

ACC

10000/143/940

0-671

10000/143/940

PRISON REPORTS, REG. 6
AUG. - DEC. 1944

MINUTES. I.

Brigadier John.

Herewith draft letter for your signature to Regional Commissioner Cardona. In reply to his 13/1512. (Paper 33).

I have seen the Minister of Grace and Justice and he showed me a copy of his letter written on the 5th September to the Procurator del Regue giving his instructions.

We will send another letter asking for a complete report and the reasons for delay.

12th October. 1944.

E. W. Hanbury Major
For Director and Safety
Sub-Commission.

3734



CONSIGLIO DI PATRONATO

PER I LIBERATI DAL CARCERE
E LE FAMIGLIE DEI DETENUTI

presso il

TRIBUNALE DI ROMA

COMMISSIONE VISITATRICE
E DI ASSISTENZA AI CARCERATI

Roma, December 12th, 1944

Carcere Giudiziario "Regina Coeli",
Via della Lungara, 29

To: HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNEMENT
LAZIO - UMBRIA REGION

R O M E

Per conoscenza

all'Ill.mo Signor L T.Col.C.T.Francis

R P S O

Lazio - Umbria Region

From the 22nd of November to the 10th december of this year, I have visited - being so ordered by the Allied Authorities - the Sardinia prisons, in order to make myself acquainted about their efficiency and to be able to suggest those reformatons eventually needed.

Many prisons are almost in an efficient condition; on the contrary, I have found some of them in lack of the most indispensable necessities both as for the premises and hygienic conditions, and ^{the} treatment used to the prisoners is little comprehensive of their wants.

One of the most serious difficulties consists in the lack of means of transportation and many of the prisons remain isolated and they are compelled - in order to get the necessary food - to turn on local sources which, in general, are very poor ones.

I must say that the main deficiencies are in those prisons where there are no functionaries with directive powers.

I give herewith some particulars about each prison I have visited.

JUDICIAL PRISON of CAGLIARI - In perfect efficiency. There is some lack of bedding. The Director TULUI GIULIO is quite adequate to his task, which he carries out with zeal and sense of humanity. The prison - whose capacity is of 600 inmates - is overcrowded by more than 1.000 prisoners.

3733

From the 22nd of November to the 10th december of this year, I have visited - being so ordered by the Allied Authorities - the Sardinia prisons, in order to make myself acquainted about their efficiency and to be able to suggest those reformations eventually needed.

Many prisons are almost in an efficient condition; on the contrary, I have found some of them in lack of the most indispensable necessities both as for the premises and hygienic conditions, and ^{the} treatment used to the prisoners is little comprehensive of their wants.

One of the most serious difficulties consists in the lack of means of transportation and many of the prisons remain isolated and they are compelled - in order to get the necessary food - to turn on local sources which, in general, are very poor ones.

I must say that the main deficiencies are in those prisons where there are no functionaries with directive powers.

I give herewith some particulars about each prison I have visited.

JUDICIAL PRISON of CAGLIARI - In perfect efficiency. There is some lack of bedding. The Director TULUI GIULIO is quite adequate to his task, which he carries out with zeal and sense of humanity. The prison - whose capacity is of 600 inmates - is overcrowded by more than 1.000 prisoners.

COLONY of CASTIADAS - Quite in good condition and well administered. Agriculture and breeding are flourishing. I must point out that there are more than 200 inmates whose punishment is already expired, and which cannot be sent the Continent on account of lack of means of transportation.

Medicines and sanitary equipment are needed.

The Director has been removed on account of political measures, but his honesty deserves some consideration.

COLONY of ISILI - This small colony is fully equipped and very well administered. The Director is good element.

JUDICIAL PRISON of ORISTANO - Completely neglected. Everything lacking. There is no Director and the Commander does his best. It is to be minded that about 300 prisoners are kept in this jail.

JUDICIAL PRISON of NUORO - Onlucally this prison, too, has been badly neglected and there are serious complaints about food. Hygienic conditions, moral and material treatment are very bad. The Commander does not show much ability and the staff is not to be trusted.

JUDICIAL PRISON of LANUSEI - A small prison highly well administered, both materially and morally.

COLONY of MAMONE - It is painful to acknowledge how this prison has been neglected. at anyhow I have not found very serious deficiences.

JUDICIAL PRISON of SASSARI - Efficient and very well administered, specially about moral and religious assistance. The Director is heartly interested in many problems and very comprehensive toward all prisoners.

PENAL PRISON of ALGHERO - Quite in order. there is not Director but chief-accountant MOLE' does very well.

COLONY of ASINARA - It has been impossible for me to visit this prison, means of transportation being lacking. Dr. MELIS, having visited it recently, assures me that it is quite well equipped.

Other small colonies, that of TREMARIGLIO, for instance, have been completely neglected.

The above is a brief statement on the sardinian prison

0 6 7 8

JUDICIAL PRISON of NUORO - Onluekaly this prison, too, has been badly neglected and there are serious complaints about food. Hygienic conditions, moral and material treatment are very bad. The Commander does not show much ability and the staff is not to be trusted.

JUDICIAL PRISON of LANUSEI - A small prison highly well administered, both materially and morally.

COLONY of MAMONE - It is painful to acknowledge how this prison has been neglected. at anyhow I have not found very serious deficiencies.

JUDICIAL PRISON of SASSARI - Efficient and very well administered, specially about moral and religious assistance. The Director is heartily interested in many problems and very comprehensive toward all prisoners.

PENAL PRISON of ALGHERO - Quite in order. there is not Director but chief-accountant MOLE' does very well.

COLONY of ASINARA - It has been impossible for me to visit this prison, means of transportation being lacking. Dr. MELIS, having visited it recently, assures me that it is quite well equipped.

Other small colonies, that of TREMARIGLIO, for instance, have been completely neglected.

The above is a brief statement on the sardinian prison.

I have drawn the attention of the Allied Authorities in Sardinia on the necessity in helping the insitution in their wants, specially with regard of medicines supplies, which are particularly lacking,

..//..

The prisons' personnel, but for some praiseworthy exceptions, is spoilt and is not to be trusted. It should be decidedly purified.

The politic situation in Sardinia is satisfactorily. There are two or three parties, but few people join them.

The population - in its main part - is a quiet one and very given to work, specially to reconstruction work, and efficiently collaborates with the Allied and Italian Authorities.

I mean, now, according to the wish of the Allied Authorities, to visit the prisons in the north of Rome.

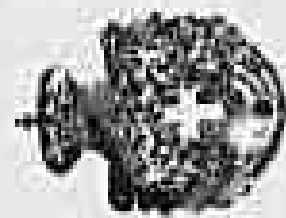
A. STRAZZERA-PERNICIANI

President of the Visiting and Assistance

Commission



3721



CONSIGLIO DI PATRONATO

PER I LIBERATI DAL CARCERE
E LE FAMIGLIE DEI DESTINATI

presso il

TRIBUNALE DI ROMA

COMMISSIONE VISITATRICE

E DI ASSISTENZA AI CARCERATI

Roma, Dicembre 12th, 1944
Carcere Giudiziario "Regina Coeli"
Via della Lungara, 29

TO: HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENTS
LAZIO - UMBRIA REGION

ROMA

Per conoscenza

al Signor Mayor E.W. HANBURY
Public Safety Sub Commission
Allied Commission

From the 22nd of November to the 10th of December of this year, I have visited, - being so ordered by the Allied Authorities - the Cardina prisons, in order to make myself acquainted about their efficiency and to be able to suggest those reformations eventually needed.

Many prisons are almost in an efficient condition; on the contrary, I have found some of them in lack of the most indispensable necessities both as for the premises and hygienic conditions, and the treatment used to the prisoners is little comprehensive of their wants. 3730

One of the most serious difficulties consists in the lack of means of transportation and many of the prisons remain isolated and they are compelled - in order to get the necessary food - to turn on local sources which, in general, are very poor ones.

I must say that the main deficiencies are in those prisons where there are no functionaries with directive powers.

I give herewith some particulars about each prison - have visited.

JUDICIAL PRISON OF CAGLIARI - In perfect efficiency. There is some lack of bedding. The Director TUMMI GIULIO is quite adequate to his task, which he carries out with zeal and sense of humanity. The prison - whose capacity is of 600 inmates - is overcrowded by more than 1.000 prisoners.

Prison of Cagliari - quite in good condition and well administered.

From the 22nd of November to the 10th of December of this year, I have visited - being so ordered by the Allied Authorities - the Cardina prisons, in order to make myself acquainted about their efficiency and to be able to suggest those reformations eventually needed.

Many prisons are almost in an efficient condition; on the contrary, I have found some of them in lack of the most indispensable necessities both as for the premises and hygienic conditions, and the treatment used to the prisoners is little comprehensive of their wants. 373 v

One of the most serious difficulties consists in the lack of means of transportation and many of the prisons remain isolated and they are compelled - in order to get the necessary food - to turn on local sources which, in general, are very poor ones.

I must say that the main deficiencies are in those prisons where there are no functionaries with directive powers.

I give herewith some particulars about each prison I have visited.

JUDICIAL PRISON OF CACILLARI - in perfect efficiency. There is some lack of bedding. The Director TUMMI GIULIO is quite adequate to his task, which he carries out with zeal and sense of humanity. The prison - whose capacity is of 600 inmates - is overcrowded by more than 1.000 prisoners.

COLONY OF SANT'ANDREA - quite in good condition and well administered. Agriculture and breeding are flourishing. I must point out that there are more than 200 inmates whose punishment is already expired, and which cannot be sent to the Continent on account of lack of means of transportation.

- 2 -

Medicines and sanitary equipment are needed. The Director has been removed on account of political measures, but his honesty deserves some consideration.

COLONY of BAHIA - This small colony is fully equipped and very well administered. The Director is a good element.

JUDICIAL PRISON of CRISTIANO - Completely neglected. Everything lacking. There is no Director and the Commander does his best. It is to be minded that about 300 prisoners are kept in this jail.

JUDICIAL PRISON of RIOCO - Unusually this prison, too, has been badly neglected and there are serious complaints about food, hygienic conditions, moral and material treatment are very bad. The Commander does not show much ability and the staff is not to be trusted.

AGRICULTURAL PRISON of LANUZA - A small prison highly well administered, both materially and morally. ²⁷⁰⁰

COLONY of MANORE - It is painful to acknowledge how this prison has been neglected. At any rate have not found very serious deficiencies.

JUDICIAL PRISON of SANCHEZ - Efficient and very well administered, specially about moral and religious assistance. The Director is heartily interested in many problems and very comprehensive towards all prisoners.

PENAL PRISON of ABGHERO - Quite in order. There is not Director but chief-accountant AGON' does very well.

COLONY of ASTHARA - It has been impossible for me to visit this prison, means of transportation being lacking. Dr. Miller, having visited it recently, assures me that it is quite well equipped.

it is to be minded that about 500 prisoners are housed in this prison, too, has been daily neglected and there are serious complaints about food. Hygiene conditions, moral and material treatment are very bad. The Commander does not show much ability and the staff is not to be trusted.

PRISON OF MANUEL - A small prison highly well administered, both materially and morally.

PRISON OF MANUEL - It is painful to acknowledge now this prison has been neglected. At any rate have not found very serious deficiencies.

PRISON OF MANUEL - Efficient and very well administered, specially about moral and religious assistance. The Director is heartily interested in many problems and very comprehensive toward all prisoners.

PRISON OF MANUEL - Quite in order. There is not a Director but chief-accountant does very well.

PRISON OF MANUEL - It has been impossible for me to visit this prison, means of transportation being lacking. Mr. [Name], having visited it recently, assures me that it is quite well equipped.

Other small colonies, that of [Name], for instance, have been completely neglected.

The above is a brief statement on the [Name] prisons.

I have drawn the attention of the [Name] authorities in [Name] on the necessity in helping the [Name] in their wants, especially with regard of medicines supplies, which are particularly lacking.

The prisons' personnel, but for some presently exceptions, is spoilt and is not to be trusted. It should be decidedly purged.

The political situation in Sardinia is satisfactorily. There are two or three parties, but few people join them.

The population - its main party - is a quiet one and very given to work, specially to reconstruction work, and efficiently collaborates with the Allied and Italian authorities.

I mean, now, according to the wish of the Allied authorities, to visit the prisons in the north of Rome.

A. SPANZONI - POLITICAL
President of the Visiting and Assistance
Commission

[Signature]

3720

Q 6 8 3

RESTRICTED
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
OUTGOING MESSAGE

14202/5/1
9206
5A

TO: INFO HQ SOUTHERN REGION ACC INFO HQ ACC
SIGNAL MESSAGE CENTER No: 46/25
FROM: ACC SARDINIA REGION CLASSIFICATION:
REFERENCE No: HOME PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE
DATE AND TIME OF ORIGIN: OCT 24/44 OFFICE OF ORIGIN: CITE: ACC 615

RESTRICTED. Not more than 400 time expired prisoners will arrive
NATLES morning 30 October for dispersal to homes in South ITALY and SICILY.
Each man will carry three days food.

ACC D IST 3721

INFO-ACTION: WMD & POW (2)

INFO : A/CC
R. SAFETY
DISPER
FILE

*File Prisoners
disin area.
27/10/44*

*Contact Southern Region
and displaced persons Capt Duty
To meet and make arrangements
for these Civil Prisoners
EJH*

Distribution:

Authenticated by.....
Originator's signature.....

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section

16 October, 1944.

Ref. 819/CA.

SUBJECT : Aginara Penal Settlement.

TO : Regional Commissioner Sardinia.

1. With reference to your letter PA/1512, dated 21st September, 1944, the Minister of Grace and Justice was already aware of the situation at the Aginara Penal Settlement and has sent instructions to the Procuratore del Regio with regard to the procedure for time-expired prisoners. See attached copy of translation of letter of Ministry of Grace & Justice number 131980/11. — 4B

2. The services of a doctor for the Island have been procured.

For Acting Chief Commissioner :

G. B. LEJON, Brigadier,
I.P., C.A. Section
Deputy Chief of Staff.

3720

File Person Asinara

the 11th of Oct. 1944

Ministry of Grace & Justice

131980G/II

to : AGC - P.S. Subcommission - Major. Hombury

subj. : Liberation of old sentenced and interned, detained in the Penal settlements of Sardinia

Referring to verbal request, in our meeting of the 9th ult., I send you a copy of the letter of the Ministry of 6th Oct. ult., concerning the repatriation of interned and sentenced having undergone their penalty, from the Penal Settlements of Sardinia.

for the Minister
Musillami

allé.

Ministry of Grace & Justice
Gen. Dir. of Prevention and Penal Institutes

6th/10/1944

131980/II

to: H.E. The H. Commissioner for Sardinia - Cagliari
H.E. the Gen. Attorney of the Kingdom - Cagliari

for knowledge
Presidence of Council of Ministers - Cabinet
Ministry of Interior - P.S. Gen. Dir.

subj: Liberation of old sentenced and interned detained in the Penal establishments of Sardinia.

The H. of Penal settlements of Asinara, with a letter 7/58, of 12th sept. ult. sent to this Ministry and for knowledge to I.E., have again pointed out the grave excitement of liberated old sentenced and interned, which seriously disturbs order and discipline in all the establishments.

This Ministry, since previously, has not failed to take an interest in repatriation of interned and sentenced, who had undergone the penalty and since 27th of July, the Minister of Interior, with letter IC.51007, has given assurance that instructions had been issued for the High Commissioner of Sardinia, concerning immediate repatriation of interned being entitled to, and still detained in the Prison of Asinara.

With letter 15th Aug., n. 11705/10479.14, the Presidency of Council of Minister, informed us, that the Ministry of Interior has ordered the liberation and repatriation of 404 people, detained notwithstanding they had undergone penalty.

3720

Ministry of Grace & Justice
Gen. Sec. of Prevention and Penal Institutions

21/10/1944

131900/11

to: H.E. The H. Commissioner for Cardinia - Geraldine
H.E. the Gen. Attorney of the Kingdom -
Geraldine

For Knowledge

Presidency of Council of Ministers - Cabinet
Ministry of Interior - H.E. Gen. Sec.

sub: Liberation of all sentenced and interned detained in the penal
establishments of Cardinia.

The H.E. of Penal establishments of Asinara, with a letter 7056, of 12th
Sept. addressed to this Ministry and 274 knowledge to V.E., have again
pointed out the grave extent of liberated and interned
and, which seriously disturbs order and discipline in all the establish-
ment.

This Ministry, since previously, has not failed to take an interest
in restriction of interned and sentenced, who had undergone the
penalty and since 27th of July, the Ministry of Interior, with letter
10.5100, has given assurance that instructions had been issued for
the High Commissioner of Cardinia, concerning immediate repatriation of
detention of interned being entitled to, and still detained in the Pri-
son of Asinara.

With letter 15th Aug., n. 11705/10472.14, the Presidency of Council of
Minister, informed us, that the Ministry of Interior had ordered the
liberation and repatriation of 404 people, detained notwithstanding
they had undergone penalty.

Therefore, we beg V.E., to let us know the provisions issued on the
matter, pointing out too, the number of all sentenced and interned, re-
patriated.

V.E. will order the ready transfer in the continent of others, still
detained in the prisons of the Island, and will give assurance on the
matter.

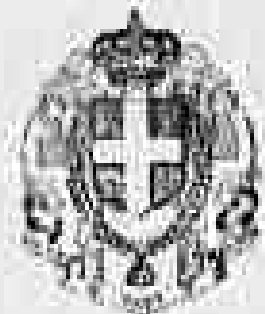
At the same time, we inform you that the Ministry thinks that, the
proposal of H. Gen. Asinara, for the institution of a concentration camp
for liberated, who belong to Northern Italy and cannot go home, is worthy
to be accepted; therefore we beg V.E. to give all your help for the
execution of that proposal.

TO	INIT	DATE
COL CHARMAN		
COL YOUNG		
LT COL WILCO		
MAJ BROWN		
MAJ WILSON		
MAJ H. B. B. B.		
MAJ H. B. B. B.		

For the Minister
Marsiliand

MAJ BROWN
CAPT POWELL

13/10/44



Mod. 805 MG.

Roma 11 OTT 1944

Ministero di Giustizia

DIREZIONE GENERALE
PER GLI ISTITUTI DI PREVENZIONE E DI PENA

Ufficio VI

Sub. A. 131280/11

 // la Commissione
 Alleata di Controllo
 Sottocommissione di P.S.
 (Maggiore Hambury) ROMA

Ricevuto al f. A.

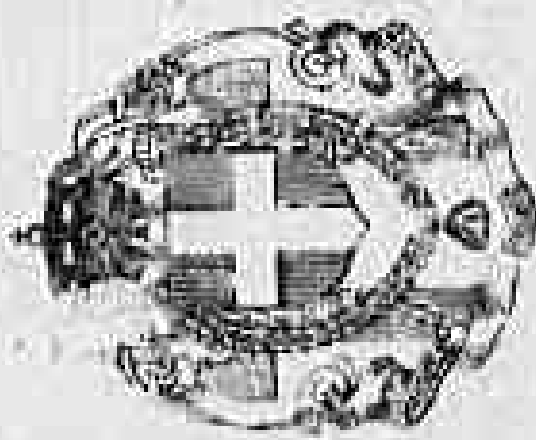
del

 OGGETTO: Liberazione di ex detenuti ed ex in-
 ternati trattenuti nelle colonie pe-
 nali della Sardegna.
Al. 1

Con riferimento agli accordi verbali pre-
 si nella seduta del 9 corrente mese, si trasmet-
 te una copia della nota di questo Ministero in
 data 6 ottobre pp. relativa al rimpatrio dagli
 stabilimenti penali della Sardegna degli in-
 ternati e dei condannati che hanno scontato la
 pena.

Pel MINISTRO

3724



Mod 1348 MG

Ministero di Grazia e Giustizia

Direzione Generale per gli Istituti di Prevenzione e di Pena

C O P I A

Roma, addì 5-10-1944

Ufficio VI

Prot. N. 131980/11

A.S.E.
l'Alto Commissario per la Sardegna
CAGLIARI

A.S.E.
il Procuratore Generale del Regno di
CAGLIARI

e p.c. Alla Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
- Gabinetto -
R O M A

Al Ministero dell'Interno - Direzione Generale
della Pubblica Sicurezza
R O M A

OGGETTO: Liberazione di ex detenuti o ex internati trattenuti nelle
colonie penali della Sardegna.

3720

La Direzione della colonia agricola di Asinara, con nota del 12 settembre pp. n. 7856, diretta a questo Ministero e, per conoscenza, alle E.E.VV., segnala nuovamente il grave stato di agitazione dei liberati ex detenuti ed ex internati, che minaccia di turbare seriamente l'ordine e la disciplina di tutta la colonia.

Questo Ministero non mancò, a suo tempo, di interessarsi per il rimpatrio degli internati e dei condannati che avevano terminato la pena e il Ministero dell'Interno - Direzione Generale della Pubblica Sicurezza -, con lettera del 27 luglio u.s. numero

A.S.E.
l'Alto Commissario per la Sardegna

CAGLIARI

A.S.E.
il Procuratore Generale del Regno di

CAGLIARI

e p.c. Alla Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
- Gabinetto -

ROMA

Al Ministero dell'Interno - Direzione Generale
della Pubblica Sicurezza

ROMA

OGGETTO: Liberazione di ex detenuti o ex internati trattenuti nelle
colonie penali della Sardegna.

3729

La Direzione della colonia agricola di Asinara, con nota del 12 settembre pp. n. 7856, diretta a questo Ministero e, per conoscenza, alle E.E.VV., segnala nuovamente il grave stato di agitazione dei liberati ex detenuti ed ex internati, che minaccia di turbare seriamente l'ordine e la disciplina di tutta la colonia.

Questo Ministero non mancò, a suo tempo, di interessarsi per il rimpatrio degli internati e dei condannati che avevano terminato la pena e il Ministero dell'Interno - Direzione Generale della Pubblica Sicurezza -, con lettera del 27 luglio u.s. numero 10.51007, assicurò che erano state date istruzioni a S.E. l'Alto Commissario per la Sardegna per l'immediata liberazione degli internati che ne avessero diritto e che erano stati trattenuti nella colonia penale dell'Asinara.

Inoltre la Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, con lettera del 15 agosto u.s. n. 11785/10479.14, comunicava che il Ministero dell'Interno aveva disposto la liberazione ed il trasferimento nei luoghi di origine di 404 persone che si trovavano ancora trattenute nelle colonie penali della Sardegna, nonostante avessero già scontata la pena loro inflitta.

Quanto sopra premesso, si pregano l'E.E.VV. di far conoscere

./.

quali provvedimenti siano stati finora adottati in proposito, indicando il numero degli ex detenuti o ex internati finora rimpatriati.

Vorranno altresì l'EE.VV. compiacersi di impartire disposizioni per il sollecito trasferimento nel continente degli altri rimasti nelle varie colonie penali di codesta isola, favorendo un cenno di assicurazione al riguardo.

Con l'occasione si significa che questo Ministero ritiene meritevole di accoglimento la proposta fatta dalla Direzione delle colonie agricola di Asinara con l'iniziativa nota del 12 settembre pp. per l'istituzione colà di un campo di concentramento per quei detenuti o internati che non potrebbero raggiungere le loro famiglie perchè residenti in territorio non ancora liberato, e prega, pertanto, l'EE.VV. di voler spiegare tutto il loro interesse per l'attuazione della proposta stessa.

Pel MINISTRO

F/to Musillani

3A

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel : 473709

12 October, 1944.

ACC/819/CA

SUBJECT : Attached draft of letter.

TO : Brigadier OPJOHN
(Civil Affairs Section).

3B 2C

1. Attached is draft of letter to Regional Commissioner of Sardegna in reply to his F/1512.
2. I have seen the Ministry of Grace and Justice and he showed me a copy of his letter written on September 6, 1944 to the Procuratore del Regno giving him instructions.
3. He will send another letter and ask for a complete report and the reason for the delay.

JOHN W. CHAPMAN
Colonel, J.A.G.D.
Director Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

372~

EHH/G.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Civil Affairs Section

10 October, 1944.

Ref. 819/CA

SUBJECT : Asinara Penal Settlement.

TO : Regional Commissioner Sardegna.

1. For reply to your letter PS/1512 on above mentioned Subject it was passed to Prison Section of Public Safety Sub-Commission.

2. I have been informed by that Section that the Minister of Grace & Justice was aware of the situation and has sent a letter with instructions to the Procuratore del Regno for the disposition of Time expired Prisoners.

3. The services of a doctor for the Island has been arranged.

For Acting Chief Commissioner.

J.R. UPJOHN, Brig.
V.P. C.A. Section
Deputy Chief of Staff.

KMH/G.

372-

2A

To P.S. ✓

Thank you
for your interest

P. S.

29 Oct 44

9/10/44

Law Ming Hsu's father
this was a subject of a
letter 30 days ago
he will take it up again

E.H.

3720

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
R.C. AND M.G. SECTION
ATO 394

Prison *2B*
Sardinia

Ref: 819/1/CA

28 September 1944.

SUBJECT: Asinara Penal Settlement.

TO : Admin. Section. (attention Colonel Gripps.) ✓

1. Attached is a letter dated 21 September 1944, reference P.S./1512 from the Regional Commissioner, Sardinia.

2. This is sent to you for your action.

3. May we please be informed of your recommendations.

W.G.S.I. Mlayd
for NORMAN E. FISKE
Colonel.
Deputy Executive Commissioner

Incl: letter and
Appendix A.

3710

1831

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION VI

21 September 1944

TO: Headquarters, A.C.C. (P.C. & M.G. Section)

SUBJECT: Report on Visit to ASINARA Penal Settlement - 20 Sep 44.

REFERENCE: PS/1512

1. I visited this Settlement on 20th September. It is somewhat inaccessible and is reached from PORTO TORRES by Diesel engine fishing boat, the passage taking 2½ to 3 hours. On the day of the visit there was a good deal of rain and a strong north-west wind which made the crew of the fishing boat extremely reluctant to put to sea.

The Settlement has now 996 "prisoners" and 127 guards. The Direttore (Sig. MELIS) had been placed temporarily in charge and had been there about two months. He appeared efficient and willing but was obviously faced with many difficulties.

There was no M.T. and we were fortunate in our visit in getting help from a small detachment of an American Fighter Control Wing.

2. "Prisoners" are housed in bed accommodation consisting, in part, of stables converted about nine years ago to form dormitories and cook-houses with rather dirty and small scale lavatories and washing accommodation. Other buildings had been in use for 60 or 70 years. The majority of the men are given freedom by day and are locked into their dormitories by night. The guards were unarmed.

Food. The rations consisted of 300 grams of bread, 60 grams of pasta, 100 grams of soup and 100 grams of vegetables per day. This was served at one meal in the evening.

Clothing. Prisoners were in rags and had two torn blankets per head.

The Hospital contained 40 to 50 sick plus a number of convalescents and was situated about 12 miles away from the main settlement. There is another sanatorium which, we were informed, has 60 tuberculosis patients, but this was at the far end of the Island and was not visited. The hospital patients looked wretchedly ill. They were in the charge of an efficient orderly. There appeared to be a shortage of medicines and there was no Doctor at all in the Settlement. We were informed that the Doctor left with the last detachment of the Italian Army a short time ago. There had been 21 deaths in the last twelve months.

Discipline. This appeared to be good except for a clamour set up by "prisoners" whose sentences had expired and who wished to be repatriated.

Work. "Prisoners" who are not time expired work on the land. The Island appears

The Settlement has now 996 "prisoners" and 127 guards. The Direttore (Sig. MELIS) had been placed temporarily in charge and had been there about two months. He appeared efficient and willing but was obviously faced with many difficulties.

There was no M.T. and we were fortunate in our visit in getting help from a small detachment of an American Fighter Control Wing.

2. "Prisoners" are housed in bad accommodation consisting, in part, of stables converted about nine years ago to form dormitories and cook-houses with rather dirty and small scale lavatories and washing accommodation. Other buildings had been in use for 60 or 70 years. The majority of the men are given freedom by day and are locked into their dormitories by night. The guards were unarmed. 710

Food. The rations consisted of 300 grams of bread, 60 grams of pasta, 100 grams of soup and 100 grams of vegetables per day. This was served at one meal in the evening.

Clothing. Prisoners were in rags and had two torn blankets per head.

The Hospital contained 40 to 50 sick plus a number of convalescents and was situated about 12 miles away from the main settlement. There is another sanatorium which, we were informed, has 60 tuberculosis patients, but this was at the far end of the Island and was not visited. The hospital patients looked wretchedly ill ^{they} were in the charge of an efficient orderly. There appeared to be a shortage of medicines and there was no Doctor at all in the Settlement. We were informed that the Doctor left with the last detachment of the Italian Army a short time ago. There had been 21 deaths in the last twelve months.

Discipline. This appeared to be good except for a clamour set up by "prisoners" whose sentences had expired and who wished to be repatriated.

Work. "Prisoners" who are not time expired work on the land. The Island appears to be very barren and only a small amount of useful grain etc. is grown. There is no question of this Settlement being self supporting in the way of food. I attach as an Appendix a list of the products produced in the last 12 months. The 103 quintals of grain have been turned over to the Amassi and the oats are used for feeding animals. The farm animals seen - horses, donkeys, oxen, cows and sheep - appeared to be in reasonably good shape.

3. Time-Expired Prisoners.

Of the 996 prisoners, no less than 611, or nearly two-thirds, had completed their sentences and some had been waiting over a year for their release. More than half of the time-expired men come from southern Italy and 106 of them come from SICILY. I have no remarks to make on the justice of the original sentences but there can be no possible justice in leaving men who have completed their sentences

HEADQUARTERS

20 JUL 1944

A. C. C.

/in the.....

1871

-2-

under the soul-destroying conditions that appertain to this Penal Settlement. Food has to be imported for these men. They are not obliged to work and live an utterly miserable existence which can only accentuate any criminal tendencies that they may have.

I have represented conditions to the High Commissioner but feel that this Prison-Settlement is an example of Italian Government mal-administration rather than a case where the local Sardinian authorities are at fault.

I recommend that the Italian Government should be requested to take the following steps at once:

- (a) The 300-odd time-expired "prisoners" from southern Italy should be repatriated immediately to their home Provinces.
- (b) The remainder of the time-expired "prisoners" should be repatriated immediately conditions render this possible. In the meantime efforts should be made to offer them work in Italy and Sardinia so as to get them out of the atmosphere of this Penal Settlement. I have approached the High Commissioner on this subject as far as SARDINIA is concerned.
- (c) Some mental relaxation and amenities should be provided for time-expired prisoners who cannot be immediately taken off the Island of ASINARA, e.g. provision of radio news and some literature.
- (d) A Doctor should be permanently allotted to this Settlement and given such stores as may be necessary. Conditions in the hospital were really bad. The High Commissioner has had his attention drawn to this urgently.

JAC Pennyquick

3711

JACP/gch

J. A. C. PENNYQUICK,
Colonel,
Regional Commissioner.

1831

0698

APPENDIX "A"

2D

SCHEDULEAGRICULTURE PRODUCTS OF ASINARA

for 12 months

PRODUCT	QUINTALS.
OATS - <i>avena</i>	66.75
GARLIC <i>aglio</i>	5.04
ONIONS <i>cipolle</i>	14.72
CHICK-PEAS	6.00
BEANS <i>fagioli</i>	1.10
BROAD BEANS - <i>fagioli</i>	84.00
MAISE - <i>grauturo</i>	24.00
WHEAT <i>grano</i>	103.00
LENTILS <i>lenticchie</i>	1.70
BARLEY <i>orzo</i>	186.70
PEAS <i>piselli</i>	3.00
WOOL <i>lana</i>	11.12
POTATOES <i>patate</i>	24.00
3710	

*(used for feeding
livestock)**To be used for*

21st September 1944.

ajs.

1831

HEADQUARTERS, PUBLIC SAFETY
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION VI.

P. Safety
14201/b

9 August 1944.

L/1404

SUBJECT: Monthly Prison Return for July 1944.

TO : Advanced H.Q., A.C.C., Public Safety Sub-Commission.

1. Attached please find Monthly Prison Return for July 1944.

2. The Penal Colony of Asinara is being used as a dump for prisoners who have completed their sentences but who live in Italy and have no means of conveyance to the mainland. Of the 986 inmates at this Penal Colony, 583 are in this category and the number is steadily increasing.

3. The matter is now being taken up with the Procuratore del Re.

3710

JEH/wld.



J.E. Hughes
J. E. HUGHES, Capt.,
RPSO, A.C.C., Region VI.

MONTHLY PRISON RETURN FOR JULY 1944

Figures include 28 July 1944

JUDICIARY PRISONS

Prison	Military Prisoners		Civil Prisoners (Men)		Civil Prisoners (Women)		Tot
	Aw Trial	Under Sen	Aw Trial	Under Sent	Aw Trial	Under Sent	
3 CAGLIARI ✓	57 ++	0	854	20	27	10	96
4 SASSARI ✓	42 +++	24	226	66	17	4	37
7 NUORO ✓	7	2	273	10	11	1	31
9 CORTANO ✓	44	2	175	42	9	1	22
12 TEMPIO ✓	8	0	87	1	2	0	
15 LANUSEI ✓	0	0	48	0	8	0	
Totals	158	28	1663	139	74	16	20

PENAL COLONIES

4 CASTIADAS ✓	0	32	0	685	0	0	
7 ASINARA ✓	0	23	0	963	0	0	
6 MAMONE ✓	0	66	0	287	0	0	
13 TRAMARIGLIO ✓	0	64	0	190	0	0	
1 ALGHERO ✓	0	110	0	254	0	0	
10 SARDICANO ✓	0	4	0	156	0	0	
Totals	0	299	0	2535	0	0	

8 ORISTANO MILITARY PRISON

++ Awaiting trial in Civil Court.

+++ 20 of this number awaiting trial in

MONTHLY PRISON RETURN FOR JULY 1944

Figures include 28 July 1944

JUDICIARY PRISONS

Civil Prisoners (Men)		Civil Prisoners (Women)		Total	Norm. Capacity	+ or -
Aw Trial	Under Sent	Aw Trial	Under Sent			
854	20	27	10	968	650	+ 318
226	66	17	4	379	280	+ 99
273	10	11	1	304	238	+ 66
175	42	9	1	273	161	+ 112
87	1	2	0	98	60	+ 38
48	0	8	0	56	80	+ 24
1663	139	74	16	2078	1469	+ 609

PENAL COLONIES

0	685	0	0	717	1400	- 683
0	963	0	0	986	1400	- 437
0	287	0	0	353	550	- 197
0	190	0	0	254	406	- 152
0	254	0	0	364	433	- 69
0	156	0	0	160	194	- 34
0	2535	0	0	2834	4383	- 1549

8 ORISTANO MILITARY PRISON

0	0	0	0	365	400	- 35
---	---	---	---	-----	-----	------

urt. +++ 20 of this number awaiting trial in Civil Court.

0 7 0 2

