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

785016

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HANDLING OF ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR
APR. 1945

0382

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/RND No. 785016

FILE CLOSED 22 April 1945

0383

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

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Legal (3A)

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
G-5 Section
APO 512

PTH/AMR/wsw

G-5: 383.6

22 April 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Prisoners of War.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.

1. Reference is made to your AC/4076/L/L of 10 April 1945.

2. This matter has been brought to the attention of the Provost Marshal General who has requested that PRC make a report on the matter to him.

For Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

F. T. Hammond, Jr.
F. T. HAMMOND, JR.,
Colonel, G. S. C.,
Legal Advisor.

23 APR 1945

A. C.

→	CIO	
	DCIO	lla
	Chief Counsel	
	CIO	
	Division	
	CL RICS	

21 APR 1945

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIANCE COMMISSION
AND 30A
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Tel : 490081
Ext : 525

Ref: AC/4076/1/L

10 April 45

SUBJECT : Italian Prisoners of War

TO : AFHQ C-5

- 1 Your attention is drawn to the attached which is an extract
from the monthly report of the Regional Commissioner, Toscana.
- 2 Prisoners of War cannot, of course, be tried in AMG Courts
and the whole matter is one which is outside the powers of the
Regional Commissioner. Would you kindly draw it to the attention
of the proper authority.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

G.R. UPTON
VP QA Section

NA/er

HEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

(1A)

File Ref: R.V. 11/1/2002

Date: 5 April 45.

SUBJECT: Italian Prisoners of War.

TO: LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION, HEADQUARTERS AC.
(Attention Colonel W.E. Behrens)

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1. I deem it special import to call to your attention that portion of the monthly report, - page 4,- under the head of 'Prisoners of War'. This situation is mounting in growing concern not only in Livorno but elsewhere. While limited perhaps to Toscana Region at the moment, it will no doubt arise elsewhere in occupied territory. To that end, a uniform policy is highly desirable in dealing with this problem.

For the Regional Commissioner:

John K. Weber
JOHN K. WEBER,
Colonel, Infantry
Regional Legal Officer.

LEGAL SUB-COMMISSION	
CO	
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Chief Counsel	
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Legal Section	
CL RKS	
8 APR 1945	

EXTRACT FROM MONTHLY REPORT OF TOSCANA REGION
for month of March 1945.

2 April 45

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" Prisoners of war:

The large number of Italian Prisoners of War in this area present a grave problem and has created a situation which requires serious attention. In Livorno hundreds of prisoners of war are roaming the streets, dressed in American Uniform and they cannot be distinguished from any other American soldier as the only difference is a little insignia of metal, detachable, in the shape of the map of Italy on their sleeve. When they remove this and commit crimes the American soldiers are blamed for the same. There is little enforcement of their curfew regulations. Reports have reached us that a considerable number of them threatened civilian girls to cut their hair if they are seen with Allied soldiers. They are insulting to the Carabinieri because they know they will not be arrested. They are boasting that they are pro-fascist, they circulate often drunk, singing fascist songs. They enjoy unlimited freedom, they are not concerned about discipline as this generally amounts only to Company punishment which is only a temporary detention in a open camp. The Italian Police are afraid to interfere because they are told that they come under the protection of the Allies. Many of them possess arms. Some of them have resorted to looting and molestation of private property. Their activities have increased black market operations as a number of them are employed as drivers by Allied Forces. It is recognised that under the Hague Convention they are to be treated in accordance with international law. It is suggested that a special Court through A.M.G. may be established for the purpose of controlling this situation keeping in mind the principals laid down in the rules of land warfare."

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