

ACC

10000/143/1070

ITALIA
MAY 19

10000/143/1070

ITALIANS ARRESTED BY FSS AT LA SPEZIA
MAY 1946

I

V.P. C.A.S. Noted. Have already
informed CC. MC

Please see 2A which has been
received in confirmation of information
received by phone as shown in
1a

14-5-46

E J Byrnes Colonel

100

JE/Ls

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED COMMISSION
LIGURIA LIAISON GROUP
CMF - APO 394

Director,
Public Safety Sub-Commission,
A.C. Rome.

SUBJECT:- ITALIAN SUBJECTS ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE JEWISH
SUBJECTS DETAINED ON THE SHIP "FEDE" AT LA SPEZIA.

1. Reference our telephone conversation on the 7th May, 1946, regarding the above quoted subject, the following information confirms:-

" Five Italian subjects were arrested by S.I.B. 2 District on the 6th April, 1946, for the offences of illegal possession of quantities of Allied Military Stores.

The stores, which included foodstuffs, lifebelts, and 114 drums of diesel oil, were discovered in the warehouse of the Ship-builder, BARGIACCHI Renzo, (one of the arrested subjects), who effected the transformation of the vessel from a cargo carrying type to a passenger carrying type for this specific purpose. Five Three Ton Lorries were needed to convey the goods to Genoa.

The Subjects were released from Marrassi Prison, Genoa, on the 6th May, 1946, on the order of Major Howarth, S.I.B. G.H.Q., on the completion of S.I.B. interrogation."

2. Information further to the above is that S.I.B. have to conduct further enquiries of two Italian subjects in Milan, who are believed to be mainly responsible for the organisation of the part that the vessels were to play in the matter, and after consultation with G.H.Q. it will be decided if the matter will be passed to the Italian Courts for jurisdiction. This presents certain difficulties owing to the part that the Palestine G.T. Company personnel have taken in the affair.

3. A reason for the release of the Italian subjects is that 140 workmen employed by BARGIACCHI in his shipyard, have been unemployed since his arrest, which had resulted in deputations to the Camera del Lavoro, Spezia, by them, and further trouble was envisaged with the prolonged unemployment of these men. This has been a matter of keen concern to the Italian authorities.

4. Submitted for your information.

For Chief Liaison Officer.

File:- LOP/535.

Date:- 7/5/47. *Recd 13/5/47*

John Kane
John Kane, Major.

Public Safety Liaison Officer.
GENOA.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

14348 *per file*
Tel: 478427

9 May 1946

SUBJECT : Italians Arrested
by F.S.S. *at La Spezia*
TO : VP Civil Affairs Section.

1. With reference to the men alleged to have been arrested at La Spezia by F.S.S.

2. I phoned Major Kane Public Safety Liaison Officer Genoa and obtained from him the following information regarding the incident.

3. On 6th April 1946 F.S.S. in conjunction with S.I.B. whilst making inquiry into the arrival of the 1200 Jews at La Spezia arrested 5 Italian civilians for being in possession of approximately five 3 ton truck loads of Allied food including 114 barrels of Diesel oil, the whole being the property of the Allied Governments.

The property was found in the warehouse of one Renzo BARGIACCHI, a ship builder, who had converted the vessel which was about to convey the Jews to Palestine from a freight carrying to a passenger carrying vessel.

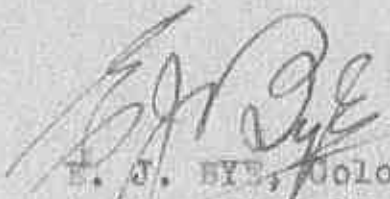
The men were held in custody until 6th May 1946 when they were released by direction of Major Howarth, S.I.B. G.H.C.

The papers in the case are now being passed to the Italian authorities for the men to be dealt with by the Italian Courts.

I have asked Major Kane to confirm
above information in writing.

Lt. Col. Hannaford has been consulted and
considers normally the arrest of Italians by Allied
Police in Italian Government territory should be carried
out in conjunction with the Italian Police. In cases of
emergency, as in this case the British Police were acting
correctly.

EJB/as


E. J. EYE, Colonel
Acting Director.

3630

