSW.745 OF 27TH JUNE (.) THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM AA BERNE:-

F.15903 ACTION TO ALCOM ROME FOR BRODIE SIGNED SACRED CITE FHGDI:-

ALLIED AND SWISS GOVERNMENTS HAVE CONCLUDED ARRANGEMENTS TO RETURN
 ITALIAN MILITARY AND CIVIL INTERNEES TO ITALY (.)

ORIGINAL GROUPS ALREADY DEPARTED AND PROCESS TO CONTINUE DAILY UNTIL

COMPLETED (.) - *Not quite complete. 4244 have not been processed
 approved list for home return 4 or 5 days*

UNDER NEW REGULATIONS GENERAL MARCHESI AND COUNT COMITO ENTITLED TO

RETURN ITALY WITHIN OWN CATEGORIES AND I CANNOT SEE HOW WE COULD

PREVENT THEM (.)

EXTREMELY AWKWARD TO ATTEMPT HOLDING TWO WHO FOR LONG PERIOD HAVE

CONTINUALLY GIVEN VERY VALUABLE SERVICE TO AIR STAFF WHILE OTHERS

WHO HAVE DONE NOTHING, TO SAY THE LEAST, ARE REPATRIATED (.)

DESIRED IS TELEGRAPHED CONFIRMATION THAT GENERAL MARCHESI AND COUNT

COMITO CAN RETURN TO ITALY AT ONCE (.)

ITALIAN MILITARY AND CIVIL INTERNEES TO ITALY (.)

ORIGINAL GROUPS ALREADY DEPARTED AND PROCESS TO CONTINUE DAILY UNTIL

COMPLETED (.) *Not quite covered, 40000 have been furnished
approx 2000 for new Italian*

UNDER NEW REGULATIONS GENERAL MARCHESI AND COMITO ENTITLED TO 5 days

RETURN ITALY WITHIN OWN CATEGORIES AND I CANNOT SEE HOW WE COULD

PREVENT THEM (.)

EXTREMELY ANKWARD TO ATTEMPT HOLDING TWO WHO FOR LONG PERIOD HAVE

CONTINUALLY GIVEN VERY VALUABLE SERVICE TO AIR STAFF WHILE OTHERS

WHO HAVE DONE NOTHING, TO SAY THE LEAST, ARE REPATRIATED (.)

DESIRED IS TELEGRAPHED CONFIRMATION THAT GENERAL MARCHESI AND COUNT

COMITO CAN RETURN TO ITALY AT ONCE (.)

21/4

TOP SECRET
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
INCOMING MESSAGE

125

MSG Center No
Classification
Precedence
From
To

N 146/01
TOP SEC.
P
AFHQ
AL

PRIORITY

Date | Time Recd : 012150B
Date | Time Sent : 011931B
Reference NR : F-15903
Cite : FHGD1

TOP SECRET XX PD PARAPHRASE FOLLOWS OF ABLE MIKE CMA WHITEHALL CMA
CABLE REFERENCE NUMBER MIKE SUGA WILLIAM SEVEN FOUR FIVE OF TWO SEVEN
JUNE COLON PARA PD THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM ABLE ABLE CMA BERNE
COLON PD FOX ONE FIVE ~~WYVORT~~ NINE ZERO THREE ACTION TO ~~WYVORT~~
~~FORM~~ ALCOM ROVE FOR BRODIE SIGNED SACRED SITE FHGBI ~~RPT FHOH~~ PD
ALLIED AND SWISS GOVERNMENTS HAVE CONCLUDED ARRANGEMENTS TO RETURN
ITALIAN MILITARY AND CIVIL INTERNEES TO ITALY PD ORIGINAL ~~WYVORT~~
GROUPS ALREADY DEPARTED AND PROCESS TO CONTINUE DAILY UNTIL COMPLETED
PD UNDER NEW REGULATIONS GENERAL MIKE AND COUNT CHARLIE ENTITLED TO
RETURN ITALY WITHIN OWN CATEGORIES AND ITEM CANNOT ~~RPT CANNOT~~ SEE HOW
WE COULD PREVENT THEM PD ~~WYVORT~~ EXTREMELY AWKWARD TO ATTEMPT HOLDING
TWO WHO FOR LONG PERIOD HAVE CONTINUALLY GIVEN VERY VALUABLE SERVICE
TO AIR STAFF WHILE OTHERS WHO HAVE DONE NOTHING CMA TO SAY THE LEAST

TOP SECRET

(2)
TOP SECRET

CMA ARE REPATRIATED PD DESIRED IS TELEGRAPHED CONFIRMATION THAT

GENERAL MIKE AND COUNT CHARLIE CAN ~~BE~~ RETURN TO ITALY AT ONCE

2172

TOP SECRET

SECRET*Air Force*
12AFX 14272
JUN 281817BE/7247
JUN 290800B
ROUTINEAFHQ SIGNED SACRED CITY ENGBI, FOR 02 FOR BRAAFADT
ACTION IV CORPS INFO ALCOM**SECRET.**

Request you pass quickly to pass port control officer, British Consulate
General, GENEVA, following message.

Please grant on application Allied Force permits for entry ITALY to Italians
General MARCHESI and Count COMITO. Air Attache, BERNE, is interested.

DIST

INFO-ACTION: Pub Safety
INFO: Chief Commissioner
CA Sec
Air Forces S/C
Liaison Div
File 2
Float

Santh... to... 10/13 30/6

Learn. 8 29/6
S.A.

SECRET

2171

File with Brig Up John

130-5
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See p. 3/7

TRANSLATION OF LETTER ADDRESSED TO
 CAPTAIN TAIT BY D^E GASPAROTTO AND DATED
 23/6/45.

Dear . . .

I met Lt. Col. SALAMINA yesterday
 at the Chiano ^{border} frontier. He is A.D.C. to
 General MARCHESI, and was able to give
 me news of the General and assure me that
 the order to set the aircraft on fire was
 not only given but reached its destination.

The Divisional Partisan Commander
 accompanied by Lt. Col. Ruffini to-day
 visited me and told me that on the
 9th September he had received orders
 to transfer himself with the aircraft to
 FANO (Marche), which he did, but could
 not continue, in order to reach the
 Allied lines for various reasons among
 which was the insufficient range of the

aircraft.

Both tell me that Gen. Marchesi is attacked by many who fear him and for this reason they are ^{obstructing} ~~hindering~~ his return to Italy.

Would you please mention this fact to the Air Vice Marshal, warning ^{him} that Gen. Marchesi would like to be summoned to Rome in order to report everything personally.

Yours etc.

RAAC MESSAGE FOPM

CALL	CIRCUIT No. NR 8407	PRIORITY P	TRANSMISSION INSTRUCTIONS
SPACES WITHIN RED LINES FOR SIGNALS USE ONLY			
FROM (A)	AIR MINISTRY WHITEHALL MSW	DATE-TIME OF ORIGIN 111450Z	
TO (FOR ACTION)	CIO AFHQ AIR VICE MARSHAL BRODIE ROME		
TO (FOR INFORMATION)		MESSAGE INSTRUCTIONS SECRET	GR
(REF. No.)	703	(SECURITY CLASSIFICATION)	SECRET

FOR CIO FROM ACAS (1).

1. FURTHER MY MSW 699 10 JUNE FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM AA BERNE. BEGINS. REFERENCE COUNT COMITO. INFORM BRIGADIER LISH THAT COUNT COMITO HAS BEEN THANKED BY ITALIAN COMMITTEE OF LIBERATION IN SWITZERLAND FOR HIS REPEATED EFFORTS FOR PARTISANS OF BANDA SUPERTI AND OF VAL D'OSSOLA GROUPS.
2. COUNT COMITO IS MOST ANXIOUS TO BRING TO NOTICE OF ALLIED AND ITALIAN AUTHORITIES THE NAMES OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF ITALIANS WHO HAVE WORKED WHILST WHILST DIRECTLY UNDER HIM BUT UNDER MY GENERAL GUIDANCE.
3. COUNT COMITO IS NOT REPEAT NOT WORREID ABOUT FACING ANY ITALIAN COMMITTEES. IN FACT HE IS MOST ANXIOUS TO DO SO.
4. I AM PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS THAT THOSE ITALIANS WHO HAVE WORKED SO WELL GALLANTLY AND USEFULLY FOR THE ALLIED AIR STAFFS SHOULD RECEIVE OUR FULL SUPPORT.
5. I MOST STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT COUNT COMITO BE AUTHORISED TO VISIT ITALY FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES OF BEING INTERVIEWED BY YOU AND OR BRIGADIER LISH.
6. I KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE SPOKEN AGAINST COUNT COMITO FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS BUT AS SENIOR ALLIED OFFICER IN SWITZERLAND DURING THE WAR I CAN DEFINITELY STATE THAT HE HAS RENDERED TO ALLIED AIR STAFFS MOST EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE. ENDS

CIPHER TELEGRAM

~~This message will not be distributed outside British or U.S. Government Departments or Headquarters or retransmitted even in Cipher without being paraphrased. (Messages marked C.T. need not be paraphrased.)~~

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PRECEDENCE:
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2168
IMPORTANT

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INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AIR FORCES s/c 90

Copy No 1

Originator's Reference: AP 25Message Centre No: E/7223Date/Time of Origin: JUNE 281716Date Time Rec'd: JUNE 290855Precedence: PRIORITY

FROM: HQ MAAF CITE AI 356

TO : AFSC AC ROME

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET.

For BRODIE from WOOLLEY.

ACAS has received following from AA BERNE begins arrangements have been concluded between Allied and SWISS Governments for Italian military and civil internees in SWITZERLAND to return to ITALY. First parties have already left and process will continue daily until it is complete. General M and Count C are entitled within their own (Categories?) to return to ITALY under these new regulations and it is not seen how they could be prevented from returning as it is regarded as extremely awkward to attempt to hold these 2 persons who have continually rendered valuable service to air staff over a long period whilst others who ~~are~~ have ^{done} nothing are now being repatriated. AA BERNE states he assumes General M and Count C can return to ITALY immediately but desires telegraphed confirmation as soon as possible. Ends. Presume you will signal confirmation to AA BERNE.

DISTCOPY NO 1 ACTION - AIR FORCES SC
FILE (SKELETON)

2167

TOP SECRET

8/2
P

TRANSLATION OF NOTES BROUGHT TO AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION
BY CAPTAIN TAIT (ITALIAN AIR MINISTRY).

GENERAL MARCHESI.

to
His Excellency has spoken with DOCTOR. MERANDI re the above-mentioned General and has been promised an answer as soon as the Dr. can get in touch with the National Liberation Committee in the North. It is, however, emphasised by the Dr. that the General be allowed to retire and that he be given no assignments.

COUNT ?? Comito

As regards the Count, His Excellency has spoken with MERANDI, ARYESANI and CASAGRANDE, all members of the C.L.N.A.I. who made it known that:

(1) From a political point of view he has always been above reproach, having helped refugees and partisans alike on all occasions. He has also collaborated with the Allies.

(2) His conduct, however, has not always been above suspicion, and he is known as a "brasseur d'affaires" who worked with the British Consul General at LUGANO in organising a company by the name of "TRIANTILIS" dealing with the transportation of goods from the United States to Switzerland. (This is confirmed).

It is said, but has not been confirmed, that as representative of the SNIA VIGISA, he was able to dispose of merchandise in Switzerland at great profit to himself. At one time it was rumoured that he was trying to take over the SNIA organisation from MARINOTTI. His Excellency is able to add, however, that MARINOTTI who has been in Switzerland for the last 6 months has always been on good terms with the Count and denies that the Count has ever acted in bad faith towards the SNIA.

COUNT ?? Cerito

As regards the Count, His Excellency has spoken with ~~GERARDI~~, ~~ARIESANI~~ and ~~CASAGRANDE~~, all members of the C.L.N.A.I. who made it known that:

(1) From a political point of view he has always been above reproach, having helped refugees and partisans alike on all occasions. He has also collaborated with the Allies.

(2) His conduct, however, has not always been above suspicion, and he is known as a "brasseur d'affaires" who worked with the British Consul General at LUGANO in organising a company by the name of "TRANVILLIS" dealing with the transportation of goods from the United States to Switzerland. (This is confirmed).

It is said, but has not been confirmed, that as representative of the SMIA ~~VITSA~~, he was able to dispose of merchandise in Switzerland at great profit to himself. At one time it was rumoured that he was trying to take over the SMIA organisation from ~~MARINOTTI~~. His Excellency is able to add, however, that ~~MARINOTTI~~ who has been in Switzerland for the last 6 months has always been on good terms with the Count and denies that the Count has ever acted in bad faith towards the SMIA.

2166

Translated by F/O. DeBeneducis,
19th June, 1945.

83
Circa il

~~GEN.~~ GEN. MARCHESI

S.E. ^{ha} parlato col Dott. MORANDI che risponderà appena preso contatto col C.L.N.A.I. Si è dichiarato favorevole purchè il ~~M.~~ ^{Marchesi} non domandi cariche.

Per ciò che riguarda il Conte, S.E. ha parlato pure con MORANDI e con ARPESANI e CASAGRANDE dello stesso Comitato, i quali hanno detto a S.E.:

1°) dal lato politico si è comportato bene, avendo aiutato i profughi e i partigiani, offrendosi in tutte le occasioni.

Nei riguardi degli Alleati è noto a tutti che ha lavorato a favore di essi.

2°) Circa la condotta morale è conosciuto da tutti come un "brasseur d'affaires" che ha lavorato insieme col Consolo Gen. Inglese di Lugano, mettendo insieme una Società detta "Nautilus" per i trasporti dall'America per conto della Svizzera (notizia certa).

Si dice inoltre che come rappresentante della SNIA VISCOSA abbia potuto trattenere in Svizzera della merce e realizzare forti somme nella vendita. Ad un certo momento si diceva che egli mirava a sostituirsi al MARINOTTI come capo della SNIA, senonchè l'on. CASPAROTTO ha riscontrato che col MARINOTTI il quale è entrato da 6 mesi in Svizzera, il Conte era in buoni rapporti ^{21/5} ~~il~~ che smentirebbe la voce che il Conte stesso ^{19/5} ~~si~~ ^{21/5} ~~sa-~~rebbe male comportato verso la SNIA.

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24
A/CDR. WEST.

AUTHORITY FOR GENERAL MARCHESI AND COUNT COMITO TO TRAVEL SHOULD BE ISSUED BY G.2 A.F.H.Q. SOME TIME EARLY IN JULY. THIS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO P.C.O. GENEVA, SWITZERLAND (G.2 REPRESENTATIVE IN SWITZERLAND).

2. TELEGRAMS OR LETTERS ON THIS SUBJECT FOR THE LEGATION, BERNE, TO BE ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:

Telegrams:
A.C.A.S.I FOR TRANSMISSION TO BERNE.

Letters:
TO: G.B. HOGAN ESQ,
A.I.(I) SEAFORD HOUSE,
BRIGADE SQUARE,
AIR MINISTRY, LONDON.

T ROUGH E BASSY BERNE.

A.C.A.S.I FOR TRANSMISSION TO BERNE.

Letters:

TO: G.B. HOGAN ESQ,

A.I.(I) SEAFORD HOUSE,

BRIDGE SQUARE,

AIR MINISTRY,

LONDON.

T ROUGH EMBASSY BERNE.

2164

FROM: AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION,
ALLIED COMMISSION, ROME.

TO: BRIGADIER G.R. UPJOHN,
C.A. SECTION, H.Q. A.C.

DATE: 16TH JUNE, 1945.

REF: AFSC/R/23/SPEC INT.

TOP SECRET.

Further to my memorandum of even reference dated 6th June, CAPTAIN TAIT (P.A. to the Italian Minister for Air) called on me this morning and informed me that DR. GASPAROTTO spoke to SIGNOR PARRI and DR. MORANDI yesterday concerning GENERAL MARCHESI. PARRI and MORANDI have nothing against GENERAL MARCHESI, and they will, on their return to MILAN, inform the C.L.N.'s concerning the good work which GENERAL MARCHESI has been doing on behalf of the Allies, with a view to any action against the General being 'nipped in the bud'.

2. In view of the above it would seem that there will be no harm in approaching G.2 with a view to obtaining authority for GENERAL MARCHESI to return to Italy forthwith; if you agree I would be glad if steps could be taken to obtain the necessary authority.

3. For your information the Air Minister did not discuss COUNT COMITO with the above named Italian officials.

MS
J.E. BRODIE,
AIR VICE-MARSHAL,
AIR OFFICER COMMANDING.

Pass to SIO

2163

5A

AIR FORCES SUB-COMMISSION, ALLIED COMMISSION,
ROME.

TOP SECRET.

AFSC/R/23/SPIC INT.

6th June, 1945.

ZVM

4A

With reference to our conversation of this morning, I attach two copies of a letter I have received from AIR COMMODORE WEST (British Air Attaché, BERNE.)

2. I must confirm that WEST and I saw ADMIRAL STONE yesterday, and he instructed that I should draft a letter addressed to A.F.H.Q. for the Admiral's signature, strongly advocating that all action by the Allies should be taken in favour of the Officers and civilians mentioned in the attached letters and appendices.

3. During our discussion this morning we agreed, however, that you would speak to ADMIRAL STONE with a view to taking the matter up direct with the Italian Government with possibly a copy to A.F.H.Q. for information, and that you would draft the letter rather than me because you have more experience in these matters than I have.

4. I must add that I would much appreciate the strongest possible action in favour of these Italians who have been so useful to the Allied cause, and who might, if we are not careful, be victimised by the C.I.M's of the North who do not know the full story, and to whom it may be inopportune to give full details, at any rate so far as the civilians are concerned.

5. As regards the Military personnel, WEST and I agreed that we could see no reason why we should not inform the Italian Government in rather vague terms of the nature of the work which was done by those Italians.

6. The following additional information in respect of GENERAL MARCHESI and COLTE COMITO may be of help in preparing your case:

(1) GENERAL MARCHESI.

In the opinion of DOCTOR GASPAROTTO and GENERAL ALDORE CAT, the Partisans may accuse GENERAL MARCHESI of not having taken sufficient steps to prevent Italian aircraft falling into German hands at the time of the Armistice.

Speak to Admiral Stone with a view to taking the matter up direct with the Italian Government with possibly a copy to A.F.H.Q. for information, and that you would draft the letter rather than me because you have more experience in these matters than I have.

4. I must add that I would much appreciate the strongest possible action in favour of these Italians who have been so useful to the Allied cause, and who might, if we are not careful, be victimised by the C.I.M.'s of the North who do not know the full story, and to whom it may be inopportune to give full details, at any rate so far as the civilians are concerned.

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6. The following additional information in respect of GENERAL MARCHESI and COUNT COMITO may be of help in preparing your case:

(i) GENERAL MARCHESI.

In the opinion of DOCTOR CASPAROTTO and GENERAL ALFONSO CAT, the Partisans may accuse GENERAL MARCHESI of not having taken sufficient steps to prevent Italian aircraft falling into German hands at the time of the Armistice.

But I gathered from WEST that MARCHESI had in fact practically no opportunity to do so because he was surrounded by Germans and himself had to escape through a window.

(ii) COUNT COMITO.

DOCTOR CASPAROTTO knows COUNT COMITO very well, in fact I believe COMITO helped CASPAROTTO in his passage through SWITZERLAND in ITALY. In CASPAROTTO's opinion the only important accusation that he is aware of against COMITO may be COMITO's friendship with members of the Italian Royal Family. On no grounds whatever but instinct, I feel that DOCTOR CASPAROTTO is being somewhat optimistic!

7. A further point arises and that is when would it be politic for GENERAL MARCHESI and his family, and also COUNT COMITO to be repatriated through G-2, as I understand that at present it would be inadvisable in view of the political situation up North. Contact has been made with BRIGADIER LUSH on this matter, and he has tentatively advised against repatriation. When we write to G-2 about this the alternative route through BASELINES should be borne in mind, or better still an aircraft flying direct between SWITZERLAND and ROME so as to avoid the North.

BRIGADIER G.R. URJOHN, p.s. A translated version of Dr. Gasparotto's letter to Gen Biffi who
C.A. Section, H.Q. A.C. is from Rome & was commanding his I.A.F. in the North.

2162

4A
AIR COMMODORE F.M.F. WEST, VC, CBE, MC,
AIR ATTACHE, BERN

TOP SECRET.

5th June, 1945.

In accordance with Air Ministry instructions I reported to A.F.H.Q. CASERTA on June 4th for the purpose of bringing to the notice of the Allied Authorities concerned, the excellent work carried out in Italy by a certain number of gallant Italian airmen and civilians, during the period September 43 to May 1945.

2. As a result of conversations at A.F.H.Q. with C.I.O. and Staff Officers of G.2 on the above subject, I was instructed to report the facts of the case to Allied Commission.

3. The facts of the case are as follows: One of the spheres of my activities in SWITZERLAND was the obtaining of air information in enemy countries which could be of operational value to the Combined Allied Air Staffs. As far as Italy was concerned I formed two groups - one consisting mainly of civilians, and the other consisting solely of Italian Air Force personnel. The civilian group was controlled by COUNT FILIBERTO COMITO, the other by GENERAL MARCHESI.

4. As regards COUNT F. COMITO, I cannot speak too highly of his excellent work and of the many dangers he personally faced in order to bring to us from enemy countries, valuable information. COUNT COMITO was never in receipt of any financial aid from Allied sources. COUNT COMITO was known to me personally as an anti-fascist since before the war.

5. Attached in Appendix "A" are the names of the people who helped COUNT COMITO, together with a short report rendered by him on his work. (Note - it is requested that Italian Authorities at this stage should not be informed of contents of Appendix "A".)

6. As regards GENERAL V. MARCHESI, I have no hesitation in stating that his reports throughout the period September 1943 to May 1945 were of the highest standard and of considerable operational value to the Allied Air Staff. General MARCHESI reported to me shortly after crossing the Swiss frontier, about the middle of September 1943. He told me that as the King of Italy had declared war on Germany, he was anxious to place himself at the disposal of the Allies, and to work in any capacity. General MARCHESI's knowledge of aerodromes in detail, and of certain potential targets in Northern and Central Italy, proved to be of immediate value. Later I assigned to him the task of forming a group of Italian pilots who could obtain, pass on, and deliver information to our H.Q. in SWITZERLAND. General MARCHESI was most successful in this task. The officers started by him proved a most valuable link in our organisation. Some of these

the other consisting solely of COUNT FILIBERTO COMITO, the other by

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5. Attached in Appendix "A" are the names of the people who helped COUNT COMITO, together with a short report rendered by him on his work. (Note - it is requested that Italian Authorities at this stage should not be informed of contents of Appendix "A".)

6. As regards GENERAL V. MARCHESE, I have no hesitation in stating that his reports throughout the period September 1943 to May 1945 were of the highest standard and of considerable operational value to the Allied Air Staff. General MARCHESE reported to me shortly after crossing the Swiss frontier, about the middle of September 1943. He told me that as the King of Italy had declared war on Germany, he was anxious to place himself at the disposal of the Allies, and to work in any capacity. General MARCHESE's knowledge of aerodromes in detail, and of certain potential targets in Northern and Central Italy, proved to be of immediate value. Later I assigned to him the task of forming a group of Italian pilots who could obtain, pass on, and deliver information to our H.Q. in SWITZERLAND. General MARCHESE was most successful in this task. The officers selected by him proved a most valuable link in our organisation. Some of these Italian Officers deserve the highest praise for devotion to duty and bravery. I specially have to mention the list of their names is given in Appendix "B". I specially have to mention the names of CAPTAINS SALAMINA and ZANCHI for outstanding work and bravery.

6. I am about to relinquish my appointment of Air Attaché at BERNE in order to take up new duties. I consider it my duty, before my departure from SWITZERLAND, to express most respectfully, but most forcibly, that the Allied Authorities concerned should, as far as it is practical for them to do, bring to the notice of the Italian Authorities the exceptionally valuable work carried out by GENERAL MARCHESE and COUNT COMITO, and those serving for the same cause under them.

Air Vice-Marshal, I.E. Brodie, OBE,
Air Forces Sub-Commission,
Allied Commission, Rome.

F.M.P. WEST, A/CDEP.

2161

39

COMITO FELTHERTO, Son of COMITO LUIGI and SCALAMANDRE MARIA, born at
CHIARAVALLE CENTRALE on the 8th March 1892.

PROFESSION:

INDUSTRIAL MANAGER.

HEIGHT:

1.63

HAIR:

DARK BROWN

EYES:

DARK BROWN

BUILD:

NORMAL

PARTICULAR MARKS:

SCAR ON RIGHT CHEEK.

2160

1 3 2 3

TOP SECRET.

APPENDIX "A"

The services rendered previous to 8th September 1943 are already known. The only persons who collaborated with me before this period were GENERAL ACCAME and COUNT RENZO RUELE.

After the 8th September I went to SWITZERLAND and on the 12th of that month I organised, with a group of Patriot friends, a whole series of programmes to create a net of information to keep in touch with German and Republican fascist (neo fascist) offices, so as to have up-to-date news, time tables of railway movements, railway and road conditions, etc. etc.

The first nucleus which was unchanged until the end, and which gave continuous and invaluable service, was composed of persons who have never asked for any compensations, in fact they have always met necessary expenses from their own funds. The following were members of this nucleus:

COUNT CARLO RICCARDI.

Aide-de-Camp of H.M. the Duke of Pistia, with the substantive rank of Major in the Army, took up the duties as my assistant, and used to go frequently into the mountains to meet the informants and collect information. He served with enthusiasm, discipline, competence and capability.

MR. CARLO KIEFER.

Viale Regina, 21, Como. Swiss citizen, Manager of the "Titaleuropa" Firm, gave an admirable proof of his capabilities, and is, in fact, number ONE for the high service rendered, and for having been able to trace in the office of GENERAL LAJERS and the German Transport Office in Italy, reliable persons who kept us informed on all matters

CAVALIERE CARMELO ROMEO.

A R. Carabinieri reserve officer, domiciled at BLEVIO (Como), Via. ROGGIANICO 1, was in charge of the whole Lombardia sector and kept in touch with MR. KIEFER who brought the news here.

MR. PAOLO DAVIDSHOFER.

Manager of the GIOV IM. OBERSTEG AND CI. Firm at CHIASSO, used to accommodate the various messengers placed at our disposal, and the firm's office in PONTE-CHIASSO was used for the routing of information.

MR. FRANCO LIVIO.

OF CHIASSO/S.SIMONE, organised the messenger service between MILAN and SWITZERLAND, and carried out this task with the same punctuality of a

MR. CARLO KIEFER.

Viale Regina, 21, Como. Swiss citizen, Manager of the "Italeuropa" Firm, gave an admirable proof of his capabilities, and is, in fact, number ONE for the high service rendered, and for having been able to trace in the office of GENERAL LAJERS and the German Transport Office in Italy, reliable persons who kept us informed on all matters

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MR. PAULO DAVIDSHOFER.

Manager of the GIOV. E. OBERSTEG AND CI. Firm at CHIASSO, used to to accommodate the various messengers placed at our disposal, and the firm's office in PONTE-CHIASSO was used for the routing of information.

MR. FRANCO LIVIO.

OF CHIASSO/S.SIMONE, organized the messenger service between MILAN and SWITZERLAND, and carried out this task with the same punctuality of a regular postal service. It is true that I paid these messengers, but it is ^{also} true that MR. FRANCO LIVIO never accepted any compensation whatsoever.

COMMISSIONER VENTURA.

Of the CHIASSO Railway Station, who on my request, and in agreement with the Magistrate Minister, founded the ELVE nucleus which stole the Railway instruction sheets, controlled the frontier, and obtained statistics which were passed on to MR. SULLIVAN.

CAVALLIERE CARNICLIA.

Manager of the "Italeuropa" Firm in MILAN, via ALBERTO DI GIUSSANO, 8, placed at our disposal his offices and transport means as a central meeting place for the informants.

COMMISSIONER FOR PUBLIC SECURITY BRANCACCIO.

OF PONTE-CHIASSO, kept us informed of everything concerning the Republican fascists, and also the movements on the frontier. This gentleman risked his life several times whenever he came to SWITZERLAND to communicate

Continued/2....

-2-

with us. Furthermore he volunteered to help the men of resistance imprisoned in COMO.

DOCTOR FRANCO ROIBOLOTTI.

OF MILAN, VIA SOLFERINO, 23, dealt with the information on BRIGA.

In time a second group was added to the first nucleus. This group was made up as follows:-

MR. PIERO LIVIO.

OF CHIASSO/S. SIMONE, helped in the activities of his son FRANCO.

BARRISTER ANGELO GATTI.

From BRESCIA, was in charge of the information on BRESCIA REGION, and came across the mountains to SWITZERLAND several times.

ACCOUNTANT UGO SEVERINI.

From MILAN, collected the news of the MANTOVA and PIEMONTE Regions.

PROFESSOR GUSTAVO SARFATTI.

From VENICE, reorganised the work in the VENEZIA REGION, through the following persons:

ARMATORE ATTILIO ZENNARO, from VENICE.

PAGIN TOMI, from VENICE.

SIG. CHERUBINO CANOVA, CORSO D. GOTTARDO, CHIASSO.

SIG. PLANZI LUIGI, from LUGANO.

RAG. DELLA LUCCA UBALDO from COMO.

The following were occasional, but faithful, informants:

GASTONE MELCHER, VIA MONTE SUELLO, 1 MILAN.

BRENNO BORGHI from LUGANO.

ACCOUNTANT UGO SEVERINI.

From MILAN, collected the news of the MANTOVA and PIEMONTE Regions.

PROFESSOR GUSTAVO SARTIATTI.

From VENICE, reorganised the work in the VENEZIA REGION, through the following persons:

ARMATORE ATTILIO ZENARO, from VENICE.

PAGIN TONI, from VENICE.

SIG. CHERUBINO CANOVA, CORSO D. GOTTARDO, CHIASSO.

SIG. PIANZI LUIGI, from LUGANO.

RAG. DELLA LUNGA UBALDO from COMO.

The following were occasional, but faithful, informants:

GASTONE MELCHER, VIA MONTE SUELO, 1 MILAN.

BRENNO BORGHI from LUGANO.

ORESTE NESTORE TAGLIABUE, Commissioner, COMO/CHIASSO.

AUGUSTO RESINELLI, from BELLINZONA.

DR. UGO FLANDACA, from MILAN.

MARCO POLACCO, from MILAN.

DR. UBERTO LUZZATTO, from MILAN.

COUNT CAMILLO CAVALLI, from TURIN.

Particularly successful liaison work was very often carried out by the following persons:

ANTONIO CHIESA, Vice-Syndicate of CHIASSO.

BUZZI of the BAICANA FIRM in CHIASSO.

COUNT RENZO RUSLIE, from LEGHORN, has always collaborated, and during his service he was imprisoned at COMO for 15 days.

Continued/3....

-3-

SIGNORA CATTANEO ANNA MARIA, from MILAN came to Italy at the end of 1943 to contact GENERAL ACCAI. A warrant was issued for her arrest, but she succeeded in reaching SWITZERLAND after an adventurous escape.

ELENA CATTANEO, from MILAN, via ALBERTO DA GIUSSANO, 15 on 28th September 1943, while carrying documents to her sister ANNA MARIA, was arrested and imprisoned for 12 days.

All the above mentioned persons recognised each other by means of a card with a yellow band, sample of which is enclosed herewith.

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APPENDIX "B"

CAPITANO PILOTA	SALANTIVA	Giovanni
COLONNELLO MEDICO	FEDRAZZI	Arrigo
MARESCIALLO	CUCCUMILLO	Francesco
MAGIORE	CAIESTRINI	Giovanni
SOTTOTENENTE	ZANCHI	Alberto
TENENTE	SANTI	Alberto
SIGNORA	SANTI	Leda
GENERALE	TACCHINI	Guido
RAGIONIERE	ROCCHETTI	Rodolfo
CAPITANO	CASALE	Mario
TENENTE	CAGNACCI	Remo
COLONNELLO	NUVOLI	Prospero
TENENTE	FRIGERIO	Iacopo
TENENTE COLONNELLO	MOAVERO	Enzo
CAPITANO	MONTANELLI	Intro

RAGIONIERE	ROCCETTI	Rudolfo
CAPITANO	CASALE	Mario
TENENTE	CAGNACCI	Remo
COLONNELLO	NUVOLI	Prospero
TENENTE	FRIGERIO	Iacopo
TENENTE COLONNELLO	MCAYERO	Enzo
CAPITANO	MONTANELLI	Intro
TENENTE	TEDESCHI	Giorgio

2156

C. H.



Affari A^{3/3}

COMITO Filiberto fu Luigi e fu Scalamandrè Maria, nato a Chiaravalle
Centrale l'8 Marzo 1892,

professione: Direttore industriale

statura: mt. 1.68

capelli: castani scuri

occhi: castani scuri

corporatura: normale

segni particolari: cicatrice zigomo destro.

2155

RISERVATISSIMA.Top Secret

I servizi che io ho reso prima dell'8 Settembre 1943 sono già noti. Prima di tale periodo le sole persone che collaborarono con me furono il Generale Accame e il Conte Renzo Ruelle.

Dopo l'8 Settembre mi trasferii in Svizzera ed il 12 di detto mese costituivo, con un gruppo di amici patrioti, tutta una serie di programmi, creando una rete di informazioni, di presa di contatto con gli uffici tedeschi e neo-fascisti per avere le notizie aggiornate, gli ordini di movimenti ferroviari, lo stato delle ferrovie e delle strade, ecc., ecc.

Il primo nucleo, rimasto intatto sino alla fine, e che ha dato un rendimento continuo e prezioso, composto di persone che non hanno mai chiesto compensi, anzi che han sempre fatto fronte con i loro mezzi alle spese necessarie, è qui sotto elencato:

CONTE CARLO RICCARDI, Aiutante di campo di S.A.R. il Duca di Pistoia, maggiore effettivo dell'esercito, il quale ha disimpegnato le funzioni di mio coadiutore, recandosi frequentemente in posti di montagna per ricevere gli informatori e sbrigando la raccolta delle notizie alle frontiere. Ha servito con zelo disciplina, competenza e capacità.

Signor CARLO KIEFER, Viale Regina 21, Como, cittadino svizzero, direttore della S.A. "Italeuropa", che ha dato una prova mirabile di capacità e, anzi, sta al numero UNO per l'alto rendimento e per aver saputo ricavare presso l'Ufficio del Generale Lajers e presso l'ufficio dei trasporti germanico in Italia, elementi sicuri per tenerci sempre al corrente di ogni cosa.

CAV. CARMELO ROMEO, Ufficiale dei RR. Carabinieri ~~in~~ in congedo, residente a Blevio (Como), Via Moggianico 1, che ha curato tutto il settore della Lombardia ²¹⁵ riferendo poi al Signor Kiefer che portava le notizie qui.

Signor PAOLO DAVIDSHOFER, Direttore della Ditta Giov. Im Obersteg & Ci. di Chiasso, che ha concesso ospitalità ed asilo ai vari emissari ed ha messo a disposizione l'ufficio della propria ditta in Ponte-Chiasso per far tramite di notizie.

- 2 -

Signor FRANCO LIVIO, di Chiasso/S.Simone, che ha organizzato il servizio di corrieri da Milano in Svizzera, disimpegnando tale mansione con la puntualità di un servizio postale. Se è vero che i corrieri erano da me pagati, è pur anche vero che il Sig. Franco Livio non volle mai accettare nessuna ricompensa.

Commissario VENTURA, della Stazione di Chiasso, che su mia richiesta, e d'accordo con il Ministro Magistrati, fondò la squadra ELVE, la quale si occupava del trafugamento dei fogli-disposizioni delle ferrovie, del controllo di frontiera e delle notizie statistiche, che poi venivano passate al Signor Sullivan.

Cav. CARNIGLIA, Direttore della "Italeuropa" in Milano, Via Alberto di Giussano, 8, che mise a disposizione gli uffici ed i mezzi per l'accentramento degli informatori.

Commissario di P.S. BRANCACCIO, di Ponte-Chiasso, il quale ci rendeva informati di tutto quanto passava nel campo neo-fascista e ci segnalava il movimento di frontiera. Spesso questo Signore mise a grave rischio la propria vita per venire in Svizzera e comunicare con noi. Inoltre egli si prestò per aiutare uomini della Resistenza imprigionati a Como.

Dott. FRANCO ROMBOLOTTI, Milano, Via Solferino, 23, che sbrigava il servizio informazioni su Briga.

A questo primo nucleo si è aggiunto man mano un secondo gruppo, così composto:

Signor PIERO LIVIO, Chiasso/S.Simone, in aiuto del figlio ~~Benedetto~~
Avv. ANGELO GATTI, di Brescia, che si incaricava delle notizie del Bresciano e per ripetute volte giunse in Svizzera via montagna.

Rag. UGO SEVERINI, di Milano, che raccoglieva le notizie delle zone mantovane e del Piemonte.

Prof. GUSTAVO SARFATTI, di Venezia, ha organizzato i servizi del Veneto, a mezzo dei Signori

- 3 -

Armatore ATTILIO ZENNARO, di Venezia,
 PAGIN TONI, di Venezia,
 Sig. CHERUBINO CANOVA, Corso S. Gottardo, Chiasso,
 Sig. PLANZI LUIGI di Lugano.
 rag. DELLA LUNGA Ubaldo di Como
 Informatori occasionali, ma costanti, sono stati i Signori:
 GASTONE MELCHER, Via Monte Suello 1, Milano
 BRENNO BORGHI di Lugano
 ORESTE NESTORE TAGLIABUE, spedizioniere, Como/Chiasso
 AUGUSTO RESINELLI, Bellinzona
 Dr. UGO FIANDACA, Milano
 MARCO POLACCO, Milano
 Dr. UBERTO LUZZATTO, Milano.
 conte CAMILLO CAVALLI di Torino, particolarmente benemerito.
 Servizio di collegamento è stato fatto spesso dai Signori:
 ANTONIO CHIESA, Vice-Sindaco di Chiasso
 BUZZI della S.A. Balcana di Chiasso.

CONTE RENZO RUELE di Livorno, ha sempre collaborato e durante il servizio è stato imprigionato a Como per 15 giorni.
Signora CATTANEO ANNA MARIA di Milano, recatasi in Italia alla fine del 1943 per prendere contatti con il Generale Accame, veniva colpita da mandato di cattura e riusciva a riparare in Svizzera dopo una fuga avventurosa.

ELENA CATTANEO di Milano, Via Alberto da Giussano, 15, il 28 Dicembre 1943, durante un servizio di consegna di plico, alla sorella Anna Maria, veniva arrestata e trattenta in prigione per 12 giorni.

Tutte le persone sopra menzionate si riconoscevano a mezzo di un cartoncino detto della BANDA GIALLA e di cui unisco un esemplare.

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ELENCO DEGLI UFFICIALI CHE HANNO LAVORATO ALLE DIPENDENZE DEL GENERALE
MARCHESI

Capitano Pilota	SALAMINA	Giovanni
Colonnello Medico	PEDRAZZI	Arrigo
Maresciallo	CUCCURULLO	Francesco
Maggiore	CANESTRINI	Giovanni
Sottotenente	ZANCHI	Alberto
Tenente	SANTI	Alberto
Signora	SANTI	Leda
Generale	TACCHINI	Guido
Regioniere	ROCCHETTI	Rodolfo
Capitano	CASALE	Mario
Tenente	CAGNACCI	Remo
Colonnello	NUVOLI	Prospero
Tenente	FRIGERIO	Iacopo
Tenente Colonnello	MOAVERO	Enzo
Capitano	MONTANELLI	Intro
Tenente	TEDESCHI	Giorgio

Roma, li 5 Giugno 1945

Tenente	SANTI	Alberto
Signora	SANTI	Leda
Generale	TACCHINI	Guido
Regioniere	ROCCHETTI	Rodolfo
Capitano	CASALE	Mario
Tenente	CAGNACCI	Remo
Colonnello	NUVOLI	Prospero
Tenente	FRIGERIO	Iacopo
Tenente Colonnello	MOAVERO	Enzo
Capitano	MONTANELLI	Intro
Tenente	TEDESCHI	Giorgio

Roma, lì 5 Giugno 1945

2151

CONFIDENTIAL

AIR MINISTRY
THE MINISTER

To: Gen. di A. BIFFI Giuseppe,
1st Air Corps Command
Piazza Novelli
M I L A N O

and for information
To: Air Vice Marshal J. Brodie,
Commanding Air Forces Sub Commission - R O M E

Gen. di S.A. MARCHESI Vittorio, who has been in Berne since September 1943, has expressed a desire to return to Italy. I am aware of the blame which is attached to this General for having allowed the aircraft which were on the fields of Lombardy and Piemont to fall into the hands of the enemy.

In December 1943 I myself accused him of this but he countered my accusation with the testimony of his Vice-Chief of Staff who, in my presence, declared that Marchesi before leaving the command had issued an order for the transfer of the aircraft to the south or for the burning of them. It seems, however, that for reasons unknown, this order did not arrive at its destination.

Immediately after his entry into Switzerland Gen. Marchesi put himself at the disposition of the Allies who state that they are fully satisfied with the services rendered as the military information received, when rigorously checked, turned out to be absolutely correct.

As a result of this I have reason to believe that the Allied would regret it if, on Marchesi's return to Italy he were subjected to Hostile treatment.

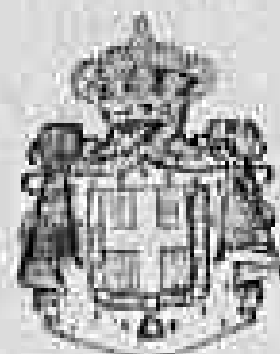
I therefore ask you, directly or indirectly, to make contact with the President of the Central Committee of Liberation in order to make known the situation as I have set it out above, and find out the state of mind of the C/L.N. towards the desire manifested by Marchesi who, it appears, intends to return to his own district.

You will inform me of the result of your investigations confidentially.

Best Wishes.

From D. Gasparotto.

2150



MINISTERO DELL'AERONAUTICA

IL SEGRETARIO PARTICOLARE
DI S. E. IL MINISTRO

Rome, 6/6/1945. 25

Sir,

here is a copy of the letter
we spoke about this morning.

I think it is better you
have it translated by your inter-
preter as the matter is so
confidential.

With very many respects

I am

yours sincerely

Capt. A. ~~Tait~~

2149

Mod 139E



R I S E R V A T A

Roma.

19

Ministro dell'Aeronautica

IL MINISTRO

Gen. Generale di D.A.
B I F F I Giuseppe
Comando 1^a Squadra Aerea
Piazza Novelli -

= M I L A N O =

e per conoscenza:

To Air Vice Marshal J. BRODIE

Capo della Sottocommissione Aeronautica - R O M A

Il Gen. di S.A. MARCHESI Vittorio, che si trova dal settembre 1943 a Berna, ha espresso il desiderio di rientrare in Italia. Mi sono note le censure che si muovono a questo Generale, in quanto avrebbe lasciato cadere in mano del nemico gli apparecchi che si trovavano nei campi della Lombardia e del Piemonte.

Io stesso nel dicembre 1943 gli ho contestato questa accusa, che egli mi ha controbattuta con la testimonianza del suo Sottocapo di S.M., il quale in mia presenza ha dichiarato che il MARCHESI, prima di assentarsi dal Comando, aveva diramato l'ordine di trasferire gli apparecchi al sud ovvero di bruciarli, ordine che a quanto pare non sarebbe arrivato, per cause imprecisate, a destinazione.

Subito dopo il suo ingresso in Svizzera il Generale MARCHESI si è messo a disposizione degli Alleati, i quali si sono dichiarati pienamente soddisfatti dei servizi resi, inquantochè le informazioni militari ricevute, sottoposte a rigoroso controllo, sono risultate completamente esatte.

Per questa ragione ho motivo di ritenere che gli Alleati potrebbero dolersi ove, al ritorno del MARCHESI in Italia, gli fosse usato un trattamento ostile.

2148

La pregherei pertanto di voler direttamente o indirettamente prendere contatto con il Presidente del Comitato Centrale di Liberazione per far conoscere la situazione che ho qui sopra esposta e informarsi delle disposizioni di

././.

animo del C.L.N. in ordine al desiderio manifestato dal MARCHESI, il quale, a quanto risulta, intenderebbe ritirarsi al suo paese.

Ella mi informerà dell'esito della sua pratica in via del tutto riservata.

Cordiali saluti.

17
AIR COMMODORE F.M.F. WEST, VC, CBE, MC,
AIR ATTACHE, BEIRUT.

TOP SECRET.

5th June, 1945.

Dear

Very many thanks for your telegram of June 4th. I fully expected that your preliminary enquiries would give the answer that GENERAL M and COUNT C are not, at the moment, ~~connected~~ with the local C.M.L.? The fact is that very few people know the exceptional work carried out by these two men for the Allies.

In company with AIR VICE-MARSHAL BRODIE I met CASPAROTTO, Italian Minister for Air, who knows COMITO well, and knew about his activities. He told us that MR. PACHINETTI, an Italian ex Member of Parliament and a member of one of the Partisan's Committees, who was, for some time, in SWITZERLAND, (during 44) is also fully acquainted with COMITO. In his (CASPAROTTO'S) opinion, the only important accusation that COMITO may have to face is his friendship with certain members of the Royal Family. He thinks that COMITO would have no difficulty whatsoever in explaining his position to the Special Committees.

As regards MARCHESI'S position, in the opinion of CASPAROTTO and GENERAL ALMONTE CAT the trouble is that the Partisans accuse him of not having taken sufficient steps to prevent Italian aircraft falling into German hands when Germany capitulated. They also are of the opinion that he must face his tribunal some time or another.

BRODIE is fully aware of the details of this case, and will discuss matters with you. The fact remains that these two men have rendered most valuable work to the Allies (please ask BRODIE to show you my report to him on C and M), and that if they asked us for authority to enter their country to face their own authorities, we should give it to them. At the same time we should strongly recommend their case to the Italian authorities concerned.

I suggest for your consideration that they should be given authority to come to this country during the first fortnight of July.

Once more, many thanks for your kind help. I shall always be grateful available for advice on this, and similar matters.

(during 44.) is also fully acquainted with COMITO. In his (GASPAROTTO'S) opinion, the only important accusation that COMITO may have to face is his friendship with certain members of the Royal Family. He thinks that COMITO would have no difficulty whatsoever in explaining his position to the Special Committees.

3. As regards MARCHESI'S position, in the opinion of GASPAROTTO and GENERAL ALMONTE CAT the trouble is that the Partisans accuse him of not having taken sufficient steps to prevent Italian aircraft falling into German hands when Germany capitulated. They also are of the opinion that he must face his tribunal some time or another.

4. BRODIE is fully aware of the details of this case, and will discuss matters with you. The fact remains that these two men have rendered most valuable work to the Allies (please ask BRODIE to show you my report to him on C and M), and that as they asked us for authority to enter their country to face their own authorities, we should give it to them. At the same time we should strongly recommend their case to the Italian authorities concerned.

5. I suggest for your consideration that they should be given authority to come to this country during the first fortnight of July.

6. Once more, many thanks for your kind help. I shall always be *grateful* available for advice on this, and similar matters.

Yours

2147

Agnd
Freddi West.

Brigadier M.F. Lush,
Executive Commissioner
H.Q.
Allied Commission, Rome.

MENTI

Impianto luce:

[illegible]

1 3 4 4

7636 Tio. G. Montano - Napoli

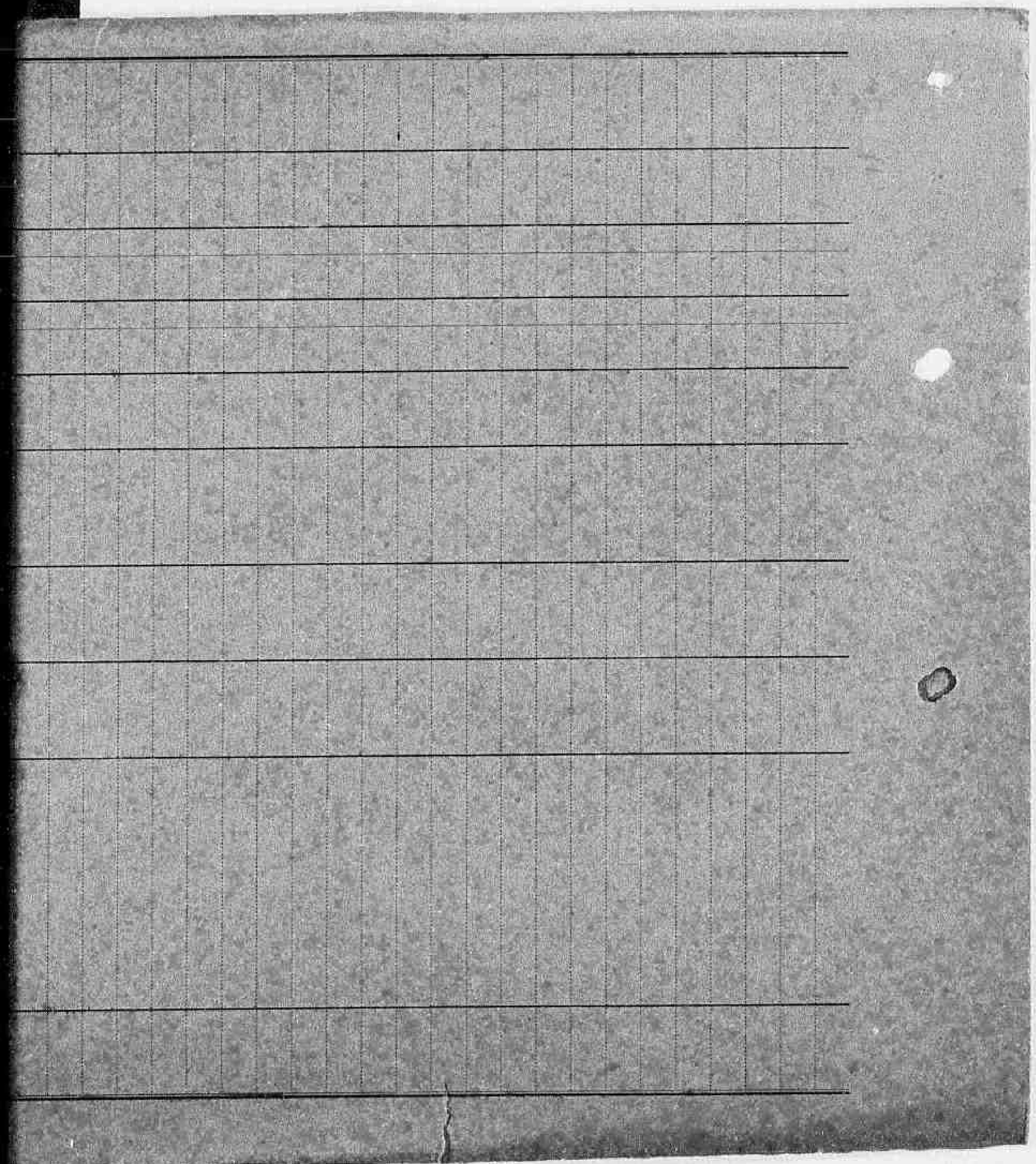
Via o località

PROPRIETA EXTRA STABILIMENTI

MANIFATTURE COTONIERE MERIDIONALI - NAPOLI

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1346



1347