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

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

41/722

GERMAN MILITARY CEMETERY AT CERVIA  
MAR. - AUG. 1946

FILE	ANNALS SHEET NO.	PAGES
<p>1946. 2 May</p>	<p>CAS 0 1. Please see for. 2 - 6 - 1 The Station reply at p. 7. 2. 6. 7. 2. Letter to FHR at p. 8 is signature please. Tx - 314 L.G. S/C. Letter signed for returned. p. 8 of 5.</p> <p><i>[Signature]</i> Director, L.G. S/C</p>	<p>2. 6. 7.</p>

PAGE

MINUTE SHEET NO.

DATE

1946.  
2 May

CAS

0

- 1. Please see for. 2 - 6 - 1 the station reply at 10.7. 2. 6. 7.
- 2. Letter to AFHQ at 4. 8 for signature please.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
 Director, h a s/c

TX - 314

L.S. S/C.

Letter signed for return. p. 4/5.

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*Legal 20*

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

G-5: 926.23

25 July 1946

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery at CERVIA.

TO : Chief Commissioner,  
Allied Commission,  
APO 794.

1. Reference is made to your letter AC/37/1/LG dated 18 June 46 and AFHQ reply reference G-5 926.23 dated 10 July 46.

2. In reply to GHQ letter 2383/A4 dated 2 July 46, a copy of which was forwarded to you with G-5 926.23 dated 10 July 46, HQ No. 1 SEP Centre have stated that there is no trace of Lt.Col. CHIAPETTI having visited their Headquarters and it is thought that he approached the Germans direct.

3. It is requested that Lt.Col. CHIAPETTI be advised that if he wishes to visit the German Cemetery at CERVIA he should first report to HQ 1 SEP Centre, (CM) located at RICCIONE.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

*C M Pashin Col.*  
*FM.*

A. L. HAMBLEN  
Colonel, G.S.C.  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

*See file  
19 JUL 46  
CHT*

3613

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19

Ref: AC/57/1

1st August 1946

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery at Cervia.

TO : Commissario Generale Straordinario  
del Gov. no.  
Via St. Giovanni Sul Muro 18,  
MILANO.

With reference to your 166 Segreteria of 5th June 1946, you state that Lt.Colonel Chiapetti could not gain admittance to the German Cemetery at Cervia because he could not get the necessary permission from the Allied Military Authorities in the area.

You were informed by this Headquarters letter AC/57/1/16 of the 17th May 1946 that applications for this visit should be made to the following British Military Unit:

Headquarters No.1 SEP Rft. & Holding Centre,  
Rimini.

A copy of that letter is enclosed for reference.

Enquiries have been made with Headquarters No.1 SEP Centre, and they state there is no trace of Lt.Colonel Chiapetti having visited their Headquarters.

When Lt. Colonel Chipetti, or any other of your officials wish to visit the German Cemetery at Cervia, he should first report to Headquarters No.1 SEP Centre. The exact location of that Headquarters is at Riccione.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER.

*M.C.*  
M. CAPR, Brigadier.  
VP. CA. Section.

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NOT LEGAL 18  
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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

LOCAL  
GOV

G-5: 926.23

15 July 1946  
30 JUL 1946

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery at CERVIA.

TO : Chief Commissioner,  
Allied Commission,  
APO 794.

15

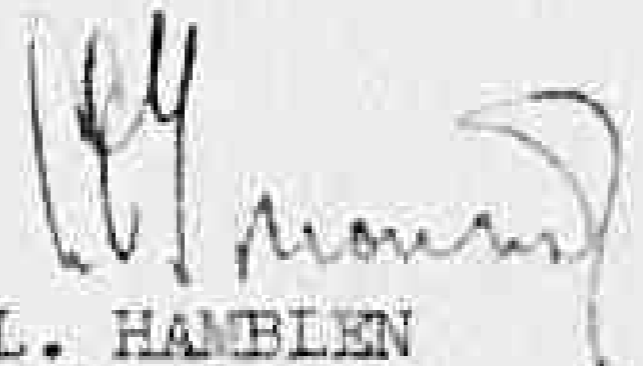
1. Reference is made to your letter AC/37/1/LG dated 18 June 46 and AFHQ reply reference G-5 926.23 dated 10 July 46.

16

2. In reply to GHQ letter 2383/A4 dated 2 July 46, a copy of which was forwarded to you with G-5 926.23 dated 10 July 46, HQ No. 1 SEP Centre have stated that there is no trace of Lt.Col. CHIAPETTI having visited their Headquarters and it is thought that he approached the Germans direct.

3. It is requested that Lt.Col. CHIAPETTI be advised that if he wishes to visit the German Cemetery at CERVIA he should first report to HQ 1 SEP Centre, (CM) located at RICCIONE.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

  
A. L. HAMBLEN  
Colonel, G.S.C.  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5

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file

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 794  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

NO/57/1

15 July 1946

SUBJECT : German Cemetery at Cervia.

TO : Commissariato Generale Onoranze  
Caduti di Guerra,  
Via S. Giovanni sul Mare 18,  
M i l a n o.

1. Reference is made to your letter N.166, Segreteria, dated 5 June. Representations have been made to higher authorities as to the difficulties encountered by Lt.Col. Chiapetti when visiting the German military cemetery at Cervia.

2. The Supreme Allied Command has given instructions to the British Authorities in charge of German cemeteries that facilities are to be given to the officials military and/or civilian of the Commissariat General visiting all places where the bodies of German troops are buried.

3. It is regretted that Col. Chiapetti should have encountered any difficulties in this respect and it is hoped that there will be no further incident of this character.

OGRW/an.

C.G.R. WILLIAMS  
Major,  
Local Government Sub Commission

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LEGAL  
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ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

G-5: 926.23

10 July 1946

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery at CERVIA.

TO : Chief Commissioner,  
Allied Commission,  
APO 794.

1. Reference is made to your letter AC/37/1/10 dated 19 Jun 46, with which you forwarded a complaint from the Italian Commissariat Generale for War Graves in regard to difficulties encountered by its representative with the Allied authorities in obtaining permission to visit the German Military Cemetery at CERVIA.
2. A copy of GHO letter reference 2383/A4 dated 2 Jul 46 is attached, by which the appropriate British military authorities have been instructed to give the facilities desired by the officials of the Commissariat, in the fulfilment of their duties.
3. Please inform the Commissariat of the substance of this letter, and express regret for the incident of which they complain.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MORGAN:

*A. L. Hambley*  
 A. L. HAMBLEY  
 Colonel, G.S.C.  
 Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5.

Encl: as above.

5609

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COPY

16A

FREEDOM 101

SUBJECT :- German Cemetery, CERVIA.

No. 1 SDF Rft and Holding Centre,  
CMF.

GHQ., CMF.

2377/A4.

2 Jul 46.

Reference your 1851/A dated 7 Feb 1946 and this GHQ  
2377/A4 dated 10 May 1946.

1. In accordance with the expressed wish that the German Cemetery at CERVIA should be entrusted to the parish priest, the Italian Commissariat General were instructed to make contact with your Headquarters.
2. Accordingly on 31 May Lt. Col. CHIAPETTI of the Commissariat General visited CERVIA to arrange the hand over.  
  
He appears however to have met with some difficulty, and he states that he was refused permission to visit the cemetery, since the "Allied Command of CERVIA and RIMINI" would not grant a permit, but referred him to HQ., 217 Area.
3. In view of the fact that, after considerable negotiations, the Italian Government has agreed to look after German cemeteries in ITALY, it is particularly requested that facilities may be given to officials (military or civilian) of the Italian Commissariat General to visit all places where the bodies of German troops are buried.
4. Please confirm to this GHQ that arrangements have been made to give Lt. Col. CHIAPETTI facilities to resume his negotiations with regard to the CERVIA cemetery.

/s/ C.N. Manning, Major

for J.L.C. MAPPER,  
Brigadier,  
DMC.

1997

Copy to :- Rome HQ., 13 Corps.  
HQ., 3 District.  
HQ., 217 Area.  
G-5 (Your G-5. 926.23 dated 25 June 1946 refers).

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 794  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AG/37/1/10

Vol: 314

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery  
at CERVIA

10 June 1946

TO : AFHQ G-5 Section

1. By letter reference 2377/44 dated 13 March 1946 from DAG GHQ GMP, this HQ was requested to take up with the Italian Government the question of supervision and control of the abovementioned cemetery. The matter was accordingly taken up with the Italian Commissariat General for War Graves, who advised that the cemetery be taken over and intrusted to the parish priest of Cervia. This was approved by DAG on 10 May, and the Commissariat General were instructed to make contact with No. 1 SHP Hqt & Holding Centre, GMP, RIMINI.
2. Accordingly on 31 May Lt Col CHIAPETTI of the Commissariat General paid a visit to Cervia to arrange the handover, but he appears to have met with some difficulty in obtaining permission to visit the cemetery in question. The Commissariat General have addressed a letter to this HQ on this point dated 5 June, of which a copy with English translation is inclosed.
3. As you know, on your instructions this HQ has been pressing the Italian Government to assume control of all German military cemeteries and scattered war graves in Italy and to put them in order. It is submitted for your consideration that some general instruction might issue to the effect that officials (military or civilian) of the Italian Commissariat General should be admitted to all places where the bodies of German troops are buried.
4. May this HQ please be informed of your view on the matter so that a reply may be sent to the Commissariat General.

RALPH R. THORNE  
Major  
Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

CCSRH/rbe

Copy letter and inclosures to:  
DAG GHQ GMP

3607

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 794  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/37/1/16

Tel: 314

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery  
at GERVIA

18 June 1946

TO : DAG CHQ CMF

1. Reference is made to your 2377/A of 24 May in which it is requested that in view of the fact that the Italian authorities are not prepared to employ German PWs to maintain the abovementioned cemetery an assurance be obtained that the Italian Government will be responsible for maintaining all graves, crosses, and surrounds in a proper condition.

2. Upon the instructions of AFHQ G-5 Section, this HQ has been in negotiation with the Italian Government with a view to obtaining from them an undertaking in general terms that they will assume control of all German military cemeteries in Italy and maintain them in proper condition. Replies from both the Italian Prime Minister and from the Italian Commissariat General for War Graves appear to give the assurances required. Copies of this correspondence were sent to AFHQ G-5 Section yesterday for instructions upon certain formalities of a legal nature which appear to be required.

3. In view of the general assurances given by the Italian Government in the correspondence referred to above, may this HQ please be informed if you consider it necessary to press for a particular assurance in relation to the cemetery at Gervia only.



RALPH R. TEMPLE  
Major  
Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

GSRM/rbo

Copy to: AFHQ G-5 Section

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GOVERNMENT EXTRAORDINARY COMMISSARIAT GENERAL  
MILAN

5 June 1946

Ref. 166 SEGRETERIA

Subject : German Cemeteries.

To : Local Government sub-Commissions

Rec'd 14 June.  
Delivered by hand by  
Lt. Col. CHIAPETTI *EC*

1. As a result of your interest in the matter this Commissariato has been entrusted with the maintenance of German war graves in Italy, since the 15 April 1946.
2. On the basis of such provisions the work, made difficult by the long time passed and by the fact that in many cases very little had been done by the belligerents for the interment of enemy dead as established by the Geneva agreements, was started immediately.
3. While in possession of the documents sent by the Allied Commission with letter AC/3163/3/PH of the 29 March 1946, the Chief of the Office of this Commissariat, Lt. Col. Chiapetti, went to Cervia to visit the German cemetery there built but he was not able to make his visit because both the Allied Command of Cervia and that of Rimini did not grant him, in spite of all the documents, the necessary permit but advised to apply to the Area Command of Bologna. This could not be done.
4. In order to avoid any other similar case we should like to know <sup>if Italy</sup> can and must take care of all the German cemeteries in Italy or if some of these - and in this case we should like to know which - remain under the control and responsibility of the Allied Forces.

ad. Leonida Pacini

2605

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# COMMISSARIO GENERALE STRAORDINARIO DEL GOVERNO

## ONORANZE CADUTI IN GUERRA IN ITALIA ED ALL'ESTERO

### MILANO

Via E. Giovanni sul Muro, 18 - Telefono 15327

Milano, 5 giugno 1946

Protocollo N. 156 Segreteria

Riferimento luglio

Indirizzo al H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 794

Local Government sub Commission

R O M A

(att: Major R.R. Temple)

Oggetto: Cimiteri Germanici.

1. In seguito a Vostro interessamento questo Commissariato è stato incaricato in data 15 aprile 1946 della cura e sistemazione delle tombe di Caduti Germanici in Italia.
2. In base a tale disposizione abbiamo subito iniziato il nostro lavoro, reso difficile dal tempo trascorso e dal fatto che in molti casi si ben poco era stato compiuto dai belligeranti per dare un'curata sepoltura ai caduti nemici, come prescritto dalla Convenzione di Ginevra.
3. In possesso dei documenti inviati da cotesta Commissione Alleata con fo. AC/3163/3/PH del 29 marzo 1946, il Capo Ufficio di questo Commissariato, ten. col. Chiappetti, si è recato il giorno 31 maggio a Cervia per visitare il cimitero tedesco colà costruito, ma non ha potuto effettuare la visita perchè sia il Comando Piazza Alleata di Cervia che quello di Rimini, non hanno concesso, malgrado la presentazione di tutta la documentazione, il permesso necessario, consigliando di rivolgersi al Comando Area di Bologna - cosa che non è stato possibile fare.
4. Per evitare altro contrattempo del genere, si gradirebbe conoscere se l'Italia può e deve interessarsi di tutti i cimiteri Germanici in Italia o se qualcuno di questi cimiteri, e si prega indicare sotto il controllo e la responsabilità delle Forze Alleate.

(att: Major R.R. Remore)

OGGETTO: Cimiteri Germanici.

1. In seguito a Vostro interessamento quanto commissionato è stato incaricato in data 15 aprile 1946 della cura e sistemazione delle tombe di Caduti Germanici in Italia.
2. In base a tale disposizione abbiamo subito iniziato il nostro lavoro, reso difficile dal tempo trascorso e dal fatto che in molti casi si ben poco era stato compiuto dai belligeranti per dare un'opportuna sepoltura ai Caduti nemici, come prescritto dalla Convenzione di Ginevra.
3. In possesso dei documenti inviati da cotesta Commissione Alleata con fo.AC/3153/3/PH del 29 marzo 1946, il Capo Ufficio di questo Commissariato, ten.col.Chiapatti, si è recato il giorno 31 maggio a Carvina per visitare il cimitero tedesco colà costruito, ma non ha potuto effettuare la visita perchè sia il Comando Piazza Alleato di Carvina che quello di Rimini, non hanno concesso, malgrado la presentazione di tutta la documentazione, il permesso necessario, consigliando di rivolgersi al Comando Area di Bologna - cosa che non è stato possibile fare.
4. Per evitare altro contrattacco del genere, si gradirebbe conoscere se l'Italia può e deve interessarsi di tutti i Cimiteri Germanici in Italia o se qualcuno di questi cimiteri, e si prega indicare quali, restano sotto il controllo e la responsabilità delle Forze Alleate.



UFFICIO GENERALE ONORARIO CADUTI GERMANICI  
 COMANDO AREA DI BOLOGNA  
*Antonio...*

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LOCAL-GOVT. 12

FREEDOM 101

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery - CERVIA.

HQ Allied Commission.

GHQ GMP.

2377/NA.

24 May 46

27 MAY 1946

Reference your AC/37/1/LG dated 3 May 46.

1. In view of the fact that the Italian authorities are not prepared to employ German PW to maintain the German cemetery at CERVIA, it is requested that you will obtain an assurance from the Italian Government that they will be responsible for maintaining all graves, crosses and surrounds in proper condition.

/AB.

J.L.C. NAPIER.  
Brigadier.  
DAG.

Director

I do not think we should start asking for separate guarantees for individual cemeteries like this. The thing will be never-ending that way. On the policy file (37A) we are negotiating a general settlement for all cemeteries. This will cover Cerria. There we might want special attention to this particular case. I suggest NA till I have seen AFHQ: G-5 on 30 May.

3603

27/5/46

*[Handwritten signature]*  
9103



*File* 41

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 794  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/37/1/LG

Tel. 314

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery at GERVIA

17 May 1946

TO : Il Commissario Generale  
Onorance Caduti in Guerra  
Via S. Giovanni sul Muro 18  
Milano

Reference is made to your letter No. 114 Segreteria dated 17 April 46.  
For the information requested in the 3rd paragraph of that letter, please make  
contact with the following British military unit:-

HQ, No. 1 SER Rpt. & Holding Centre  
RIMINI

*R.R.*

RALEH R. TROTT  
Major  
Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

*cc/roo*

3602

*file*

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 794  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT SUB COMMISSION

AC/37/1/LG

Pal. 314

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery - CERVIA

17 May 1946

TO : DAG GHQ CMEF

1. Receipt is acknowledged of your 2577/M of 10 May.
2. The Italian Commissariato Generale has been instructed to make contact with the HQ mentioned in your paragraph 2.

*RRJ*

RALPH R. TEMPLE  
Major  
Director  
Local Government Sub Commission

CVR/rdc

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AC/37/1

LOCAL GOVT

FREEDOM 101

SUBJECT :- German Military Cemetery - CERVIA.

Headquarters,  
Allied Commission (Civil Affairs Section).

GHQ., CMF.

2377/A4.

10 May 46.

16 MAY 1946

Reference your AC/37/1/LG dated 3 May 1946.

1. It is noted that the Italian authorities agree that the CERVIA cemetery should be put under the charge of the parish priest.
2. The Headquarters with which the Italian Commissariato Generale should make contact is :-

HQ., No. 1 SEP Rft & Holding Centre., CMF.  
RIMINI.

C. Mannin

Major

/s/ J.L.C. NAPIER,  
Brigadier,  
DAG.

/DDKT.

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File 8

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

AG/57/1/1G

SUBJECT: German Military Cemetery at Cervia

3 May 1946

TO : DAG GHQ GMP

1. Reference is made to your 2377/A<sub>4</sub> dated 13 March inclosing copy letter reference 1861/A dated 7 February from No. 1 SHP Rft & holding center.

2. The Italian authorities agree that this cemetery should be put under the charge of the parish priest of Cervia.

3. They do not consider it advisable to employ German POWs in order (they state) not to create precedents and to avoid unnecessary complications.

4. If this is considered satisfactory, may this HQ please be informed of the location of the military authority with whom the Italian Commissariato Generale should make contact in order to complete the details of the transfer of the custody of the cemetery to the parish priest and to enable them to obtain particulars of the cemetery and of the dead buried there.

For the Chief Commissioner.

*M. Carr*  
M. CARR, Brig.  
VP CA Section

CGM/rbe

3539

TRANSCRIPTION

COMISSARIO GENERALE STRAORDINARIO DEL GOVERNO

Onoranze Caduti in guerre in Italia ed all'estero  
M I L A N  
Via San Giovanni sul Maro, 18 - Tel. 17.237

Milan 17 April 1946  
26 April 1946

File N. 114 Secretary Office  
Ref. AC/3163/3/EM  
of 26 March 1946

29 APR 1946

To Headquarters Allied Commission  
Civil Affairs Section  
APO 394

SUBJECT : German soldiers died in war (Military Churchyard of Cervia)

- 1 - This Office deems that the Churchyard of Cervia might be handed over and entrusted to the parish priest of Cervia.
- 2 - We are against entrusting it to former German military people as a matter of principle and to avoid useless complications.
- 3 - we would like to know the names of soldiers buried in the above churchyard and to have a detailed map containing indication of the tombs.

Il Commissario Generale Straordinario del Governo  
Generale designate d'Armate  
(sp.) Augusto Grassi

*Local copy c/c  
PK 114*

3598

TRANSCATION

COMMISSARIO GENERALE STRAORDINARIO DEL GOVERNO

Onorevole Caduti in guerra in Italia ed all'estero  
M I L A N  
Via San Giovanni sul Mare, 18 - Tel. 17.237

Milan 17 April 1946  
26 April 1946

File N. 111 Secretary Office  
Ref. AG/3163/3/IN  
of 26 March 1946

29 APR 1946 RBE

To Headquarters Allied Commission  
Civil Affairs Section  
APO 394

SUBJECT : German soldiers died in war (Military Churchyard of Gervia)

- 1 - This Office deems that the Churchyard of Gervia might be handed over and entrusted to the parish priest of Gervia.
- 2 - We are against entrusting it to former German military people as a matter of principle and to avoid useless complications.
- 3 - we would like to know the names of soldiers buried in the above churchyard and to have a detailed map containing indication of the tombs.

Il Commissario Generale Straordinario del Governo  
Generale designato d'Armata  
(sgd.) Augusto Grassi

*Local Board 5/2  
OK 5/2*

3598

7A

COMMISSARIO GENERALE STRAORDINARIO DEL GOVERNO

ONORANZE CADUTI IN GUERRA IN ITALIA ED ALL'ESTERO

MILANO

Via S. Giovanni al Moro, 18 - Telefono 17327

26 APR 1946  
29 APR 1946  
Milano, 17 aprile 1946

Protocollo N. 114 Segreteria  
Riferimento: foglio AC/3163/3/PH  
del 29 Marzo 1946

Indirizzata al COMANDO COMMISSIONE ALLEATA  
Sezione Affari Civili  
APO 394

OGGETTO Salme Caduti Germanici. (Cimitero Militare di Cervia).-

- 1) Questo Commissariato Generale Caduti di Guerra ritiene che il cimitero di Cervia contenente Salme di Caduti Germanici possa essere dato in consegna ed affidato alla custodia del Parroco di Cervia.
- 2) Non si ritiene il caso di affidare detta custodia a ex militari Germanici per non creare precedenti e per evitare inutili complicazioni.
- 3) Si gradirebbe conoscere i nomi dei Caduti sepolti nel suddetto Cimitero ed avere una pianta particolareggiata di esso con l'indicazione delle tombe.

Oggetto: Salme Caduti Germanici. (Cimitero Militare di Cervia).

- 1) Questo Commissariato Generale Caduti di Guerra ritiene che il Cimitero di Cervia contenente Salme di Caduti Germanici possa essere dato in consegna ed affidato alla custodia del Parroco di Cervia.
- 2) Non si ritiene il caso di affidare detta custodia a ex militari germanici per non creare precedenti e per evitare inutili complicazioni.
- 3) Si gradirebbe conoscere i nomi dei Caduti sepolti nel suddetto Cimitero ed avere una pianta particolareggiata di esso con l'indicazione delle tombe.

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IL COMMISSARIO GENERALE STRAORDINARIO DEL GOVERNO  
 Generale Designato d'Armata  
 (Augusto Gressi)

*Amaldi*

1622

8223



HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 374  
Civil Affairs Section

AG/3253/3/41

29th March 48

Subject : - German War Graves.

To : - Commissariato Generale per i Germanici in Guerra  
Via S. Giovanni sul Mare, 10  
MILANO

1. It is reported that all the German dead in the neighbourhood of Gervia have been concentrated in a Central cemetery. The question as to who will take care of the cemetery when all the Germans are repatriated near arises.
2. General Polack, the Senior German officer in the P. of W. Corp, Rimini, has been in communication with the Senior Roman Catholic Priest of Gervia, the Bishop of Rimini and the Archbishop of Ravenna. These are all - ling that the cemetery should be put under protection of the Senior Roman Catholic Priest Gervia.
3. General Polack, however, does not consider this sufficient and would like to leave behind three German caretakers and suggests three volunteers from the Russian zone. He suggests they could be housed in a German wooden hut. In regards the pay and maintenance of these men he is unable at present to make a concrete suggestion but thinks that he might receive Papal assistance.
4. As your organization is responsible for the care of German war graves in Italy, your views on the above suggestions would be appreciated.
5. In addition, a requisition notice and sketch plans of the Cemetery are forwarded for your information and necessary action. Kindly acknowledge receipt of these.

*See also 46*

*mc*

M. CASH, Brig.  
V.P. CA Section.

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CA Sec

PUBLIC HEALTH  
 SUB-COMMISSION  
 RECEIVED 263  
 TIME 3-20

25 MAR 1946

See attached correspondence which has been extracted from our file 689/EC and is passed to you for action in accordance with Bug Carr's minute.

The letter marked "not sent" was originally drafted as action by this office.

*W. B. ...*  
*Director*

25/3

Off. Executive Commission

3595

P.H.C.

The attached has been taken from Ex. Com files as it is considered this matter should be handled by you. Please deal with the letter from SAC, CH7

25th Mar 46

*J. ...*  
 P.C. Section

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
 1215  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 WASHINGTON, D.C.

MINICE 9

4

1215

6 should be taken out of this file and passed to C.A Sec. for action. They deal in the War Graves and have the name and address of the Italian Organization (in Milan) which deals with the question and which is authorized to correspond direct with government concerned. You might send C.A. Sec. **3594** copy of letter to P.M. (marked not sent) and ask them to take it up on similar lines.

21/3/46.

M. Carr, Brig.  
for Exec Comr.

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MILICE 9.

4

1215

6 should be taken out of this file and passed to C.A. Sec. for action. They deal in the War Graves and have the name and address of the Italian Organization (in Milan) which deals with the question and which is authorized to correspond direct with government concerned. You might send C.A. Sec. **3594** copy of letter to P.M. (marked not sent) and ask them to take it up on similar lines.

21/3/46.

M. Carr, Brig.  
for Exec Comr.

## HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

Ref. : 689/9/EC

March 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

It has been brought to my notice that all the German dead in the neighbourhood of Cervia have been concentrated into a central cemetery at Cervia. The question has now arisen as to who will take care of this cemetery when all the German are repatriated.

General Polack, the Senior German officer in the P. of W. Camp, Rimini, has been in communication with the Senior Roman Catholic Priest of Cervia, the bishop of Rimini and the Archbishop of Ravenna. These are willing that the cemetery should be put under protection of the Senior Roman Catholic Priest Cervia.

General Polack, however, does not consider this sufficient and would like to leave behind three German caretakers and suggests three volunteers from the Russian zone. He suggests they could be housed in a German wooden hut. As regards the pay and maintenance of those men he is unable at present to make a concrete suggestion but thinks that he might receive Papal assistance.

I would appreciate it if you would let me have your views on this matter, please.

Yours very truly

ELLERY W. STONE  
Rear Admiral, USNR  
Chief Commissioner

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi  
President of the Council of Ministers,  
Italian Government,  
Rome

1215

1215

*Comm 2*  
 MAR 15 1946  
 C.M.F.  
 2377/A.  
 13 Mar 46.

Tel: FRANCK 101  
 Subject: German Cemeteries, CERVIA

HQ Allied Commission  
 -----

1. The attached copy letter 1851/A dated 7 Feb 46 from No. 1 SEP Rft & Holding Centre is forwarded herewith.
2. As the supervision and control of German Graves and cemeteries is a responsibility of the Italian Government, it is requested that you will take up the question of the German cemetery at CERVIA with them.
3. It is suggested that they might be asked to consider retaining three German volunteers as PW until all German PW have been evacuated from Italy, and that they should then be relieved of PW status and allowed to remain in Italy as civilians with an Italian visa.

The question of payment is one for the Italian Government to decide, but they might care to approach the Vatican on this subject.

*C. Manning*  
 for J.L.C. NAPLER,  
 Brigadier,  
 DAG.

CJM/DM.

Copies to: HQ 2 District  
 No. 1 SEP Rft & Holding Centre  
 A.2

Copy/Am.

Subject: German Cemeteries, CERVIA

To: DISTWO (2 copies)  
 -----  
 Copy to: 217 Area  
 -----

No. 1 SEP Rft & Holding  
 Centre,  
 C.M.F.  
 1851/A  
 7 February 1946

! The German HQ here with the sanction of the British authorities have  
 moved from the neighbourhood into a central cemetery at CERVIA.

The question of payment is one for the Italian Government to decide, but they might care to approach the Vatican on this subject.

*C. Manning*  
for J.L.C. NAPLES,  
Brigadier,  
D.S.

GJM/DM.

Copies to: Hq 2 District  
No. 1 SEP Rft & Holding Centre  
A.2

Copy/dm.

Subject: German Cemetery, CERVIA

No. 1 SEP Rft & Holding Centre,

C.M.F.  
1361/A

To: DISTWO (2 copies)

7 February 1952

Copy to: 217 Area

The German HQ here with the sanction of the British authorities have concentrated German dead from the neighbourhood into a central cemetery at CERVIA. The question has now arisen as to who will take care of this cemetery when all the Germans are repatriated.

Gen POLACK has been in communication with the Senior R.C. Priest of CERVIA, the Bishop of RIMINI and the Archbishop of RAVENNA. These are willing that the cemetery should be put under the protection of the senior R.C. Priest CERVIA.

Gen POLACK however does not consider this sufficient and would like to leave behind three German caretakers and suggests three volunteers from the Russian zone. He suggests they could be housed in a German wooden hut. As regards the pay and maintenance of those men he is unable at present to make a concrete suggestion but thinks that he might receive Papal assistance.

Could this matter be taken up with higher authority and with the Italian Government so that a reply may be given to General Polack.

Signed: [Signature]  
Colonel,  
Commander.

FC/er

1215

(Capt. N.)

5009

HEADQUARTERS

No. 2 Claims Commission and No. 2 Hearings Directorate

A.P.O. 3591  
G. I. P.

*Civil Affairs*

HQ Allied Commission,  
ROME.

GCHB/349/1  
15 Mar 46

Subject:- German Cemetery - SERBIA 20 MAR 1946

1. We have been informed by I&A GCHQ CEF that the responsibility for German graves and cemeteries is that of the Italian Government.
2. Accordingly, we enclose herewith copy requisition notes and sketch plans of the a/s cemetery in order that you may take this matter up with the Italian Government.

*Handed to Col Sheafly  
on 12 April 46 JH*

PUBLIC HEALTH  
SUB-COMMISSION  
RECEIVED 26.3  
TIME 3.10



*G. J. MacMahon*

G. J. MACMAHON,  
Major,  
for Brigadier,  
V.P.C.C. and D. of Hqs. 3591

6/RMB  
Tel: 66329  
Sign address:  
No. 2 Claims and Hearings, ROME.

Encs:

*DH S/c*  
*JH*  
*21/3/46*



1040