

ACC

10000/143/990

10000/143/990

ESCAPE AT POTENZA PRISON
MAY - AUG. 1944

MINISTRY OF GRACE & JUSTICE

N. 131353/II

14218 8A
31 August 1944.

Subject : Prison escape in Potenza

To : A.C.C. P.S. S/C.

answer to the letter n.ACC/14218/PS, dated 31/7/44.

Ref. to letter stated above and following letter n. 41908/pp of this Ministry concerning the subject mentioned above, you are informed that as a result of an investigation made by the "Procuratore del Regno" of Potenza in regard to administrative personnel and guards, responsibility has been placed upon MASTRACCHIO Giulio and CASULE Antonio, prison guards, who shall be punished in accordance with art. 82, n. 7 of the Prison Guard regulation.

Out of all the escaped prisoners, only 12 have not been rearrested, penal proceedings are pending before a/m Procuratore del Regno, for crimes they have committed.

For the Minister

553



11/9/44

Invalute

Mo-1345 MG

Roma 31-8-1944

Ministero di Grazia e Giustizia

Alla Commissione Alleata
di Controllo- Sottocommis-
sione di P.S.-Uff. 6^a

Prot. N. 131353/II

ROMA
Ricevuto al f. del 31.7.u.s.
L. N. ACC/14218/PS

OGGETTO Evasione delle carceri di Potenza.

Con riferimento al foglio sopradistin-
to ed a seguito della nota n. 41908/pp di
questo Ministero relativa all'oggetto, si
comunica che, nell'inchiesta svolta dal Procu-
ratore del Regno di Potenza a carico del per-
sonale amministrativo e di custodia di quelle
carceri giudiziarie, è emersa responsabilità
disciplinare degli agenti di custodia MASTRAC-
CHIO Giulio e CASULE Antonio, i quali verran-
no puniti a norma dell'art. 82 n. 7 del re-
golamento per il Corpo degli agenti di custodia.

Contro tutti i detenuti evasi, di cui
solo dodici non sono stati ancora riarrestati,
pende procedimento penale innanzi al sunnomi-

./.

554

nato Procuratore del Regno per i reati
di cui si sono resi colpevoli.

PEL MINISTRO



HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel : 478709

ACC/14218/PS

SUBJECT : Prisons - Potenza Escape. *see 8A*
TO : H. E. Minister of Grace and Justice. *6A*

31 July, 1944.

1. Reference your 41908/PT dated 25 May 1944 regarding the escapes from Potenza prison on 25 April 1944.
2. May we be advised please of how this matter now stands ?


PAUL G. KIRK
Colonel Inf.
Chief Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

FTW/G.

501

MINISTRY OF GRACE AND JUSTICE

No. 41908/PP

25 May 1944.

SUBJECT : Request for transmittal of correspondence.

TO : Rear HQ, A.C.C. - P.S. Sub-Commission.

Please arrange the transmittal of the attached letter to the Directory of the Lunatic Asylum at Aversa.

Thanks.

UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE.

sgd. ? ? ? ? ?

MINISTRY OF GRACE AND JUSTICE

No. 41908/PP

25 May 1944.

SUBJECT : Fugitives from Judicial Prisons of Potenza.

TO : Rear HQ, A.C.C.

We are informing your Commission that by the "Procura del Re" (Attorney's office) at Potenza, a penal proceeding has been started against the escaped inmates, for the crimes committed by them.

5^a Para 3 refers.

By the same Judicial Office, inquiries are also in course, to ascertain the penal and administrative responsibilities of the Prison personnel.

UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE.

sgd. ? ? ? ? ?

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Direzione Generale Istituti di Prev. e Pena

Salerno 25 maggio



MINISTERO DI GRAZIA E GIUSTIZIA

UFFICIO SUPERIORE DEL PERSONALE
E DEGLI AFFARI GENERALI

VI°

Ufficio
Prot. N. 41908/PP

Al la Commissione
Allegata di Controllo

S A L E R N O

Risposta al foglio del 13 corrente

Div. Sez. N. 14218/PS

Oggetto: Evasione dalle Carceri Giudiziarie di
Potenza.

Si informa codesta Cn/le Commissione
che presso la Procura del Re di Potenza
si è già iniziato procedimento penale a
carico dei detenuti evasi, per i reati di
cui si sono resi responsabili.

E' in corso inoltre, presso lo stesso
Ufficio Giudiziario, la inchiesta per lo
accertamento delle responsabilità penali
ed amministrative del personale di custodia.

IL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

Viola Lombardi

510

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

6 June 1944.

AGC/14218/PS

SUBJECT: Prisons - Potenza Escape.

TO : R.C., Region 2.

- 3A
1. Reference A/PS/139 of 24 May 44, (your Prison Section), enclosing report by Lt. G. Anderson, Provincial Police Officer, Potenza.
 2. The investigation carried out by Lt. Anderson into the prison break at Potenza on 25 April, 1944, was prompt and thorough. Would you arrange to have him told that his report was much appreciated at this Headquarters?
 3. The Minister of Grace and Justice has been communicated with, and an enquiry is being held by the Prison Director.

W. A. S. Young NAT.
W. A. S. YOUNG, Colonel,
Deputy Chief, Public
Safety Sub-Commission.

FJW/t

540

Direzione Generale Istituti Penitenziari e Pena



Salerno, 25-5-1944. 104

MINISTERO DI GRAZIA E GIUSTIZIA

UFFICIO SUPERIORE DEL PERSONALE
E DEGLI AFFARI GENERALIAlla Commissione
Allata di Controllo

Ufficio VI°

S A L E R N O

rot. N. 41908

Risposte al foglio del 13 corr.

Div. Sez. N. 14218

OGGETTO: Evasione dalli Carceri Giudiziari di
Potenza.

See 2 A

Si informa codesta On.le Commissione che presso la Procura del R. di Potenza si è già iniziato procedimento penale a carico dei detenuti evasi, per i reati di cui si sono resi responsabili.

E' in corso inoltre, presso lo stesso Ufficio Giudiziario, la inchiesta per l'accertamento della responsabilità penale ed amministrativa del personale di custodia.

IL SOTTOSCRITTO DI STATO

f/te Lombardi

Translation

540

Investigation being held.
Cp.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

14218
2A
24 May 1944

REF : A/PS/139

SUBJECT: Escape, Potenza Prison.

TO : Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission, ACC
Rear HQ. APO 394.

Herewith copy of report by Lt Anderson
I concur in his remarks. If the finding of the
Court of Inquiry which I suggest should be reviewed
by the Legal Officer is not in his view satisfactory
the matter should be reopened.

For the Regional Commissioner.

H.W. Alden
H.W. ALDEN.
Captain,
Prison Section.

540

C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
PROVINCE OF POTENZA

38

12 May 1944.

Ref.: PS/A/32

SUBJECT : Escape from Potenza Prison
TO : P.C. - Province of Potenza

Upon investigating the recent prison break at Potenza prison I find that it was slackness on the part of the guards and the fault of the director of the prison for not keeping his guards up to proper standard in discipline. Also the system of inspection used by the guards is far from perfect.

Three guards were used in inspecting the cell from which the break was made. This is a sufficient number of guards provided the right system is used. As it was all three of the guards were inside the cell and none stood outside or even locked the door of the cell after going inside.

Also the keys to the front door are kept in an open box which is easy accessible to everyone. When I as the guard outside the door why the only fired one shot he said it was because his rifle has jammed. But when I ask them to produce the rifle it could not be found. If this story of the rifle jamming is true then it is because the weapons are in poor condition or are not kept clean.

I suggest that more rigid discipline be put into effect at the prison. That a system whereby one guard is always outside the door and the door is locked when the other guards are inspecting the cells. That the guards on the inside by armed with at least a club: The the keys be kept under lock and key or some other favorable system. That there should be a weekly inspection of arms and equipment. I believe things could be put right if the director of the prison be given a severe reprimand by both A.C.C. and also the Minister of Justice.

(Sgd) Lt. C. Anderson
Lt. C. Anderson
Provincial Police Officer
Province of Potenza

540

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

2A

ACC/14218/PS

May 13, 1944

SUBJECT : Escape at Potenza Prison.

TO : Ministry of Grace & Justice.

1. Attached herewith a copy of report on the escape of 30 prisoners on 25 April 44, from Potenza prison.
2. It seems advisable that the proper proceeding under Italian law should be undertaken in order to establish the facts and fix the responsibility.
3. May we be informed of action contemplated or taken?

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

544

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION II

14218/5. 9915
(1A)

6 May 44

Ref: A/IS/111

Subject: Escape at POTENZA PRISON.

TO : Chief Public Safety, Rear HQ., A.C.C.

Attached translation of report from the Director
POTENZA Prison is passed to you for information.

*Please inform me as soon as possible
of action to be taken by the Italian Govt.*

For the Regional Commissioner:-

Pres for Court of Enquiry.

H. W. Alden

H. W. ALDEN, Capt.
Prisons Section
Region II

HWA/vjl.

new file

540

FROM : Judicial Prison - POTENZA -
 TO : Prison Section -, A.C.C. P.Q. - MATERA -
 SUBJECT : Assault to guards by escaping prisoners convicted at the Potenza Prison.

At 3,40 hrs on April 25, 1944, in the execution of his nightly inspection. The Duty N.C.C. together with the guards Mastracchio Giulio and Quartana Giuseppe, after the inspection to room no.7, where 25 prisoners were quartered, having passed to room no.1, where prisoners charged with serious crimes were quartered were attacked, the prisoners used violence against them, begged and immobilised them, and having got the keys of room no.1 and the gate one, they opened the rooms gates and invited the prisoners, also forcing them, to come out of the room and escape.

30 of them managed to get out of the prison, since the resistance put on by the Guard Renna Angelo who, being on sentry duty, fired a shot against the escaping prisoners, turned out to be ineffective.

The undersigned, immediately called by the prison commander, has proceeded to the first investigations and to the first researches of the escaped prisoners, employing all the available Guards and asking by phone for the Carabinieri and Police assistance.

Further, I bring to your notice that the escaped prisoner Mancuso Giacinto, wounded by the Guards Renna, is in very serious conditions and has been admitted to hospital.

I shall forward a detailed report on the facts, in order to punish the prisoners who committed said crime.

(Sgd) GIUSEPPE NICALE
 Director

Potenza April 25, 1944

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