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PRISON REPORTS, REGION IL NOV. 1943 - SEPT. 1944

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850 (6 HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION Public Sefety Sub-Commission APO 394 Tel : 178709 4 September 1944. ACC/14215/PF R.P.S.O. Region I TO (through R.C.) Edlowing the visit of Major Hyland Public Works and Ttilities Sub-Countesion to licily, and consultations with Major Boyd, the following arrangements for additional Prison accommodation have been opreed. Repairs to Faviguana, Augusta and Calteniasotta will be completed in two months. Those prisons were dealt with on

- the original rebuilding programme, and will provide accommodation for an additional 1.152 prisoners.
- For technical reasons it has been decided not to use Ustica or Liperi Islands.
- The old Italian Naval Perracks at Columbaia are suitable for robuilding as a prison. The present capacity of 200 prisoners can be increased to 1000 in 3 months. Flans and setimates have been received and bade are being received for repair and remolding.

The above progresses will provide additional prison accommodation for nearly 2000 prisoners. If this is inpufficient, and it is decided to build stockades, it is agreed that they should be built on the mainland of vicily and not on the inlands of Jatica and Lipari.

> Acting Lirector Fublic Safety Bub-Commission.

Copy to : S.C. & M.G. Section.

FJ /c.

Tel: 550

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
ECONOMIC SECTION
APO 394

JBT/ml

30 August 1944

71 AUG 1944

ES/15

SUBJECT: Prison Accommodation.

TO : Administrative Section for Public Safety Sub-Commission

JOA file 14218 16 B

1. Reference 317/160/CA of 25 June 44, herewith report as to the position in Sicily.

2. In Reggio Calabria a scheme to cost 90,000 for the Galleria Prison was approved by the Regional Engineer on 24 June last, and is in hand.

3. Copy of a more complete report submitted on 18 August 44 by the same officer was given to Major Wilson of Public Safety Sub-Commission on 23 Aug 44.

J. Bruce Thompson mayor RA.

A. G. ANTOLINI

A. G. ANTOLINI Executive Director Economic Section

Copy to:

Executive Commissioner, C.A. Branch.

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128

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission APO 394

21 August 1944

SUBJECT: Prisons in Sicily.

TO

Headquarters, Allied Control Commission Public Works & Utilities Sub-Commission (att. Lt.Col. V.S. Thompson).

- 1. After inspecting the prisons at Favignana, Augusta, Caltanisetta, Ustica and Lipari I contacted Col. Hancock to submit a copy of my report as suggested in your letter, he introduced me to Brig. Carr who is the new Regional Commissioner of Region I. Brig. Carr called in Lt.Col. Snook (RPSO) of Region I and we discussed the prisons mentioned above.
- 2. It was decided that the prisons at Favignana, Augusta, Caltanisetta, which are being repaired should be finished as soon as possible.
- J. There is a prison at Columbaia off the coast of Trapani that we have asked the Genio Civile of Trapani to receive bids for the repair and remolding. The plans and estimates have been finished.
- 4. Nothing will be done with the prison at Lipari at the present time and if the other prisons mentioned above accommodate all the prisoners it will not be used.
 - 5. The prisons at Ustica will not be used.
- 6. It was decided if stockades are to be built they should be built on the mainland of Sicily and not on the islands.
- 7. Brig. Carr asked Lt.Col. Snook to work with Major Boyd and dott. Columbo the representative of the Minister of Grace and Justice and carry out the above plan.

35%0

N. W. HYLAND Major Spec. Res P.W.O.

NWH/rb

HEADQUARTERS

**LIED CONTROL COMMISSION

PUBLIC ORKS AND UTILITIES SUB-COMMISSION

APO 394

120

In reply refer to RTC 627 18 August, 1944.

Subject : Prisons in Sicily.

Public Works and Utilities Sub-Commission Headquarters A.C.C. (Attention Lt. Col. V.S. Thompson)

1. Attached is a report of the inspections of the prisons at Favignana, Augusta, Caltanissetta, Ustica and Lipari.

Sed. N. W. HYLAND Major Spec. Res. P.W. Officer.

G.

To



FAVIGNANA:

120

- 1. tt. Columbo representing the M. ster of Grace and Justice. Engineer Valentini and Engineer Balsamo representing the Genic Civile of Trapani, Major Boyd and I made an inspection of the prison on the Island of Favignana.
- 2. The plans and estimates have been prepared and sixteen prisoners are working. The estimated cost of this work is 600,000 lire and will be finished in two months.
- 3. Major Boyd instructed the Genio Civile to let the contract immediately. The Genio Civile act in touch with the local contractor who had already studied the project and notified him to start work. The contractor said he would start immediately.
- 4. Cav. Mostacio who is in charge of this prison stated that he could receive 300 prisoners immediately and that in another week he could receive an additional 100 prisoners and when repair work is finished which will be two months he will be able to take another 100 prisoners.

ANGUSTA :

- 1. Dott. Columbo, Major Boyd and I inspected the prison at Augusta.
- 2. The Contract was let on the 12 August and the contractor will start immediately. This project will be completed in two months.
- 3. The work consists of repairing locks, doors, small leaks in the roof and plastering. The estimated cost is 300,000 lire.
- 4. Cav. Bosacco who is a Pretore acting as director of the Prison stated that he now has seventy prisoners none of which have had a trial. He also states that in one month that he will be able to handle 200 more, the remaining 230 when the project is completed.

CALTANISSETTA :

- l. Dott. Columbo representing the Minister of Grace and Justice, Geometra Canizzaro representing the Genio Civile of Caltanissetta, Major Boyd and I made an inspection of the prison at Caltanissetta.
- 2. The plans and estimates have been prepared and the contractor is working. The estimated cost is 200,000 lire. 14 cells and 8 dormitories have been repaired. This project will be completed in six weeks.
- 3. Cav. Casanta who is in charge of the prison stated that repaired cells and dormitories are now ready to receive prisoners.

- 2 -

USTICA :

- 1. Dott. Columbo Geometro Amendola representing the Genio Civile of Palermo, Major Boyd and I inspected the prison facilities on the Island of Ustica.
- 2. This plant consits of a number of buildings scattered thru out the village, it was originally used for confining persons. The inmates were locked up at 6 cclock in the evening and released at six oclock in the morning. The rest of the day they could go anywhere on the Island they wished and mingle with the inhabitants. If they could afford to rent a private home they were allowed the same privileges as the population only being locked in their home at night.
- 3. Dott. Columbo stated that this plant would not do as a prison and gave the following reasons:
 - (a) The buildings are scattered thru the town which would make guarding very difficult.
 - (b) The buildings are not isolated and you would have your prison buildings scattered thru the town.
 - (c) There are no feeding facilities in any of the buildings. They had one large kitchen where the prisoners came and received their food.
 - (d) The buildings have wood roofs which would make escape very easy.
 - (e) The bars on the doors and the windows would have to be reinforced. They are now made of thin flat bars.
 - (f) There are no places to exercise the prisoners.
- 4. I concur with Dott. Columbo that this plant would not make a satisfactory prison.
- 5. There is a jail that was used in connection with this plant that could be used immediately for prison purposes. It has accommodations for about 50 people. There is also another small jail that could be used if the walls were raised that will accommodate 30 people. These two jails are some distance apart which would require double personel for guarding.

LIPARI

- 1. Dott. Columbo, Major Boyd and I inspected the plant on the Island of Liperi.
- 2. This plant consists of five buildings two of which are in excellent shape and are now being used as school buildings. These two buildings however will need some work before they can be used as prison Bldgs such as the toilet windows will have to have bars placed on them. A few openings will have to be walled up and others cut in. These two buildings will accommodate approximately 200 prisoners each.

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- 3 -

Dott. Columbo stated that if five buildings are used that 800 can be taken care of.

- 4. There is a small jail now on the property that can take cere of twenty men and six women. There is one prisoner in the jail at present.
- 5. If the two buildings that are now used for schools are used for prisons some means should be taken to get two more buildings for schools.

COLOMBAIA :

- 1. There is a prison on the Island of Colombaia which now has 200 prisoners if an estimated amount of 3,000,000 lire is expended an additional 800 prisoners can be taken care of.
- 2. This property was originally prison property but prior to the war an Italian Navy Barracks was built upon it. This building was partially destroy by bombing.
- 3. The plans have been drawn for the reconstructing of this building using it as a prison.
- 4. Dott. Columbo thinks this would be a better project than the use of Ustica.
- 5. Major Boyd has instructed the Genio Civile to take bids on this project and if it is decided to be used this project could start immediately and it will take three months to complete.

STOCKADES :

If stockades are to be built I think they should be constructed on the mainland where you do not have to haul water to them.

332=

Nasor Nuland reserved on 29 august un. Clared Ital Farignama augusta and Delitanista mill be furnice in a months from meddle August. un sindale hapiens would reame distributions Columbia unally to put in hours of our extra The short vis suprement Rug Care will himsely build Stockade (Royal) on Sicily water than ation up by parti. De Siale

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

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- 3. The completion of the prison rebuilding and regard, and regard and programs in Sicily, will provide accommodation for an additional 1,152 prisoners. In addition, authority has been obtained from Ho. AAT to use USTICA and LEPARI islands as prize settlements.
- 4. It is anticipated that 1000 prisoners can be accommodated at UNTICA, and 300 at NTRANI. Together with the
 rebuilding in Sicily, the above programme about provide
 for 2.452 prisoners. If this is insufficient, atschades 3321
 chuld be constructed.
- 5. We for Hyland of Turlic Works and Stillten Sub-Commission will proceed to Sicily by oir to deal with the problem. He will expedite the repair of Pavignara, Angusta and Caltanie will expedite the repair of Pavignara, and see that work is put almost a impact Setion and Lipsel, and see that work is put in best with a view to their use at the earliest opportunity.
- 6. The 'Inister of Grace and Justice has authorized Dott.
 Colomba, Director of Palermo Prison, to accompany Major Hyland,
 and represent the Himistry during his imprection.

M. I. DISH Brigadier. Executive Commissioner.

SUBJECT : Prisons - Sicily

To : Adm. Soc.

el.489081-Ext.502 26 July, 1944 \/\

19/

- 1. Reference letter from B.C.I. dated 14 July 44 suggesting that a concentration camp be not up in North Airica to detain prisoners contended for violation of the grain collection decree.
- 2. Thile it may be necessary to not up a camp to deal with the large number of prisoners involved, such a camp should be in Sicily, or in a small island such as Matica, or one of the Dipari islands. The idea of a camp in North Africa is not involved.
- 3. On 25 June 44 E.C.I. was informed that arrangements have been unde for the rebuilding and regain of the following pri-

FAVIGNARA - accommodation for 550 within 3 months.

AUGUSTA - accommodation for 500 within 2 months.

CAIMANISSETTA - accommodation for 102 within 3 months.

the completion of this building and repair program will provide accommodation for a further 1,152 prisoners.

- 4. The island of Vettee was used for prison purposes by the Italian suthopities until our occupation in September 43. The Colony consists of 31 stone buildings, and also a marker of houses with gindow gratings, and harred doors with pad— 3320 looks. One stone building is in use by 30.88, and four are occupied as an HAF Store. The remaining 26 hailding provide account ation for 600. One handred specially adepted houses are available giving accommodation for 400. Total accommodation available 1000.
- 5. Almost all the premises are in fair condition and do not need substantial repairs. However, whitewashing, painting and copairs to doors and windows, edjustment of hydraulic and manitary plants are needed.



6. The hydrau? I plant is served by a cit orn placed about 50 metres above sen level with a capacity of 90 tons into which is pumped water carried by otenmers in service between Polermo and Ustica. Another pump can carry the water from the first well to another large well situated on the highest point on the island with a capacity of 2000 tons.

- 7. If a prison is set up in the island, the steamer service now twice weekly (Thesday and Thursday) will need to be increased to 3 or 4 trips weekly. The water reserve in the large well will have to be built up.
- 3. Eitchen facilities available could enter for a 1500 most capacity.
- They are in good repair and could hold at least 300 prisoners. Electric light is evaluable and they meet hygiene requirements. The local vater system is insufficient, and water is brought from Messing. Other camps could be constructed on the island on the stockade principle mains prison I bour.
- 10. On let Jame 44, Aal gave authority for the use of the LIPARI Aslands for Italian Military Prisoners. It is not now proposed to use the Islands for this purpose and no difficulty should therefore be experienced. The use of USIICA will need to be cleared with AAI.
- 11. The use of Motica and EFFART is recommended. They would provide accommodation for 1300 prisoners. The rebuilding program is for 1,152 prisoners.

Total 2,452

If this is found to be insufficient, stocked oculd be constructed as suggested in para 9.

12. A Prison Inspector for Sicily will be appointed by the Ministry of Crace and Justice in the ment few days. Steps will be taken to expedite his travel to Sicily, in order that he can co-operate with ACC Officers in dealing with this problem of prison accommodation.

Colonel Int. Chief. Public Safety Sub-domnission



ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION SICILY REGION HEADQUARTERS APO 394 14215 Acctor

File RLE OL5.06/FLV

14th July 1944

SUBJECT : Prisons in Sicily

TO : Executive Commissed oner - A.C.C. Headquarters.

- that the prisons in Sicily are extremely overcrowded and the handling of future prisoners will become most difficult if not almost impossible. The Regional Legal Officer has stressed this situation in his monthly reports of May and June to this Regional Headquarters and to the Legal Sub-Commission, Headquarters A.C.C. To date no remedial measures have been taken either by the responsible Italian Authorities nor by A.C.C. Headquarters. The continuance of such prison conditions not only interferes with the functions of the necessary prison activities, but is also fast becoming a dangerous health measure.
- 2. It is anticipated that a large number of persons will be apprehended and convicted for violation of the grain collection decree, and this will necessitate prison space in which to house those convicted. The number of arrests up to July 1st was 759 and it can be safely assumed that that figure has now surpassed the thousand mark. The prisons will not be able to accumuodate these additional prisoners and it is therefore suggested that a concentration camp be set up, preferably somewhere in North Africa or elsewhere outside of Italy. This plan would serve two purposes, first it would be a temporary solution of the prison situation and secondly it would serve as a deterrent tombature offenders because the fear of being sent to a concentrate owegamp in North Affice Could go far to destroy any desire to blackmarketutietr grain. The Regional Legal Officer has discussed this plan with the Procuratore Generale del Regno of Palerno, who has expressed his approval, but the plan fuet first be approved by the Minister of Justice.

owner of the presentations that in view of the present to the

Extract from REGION I Monthly Report for June 1944 - ref. RPS/502/15 dated 7 July 44. (AMF/14011/PS).

PRISONS

JUNE 1944

Attention has previously been drawn to the overcrowding of prisons in this Region. It is hoped that the re-opening of accommodation at Augusta and Favignana will shortly be arranged which should do much to ease the situation. The position as regards the office of the Regional Director for Prisons in Sicily has been separately reported on. If the order to abolish this post must stand it will be much more difficult for ACC to control Prisons, expecially as regards the question of over-orewding.

Extract from REGION I Monthly Report for July 44 ref. RPS/502/I5 dated 7 August 44. (AMG/I40II/PS).

PRISONS

JUIN 1944

Attention has already been drawn to the dangers of overcrowding particularly with the increased number of prisoners arrested as a result of the grain campaign. The necessiaty for taking separate action as regards the incarceration of those persons is apparent otherwise a dangerous state of affairs as regards health, etc., will arise from overcrowding. An officer has just arrived from Headquarters to assist in this matter. The abolition of the Regional Prison Directorate has not helped this problem and so far nothing has been seen of a Prison Inspector. It the latter has not already been appointed for Sivily, it is suggested that Dr.Columba who was appointed by A.M.G. as Director of Prisons in Sicily and has discharged for the position of Inspector of Sicily.



REAR HEADQUARTERS ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION Public Safety Sub- Commission APO 394.

ACC/14202/PS.

25 June, 1944.

· Prison. Water Supply. SUBJECT

R.C.1 (attention RPSO). TO

Attached translated letter from the Ministry of Grace and Justice brings to notice the water supply problem at the judicial prison of NICCEIA. ENNA.

May we have your observations on this matter please ? 2.

Colonel Inf.

Chief Public Safety

Sub-Commission.

Enc. copy report of M. of G. and J.

PCK/vf.

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TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF GRACE AND JUSTICE

94

45321/FP.

Salerno 20 June, 1944.

SUBJECT

. Water sup ly for the Judicial Prison at NICOSIA.

TO

: ACC. Public Safety Sub-Commission, Salerno.

I think right to point out to your Subs Commission the difficulties for inmates maintainance service in the Judicial Prison of Nicosia. Enna, arisen after the requisitioning of the lorry '15 Terr.' which belonged to the said prison, by the National Transportation Institute, by order of the ACC. This car carried food and wood wood and provided, as well, for the supplying of water for the establishment.

At the moment the Directorate of the Istitute is compelled to hire mules for the water supply, and for each mule the daily expense is of 200 lires. In summer when at least 6 mules a day are needed the monthly expense would sum up to 18600 lires, whereas having the lorry at our disposel the expense would be of 3000 lires only.

Moreover the supplying of water by means of mules, is insufficient as there is to be taken into consideration the necessity of having abundance of water especially during summer, in order that the hygiens of the inmates should hot be effected, and owing to the crowding of prisoners in small prisons, insects can easily a read.

Will therefore your Sub-Commission, if in agreement, give orders so that if it is not possible that the car requisitioned by the National Transportation Institute can be restored to the above mentioned Directorate, a motorcycle at least, should be requisitioned and put at the prison disposal, in order that the Directorate may adequately provide with less expenditure, to the a ecessary supply of water for the establishment.

Will you favour us with answer.

State Undersecretary.

Signed-DE LUISE.

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Direzione Generale Istituti di Prev.e Pena

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PE/RA

Salerno 20 Giumo

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MINISTERO DI GRAZIA E GIUSTIZIA
SEGRETERIA PARTICOLARE DEL SECRETARIO DE CONTROLO DE CONTR

Alla Commissione Alleata ài Controllo-Sottocommissione di P.S.

6/61. N. 4532I/FF

SALERNO

Risposta al foglio del

Div. Sez. N.

Ogguro. Approvigionamento idrico delle Carceri -

Giudiziaria di Nicosia-

8000000000

Credo opportuno richiamare l'attenzione di codesta Spett. Commissione gulle difficoltà, in cui si svolge il servizio di mantenimento dei detenuti nelle carceri giudiziarie di Nicosia (Enna) dopo che per ordine della Commissione Alleata di Controllo di Enna venne requisito, a favora dell'Istituto Nazionale dei trasporti, l'autocarro I5 Ter della carceri stesse, colquale, oltre che al trasporto dei viveri e della legna, si provvedeva all'approvigionamento idrico dello stabilimento medesimo.

Attualmente la Direzione dell'Istituto é costretta a provvedere al rifornimento dell'acqua noleggiando bestie da soma, per ognuna delle quali, complete corrispettivo dei relativi condepenti, la spesa giornaliera ascende a £.200. Il che importa per il periodo della stagione estiva, in cui occorrono almeno sei bestie da soma al giorno, una spesa mensile di £.18.000, laddove, avendo a disposizione l'autocarro, la spesa mensile si acgirerebbe su £.3000 appena.

D'altra parte il ri vrnimento idrico a mezzo animali da soma appare Lal tutto insufficiente, ove si consideri la necessità, a sopratutto nella stagion & estiva, di avere acqua in abbondanza, per evitare che ne soffra l'igiene dei detenuti, i quali, riuniti come sono in locali per lo più angusti, facile é il propagarsi di insetti parassiteri.

In vista di ciò, prego codesta On/le Commissione di voler compiacarsi, se crede, dara disposizioni perché, ove non possa essere restituito alla Direzione delle carceri predette l'autcearro requisito per 14 Istituto Nazionale dei trasporti, sia almeno requisita e messa a disposizione delle carcari stesse una motocarrozzetta, con la quale la Direzione possa provvedere più adeguatamente e con una spesa assai minore al necessario approvigionamento idrico dello stabilimento.

si gradirà un cortese cenno di risposta.

TI SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

REAR HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION

APO 394

Public Safety Sub-Commission

SA.

ACC/14215/PS

May 20, 19/4

SUBJECT : Prison Accommodation

TO : RFSO. Region I

- 1. Information has been received that the Civil Prison at AUGUSTA has now been evacuated by naval personnel.
- 2. The serious prison overcrowding problem which exists throughout Italy at the present time, mkes it assential to use the AUGUSTA prison as soon serpossible.
- 3. It is understood that the building would house about 400 prisoners, but that certain repairs will be necessary before it can be put into use. The Public Works Sub-Commission is in a position to help in this matter.
- 4. Will you please prepare a report of the situation at Augusta, giving particulars of the repairs necessary (with estimated cost) and the number of prisoners for which accommodation would be provided.
- 5. If any part of the prison, is in good condition, would it be possible to house a cortain number of prisoners while repairs are going on?

A. E. YOUNG, Colonel Deputy Chief. Public Safety Sub-Commission. 0 4 2

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Sefery Sub-Commission

14/202

4 May 1944.

FUBJECT: Report on Visit to Augusta.

TO : C.P.S.

Thursday, April 27, I went to Auguste, and obtained permission from the Naval Officer in charge to go through the Citadel prison. He told me he had still a few naval prisoners, and a few civilians held by the Navy in the prison, but that he was fitting up enother place, which should be ready within two weeks, at the expiration of which time the prison could be returned to civil use. He also told me that a number of Italian naval torpedoes were stored in part of the prison, and that they were in process of removal, but they would scarcely be all out within two weeks, as they had to be moved by hand from the storeroom through the prison court and the outer yards to the gate, a distance of about 100 yards, before they could be loaded on trucks. He said also that the prison was considered as a transit camp by British troops, but it was a waste of accommodation to put it to such use, no the occasions were infrequent.

I inspected the prison, and found it to be a huge square stone structure. with a number smaller buildings grouped in front, probably to supply offices of admission, living quarters for the administrative staff, etc. within the prison proper I found that the ground floor at the front was taken up with three large rooms, which appeared to be intended for use in interviewing prisoners, etc. one wing at the side was filled up us a kitchen, apparently by some British rarines who had been quartered there. The walls, as is true throughout the building. were extremely thick, about 12 feet, or more, the windows were small compared to the size of the rooms they were intended to illuminate, the cooking facilities other than those installed by the marines were non-existent, and the whole supply of water came from one-half inch pipe. In this wing, at the back, and in the adjacent and of the rear quarter of the aquare were tramendous vaulted work-rooms where the Italians used to charge submarine batteries. The light in them was almost non-esistent, and they would be of little use for any other purpose without exensive ch ngos, which would require almost complete re-building. The thickness of the walls ulone would prohibit any major adaptation. The same was true of the other, side quarter, the outside portion of which was used for torpedo storage. On this side, on the ground and first floors, were a row of punishment cells, totalling 27 in number, so contrived as to admit of almost no light, and separated from the court by a pair of doors, with a narrow passage between. On both sides the torpedo rooms and battery charging rooms were so high as to take up the space of the ground and first floor on the outlier portion of the side. On the front, on the first floor, were five large rooms, one apparently intended as a dispensury, and the other four as rooms for prisoners. They measured about twelve by twenty-five feet each, and had but one window, about five feet square. Their capacity by Italian standards would be a maximum of 20 prisoners in each room - at least I have seen that number in rooms no larger. The ceilings were lofty - about 20 feet. on the second floor on the two sides, and the rear, were blocks of single cells, built in two tiers, with a passage way in front of each block, and a passageway between the backs of the blocks. These calls were apparently adented for but one prisoner a piece, though perhaps ten were large about h to hold three. There were 273 of them. The lighting situation here was better, but not good. On the second

floor front, were everal large rooms apparently degreed as quarters for guards, which were a little better finished then the rest of the building, and showed some primitive evidences of sanitary facilities. Just outside the main building is a smaller one, containing 54 cells in three double tiers of nine.

The general situation may be described as follows:-

- (1) Cells: About a dozen of the cells have doors which will lock. The marines quartered there broke most of the locks, and where the locks are not broken, the door is sprung so that it will not close. About twenty cells have no doors whatever. There are no heds in any of the cells, except for one or tow of the punishment cells, which appeared to have built-in stone bunks.
- (2) Sanitary equipment: Outside the guards' quarters, and the kitchen. I found advertue one water faucet in one of the lagge rooms described. I also found two latrines of the equat type on the ground floor. There were no facilities in any of the cells, or in the large rooms. Savage was disposed apparently by "vasi feccali". I found no place where prisoners were obviously intended to wash, bathe, or wash their clothes, nor any place adapted obviously for use as a laundry.
- (3) Light: The main transformer for the town is situated within the prison, but only a few of the rooms had facilities for electric light. As mentioned, the large rooms had almost no daylight, and, in addition, faced almost due north. The offices had inadequate electric light, and almost no daylight. The cellblocks were better off for daylight, but, on a dark day, such as to-day, it was difficult to read the numbers on the cells at a fair distance.
- (4) Seneral conditions: All the windows, except a few in the guards quarters, were without glass, and I could find no trace that there had over been any. The building is situated above wells, which with swampy land in the neighborhood of the town, are reputed to make the situation unhealthy, especially from the point of view of calaria. All the floors are uneve a and filthy, and the walls would need a thorough cleaning and several coats of paint, All the cell doors would need new Locks. and some cells, now doors. The prison would have to be entirely reequipped with beds, mattresses, enting utensils, smultary utensils, where and major repairs would have to be undertaken shortly on one of the that I stairways, which has no far broken down as to be merely a heap of rubble in places. The kitchens and other offices would have to be completely reequipped. There ere no work-suppe of tany kind, though with proper light. the torpedo-room and the battery room might be used as shops if adequate light were provided. The installation of windows here would be a hopeless task. There are vineyards and gardens within the confines of the prison enclosure which might be used to give some measure of employment.
- (5) Guards and management: The building was used as a Casa Penale until 1940, when it was taken over by the Italian Navy. Consequently, all the staff has been disbanded, and a complete new staff would have to be assembled. Cimilarly, as mentioned, the building would have to be completely re-equipped.

It would to three months, at the very lease, to fit the building for complete use. The offices might be re-equipped in a month, and parts of the building might be made ready for use in a similar time, but with the difficulty of obtaining all materials, three months is a conservative estimate of the time required to m ke it a going concern. There is, however, no reason that work should not commence even before the building is vacated by the navy, as their prisoners are so few that a whole wing at a time could easily be segregated and worked on.

The building is one of the very worst adapted for prison purposes that I have seen, and while the description indicates the work necessary to put it in running order, it would necessarily remain inconvenient, inefficient, and unhealthy, judged by any decent standard.

As far as use of the prison to relieve prison congestion in Italy goes, the attached letter would seem to indicate that, if the building is re-fitted at all, it would be necessary to use it for housing sicilian prisoners. However, this situation might be relieved by the completion of repairs at the Colombaia prison, which Dott. Columbo told me should be ready with 300 places by June 1, and, if further work were undertaken, could accommodate an additional 200 within an additional period of three months. This prison, too, had been taken over by military forces, and there is no existing staff.

HENRY YOUNG, Jr., Cept., Prison Sub-division.

HYPt

14 April . 1944.

HQ No. 1 Dist.

Q 65/180 A

SUBJECT: Derequisitioning of Buildings - Prisons.

- 1. Representations have been made by the Provincial Commissioner, ACC. Syracuse for the release of the Citadel, Augusta to the Police authorities for the reconstitution of a gaol.
- 2. It has been pointed out by the Procuratore Generale del Re at Catenia that the redeem of this building would solve the grave problem of over-crowding and to provide accommodation which is urgently required.
- 3. From a military point of view, the release of the Citadel would necessitate all details arriving at Augusta being sent to #5 Transit Camp as at present the Citadel is used solety as transit accommodation.
- 4. If it is considered that the release of this building should be made, may the necessary instructions be issued to "Q" movements to arrange for may the necessary instructions be issued to "Q" movements to arrange for may the necessary instructions be issued to "Q" movements to arrange for may the necessary instructions be issued to "Q" movements to arrange for may the necessary instructions be issued to "Q" movements to arrange for may the necessary instructions be issued to "Q" movements to arrange for may the necessary instructions be issued to "Q" movements to arrange for drafts to be sent by rail to #5 Transit Camp as no facilities will exist in Augusta.

A.L. ALSTON, Colonel, Commander, 71 Carfison.

I talked with Dott. MANGANO, STEFANO, directors of Siracusa, who informed me that in 1940 the building at Augusta, which had been used as a Casa Penale, had been closed as such, and that he believes the director and all the guards were dispersed to other institutions. Since 1940 the building has been used as a naval prison. The articles of Casermaggio were taken to the Casa Penale at Noto.

Extract from REGION I - Monthly Report for Merch 44 ref. RPS.319.I - dated 4 April 44.

(AMG/I40II/PS).

PRISONS

MARCH 1944

NIL

Extract from REGION I - Monthly Report for April 44 - ref. RPS.014.1 dated 3 May 44. (AMG/14011/PS).

PRISONS

APRIL 1944

The principle problem regarding prisons is overcrowding. A return is attached showing accomodation and occupants.

APPENDIX TO ABOVE REPORT FOR APRIL 44

Extract from REGION I - Monthly Report for May 1944 ref. RPS/014.I dated 3 June 44. (AMG/14011/PS)

PRISONS

MAY 1944

The overcrowding of prisons on the island is still acute and there are no indications that the situation is likely to be eased. A return is attached showing the accommodations and occupants.

A review of closed prisons has been made to determine the amount and cost of reconstruction necessary to enable the Prisons to be re-occupied and a separate report has been submitted.

APPENDIX TO ABOVE REPORT FOR MAY (17 c).

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ALF-SD CONTROL COMMISSION REGION I SICILY. REFORT OF CONDITIONS IN THE PRISON OF SICILY UP TO FEBRUARY 29, 1944.

1. Institution.

There are in Sicily today, 114 prisons of all type these there of Central prisons, 1 for each province, dition to these there are 12 secondary judicial prisons Chi 1 prison (et Mote) for convicted prisoners 2 centres of re-eaucation for minors, 1 asylum, and damentale,

2. Number of Frisoners.

In the above mentioned pricons there ere

6837 Wen 413 Women 671 Minors

Sug Of this number 3924 are commicted prisoners, ere spetting trisi. ders

3. Food

The food situation is still very deplorable.

hed to get along without it. This leck of pests is felt over the islend, particularly so, in high altitudes where westher is very rigorous, such as the prison at Enns. Prisoners are fed 1 mest a day, which consists of 150 gr. of bread, and a minestra (or a bowl of soup) coof wegetsbles and greens, or of vegetsbles and pasta, don the food conditions of the province in which the pri 40 located. The Frison in Palermo has been lucky enough, in being able to maintain the pasts ration, litile as (about 95 Ersms) while the majority of prisons, due to of food in their provinces have not been so fortunate,

4. Clothing and equipment.

a very grave shortage of clothing a for the prisoners such is still There

damentale, 2 centres of re-education for minors, 1 Criesylum, and 1 prison (et Noto) for convicted prisoners for convicted prisoners

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3. Food.

The food situation is still very deplorable,

Prisoners are fed 1 mest a day, which consists of at least 150 gr. of bread, and a minestra (or a bowl of soup) consisting of vegetables and greens, or of vegetables and pasts, depending on the food conditions of the province in which the prison is located. The Prison in Palermo has been lucky enough, so far, in being able to meintain the pasts ration, little as it is (sbout 95 grems) while the majority of prisons, due to the lack of food in their provinces have not been so fortunate, and have had to get along without it. This lack of pasts is felt all over the island, particularly so, in high altitudes where the weather is very rigorous, such as the grison at Enns.

4. Clothing end equipment.

There is still a very grave shortage of clothing and ment for the prisoners such as blankets, sheets, jackets shirts, undermear, shoes, mattresses, etc. There are nested and shout 18000 sets of bedding.

5. Senitation.

good. The sanitary conditions of the prisonars in the island sygood. There have been reported no cases of epidemies, or infectious diseases, and the percentage of sick prisoners is nor mal. The only had point in this being the lock of medicines at

disinfectants. Even the most common, such as iodine, slcoholetc., are prectically non existent.

6. Prison labor.

The reopering of shops of all types has been encourseed, but very little can be recomplished without materials to work with.

For instance very little telloring our be done without the cloth necessary to make clothing with, and very little mending can be done without thread of any kind.

could make 10ut 28 for themselves and also for the guards, If cloth and thread were systlable the prisoners plenty of clothes for themselves smit is they can do very little work.

such lsbour, se cerpenters, clacksmiths, choemskers, builders, etc. prison sll other brenches of It is the same in

Staffs.

472 50 togay 3Te about whom 14 are directors, and the remainder Sicily, there are proxi _Aately 1600 agents and salaried personnel and I's the verious institutions of countents and secretaries. Co tionartes.

pension age tration has during been suthorized to enroll about 300 new guszde bo renedy Many of the egents are men recelled into service emergency, and others are those who have resched the The regional somints have remained in service. stthetion.

R. General conditions.

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方を記 pension The regional administration the agents are men recelled into service been suthorized to earoll about 300 new guszde to rem emergency, and others are those who have resched the remeined in service. Kany of situstion. PST &

General conditions.

into secount is good. な形状に内容 The General condition of the prisons, limited smount of material systlable,

recur various Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Regional Intractor or's sons inspection trips have done much to co-ordinate the mork, build up the morele of the staffs of the different ortso the island. Columbs, the works of repairing and cleaning the prisons has continued steedily throughout inspection

much towerds improving the relations between the different It is hoped that the continuance of this policy end bring shout a better spirit of co-operation. PROSPETTO DEL DETENUTI RISTRETTI NEBLE CARCERI GIUDIZIARIE DELLA

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Extract from REGION I - Monthly Report for January 1944 - ref. RPS.319.I dated 5/2/44 (ANG/I4C /PS).

PRISONS

JANUARY 1944

The system of administration under a Chiaf Director and Provincial Directors

The number of Political Internees confined in the Childrens' Home, Palermo, continues to function satisfactorily. is decreasing and the Home is gradually being used for its purpose. The juveniles are receiving education which includes instruction in handicraft and a sports section has been started under a suitable instructor.

The Chief Director has taken a great deal of interest in this and with the sympathy and support of influential Italians it is anticipated that there will be a great improvement in the lot of the juvenile prisoner.

Prison labour continues but is happered by lack of raw materials necessary in

the manufacture of the various articles.

Rations of food are small and every endeavour is made to supplement the meagre supply.

Extract from REGION I - Monthly Report for February 1944 - ref. RPS.319.I dated 4th March 1944 - (AMG/14011/PS).

PRISONS

FEBRUARY 1944

The prison service is in a good condition. The director of Prisons is in close contact with the situation and has plans to continue the programme instituted under AMG.

The total prison population is as follows:-

6.837 Men. 413 Women. 671 Minors.

of this number 3.924 are convicted priseners and the remainder are awaiting

The Director of prisons and Director of Public Safety have been working on trial. plans to reopen institutions previously closed.

330-

Extract from REGION I - Monthly Report for November 1943 - dated 2nd December 1943 (AMG/I40II/PSO.

ed 2nd December 1943

PRISONS

NOVEMBER 1943

Much has been done to improve the conditions of Civilian Prisons.

There are I9 main prisons in the Region for the detention of prisoners serving long sentences.

Seventy smaller prisons are now only allowed to hold prisoners or persons awaiting trial for a period of not more than 30 days.

Five other prisons were closed as they were unfit for the detention of prisoners. At present there are approximately 7000 prisoners. Included in this total are 80 civilian internees but this figure will soon be increased, as those now held in Prison Camps are shortly being transferred to the Civilian Prisons.

The personnel carried out their duties efficiently and there was a marked improvement when the rates of pay were increased.

Extract from REGION I - Monthly Report for December 1943. (AMG/I40II/PS).

PRISONS

DECEMBER 1943

The number of places of confinement is
General Prisons - 2I

Reformatories - 2

Criminal Insane Prison - I

Local Prisons - 89

The docal prisons are only used for the detention of prisoners serving a sentence of not more than 30 days or for persons awaiting trial.

The number of prisoners is

Men = 5668

Women = 251

Tuveniles = 350

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
Public Safety Division
APO 512

PHA 2A

22 November 1943.

SUBJECT: Report on San Cataldo Reformatory by Capt. Young.

TO : Col. Kirk, Commissioner of Public Safety .

1. The suggestions in paragraph (3), (which are not Capt. Youngs'), are not sound. Divided authority over such an Institutation would cause confusion. Either Public Safety or the Welfare Section should have complete control of both the Personnel and the Program.

- 2. The idea of putting nine and eighteen year eld boys in the same institution is not sound, but that is not our problem in Italy.
- 3. We should aid Italy in carrying out the set-up it believes is best for the country's welfare, provided only that it does not interfere with the Allied war effort or is not an undesignable fascist policy.

JOHN C. BURKE, Captain, Prison Section.

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3290



HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY BOVERNMENT
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APC 512



16 November 1943.

SUBJECT: Report on Visit to San CaTaldo Reformatory.

- TC: Prison Sub-Section, Public Safety Division, A. C.
- 1. Cn 15 November, 1943, in company with Capt. Alden of Region I Public Welfare, I visited San Cataldo Bays' Reformatory, about 8 km. outside Caltanisetta.
- 2. The capacity of the institution is 300. Present immates number 220. It receives boys Committed by parental request, or by the juvenile court, from 9 to 14, and boys 14 18 charged with criminal offenses who are awaiting trial. Release of younger boys is by advice of the director, and with the consent of the juvenile court. Clder boys, if convicted, are sent to Caltanisetta prison, where they are held until transferred to a prison for juvenile offenders somewhere on the mainland. Caltanisetta apparently merely holds them pending transfer.
- 3.. Capt. Alden and Capt. Silveira agreed that the proper division of authority would be to have the Prison department supply and pay the guards, and have Welfare Department in charge of all other activities. There are at present a total of 24 guards, of whom four occupy a rank corresponding to Sergeamt. The director stated that he needed an additional 10 guards, and that 2 of his present guards were unfit to work with boys.
- 4. The building itself was in fairly good repair a pane of glass here and there was missing -; the kitchens, lavatories, and latrines were in good condition, and clean, as were the dormitories. The work shop was equipped for wood-working and the manufacturing of clothing. The machinery appeared heavy, and the light was poor. There was no electricity turned in at the time we left about 5:30 P.M., though the building is equipped for electric light. The director complained that water pressure was insufficient.
- 5. The boys did not appear to be warmly dressed. Many had their 329 their blankets wrapped around them. However, they seemed intelligent, active, and reasonably well fed. The dormitories had iron bed-steads, with straw mattresses, two sheets, and a coarse and heavy double blanket.

- 6. 6. The supper being served consisted of boiled beans and a piece of bread weighing roughly about 100 gms. Feeding is 3 times daily. In Silveira's opinion the food was adequate or at least as good as that received by similar children outside.
- 7. Discipline appeared to be strict and good. The boys were called to supper by a trumpet, and marched to the meal in a column of threes, headed and supervised by two guards carrying lanterns. The director appeared to be intelligent and efficient, He answered questions briefly and accurately, had his clerical information readily available, and quickly supplied type-written copies of certain information.
- 8. Security was minimum doors and windows opened on the street and on the playground, which was a stretch about 100 yards by 25 yards in front of the building, bare of my apparatus. A low iron fence, easily climbed, surrounded it. Security against escape would expense appear to be provided solely by discipline and the presence of guards.
 - 9. We did not inquire into the educational system.

HENRY YOUNG, Jr., Captain. 0,064

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
(Interior Sub-Commission)

Per IA

4 November 1943.

SUBJECT: Prison Service

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission

- 1. By the courtesy of Major Aust I went over the prison at Caltanissetta. It is a long term prison up to five years sentence.
- 2. The prison is clean, and compares favorably with some of our own, but in the majority of other respects the organization falls far below British and British Empire standards.
- 3. Industries and crafts such as carpentry, bootmaking and tailoring have fallen into suspension owing:
 - a. To lack of material, leather, wood, cotton, cloth.
 - b. To the fact that workshops have been converted into air raid shelters.
 - 4. The warden's uniforms and boots are in a lamentable state.
- In this particular prison no water supply exists since the aqueduct was destroyed and all water is delivered by cart.
 - 6. The food ration was sufficient.
- 7. Health of prisoners was reported to me to be reasonably good, and there was certainly a generous supply of blankets for sleeping purposes which were all reasonably clean.
 - 8. No political prisoners were in custody.
- 9. It is of definite interest to note that whereas the Prison Service pre-Fascist used to be under the Minister of Interior, it was under Fasqist regime placed under the Minister of Justice. At present it is under AMG. When the Central Government isformed it would appear that a reversion to Interior control is essential.
- 10. In conclusion my feeling was that resuscitation of crafts and industries was most desirable for the well-being and morale of those confined, and that every effort to that end should be explored.

B. G. B. SPICER,
Lt. Colonel,
Deputy for Acting Director
of Interior.

