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10000/136/487

THEFT OF
MAR. - JUN.

10000/136/487

THEFT OF ALLIED CLOTHING IN SARDINIA
MAR. - JUN. 1945

8260/CC

LIST OF PAPERSOffice of the
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

File under No. 8260 THEFT OF ALLIED CLOTHING IN SARDINIA

~~TOP SECRET~~

Page 1

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
1	Ltr Stone	27 Mar 45	COS AFHQ	Fwdg of papers (See ^{Land} Forces SC) dealing with thefts by Col. Borda, & implication of American officers.
2	Ltr Gen Morgen	23 Apr 45	AC CC	Investigation ordered. But ensure that in future copies of letters are furnished to us with list of Dist.
3	8255/47/EC	28 Apr 45	GOC LF SC	Please comply with AFHQ ltr 23 Apr
4	Memo Inspector Gen, AFHQ	25 May 45	G-4 AFHQ	Recommended case be closed.
5	AFHQ G-5 : 000.5	2 Jun 45	CC AC	A/CAO orders case be closed.
6	8255/55/EC, Norden	7 Jun 45	Land Forces	No further action required.

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~~TOP SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL

cc
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Tels 735

7 June 1945.

Ref: 8255/55/EC.

SUBJECT: Theft of Allied Clothing in Sardinia.

TO : Land Forces Sub-Commission. (MIA).

1. The Chief Commissioner directs that the attached copy of letter from AFHQ, G-5: 000.5 dated 2 June 45, and the enclosed papers be sent to you for retention.
2. No further action is required.

[Handwritten Signature]
 Brigadier,
 Executive Commissioner.

Incl:
as above

032

[Handwritten Signature]

[Handwritten Signature]

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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

G-5: 000.5

2 June 1945

SUBJECT: Theft of Allied Clothing in Sardinia.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.
(Attention: Chief Commissioner)

1. Reference is made to letter signed ^{25 Apr 45} by the Chief of Staff this Headquarters by which you were informed that a preliminary investigation by the American Provost Marshal General had been ordered to collect evidence on the general question of the diversion and misuse of American supplies in Sardinia.
2. Attached for your information is a copy of the PIG report of the preliminary investigation which has now been received.
3. The report has been considered by the Inspector General whose comments to G-4 this HQ appear as an attachment to this letter. The Assistant GAO is of opinion that no benefit will accrue by a further pursuit of the matter.
4. In the circumstances the papers submitted by you originally are returned herewith.

CHARLES M. STOFFORD,
Brigadier General, U.S.A.,
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Incls: as above. } Enclosures mentioned in para 4 were returned to Land Forces s/c with orig. of this letter.

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Note by CC:
Fwd to MMIA

Done 7/6/45

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8260/cc

COPY

SUBJECT Losses and Pilferage of Supplies

9. IG G-4 25 May 1945

1. A review of this case has failed to reveal that any United States personnel were involved in the alleged diversion of United States material in Sardinia. The CID investigation does indicate that there was considerable laxness in the method of accounting for the items turned over to the Italians. Little effort was apparently made by the Army in early stages to reconcile the differences between the ships manifest and the reports made by the Italian Board as to the amount received or damaged.

2. This file does indicate that poor supervision and a lack of a proper checking system, with no follow-up existed. These factors were no doubt responsible for the fact that acceptance notes were not always delivered by the Italians to cover the full amounts received. The responsibility for these deficiencies would be difficult to fix at this time as much of the United States personnel involved is not now within this theater. Many pertinent records are not available. There also appears a possibility that some of the alleged diversion might be traced to inaccurate transcription of records as may be the case is cited in paragraph 13, Incl 26 (statement of Major L. Forsett). Ship's manifests indicated that 240,000 lbs of macaroni were loaded for the Italians, but only 24,000 lbs were reported to the Combined Italian Armed Forces Supply Board and this latter figure was probably the one used on the Italian Acceptance note.

3. However, since the CID investigation has not found any grounds for, nor made any allegations against United States personnel in connection with the alleged large scale diversion of United States material in Sardinia, it is recommended that no action be taken by this section.

4. In view of the statement of the Provost Marshal General to the effect that no evidence of the alleged large scale diversions could be obtained from sources of information available at the present time in Sardinia, further CID investigation is not considered warranted and since other United States personnel who may have been involved are not now in the theater and pertinent and accurate records are not available to fix the responsibility, it is recommended that this case be closed.

/s/ H. S. Clarkson
/t/ H. S. CLARKSON
Brigadier General, U.S.A.
Inspector General

HSC/AEB/fja

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APR 28 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

28 April 1945.

Ref: 8255/1.7/30.

Subject: Theft of Allied Clothing in Sardinia.

To: G.O.C.,
Land Forces Sub Commission (MIA). (2)

1. I enclose copy of a letter dated 23 April 1945, subject as above, which the Chief Commissioner has received from the Chief of Staff, AFM.
2. I am directed to ask you to confirm that your Sub Commission will in future carefully observe the instruction contained in the last sentence of paragraph 2 of the enclosure.

Major E. Talbot

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encl.

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(3)

CONFIDENTIAL

23 April 1946.

SUBJECT: Theft of Allied Clothing in SARDINIA.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394
(Attention: Chief Commissioner)

1. With reference to your letter of 27 March, a preliminary investigation by the American Provost Marshal General has been ordered to collect evidence on the general question of the diversion and misuse of American supplies referred to in the report received by you from the head of the Land Forces Sub-Commission (MMIA).

2. This investigation was ordered before the full coordination of the staff within this Headquarters had been obtained due to the fact that MMIA sent copies of their letters to you direct to the Assistant Chief Administrative Officer. You are requested to ensure that when copies of letters are furnished this Headquarters by sections of Allied Commission they are clearly marked as to distribution and that they are furnished for information only.

3. Upon receipt of the preliminary report being conducted above, decision will then be taken as to what further action should be taken in the matter.

By command of the SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER, MEDITERRANEAN THEATRE:

W. D. MORGAN
Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff.

Copy to:

CC, MPOUSA
G-5
CAO

8260/CC

028

(2)

CONFIDENTIAL

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

27 March 1945.

SUBJECT: Theft of Allied Clothing in Sardinia.

To : Chief of Staff, A.F.H.Q.

1. There is forwarded herewith papers dealing with the above subject submitted to me by the Director of my Land Forces Sub-Commission.

2. In my opinion, the conclusions reached in paragraph 4 of General Browning's letter and paragraphs 6(c) and 6(d) of Colonel Kerr's letter may well not be warranted. The extent of the Minister's culpability, if any, would depend on how familiar he was with all the details of the case. My own opinion is that Minister Casati probably felt that Colonel Borda was seeking to convert into cash, for the benefit of his troops, certain excess Allied property of which he was not illegally in possession.

3. I do not, however, hold a similar view as to Colonel Borda, and I am somewhat uneasy that American personnel may be involved.

4. In my judgment there is nothing in the political situation involved which would justify Allied failure to investigate the handling of this American property, and I recommend that an investigation be ordered.

~~Ernest W. Stone~~

ERNEST W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USMC
Chief Commissioner

8250/1-2

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DISTRIBUTION:

Exec. Commissioner
Director, Land Forces Sub-Com.

CC FILED ✓

~~TOP SECRET~~

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