

ACC

10000/136/518

USE OF ITALIAN POW
NOV. 1944 - MAY 1946

10000/136/518

USE OF ITALIAN POW'S AS SERVICE UNITS IN ITALY
NOV. 1944 - MAY 1946

9006/CO

Office of the
Chief Commissioner

ALLIED COMMISSION

LIST OF PAPERS

File under No. 9006 USE OF ITALIAN POWs AS SERVICE UNITS IN ITALY

TOP SECRET

Page 1

SERIAL NUMBER	FROM—	DATE	TO—	SYNOPSIS
1	Ltr A/CC 383.6-1 Stone	6 Nov 44	Spofford AFHQ G-5	Bonomi has no comments on plan to bring Italian POW from North Africa to work in Italy
2	Paper PC(44) 131 Pol Comm AFHQ	6 Nov 44		Note by ACCS G-1(A): Use of It POWs in Italy in US Custody as Service Units
3	Extract Para 4 POL Comm 31st Mtg	7 Nov 44		Decisions by SACED on use of Ital POWs in US Custody as service units in Italy.
4	Ltr, Bonomi 2986	9 Nov 44	Commo. Stone	Strongly urge stigma of PW be removed when these come to Italy; hope agreement may come about.
5	PC(44) 134 (G5)	13 Nov 44	Political Comm.	Recommend PM be asked to submit proposals toward solution of PW status problem.
6	Ltr Campbell IPW/1/260	16 Nov 44	Bonomi	Have forwarded your suggestion to study PW question to SAC.
7	PC(44) 138	20 Nov 44		PW Subcommittee endorse PM's view stigma of PW be removed, etc.
8	PC (44) 53rd Mtg	22 Nov 44		War Office opposed to change except change in name of units, etc.
9	Ltr AFHQ COS	23 Nov 44	CC, AG	PM's objections to PW stigma appreciated; change will have to be made by hi-er authority, etc.
10	Ltr. AG 386.3/163-0 AFHQ	16 Oct 45	All Concerned	Organization and Admin. of German service Units in ITALY & AUSTRIA.
11	Ltr NLG/85C/538	28 May 46	AC HQ	

38:8

German Prisoners, Salerno

DECLASSIFIED

EO 11652, Sec. 3(c) and 5(d) of (E)

NARS, Date 4/29/77

TOP SECRET

COPY

JUN 5 REC

HEADQUARTERS NAPLES LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 794

Ref. NLG/35G/538

28 May, 1946

SUBJECT: German Prisoners, Salerno.

TO : AG. HQ.

1. A demonstration of protest has been held at Salerno against the alleged substitution of German prisoners for Italian drivers.

2. What is actually happening is that a reduction of M.T. requirements has made the 776 G.T. Company redundant and it is to be disbanded which means that about 500 Italians are no longer required.

3. Unfortunately the readjustments involve the move of a P.O.W. M.T. Coy to Salerno and so the local workers, very naturally, regard the process as a substitution of Italians by German prisoners.

4. Naples Area have been sympathetic and helpful, and have deferred the dismissal of the Italians for a week to take the date past the election date, and they are exploring all possible means to ease the situation.

5. The Prefect expresses anxiety because feeling runs high when Italians who have cooperated loyally with the Allies are thrown out of work and see German prisoners doing what appears to be the same job.

6. The local Italians realize that jobs are getting less with the departure of the Allies, but much resent the presence of the German prisoners and violence may well result. Local HQ. are carrying out higher orders and are acting with sympathy and it is probable that the substitution is inevitable, but if representations could be made to keep the German prisoners away from large centres, as far as possible, it would be appreciated.

G/2609

/S/ J.A.C. PENNYCUIK, Colonel
C.L.O. Naples Liaison Group A.C.

EC. DIST - 14 June

Action: C.A. Sec. (C)

Info: CC

E.C.

Polad 'A'

Polad 'B'

3847

OCT 26 PFCO

Chief Comm

DCK/wp

RESTRICTEDALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

16 October 1945

AG 386.3/163 - 0

SUBJECT: Organization and Administration of German Service Units in ITALY
and AUSTRIA.

TO: All Concerned.

The instructions issued under cover letter, this headquarters, file and subject as above, dated 8 August 1945, are amended as follows:

1. Paragraph 10 d is amended by the deletion of so much thereof as reads:

"The above will be reported on a new Casualty Form which will be prepared by GHQ 2d Echelon and distributed. Until this Form is available casualties will be reported by units on the British Form AF W3011 if available, and if not available, by letter or other document which clearly shows:

The name of the unit making the return
The nature of the casualty
The name and Wehrnummer of the individual to whom the casualty relates"

and by substituting the words:

"The above will be reported on CMF Form 97 (O2E/SEP 1) - Report of Casualties occurring in German Service Units."

2. Paragraph 10 is further amended by the addition of sub-paragraph 1 and j as follows:

"i. Units will forward to GHQ 2d Echelon for retention the PW/Surrendered Enemy Personnel Form of any person who having escaped or deserted is not located after 21 days."

"j. His personal property should accompany an individual wherever he moves. Should he die his effects will be securely packed by the unit in whose charge he was at the time of his death. Two copies of AF W3190 (Personal Effects Certificate) will be enclosed in the parcel which will be labelled with AF W3419 (Label for personal property of enemy dead) and sent

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 1.4 and 1.5 of 1953
By: *[Signature]* Jan 4/54
4247

RESTRICTED

10

RESTRICTED

MEMO ltr, AG 386.3/153 .0
 Attd 8 August 1945, (Cont'd)

to GHQ 2d echelon by registered post. In the event of the dispatch by unit of more than one package of effects at a time each package will be made up and labelled separately, the whole then being enclosed in a sack or box securely sealed and dispatched as one registered package. A list of the various packages will be enclosed in the sack or box."

BY COMMAND OF THE ACTING SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

Edmund R. Sargent
 EDMUND R. SARGENT
 Colonel, AGD
 Asst Adjutant General

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1 - G-1(B) A3	
1 - G-1(B) A5	

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24 October 45

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FILE UNDER NO. 9006/00

INDEX SHEET SYNOPSIS

Ltr from AFHQ, CCS to CG, AG

23 Nov 44

Status of Italian Prisoners of War. Tell Bonomi his objections to maintenance of Ital PW in Italy in Dy/Am custody appreciated. However any change will have to be made by higher authority. Glad for suggestions from Ital Govt.

DOCUMENT FILED UNDER NO. 383.6-1 - PW GENERAL.

38:5

INSTRUCTIONS - Under «Synopsis» make brief entry showing date of communication and from whom received and synopsis sufficient to identify the papers. When these index sheets become numerous under a subject they will be entered on the consolidated index sheet and then destroyed.

(9)

S E C R E T

AFHQ Political Committee

33rd Meeting

22 November 1944

EXTRACT

5. STATUS OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN UNITED STATES CUSTODY AND OF ITALIAN CO-OPERATORS IN BRITISH CUSTODY SERVING IN ITALY

(Paper No. PC(44) 138) - (7)

THE COMMITTEE had before them a paper arising out of PC(44) 31st Meeting, Conclusion 8:

- (a) Recommending that the stigma of prisoner-of-war status be removed provided present conditions of service remained unchanged.
- (b) Submitting a draft letter directing the Allied Commission to invite the Italian Government to make proposals as to the manner in which prisoner-of-war status could be removed.
- (c) Submitting a draft telegram for despatch to the Chiefs of Staff outlining the above recommendation and action.

MAJOR GENERAL MACLEOD reported that he had discussed this question during his recent visit to LONDON. The War Office were opposed to any change which might dislocate the present administrative arrangements which were working well. He felt, however, that if a change of name only were contemplated, such as the substitution of "Employment" for "Prisoner-of-war Units" there could be no objection.

MR. KIRK thought it was unnecessary to inform the Italian Government that this question was under discussion with the Combined Chief of Staff and suggested that the draft letter to the Allied Commission be amended accordingly.

MAJOR GENERAL ROOKS suggested that a sentence might be added to paragraph 2 of the draft telegram intimating that Italian prisoners-of-war in British custody had also been moved to ITALY.

BRIGADIER GENERAL SPOFFORD observed that Major General Macleod's suggestion was within the terms of the Directive regarding Italian prisoners of war received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff in September.

THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER:

- (a) Directed that G-5 despatch the telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff and the letter to the Allied Commission, amended in accordance with the above discussion.
- (b) Invited the United States Political Adviser to inform the State Department of the action being taken.

9006/CC

38-61 - Sec 9

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- 7044
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- 22.6.1 - See 9
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SECRET

38

DECLASSIFIED
By: [Signature]
Date: 24 June 74
6/26/77

SECRETALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERSSECRET

K 439

PC (44) 138

20 November 1944

COPY NO. 40

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

STATUS OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR
IN UNITED STATES CUSTODY AND OF ITALIAN
COOPERATORS IN BRITISH CUSTODY SERVING IN ITALY

Note by Secretary

In accordance with Conclusion 8 of PC (44) 32nd Meeting of 15 November, the Prisoners of War Sub-Committee have reviewed this subject and:-

- (a) Endorse the British Resident Minister's suggestion (as recorded in Minute 8 of PC (44) 32nd Meeting) that the stigma of prisoner of war status be removed.
- (b) Recommend, therefore, that the telegram to the Combined Chiefs of Staff and letter to the Allied Commission, as submitted by G-5 under Paper No. PC (44) 134 and now attached for reference, be dispatched.
- (c) Desire to emphasize that the Italian Government's views which it is thus proposed to request will have to be considered in the light of administrative necessities. This will include the maintenance of the present conditions of service regarding command and man-power.

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Deputy Chief of Staff	15
U.S. Political Adviser	16
	17-18

/s/ ?
for H.J. LASCELLES,
COLONEL,
SECRETARY.

9006/c c

38

IN UNITED STATES CUSTODY AND OF ITALIAN
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for H.J. LASCELLES,
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SECRETARY.

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By: JCS
Date: 4/25/77
Ref: Ltr. Sec. 317 and 510 of 51

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SECRET

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DRAFT CABLE

K-412

TO : Combined Chiefs of Staff

This is NAF

Status of Italian PWs is subject.

1. Premier Bonomi has requested consideration of the status of Italian Prisoners of war. The Italian Government takes the position that maintenance in British and U.S. custody of Italian prisoners of war is inconsistent with United Nations declarations concerning ITALY and argues for a return of PW personnel to Italian Command.
2. The recent decision to move Italian PWs in US custody from AFRICA to ITALY in order to release U.S. Service troops for combat duties + makes the problem more acute as the position of Italian PWs in ITALY is more anomalous than elsewhere.
3. Premier Bonomi has been advised that this Headquarters would be interested to learn of any concrete proposals the Italian Government may wish to make for making Italian PWs available to Allied forces under substantially similar conditions of service without reduction of manpower, efficiency or control. Premier Bonomi has also been advised that any change in the status of prisoners of war would require your authorisation.
4. Instructions are requested respecting scope of negotiation upon receipt of Italian proposals.

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4. Instructions are requested respecting scope of negotiation upon receipt of Italian proposals.

+Pencilled note by Commodore Stone:

as was done earlier in the case of POW in British custody.

SECRET

COPY

S E C R E T

DRAFT MEMORANDUM

K-412

SUBJECT: Status of Italian Prisoners of War.

TO : Acting Chief Commissioner

1. Your letter of 27 October 1944 forwarding a translation of Premier Bonomi's letter of 8 October 1944, on the above subject, is at hand.

2. It is requested that you will inform Premier Bonomi that the Supreme Allied Commander has learned with gratification of the report made by General Dapino of his visit to Prisoner of War units in ITALY, and of his satisfaction with the conditions which he found. It is requested that you will further indicate to Premier Bonomi the views of the Headquarters along the following lines: The objections raised to the maintenance of Italian Prisoners of War in ITALY in British or American custody at this time are fully appreciated. However, in order to make any change in their status as prisoners of war, it will be necessary to refer the matter to higher authority, and steps are now being taken to present the problem to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. Meanwhile, we should be glad to have any suggestions which the Italian Government may wish to advance as to the manner in which the prisoners presently held in this theatre, and which it may be necessary to return to ITALY, can be made available to service units under British and American control and under substantially similar conditions of service.

3841

By command of General WILSON:

/s/ J.A.H. GAMMEL
Lieutenant General
Chief of Staff

+ marked out by CC

See 383.6.1

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3841

By command of General WILSON:

/s/ J.A.H. GAMMEL
 Lieutenant General
 Chief of Staff

+ marked out by CC

SECRET

COPY

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

16 November 1944

Ref. IPW/1/260

To : The President of the Council of Ministers
Italian Government

(4)
I have been directed by the Chief Commissioner to
acknowledge of your letter No. 2986 dated 9 Nov. 1944.

As stated in letter IPW/1/14/17 dated 12 November 1944,
your suggestion that a conference be held to study the whole
question of Italian Prisoners of War, has been forwarded to
the Supreme Allied Commander.

Should the conference asked for be agreed to, all
controversial matters in connection with Italian Prisoners
of War can then be brought forward for consideration.

For the Chief Commissioner

/s/ J. A. Campbell 38:11
/t/ J. A. CAMPBELL
Lt. Colonel
Director WMD & IPW Sub-Commission

(6)

SECRET

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X-412

SECRET

PC (44) 134

13th November 1944

Copy of - COPY NO. 41

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

STATUS OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR

Note by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

1. The broad issue of the status of Italian prisoners of war is again presented in a letter from Premier Bonomi dated 8 October 1944, which was forwarded to this Headquarters by Commodore Stone with a covering letter dated 27 October 1944. Premier Bonomi indicates that the present status of Italian prisoners of war is not satisfactory, and argues that these persons should be returned to Italian command. The Premier maintains strongly that the status of prisoners of war is, under the present circumstances, wholly inconsistent with United Nations declarations concerning the status of ITALY and Italians.
2. The Italian Government has repeatedly protested against the prisoner of war status of Italian nationals in view of the cobelligerent status of the Italian Government, and the matter has been before the Political Committee on several occasions. Marshal Badoglio protested against the continuance of prisoner of war status for Italians on 10 May 1944. On 23 June the protest was substantially repeated by Signor Bonomi. No steps have been taken to meet the grievances of the Italian Government in this regard.
3. It is arguable that the policy of the Combined Chiefs of Staff (set forth in FAN 359 of 5 May) to make use of Italian manpower in Allied hands without the consent of the Italian Government was never intended to apply to the use of Italian prisoners of war in SICILY or the Italian Mainland. Military considerations have so far prevailed over the political considerations involved and the Italian prisoners of war have been utilized in ITALY both in dilution of British units and in Italian PW (cooperator) units. At the present time Italian prisoners of war in U.S. custody are being moved into ITALY, where there have for some time been a substantial number of British "cooperator" units.
4. The arguments of the Italian Government, which were more than merely plausible during the period of cobelligerency, are more telling at a time when full diplomatic representation has been accorded to the Italian Government and in the light of the policies towards ITALY announced during the past month.
5. The objection of the Italian Government was always most pressing with respect to the use of Italian nationals in ITALY and continues to be so. It may be added that the legal position of Italian prisoners of war in ITALY is anomalous and must inevitably remain so while they are in law prisoners of war. The Geneva Convention hardly envisaged that prisoners of war would be held in custody of one nation and used as service troops in territory governed by the nation from which they were captured.

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6. It is believed that any attempt at a solution of this problem cannot be entirely successful unless the American and British authorities work along closely similar lines, with only such detailed variations as may be required by local conditions.
7. It is therefore recommended that, in reply to Premier Bonomi's letter of 8 October 1944, he be advised that we would be glad to receive any suggestions the Italian Government would care to make towards a solution of this problem, and further advise him that the matter is being referred to the Combined Chiefs of Staff. Draft letter and cable are annexed.

(Intd) C.M.S.

NOTE: Shortage of time has prevented co-ordination of this paper, or of the draft letter and cable attached, with the U.S. Political Adviser and the British Resident Minister.

COPY

DECLASSIFIED
EO 12852, Sec. 3(a) and 5(a)
DATE 10/1/01 BY 1043

Translation

(248)

The President of the Council of Ministers

2986

Rome, 3 November 1944

Dear Admiral,

I have noted carefully the points of your communication about the transfer to Italy in the near future of about 3000 Italian prisoners of war, in working units to be employed in the rear of the front line operating here.

This gives me great satisfaction, for it means that an important number of Italian soldiers are coming home, and will be able to contribute actively to the common victory.

Nevertheless I deeply regret - as I have often pointed out - that these Italian soldiers too, will fight in their country, near their free fellow combatants, for the same military and political aims, maybe not far from their families, remaining prisoners of war, submitted to a discipline, an authority, which though they are more than human, are not that of their own country. They would be far more efficient if they resumed their full military personality, and went back to the national army forces.

I hope that all the important problems connected with the Italian prisoners of war, which, to the great anxiety of the Italian nation, are still unsolved, will be resolved by the reunion of the representatives of the Governments, with resolute powers, the need of which I already pointed out several times.

I shall be most grateful for your help in this matter, and I remain,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ I. Bonomi

See (6)

Admiral Hilary A. Stone
Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission
R o m e

3838

trans. S.C.

(4)

SECRET

COPY

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

K-399

PC (44) 31st Meeting
7th November 1944

SECRET

COPY NO 40

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

4. USE OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN U.S. CUSTODY AS
SERVICE UNITS IN ITALY

(2) (Paper No. PC (44) 131)

THE COMMITTEE had before them a paper indicating that upwards of 15,000 Italian prisoners of war in service units, controlled by the U.S. Forces, would shortly be brought to ITALY, and seeking guidance as to:-

- (a) the form which notification of this to the Italian Government should take;
- (b) the formulation of an appropriate reply to a letter received from the Italian Prime Minister again raising the question of release from prisoner of war status of Italian personnel serving with the Allied Forces.

MAJOR GENERAL WHITE explained that the 15,000 Italians concerned were volunteers, that the units consisted of Italians with U.S. personnel only in a supervisory capacity and that their position was similar to that of British-controlled "Co-operators". Their move to ITALY involved a departure from previous policy, insofar as American-controlled Italians were concerned but the recent move of British-controlled Italians to ITALY had led to no difficulty from formal representations from the Italian Government. 3807

Lieutenant General CLARK stated that Italian personnel were working with the British forces under two sets of conditions. There were "co-operator" units consisting of volunteers, who enjoyed most of the privileges of Allied personnel, as well as prisoners integrated into certain British ancillary units. The present procedure was working satisfactorily and the "Co-operators", in particular, had proved themselves very useful. He advocated extreme caution, therefore, if any discussions were entered into with the Italian Government as he felt that any decision regarding American-controlled personnel would have its repercussions on the

(2)
(Paper No. PC (44) 131)

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9006/CL
3837

Lieutenant General CLARK stated that Italian personnel were working with the British forces under two sets of conditions. There were "co-operator" units consisting of volunteers, who enjoyed most of the privileges of Allied personnel, as well as prisoners integrated into certain British ancillary units. The present procedure was working satisfactorily and the "Co-operators", in particular, had proved themselves very useful. He advocated extreme caution, therefore, if any discussions were entered into with the Italian Government as he felt that any decision regarding American-controlled personnel would have its repercussions on the status of British-controlled personnel, not only in ITALY but in other theatres such as INDIA.

MR KIRK pointed out that ITALY had now been granted certain privileges including diplomatic representation in LONDON and WASHINGTON, and in the eyes of the Italians it was anomalous that their personnel, including voluntary "Co-operators", should still have prisoner of war status only. He wondered whether, in replying to the Italian Prime Minister's letter, it would not be possible to suggest that arrangements were being studied for the removal of this stigma. No undertaking need be conveyed, however, to do

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this at an early date.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL MCNARNEY thought that the two subjects under discussion should be considered separately. First, it had been decided to bring these Italian service units into ITALY and he felt that all that need be done was to inform the Italian Government verbally of this decision. Secondly, it was necessary to reply to the Italian Prime Minister's letter raising the general issue. He felt that this reply might take the form of, or include, a request for concrete proposals from the Italian Government.

COMMODORE STONE reported that he had already informed the Italian Prime Minister verbally that the 15,000 Italians under discussion were being brought over to ITALY and that, as in the case of the recent move to ITALY of British controlled Italians, he had not objected. He therefore considered that there was no reason for reopening this question with the Italian Government.

THE ALLIED COMMANDER :

- (a) Took note that the impending move to ITALY of upwards of 15,000 Italian Prisoners of war in U.S. custody had been notified verbally to the Italian Government and directed that no further notification be made.
- (b) Directed that G-5, in conjunction with the U.S. Political Adviser and British Resident Minister, submit a draft reply to the Italian Prime Minister's letter for consideration at the next meeting of the Committee.

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3836

Correction by Clare Stone:

+ France, POWs

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K 597

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

COPY No 41

COPY

PC (44) 131

8 November 1944

POLITICAL COMMITTEEUSE OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR IN UNITED STATES
CUSTODY AS SERVICE UNITS IN ITALY

Note by Assistant Chief of Staff G-1 (A).

1. Due to the great demand for service troops to support military operations in Italy under present supply conditions and the greater than planned withdrawal of service troops to support DRAGOON forces, the Commanding General, MCOUSA, has decided to bring upwards of 15000 Italian service units, composed of prisoners of war who have volunteered for such duty, to the Italian mainland. The arrival of these troops will begin immediately.
2. It is desirable that the present status of these Italian troops be continued under United States Army supervision. The status is analogous, except for peculiarities of local army administration, to the British "Cooperators" which have been infiltrated into British formations by the "dilution" method.
3. It is anticipated that the Italian Government will make protests; as a matter of principle, juxtaposed to conditions of servitude, pertaining to these Italian nationals. Representations were recently made to SACMID concerning the British "Cooperators". This matter was temporarily solved by inviting the Italian Government to inspect the conditions under which these troops were being used, and to date they had accepted the status of the Cooperators as satisfactory as pertains to physical, spiritual and economic well-being.
4. The Italian Prime Minister has, by letter, again raised the question of release from POW status. The presentation of this matter to the Political Committee, ⁹⁰⁰⁶⁴ ~~evolving~~ into two parts, both closely related and proper subjects for ³⁸¹³ ~~3813~~ consideration. The first is:
 - a. The matter of notification to the Italian Government of the United States Army intent to return these Italian service units composed of technical prisoners of war to the Italian

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 - a. The matter of notification to the Italian Government of the United States Army intent to return these Italian service units composed of technical prisoners of war to the Italian mainland;

The second is:

 - b. The formulation of an appropriate reply to the Italian Prime Minister's letter.
5. The United States State Department has continuously pressed the United States War Department for the repatriation of Italian prisoners of war held in this theater, leaving the matter of procuring further useful service from this source

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(1) and 5(D) or (E)

By: [redacted] Date: [redacted]

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- 2 -

of manpower to the War Department. In the past, the United States War Department has firmly resisted the State Department's representations on the grounds of operational necessity. Conditions have so changed however that it is not possible for the United States War Department to further defend the "operational expedience" position against the proposals of the United States State Department.

6. To avoid the possibility of a direct order from the United States Government to summarily repatriate all United States held Italian prisoners of war in the Mediterranean Theater, it is believed advisable that the Political Committee lay before the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theater, a proposal to enter into exploratory discussions with the Italian Government to determine if it is feasible to grant the military release of all Italian prisoners of war brought to the Italian mainland as service troops under either United States or British sponsorship, while still assuring a firm legal basis for the continued employment of these troops by the respective Allied nations in support of the military position, with no loss of efficiency or reduction in the number of such personnel.

7. It is therefore recommended with the concurrence of the U.S. Political Adviser and A C of S, G-5, that the Political Committee recommend to SACRED that exploratory discussions be authorized and entered into, on a military basis, to determine what assurances the Supreme Allied Commander, Mediterranean Theater, can be given by the Italian Government that with the repatriation of Italian prisoners of war returned to the Italian mainland in military service units, they will continue in an equally satisfactory status of employment with the Allied Forces.

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COMNAVJN
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(Intdy M.G.W.)

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(Intd) M.G.W.

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Secretary, General Staff

G-1 (A)

G-1 (B)

G-2

G-3

G-3 Special Operations

G-4 (A)

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G-5

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TOP SECRET

BMB/dfc

6 November 1944

A/CC 383.6-1

Dear Chuck:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation, I called on Prime Minister Bonomi on November 3 and put to him the question of transferring additional Italian POW from North Africa to Italy. I told him that I personally had the same objection that I had expressed earlier to such a course, which I hoped might have lead to some discussion requesting a new effort to resolve the POW question. As in the case of the recent transfer of Italian POW to France, however, the Prime Minister did not raise objection to having more POWs come to Italy to perform work for the U.S. Army.

Under the circumstances there appears to be nothing more to be done on our part for the time being.

Sincerely,

EWS

ELLERY W. STONE
Commodore, USNR
Acting Chief Commissioner

Brigadier General Charles M. Spofford, U.S.A.
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5
Allied Force Headquarters
APO 512

cc - Chief of Staff
Ital. P.O.W. S/c
"U" files

Note - Delivered by hand
of E. W. Stone
7/4/44

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TOP SECRET

File 145

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