

ACC

10000/142/50

THE CALVI IN
U.S. PARACH
FEB., MAR. 194

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THE CALVI INCIDENT (ASSAULT BY CARABINIERI AGAINST THREE
U.S. PARACHUTISTS, SARDINIA)
FEB., MAR. 1944

14
NEAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Legal Subcommittee
APO 394

/smf

ACC/4006/L

24 March 1944

SUBJECT: Alleged Offences by Carabinieri.

TO : Allied Force HQ (Military Government Section). (3)

Ref your letter MGS,010.2 of 5 February 1944, a copy of the report of the Deputy Regional Commissioner, Region 6, dated 3 March 1944 is enclosed herewith.

It appears to me that no action can usefully be taken, but I await your further instructions.

G. R. UPJOHN, Colonel
Chief Legal Officer.

13

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission.
 FROM : H.Q. A. C. C. Region 6.
 SUBJECT : Alleged Atrocities in Sardinia.
 REFERENCE : L/1412.
 DATE : 3rd March 1944.

Reference M.G.S. letter MGS OIO.2 dated 5 Feb 44.,
 (copy to this Headquarters) this matter has been carefully
 investigated by my Legal and Public Safety Divisions and on
 the basis of their Report I have to state as follows:-

(1) Copy of the official Carabinieri Report dealing
 with the incident is enclosed together with translation thereof.
 It will be seen that the Allied soldiers in question were not
 American but British, and that they were not Parachutists but
 personnel landed from a submarine. The mens' names are given
 in the report. They do not seem to have been very accurately
 recorded but appear to be as follows:-

- (a) Capt. James Gibbs Thomson, R.T.R.
- (b) Cpl Daniel Shackleton, (Regiment Unknown)
- (c) Pte Frederick Gill, (Regiment Unknown)

It appears from enquiries made, and which are being pursued,
 that they were removed from the island by the Germans when the
 letter evacuated. Full details will be forwarded when available.

(2) All four of the informants, that is to say Pilloni
 Giovanni, Martino Giovannetti, Caretti Riccardo and Picchionati
 Adelmo, have been interviewed. Pilloni, the writer of the letter,
 is the only one of the four who maintains that there is any truth
 in the allegations made and he admits that his account of the
 incident, as given in the letter, is exaggerated. Statement
 signed by Pilloni is enclosed together with translation thereof.

It will be seen that they were not American but British, and that they were given personnel landed from a submarine. The mens' names are given in the report. They do not seem to have been very accurately recorded but appear to be as follows:-

- (a) Capt. James Gibbs Thomson, R.T.R.
- (b) Cpl Daniel Shackleton, (Regiment Unknown)
- (c) Pte Frederick Gill, (Regiment Unknown)

It appears from enquiries made, and which are being pursued, the that they were removed from the island by the Germans when the latter evacuated. Full details will be forwarded when available.

12

(2) All four of the informants, that is to say Pilloni Giovanni, Martino Giovannetti, Caretti Riccardo and Picchionati Adelmo, have been interviewed. Pilloni, the writer of the letter, is the only one of the four who maintains that there is any truth in the allegations made and he admits that his account of the incident, as given in the letter, is exaggerated. Statement signed by Pilloni is enclosed together with translation thereof. The exaggerations will appear if this statement is compared with the original one. The other three informants flatly deny that they witnessed any ill treatment of the Prisoners and say that they were prevailed upon by Pilloni to subscribe to his report of the matter and only did so out of friendship for him. They will offer no further explanation of their conduct except to the say that they understood this letter was to be submitted to the Anti-Fascist Concentration and not to the Allies. This in spite of the fact that the letter was apparently addressed to the American Command. Pilloni is unable to give the names of any other witnesses who would bear him out.

(3) Asked why he delayed his report until 5th December, Pilloni stated that he sent it after his dismissal from the Montevecchio Mines. He says that after this happened he had nothing further to fear from making his disclosures. It should be stated that the other three informants are still employed at the Mines and, of course, the possibility of their being the victims of intimidation cannot be ruled out. ~~Although they deny this,~~ The Manager of the Mines, who was questioned, states that Pilloni was dismissed as part of a general pay-off of workers.

2451

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(4) The five men accused by Pilloni, who are civilians, were seen and questioned. They, of course, deny the allegations against them. All of them except Montisci Flovio are of the timid inoffensive type and it is difficult to imagine their having acted with brutality. Even Montisci Flovio is not an aggressive type. It appears from enquiries made by my Public Safety Section that nothing is known against any of the men.

(5) The Carabinieri Zorro, who effected the arrest, made a good impression. He completely denies that there was any brutality or undue hostility shown to the prisoners. He further states that one of the prisoners had a slight scratch on his face when he was arrested.

(6) All but one of the nine men named at the end of the Carabinieri Report were questioned. All deny having seen the assaults mentioned by Pilloni and corroborate Zorro. The details of their stories agreed in the main and nothing special transpired at the investigation to suggest that they were lying.

(7) 2nd Lieut Podda, into whose custody the prisoners were delivered at Montevecchio, gave his evidence very frankly and made a good impression. He states that none of the prisoners made any complaint or bore signs of rough treatment. One man he says had a scratch on the temple but this did not require treatment. The men were cheerful, he says, and the Corporal gave him a dictionary as a souvenir.

(8) There is no suggestion of any misconduct on the part of the Carabinieri.

11

From the above it will be seen that, there does not appear to be sufficient reliable evidence on which a prosecution could proceed. A poor impression was formed of Pilloni. It is accordingly recommended that the enquiry be dropped until such time as it is possible to get statements from the Allied

assaults mentioned by Piloni and corroborate Zorro. The details of their stories agreed in the main and nothing special transpired at the investigation to suggest that they were lying.

(7) 2nd Lieut Podda, into whose custody the prisoners were delivered at Montevocchio, gave his evidence very frankly and made a good impression. He states that none of the prisoners made any complaint or bore signs of rough treatment. One man he says had a scratch on the temple but this did not require treatment. The men were cheerful, he says, and the Corporal gave him a dictionary as a souvenir.

(8) There is no suggestion of any misconduct on the part of the Carabinieri.

11

From the above it will be seen that, there does not appear to be sufficient reliable evidence on which a prosecution could proceed. A poor impression was formed of Piloni. It is accordingly recommended that the enquiry be dropped until such time as it is possible to get statements from the Allied personnel concerned.

For the Regional Allied Commissioner:

Henry A. Hale
HENRY A. HALE.
Colonel Inf.
Deputy Regional Commissioner.



SECRET

TO: Headquarters, A.C.C., (Legal Division)
 FROM: Headquarters, Region 6, A.C.C.
 SUBJECT: Trial of Italian Soldiers
 REFERENCE: L/1403/
 DATE: 11 February 1944

Reference your telegram dated February 101555A addressed Freedom signed MacFarlane and repeated this H.Q. for information, and our telegram Pa.56 dated 8 Feb44.

1. Lt. Col. BERL has been specially employed since December in connection with a shooting affray in the island of Corsica.
2. Italian soldiers are accused of killing two French civilians. All the details of the case are known to M.G.S., A.P.H.Q.
3. Arrangements are now in hand for the accused to be tried before an Italian Court Martial in Sardinia and the necessary French witnesses are being brought from Corsica.
4. The matter has to be brought to your notice because Lt. Col. BERL is among the Officers included in your list of 3 Feb 44 as due to proceed to ETOUSA in February. It is ~~not~~ probable that Lt. Col. BERL will have completed his work on this case until the last week of February.

To G-1. ACC

forwarded to you for
 necessary action under para 4
 (Sgt) G. Ruppjohn. Lt
 C-0

22 Feb 44

J. K. DUNLOP,
 Brigadier,
 Regional Allied Commissioner.

10

COPY

CABLE

10

~~4006~~
CONFIDENTIAL

ROUTINE

FROM SIGNED NMCG CITE NAJAG
TO FATIMA FOR SECRETARIAT

M/C No. 5/13

REF NO. 30580

FILED. 121204A FEB

REC'D. 130145A FEB

(7)

cyren

With reference your 23A dated 10 February. This HQ dealing with Berl cable.

DISTRIBUTION:

- 2 - AG Files
- 1 - Admin Dir.

4

SUBJECT Alleged Offenses by Carabini

To V.P. Admin.

Ref att'd correspondence & I recommend following cable be sent to R.C. Region VI.

" Ref letter 010.2 dated 5 Feb from M.G.S. to us copy to you please make full & complete investigation into alleged offenses & send report to us as soon as possible. No repeat no action beyond detention of any suspects will be taken by us pending our consideration by us of your report."

Secret.
Routine.

[Signature]
CR

Esente da bollo: Circulare Ministero Finanze 9 ottobre 1920 n. 3384, paragraf. 17.

Cip. Dip. Rel. Prov. 111-1989-1000

La suddetta somma potrà spedirsi direttamente al Tesoriere Provinciale (Banco di Napoli, Sede Spirito Santo, via Roma 402).

Napoli.

193

Visto :
IL PRESIDE

Il Ragioniere Capo

10 FEB 1918

OUTGOING

SHW/sk

CONFIDENTIAL

URGENT

FATIMA LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION

FABLE FOR REGIONAL COMMISSIONER

640
12/10
234
FEB 10/815A

MBS AFHQ ZERO ONE ZERO POINT TWO OF FIVE FEBRUARY REFERS PD TO FABLE FOR
REGIONAL COMMISSIONER FROM FATIMA LEGAL SUB DASH COMMISSION SIGNED MACFARLANE
PD INVESTIGATE ALLEGATIONS FULLY AND REPORT EARLY FATIMA FOR LEGAL PD NO RET
NO ACTION BEYOND DETENTION SUSPECTS TO BE TAKEN WITHOUT INSTRUCTION FROM FATIMA

AUTHENTICATED:

Ernest J. ChioCCA
ERNEST J. CHIOCCA
CWO, USA
Asst. Adj. Gen.

DISTRIBUTION:

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4006
OUTGOING

SHW/sk

CONFIDENTIAL

URGENT

FATIMA FROM LEGAL DIVISION

FREEDM FOR GENERAL RICHMOND FABLE FOR BERL INFO

PRESUME YOU ARE DEALING WITH FABLE FROM BERL AM THREE EIGHT EIGHT DATE TIME
ZERO EIGHT ONE FIVE TWO SEVEN ABLE PD TO FREEDOM FOR GENERAL JOE ABLE RICHMOND
RPTD FABLE FOR BERL FOR INFO SIGNED MACFARLANE PD WE DO NOT APPEAR TO BE
CONCERNED

AUTHENTICATED:

ERNEST J. CHICCA
CWO. USA
Asst. Adj. Gen.

DISTRIBUTION :

2 - AG Files
1 - Admin Dir

284

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p

4006

4/09

48598

081955

082045

Fredson signed Cinc Cite FIBBS

Fatima forward repeated IRS for AMO for Rogers

Decip. by J. R. Leo

Arrested in Sicily, Ustica, Pantellaria, and Lampedusa. In most cases reason given for arrest does not constitute justification for continued detention. Following procedure therefore proposed.

Those arrested in Sicily and island of Ustica. Move to Sicily to camps under control distons for early review of cases by local review board.

Those arrested in pantellaria and Lampedusa. Procedure as in para two considered impracticable. Therefore propose nominal roll and available details be sent SCAG Pantellaria for investigation and comment. Review Board to be set up in north Africa who would decide for release or continued detention on available evidence and fresh details provided by SCAG. Those released to be sent to islands. Those detained to remain North Africa.

Please state concurrence or comments proposal as in para three one and indicate whether SCAG or other AMO officer could be made available from Pantellaria to attend review board in North Africa if required.

Held in North Africa under control AMO are one six five civilians.

DISTRIBUTION

- 2 A.G.
- 1 Deputy Chief Commissioner (action)
- 1 Legal Sub-Commission (Info)

071737A
Form 125D

N-1184

9 FEB 1944

RAD

2764

Signal Corps, United States Army

3 copies

CONFIDENTIAL

Telegram

URGENT

GPO 8-20585

Received at

PENINSULAR BASE SECTION
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER

4006

8 FEBRUARY 1944

19

CONFIDENTIAL

URGNET

ACTION COPY

TO (ACTION) : FREEDOM AFHQ FOR GENERAL ADAM VICHMOND JUDGE ADVOCATE, CG PBS FOR FARGO FOR LEGAL DIVISION
(INFORMATION): NONE

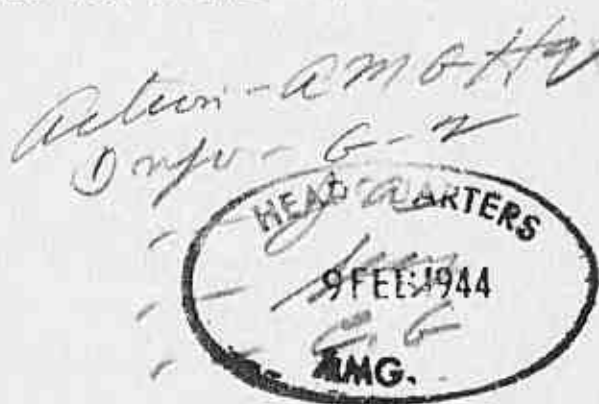
FROM : FABLE FROM BERL

DATE TIME SIGNED: 081527A

DATE TIME RECD: 081737A

REFERENCE NR.: WM 388

CITE: AC 56 (DTG 081505A)



CALVI INCIDENT PROCURATURE MILITAIRE HAS FIXED FEBRUARY 18
NIGHT 6 ACCUSED AT ORISTANO. AM SATISFIED THAT TRIAL SHOULD BE
HELD AS TO ALL. PRESENCE FOLLOWING WITNESSES NOW IN CORSICA
NECESSARY ORISTANO 16 FEBRUARY: MASSONI MADDELENA ADDRESS MON-
CALE; GUERINI PADOUE ADDRESS CALENZANA; GIGANTEI GIOVANNA ADDRESS
RAILROAD STATION LUMIO; PADOVANI FRANCESCO ADDRESS RAILROAD STAT-
TION LUMIO; VERDIER GIOVANNI ADDRESS GENDARMERIE CATVI; GUGLIEL-
MACCI BARTOLOMEO ADDRESS NALENZANA; PISSARD IEUR ADDRESS CALENZANA;
LUCCHETTI FRANCESCO MOBILIZED ETAT MAJOR DE LA MARINE CORSE; GIOCANTI
ANONIO OFFICIER MECANISTE ADDRESS MERO; LEMZR PREGER GASTON ADDRESS
CALVI; LANZI RAFFAELE ADDRESS CALVI.

WILL YOU MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS WITH FRENCH HEADQUARTER
FOR ASSEMBLY OF WITNESSES AND WITH SUCH OTHER CHANNELS AS MAY BE
NECESSARY FOR THEIR TRANSPORTATION TO ORISTANO TO BE THERE 16 FEB-
RUARY. PLEASE REPLY FABLE FOR BERL.

ACTION COPY

(Action) Adm Sec (2)

Acc Hist.

13227

CONFIDENTIAL

928

SECRET

(Equals British MOST SECRET)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Military Government Section

9 FEB 1944

2795 515

Admin Sec

ATM/CF/jw

MGS: 010.2

5 February 1944

SUBJECT: Alleged Offenses by Carabinieri.

TO : HQ ACC

The inclosed papers disclose an allegation by an Italian civilian that certain carabinieri abused three United States parachutists in Sardinia. With the concurrence of the Judge Advocate AFHQ, they are referred to HQ ACC for investigation and any action which may be found appropriate. Attention is drawn to the fact that if upon investigation it appears that this is a case of war criminals, it should be handled as provided in AFHQ instructions on "War Criminals".



A. T. MAXWELL
Colonel
Acting Chief

Incl:
as above.

Copies to:

Allied Regional Commissioner, Sardinia,
with copies of AFHQ Cir. "War Crimes" 27 Nov. 43,
NATOUA Cir. No. 11, "Investigation of War Crimes"
26 Jan. 44.

G-2 (CI)

SEEN	TO	3
ADMIN DIRECTOR		
CHIEF STAFF O.		
STAFF O 1		
STAFF O 2	✓	✓
STAFF O 3		
10 FEB 1944		

SECRET

(Equals British MOST SECRET)

931.

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals COPY CONFIDENTIAL

9 FEB 1944
515

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

3 February 1944

B-389.420/9

SUBJECT: Alleged Atrocities in SARDINIA.

TO : Military Government Section.

Reference conversation of 3 February 1944 (Major JACKMAN -
Capt. MURRAY).

1. Herewith copy of a letter received by 42nd Wing headquarters
from one Pilloni Giovanni of VILLACIDRO in SARDINIA, concerning al-
leged anti-allied feeling among the labour element in Sardinia prior
to the resignation of Mussolini.

2. It is understood that M.G.S. desires to pursue investigation
of these allegations.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2:

D. MURRAY, (SGD)
D. MURRAY,
Captain, G.S.,
G-2 (CI) Section.

Encl.

2

U. S. CONFIDENTIAL
Equals Italian CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

O
P
Y

Incl: 2 Letter from 42nd Wing.

TRANSLATION OF LETTER RECEIVED FROM 17th BOMB GROUP: 13 December, 1943

Secret Military Office - General American Command.

The undersigned, Pilloni Giovanni from Villacidro, who used to work in the Montevecchio mine, learned on July 6th that on that day, at about 2230 hours, the local Carabineu had captured three American parachutists, of which were two officers and one was a NCO.

These Carabineu disarmed them, and brought the prisoners to their station. Along the road, they met the chief guard - Montisci Flovio, fascist, and an ex-NCO of the Carabineu; Casu Emilio, son of Efizio, fascist; Casu Anselmo, mine clerk, fascist; Lampis Arturo, fascist leader as well as a squadristo (first hour Fascist); Manos Gildo, also squadristo; all of which lived in Montevecchio (Guipini).

Along the road about one kilometer, these "men" beat the prisoners with sticks until the blood flowed. They fell to the ground repeatedly. The prisoners swore against their (enemy's) nationality, calling them murderers, skunks, and rotters.

When they neared the Carabineu station, Montisci Flovio removed the helmet from the captured Captain's head and slung it to his face, wounding him badly.

For such bravery, the mines' director, Engineer Minghetti, rewarded his men with 100 lire each, except Lampis Arturo who received 250 lire as well as being praised.

The undersigned, will act as witness for the foregoing declaration--:

1. - Martino Giovannetti
 2. - Caretti Riccardo
 3. - Picchioni Adelmo
- and many others if necessary.

1

Villacidro - December 5, 1943

(TRANSLATION)

COPY

Pilloni Giovanni,
28 Scuole Street, Villacidro.

COPY

2464