Declaration 8.0. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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MARESCIALLO ADOLFO DIMA, GGFF APR., MAY 1944

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COLLISSION Public Safety Sub-Commission	
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785016 Declammified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. HEADQUARTERS REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSIO. APO 394, U.S. ARMY SUBJECT: Maresciallo Adolfo DIMA, GG.FF. : HQ. Rear ACC, Public Safety Sub-Commission. TO With reference to ACC/14012/13/P.S. dated 22 May 1944. 1. Although the incident occurred on 7 March 1944 it was not formally reported to Col. Cochipinti, Commanding Naples Legion GG.FF. by Lt. Col. Parente, Commanding the Group located at Torre Annunziata, until 30 March 1944 with letter dated 28 March 1944. 2. A brief account was forwarded to this office dated 7 April 1944, Which was in turn forwarded to the Commanding General P.B.S. for information and any action that was possible in connection with the Allied personnel complained of. A copy was also submitted to General MCRICCA for his information only. 3. Lt. Brancati of Economics and Supply, who resides at the GG.FF. Barracks Torre Annunziata, was informed of the incident some-times between 7 March 1944 and 17 March 1944 when, he visited the scene of the incident, together with GG.FF. 4. Lt. Brancati made enquiries at a nearby Air Corps station, at which the Allied personnel were believed to be attached, but all knowledge of the incident was denied by the Adjutant. 5. General Moricoa's reaction to the information regarding the incident was, without any enquiry of a disciplinary character, to award the Maresciallo 10 days imprisonment and ordered that the records be inscribed as follows:-"Cammander ad interim of the Tenenza, having discovered a clandestine still, and notwithstanding that he had N.C.O. and soldiers of the "Brigata Volante" at his disposition, he released the guilty and abandoned the machinery and material of the above mentioned still, on account of the menacing intervention of Anglo-American soldiers, so showing the evident lack of tenacity and military spirit."

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This he did by letter to Colonel Occhipinti 12 April 1944.

- 6. At no time has Colonel Cochipinti recommended or approved the punishment of Dima. He was against it all the time for he realised only too well how impotent the Maresciallo was in face of the opposition presented by the Allied personnel on 7 March 1944.
- 7. He obeyed orders for he informed this office it was futile to reason further with the General and therefore passed on the orders for Dima's punishment.
- 8. General Moricca is an ex-Bersagliere officer with no experience in matters GG.FF.
- 9. He was placed in command of the GC.FF in Liberated Italy a ahort time ago and is apparently a martinet.
- 10. According to Colonel Occhipinti he gives orders of a character that are causing grave discontent in the GG.FF by reason of their harshness. He is described as being "pazzo".
- 11. He was given orders, for instance, direct to Colonel Cochipinti without consulting AMG, that all GG.FF are to be transferred on rotation to other stations for three months. One month at three different stations away from home.
- 12. The effect of this order is obvious. Men are obliged to leave their wives and families and go into barracks when available, or seek other accommodation at the place to which transferred. Owing to the cost of living etc this created an impossible situation.
- 13. Some 'gingering-up' of the GG.FF may be necessary, but the effect of this and other similar orders has produced just the opposite result to what the General apparently had in mind.
- 14. Without wishing to take sides in this matter between General and Colonel it must be recorded that Colonel Codipinti is a very capable and co-operative officer and has impressed this office very favourably.

15. Attached is also a copy of Lieutenant Brancati's report received, 12 May 1944.

C.T. FRANCIS

Lieut. Colonel, G.L.,

negional Public Safety Officer.

AWR/tp/jb.

April 29, 1944

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SUBJECT: Punishment of a Guardia di Finanza, Maresciallo, in using his good judgement.

TO : Public Safety.

On March 7, 1944 Maresciallo Adolfo DIMA with 5 members of the Guardia di Finanza went in the vicinity of Piana del Principe in the commune of Terzigno to raid an illegal still. They arrived and confiscated the still and arrested two civilians. As they were dismantling the works to take it away, thirty American soldiers (among who there were some officers) arrived. The soldiers had been called or attracted by the cries of women who were living nearby and perhaps the wives or daughters of the two operators. The soldiers had ordered Maresciallo Dima and his men to put the still back or to release the two men. The soldiers also made sure that the Guardia di Finanza got on their truck and escorted them (the guards) to the highway and informed them never to return. The guards were armed and so were some of the soldiers. The Maresciallo was faced with the decision whether to fight the soldiers or the obey and get out. If he fought the soldiers there would have been these results:

1. Killing or wounding of Americans.

2. Complete annihilation of the small group of Guardie.

3. Ill feeling between American and Italians.

The Maresciallo decided it was best to withdraw, thus saving the life of his men and an unknown number of soldiers.

Later the exact date being March 17, I went to the same spot with the Guardia but there was no still to be found. I also went to the Squadron Headquarters and informed the Squadron Adjutant that his troops were not to interfer with the duties of the Italian Police Authorities when civilians were concerned.

Today, Maresciallo Dima has been informed that he is sentenced to 10 days inprisonment without visitors and "incomunicato". The followorf is the actual notation used by his 4121 commanding General MORICCA:

"Commandante Interinale Della Tenenza, scoperta una fabbrica chandestina di spirito, malgrado disponesse di sottufficiali e militari di una brigata volante, lasciava in libertà i responsabili e abbandonava gli strumenti e materie impiegate

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nella lavorazione per l'intervento minaccioso di militari Anglo-Americani dando prova evidente di defi lenti doti di fermezza e spirito militare."

This sentence is also ordered to be carried in the Maresciallo' records. The Maresciallo should be recommended for his good judgement in his decision and should be cited instead of sentenced. He has a very good record of excellence for 28 years service. This sentence would ruin his chance of getting a pension.

Lt. Jacob Brancato AMG. Region 3. Economics & Supplies.

I am informed that this general is an army man, a bersagliere and not a man experienced with Guardia di Finanza men.

785016 Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. July 2A REAR HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION Public Safety Sub-Commission 22 May 1944. ACC/14012/13/PS SUBJECT: Punishment of Maresciallo Adolfo DIMA, GCFF. : RPSC Region III, through Regional Commissioner. TO Reference your letter PS/3.4 dated 18 May 44. The subject of your letter regarding the apparent injustice done to Maresciallo Adolfo DIMA is being taken up with the Commanding General and the result of this review will be forwarded to you as soon as possible. This is a matter which should have been dealt with by the Legion Commander acting in conjunction with yourself. Am I to understand that he did not recommend or approve this punishment and further I should be glad to be informed whether he made any official protest to the Commanding General on this decision. Another aspect of this matter which from your letter appears entirely unsatisfactory is that the second visit of the CCFF to the illegal still was made 10 days after the occasion on which it is said they were so seriously obstructed by American troops. A matter of such concern surely should have been reported at once to AMG officers and immediate action taken to identify the troops concerned and to pursue a proper investigation. I realise that this is the responsibility of your Provincial administration and would be glad if you would let me have a report showing what action if any was taken by them. 5. The grave miscarriage of justice affecting the Marcsciallo to which you refer, appears to be equalled only by the apparent dilatoriness in dealing with this regrettable obstruction of the GGFF by Allied troops. A. E. YOUNG, Colonel. Beputy Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission. AEY/t 4110

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REGION 3, ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION APO 394, U.S. ARMY

PS/3.4

18 May 1944

SUBJECT: Punishment of Maresciallo Adolfo DIMA, GG.FF.

" : HQ. Rear ACC, Public Safety Sub-Commission.

- 1. Cn 7 March 1944 Maresciallo Adolfo Dima, and five other members of the GC.FF. went to premises in the vicinity of Piano del Principio in the Commune of Terzigno to raid an illegal still.
- 2. On arrival they arrested two men and confiscated the still, whereupon, female relatives, attracted 30 American Officers and troops by their cries. The troops ordered the haresciallo to release the two men and replace the still as they had found it. After this was done the haresciallo and his men were escorted to their truck on the highway and warned never to return.
- 3. The American troops and the GG.FF. were both in the possession of firearms. The GG.FF. were prevented from performing their lawful duty by Allied personnel, who were in much greater strength than themselves.
- 4. Cn March 17th, the GG.FF. accompanied by Lt. Jacob S. Brancati, Economics and Supply, Fegion III, again visited the same place but no still was to be found. It. Brancati endeavoured to identify the Allied personnel concerned without success. As a result of his failure to carry out his duty through no fault of his own; Marescialle Dima was dealt with disciplinarily and was sentenced to 10 days imprisonment without visitors on the orders of General Moricca, Officer Commanding GG.FF.
- 5. The Maresciallo, now suffering from a great sense of grievance, finds himself after 28 years service, faced with the prospect of having the remainder of his career ruined, the crime enscribed on his records and the probable loss of his pension.
- 6. No authority can replace the 1C days of freedom he was dinjustly deprived of, but the least that can be done for him is to ensure that he be re-assured as to his future prospects.
 - 7. It is recommended that this grave miscarriage of justice be

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brought to the immediate attention of the Minister of Interior, with a view to rectifying as far a is possible this act of gross afairness to an Officer doing his duty to the best of his ability under very difficult circumstances.

C.T. FRANCIS

Lieut. Colonel, G.L., Regional Public Safety Officer.

AWR/tp.

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