

ACC/14610/1/PS

10000/143/1476

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10000/143/1476

WARNING LIGHTS ON ROADS, ETC.
FEB. - AUG. 1944

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 72

Acc 14610/175

WARNING LIGHTS ON ROADS ETC.

70101 Refers to Date 70101 Refers to Date 70101 Refers to Date

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NNN No. 725254

WARNING LIGHTS ON ROADS ETC.

Folio Reference Date Folio Reference Date Folio Reference Date

10000 / 43 / 476

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

1944

1944

FROM Feb

TO Aug

CATALOGUE.

Folio Date Refs. To From SUBJECT.

1A. 25 Feb. 25/26A from HQ 1620's. Warning lights at Level Crossing

MINUTE SHEET

6245

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission
APO 394

Tel: 473708

ACC/14610/1/PS

8 August, 1944.

SUBJECT : M.T. Accident involving Dodge,
No.R.A.F.91011177 on 24 June 44.

TO : Air Officer, i/c Administration,
H.Q. Mediterranean Allied Air
Forces C.M.F.

With reference to your MRAF/1820/511/P.1. dated 31 July 1944,
addressed to Transportation Sub-Commission, A.C.C., I have to inform you
that action has been taken to bring the matter to the notice of the Italian
Authorities with a view to putting the recommendation in para 3 of your
letter into effect.

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

BP/c.

6243

HEADQUARTERS MEDITERRANEAN ALLIED AIR FORCE C.M.F.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Control Commission (Transportation Sub-Commission (Roads)).

DATE : 31 July, 1944.

Ref : MAAF/1820/511/P.1.

N.T. ACCIDENT INVOLVING FORCE, NO. R.A.F. 91011177
ON 24 June, 1944.

1. On the 24th June, 1944, at 20.20 hours, an accident happened on the NOVOLI-INOCE Road.
2. The driver of the above-numbered vehicle was returning to Lecce when at a point approximately half a kilometre from Novoli, he noticed a wall projecting into the road. In trying to avoid the wall, the front right hand wheel of the vehicle came into contact with a concrete pillar at the end of the wall, which the driver had not seen. The vehicle then swung across to the right, over a crossing and collided with another wall on the other side.
3. An investigation into the accident was held, and, although the driver was found negligent, in so far that he was travelling too fast, the point where the accident happened, was considered to be very dangerous, and the following recommendation was put forward by the Investigating officer :
" I recommend that suitable warning signs be displayed on the approach to the level crossing, and that reflectors be fitted to the projecting walls."
4. The recommendation is concurred in by this Headquarters, and it would be appreciated if steps could be taken to put it into effect.

H.F. Newman
Air Officer i/c/ Administration
Mediterranean Allied Air Force.

1st INF.

Tel: 478700

3 August, 1944.

FROM : H.Q. A.C.C. Public Safety Sub-Commission.

TO : R.P.S.O., Region II.

The above is forwarded for your information. Would you please bring it to the notice of the appropriate Italian Authorities with the view of having the recommendation put into effect.

PAUL G. KIRK
Colonel Inf.

BT/G.

Director Public Safety S/C.

8400 Transportation S.C.

From:- Headquarters, Mediterranean Allied Air Forces., C.M.F.
To :- Headquarters, Allied Control Commission (Transportation Sub-Commission (Roads)).
Date:- 31st July, 1944.
Ref :- MAAP/1020/511/P.1.

M.T. ACCIDENT INVOLVING DODGE, NO. R.A.F. 91011177
ON 24th JUNE, 1944.

1. On the 24th June, 1944, at 20.20 hours, an accident happened on the NOVOLI-LECCE Road.
2. The driver of the above-numbered vehicle was returning to Lecce when at a point approximately half a kilometre from Novoli, he noticed a wall projecting into the road. In trying to avoid the wall, the front right hand wheel of the vehicle came into contact with a concrete pillar at the end of the wall, which the driver had not seen. The vehicle then swung across to the right, over a crossing and collided with another wall on the other side.
3. An investigation into the accident was held, and, although the driver was found negligent, in so far that he was travelling too fast, the point where the accident happened, was considered to be very dangerous, and the following recommendation was put forward by the Investigating Officer:

" I recommend that suitable warning signs be displayed on the approach to the level crossing, and that reflectors be fitted to the projecting walls. "
4. The recommendation is concurred in by this Headquarters, and it would be appreciated if steps could be taken to put it into effect.

H. F. Newman
(H.F. NEWMAN)

Air Officer i/c. Administration,
Mediterranean Allied Air Forces.

624

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission
AWO 394

14

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission,
Rear H.Q., ACC.

Our Reference: ACC Tn/123/17
Date : 10 June 1944.

SUBJECT : Level Crossings.

1. Reference is to your ACC/14610/PS of 23 May '44.
2. Cansello-Maddaloni crossing is under control of Director General of Military Railway Services.
3. The latter informs no matter has been taken up with Italian State Railways officials, and it is reported that the watchman on duty has been reprimanded, and lanterns have been provided for use at night.

L.E. VINING,
Lieut-Colonel,
Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

1st IND

ACC/14610/1/PS.

14 June 1944.

From : HQ., ACC., - Public Safety Sub-Commission.

To : HQ. No. 3 District.

Subject: Level Crossings.

84
With ref to your 353A dated 31 March 1944, the above is a copy of letter received by this Sub-Commission on the matter.

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

8747

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Transportation Sub-Commission
APO 394

Public Safety 50/60

BA

Our Reference : ACC 70/123/17
Date : 10 June 44

TO : Public Safety Sub-Commission,
Rear H.Q., ACC.

SUBJECT : Level Crossings.

1. Reference is to your ACC/14610/PS of 29 May '44.
2. Cancellio-Maddaloni crossing is under control of Director General of Military Railway Services.
3. The latter informs no matter has been taken up with Italian State Railways officials, and it is reported that the watchman on duty has been reprimanded, and lanterns have been provided for use at night.



acting capr
for I.E. VINING,
Lieut-Colonel,
Director, Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

29 May 1944.

ACC/14610/PS

SUBJECT: Level Crossings.

TO : Transportation Sub-Commission. *QA*

Reference our letter ACC/14610/PS dated 3 April 44 enclosing 3 District letter complaining about level-crossing on the Cancellio-Maddaloni road.

Are you yet in a position to state whether anything has been done to control this level-crossing during the hours of darkness.

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

6233

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

14610/1
11A
25 May 1944

PS/5.

SUBJECT: Railway accident.

TO : ~~Lt. Col. G. Allen~~
HQ. (Rear) ACC. Public Safety Sub-Commission. ✓

1113
Herewith, for your information, is translation of a letter received from the Questore of Naples relative to a collision between a motor vehicle and a railway train which occurred at Casalnuovo, Province of Naples, on 21st May 1944.

G. T. Francis
G. T. FRANCIS
Lieut. Colonel, G.S.
Regional Public Safety Officer.

GTF/tp.

6237

TRANSLATION 1113

R. QUESTURA di NAPOLI

Letter File n. 109912-Div. Gabinetto

Naples, 21 May 1944

SUBJECT: Railway incident.

TO : Regional Public Safety Office, R. Prefettura, Naples.

Today at about 12.15 hours, in Casalnovo, a British truck, licence plate n. 1328-948 coming from Naples, at a crossing in the Salice Road, collided with engine n. 212 of the Circumvesuviana train n. 344, which was derailed.

The driver of the British truck tried to cross the rails, notwithstanding that the level crossing keepers Jannotta Luisa di Domenico, born in Casalnovo the 1 January 1913 and her father Jannotta Domenico di Salvatore, born in Casalnovo 11 August 1898, both living in Via Purle n. 1, had given the signal to stop because the train was coming.

It appears that a motor convey heading ^{Towards} ~~from~~ Naples took notice of the signal to stop, while the above mentioned British car proceeding in the opposite direction continued its course following closely behind another car that managed to cross the rails.

The driver of the train, Izzo Ciccio fu Natale, of Pugliano was not able to be questioned, because he was wounded and taken away by an Allied Military truck.

The number of casualties, up to now, amounts to 30, who immediately after the accident were transported by Allied vehicles to the city hospitals. Three deaths are regretted, one of which was the driver of the British truck.

No responsibility is attributed to the train driver or the signalling agents at the level crossing. It is recalled, that the manager of the Circumvesuviana, Engineer Vanni stated that, some time ago, ~~he~~ ^{was} ~~second~~ a request ^{that} made by Allied Hq. the iron bars at some of the level crossing should not be lowered, at the passing of trains, ^{to} ~~to~~ avoid any long halts of military vehicles.

Railway services were re-established after about an hour

jms/tp.

IL QUESTORE
(G. Lauricella)

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

Folio 10A for /information:

C.P.S.
D.C.P.S.
Police
Prisons
Fire & C.D.
Regn. & Licensing
Adm. Officer *W*

Remarks:

PA.

6255

ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
REGION 2. HEADQUARTERS

Your ref ACC/14610/1/PS.

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL POLICE OFFICER

My ref PS15

31 st March 1944

Subject Warning Lights
at Rly Level Crossings

TO : Chief, Public Safety Sub-Commission A.C.C.

The basic Communication was forwarded to Lt
Col Vining, Provincial Commissioner Bari Province
on the 5th March 1944.

A reminder was forwarded this day and a reply
received that the matter has been taken up with
the appropriate Italian authorities requesting
attention to the points raised.

Roxhead
Captain.

Regional Police Officer.

6234

HEAD HEADQUARTERS
ARMED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

File 9A

ACQ/14610/ 25.

3 April 1944.

SUBJECT : Level crossings

TO : Internal Transportation Sub-Commission
ACQ. Mov. Tr.
HQ, Air (Adm. Section) on F.

1. With reference to your letter ACQ. Tr./125/5 dated 25rd March 1944, the attached letter dated 51st March 1944 has been received from the Commanding Office 3 District complaining that the level crossing on the Canello-Maddaloni road is still uncontrolled at night.

2. It is requested that a reply be sent to this Sub-Commission for transmission to 3 District.

9B *5A*
6253
Wiley
PAUL G. RINK Major
Colonel Inf.,
Chief Public Safety
Sub-Commission.

Enclosure
Copy No. 3 Dist. Letter No. 255 A.

APR/44.

9B

COPY

SUBJECT 1- Level crossings.

Rear HQ
ACC

5 District
Tel. Ext. 17
353A
31 March 1944.

- Ref your ACC/14610/1/PS dated 26 March 1944
1. It has been reported that CG 657 Gen Tpt Coy once again approached the level crossing on the Cancelli-Maddaloni road at approx 0100 hrs and seeing no watchman, went to his hut to investigate and found him asleep. The watchman stated that he had no means of stopping traffic, other than by waving his arms, and that he is not in possession of a lantern or whistle.
 2. May this please be investigated.

Maj. Gen.
Comd.

623

SUBJECT: Level crossings

Rear HQ
ACC

Ref your ACC/14610/1/PS dated 26 Mar 44.

1. It has been reported that OC 657 Gen Tpt Coy once again approached the level crossing on the Cancelllo - Maddalona road at approx 0100 hrs and seeing no watchman, went to his hut to investigate and found him asleep. The watchman stated that he had no means of stopping traffic, other than by waving his arms, and that he is not in possession of a lantern or whistle.
2. May this please be investigated.

AWJ/EJP

Public Safety
3 District
Tel Ext 17
353A
31 Mar 44

Maj Gen
Comd

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

ACG/14610/1/PS

March 26th, 1944

SUBJECT: Warning lights at Railway level crossings

TO : RPSO, Region II

1. With reference to No. 2 District letter 25/126A dated 25th Feb. 1944, forwarded to you from this HQs on 1st March 1944 asking that representations be made to the Italian authorities to place warning lights at the railway crossing between Cassano and San. Nicandro, please report the result of your efforts.

Paul G. Mirk
PAUL G. MIRK
Colonel, Inf.
Chief, Public Safety
Sub-Commission

APM/hed

6230

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

File 6A

ACC/14610/RS

26th March 1944

SUBJECT: Level Crossings

TO : Commanding Officer, 3 District

1. Reference is made to your letter dated 7th March 1944, referring to an accident at a railway crossing near Maddaloni station on 31st Jan. 1944, and asking that steps be taken to control this and other railway crossings.

2. This request was passed to the Allied Force Military Railway Service, whose reply dated 26th March 1944 is enclosed for your information.

3. It will be noted that the Allied Force Military Railway Service is prepared to consider providing guards for any crossings specifically brought to their attention.

For the Executive Commissioner:

Paul C. Kirk
PAUL C. KIRK
Colonel, Inf.
Chief, Public Safety
Sub-Commission

APC/hgd

Public Safety Recd
Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC., U
c/o Mov & Tn.,
H.Q., A.A.I. (Adm. Echelon),
C.M.F. *5A* ²⁰⁸⁷

Our reference : ACC Tn/123/5

Date : 23 March 44.

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

SUBJECT : Level Crossings.

- 14601/1*
4A
1. Reference your letter ACC/14610/1/PS.
 2. Subject matter has been taken up with the Director General Military Railway Service for the necessary action.
 3. *5B* Enclosed herewith reply received from the D.G.M.R.S.
 4. Reference para 4 D.G.M.R.S. letter, if a list of crossings which it is considered are not properly safeguarded is submitted to this Sub-Commission, the matter will again be submitted to the D.G.M.R.S. for the necessary action.

S.A. Fitch
S.A. FITCH,
Colonel,
Director, Internal Transportation Sub-Commission, ACC.

6238

PA 27/3

ALLIED FORCE
MILITARY RAILWAY SERVICE
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL

A. P. O. 400
20 MARCH 1944

SUBJECT: PROTECTION AT GRADE CROSSINGS

TO: DIRECTOR, INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION,
ACC, MOV & TN, HQ, ACF (ADM ECH), C.M.F.,
APO 400

1. YOURS 18 MARCH, FILE ACC TN/123/5, REFERENCE COMMUNICATION FROM COL. KIRK, DIRECTOR PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMISSION, ACC, AS TO HIGHWAY CROSSINGS OVER THE RAILROAD AT GRADE.

2. AT THE PRESENT TIME GENERALLY, GRADE CROSSINGS WITH OR WITHOUT GATES ARE MANNED WITH NECESSARY CIVILIAN I.S.R. WATCHMEN AND EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO PROVIDE SUCH WATCHMEN WITH ADEQUATE SIGNALLING FOR BOTH DAY AND NIGHT.

3. THE MILITARY RAILWAY SERVICE HAS NO TROOPS AVAILABLE FOR ADDITIONAL HIGHWAY CROSSING PROTECTION, BUT AT MOST CROSSINGS AT GRADE WHERE MILITARY TRAFFIC IS HEAVY IT DEVOLVES UPON THE ARMIES TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY MILITARY POLICE PATROL.

4. IF THERE ARE ANY PARTICULAR OR SPECIFIC CROSSINGS IN MIND WHICH IN THE OPINION OF COLONEL KIRK DO NOT HAVE PROPER SAFEGUARDS, WILL BE GLAD TO CONSIDER IF THEY ARE BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION, THE SAME AS HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE WITH REFERENCE TO THE CROSSING REFERRED TO ONE MILE SOUTHWEST OF MADGALOND STATION.

FOR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL:

CHARLES F. DOUGHERTY
COLONEL, T. C.
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

CC - CO, 701ST RY OR DIV, APO 400
CO, 703RD RY OR DIV, APO 400
ADTN 3, BUILDING

CPL

Jul

14610/1

The recent report from
Vetri di Potenza will
serve to emphasize the
necessity for much stricter
control of railway travel.

Adm. Sec. ask for
minutes or recommendation.
The only one I can offer is
that the matter is primarily
one for the Railway Police
administered by the Ministry
of RR & Civil Transport.

Rudy

6 Mar.

I AMG territory exclusive
mil. control. I unoccupied
territory all concerned Italian
agencies are meeting in
connection with same.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
Public Safety Sub-Commission

Folio 3A for action/~~information~~

G.P.S.
D.C.P.S.
Police
Prisons
Fire & C.D.
Regn. & Licensing
Adm. Officer *ff*

Remarks:

2. 1. 11
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Reg III

Reply

SUBJECT: Level Crossings

3 District
353 A.
Tel Ext 17.

7 Mar 44.

Main HQ A.C.O.

1. A number of fatal accidents have occurred due to the inadequate measures in existence for the control of level crossings in 57 area. In most cases it appears that an employee of the Italian State Railways is on duty at the crossings but is not provided with sufficient materials to be effective e.g. there are no barrier gates, flags or lamps for use at night.
2. Such an accident occurred at 1850 hrs on 31 Jan 44, when a WD truck collided with a train at the crossing one mile south west of MADDALONI Station. Although there were no military casualties, seventeen civilians were killed and another fourteen injured. At that time there was no watchman on duty. This has now been rectified but since he has no lamp or flag he is more or less useless.
3. It is requested that urgent steps are taken with the appropriate authority to provide suitable men and equipment to control these crossings, since their deficiency is causing an increasing number of totally unnecessary accidents.

Maj. Gen.
Comd.

62501

1st IND

ACC/14610/1/PS

FROM : HQ, ACC, Public Safety Sub-Commission

TO : Internal Transportation Sub-Commission

Herewith a communication from No. 3 District which raises a matter presumably under your jurisdiction.

Paul C. Kirk
PAUL C. KIRK
Colonel, Inf.
Chief, Public Safety
Sub-Commission

PCX/hgd

SUBJECT:- Level Crossings.

U-1591

Public Safety SC,

3 District.

353 A.

Tel Ext 17. 575

7 Mar 44. (3A)

Main HQ, A.C.C.

1. A number of fatal accidents have occurred due to the inadequate measures in existence for the control of level crossings in 57 Area. In most cases it appears that an employee of the Italian State Railways is on duty at the crossings but is not provided with sufficient materials to be effective e.g. there are no barrier gates, flags or lamps for use at night.
2. Such an accident occurred at 1850 hrs on 31 Jan 44, when a WD truck collided with a train at the crossing one mile south west of MADDALONI Station. Although there were no military casualties, seventeen civilians were killed and another fourteen injured. At that time there was no watchman on duty. This has now been rectified but since he has no lamp or flag he is more or less useless.
3. It is requested that urgent steps are taken with the appropriate authority to provide suitable men and equipment to control these crossings, since their deficiency is causing an increasing number of totally unnecessary accidents.

[Signature]
Maj Gen
Comd

6255

SUBJECT: Warning Lights at Level Crossing

Hq. No. 2 District, CMV
25/126 A
25 Feb. 44

Allied Control Commission

1. Three traffic accidents have recently taken place, at the level crossing situated at kilometre 321250 PARL - TUNIS railway line between GABOR and SAN NICANORO.
2. On 7 Jan 44 one E.C.P. was killed and another seriously injured.
3. No warning lights have been displayed since Oct. 1943, and as the approach to this level crossing is particularly dangerous it is requested that the strongest representations be made to the Italian authorities to restore these warning lights, and to avoid a repetition of these fatal accidents.

MAJOR GENERAL
Comm No 2 District

Copy for: No 4 Allied Commission
File 147 A

1st LHM

TO : RUSO, Reg. IV

From: Hq. 200. Public Safety Sub-Commission

1 March 1944

6224

It is requested that action be taken as in paragraph 3 of the basic communication.

Paul G. Bire
PAUL G. BIRE
Colonel, Inf.
Chief, Public Safety
Sub-Commission

PPH/hgc

Handwritten: 1318, 28 FEB 1944, 1A
 SUBJECT:- Warning Lights at Level Crossing

Hq No 2 District, GEP

25/126 A

25 Feb 44

Allied Control Commission

1. Three traffic accidents have recently taken place, at the level crossing situated at Kilometre 321258 SARI - TARANTO railway line between CASSANO and SAN NICANDRO.
2. On 7 Jan 44 one N.C.O. was killed and another seriously injured.
3. No warning lights have been displayed since Oct 1943, and as the approach to this level crossing is particularly dangerous it is requested that the strongest representations be made to the Italian authorities to restore these warning lights, and so avoid a repetition of these fatal accidents.

Handwritten: Mille 6253 capt.
 for Major-General
 Gend No 2 District

Copy for:- No 4 Claims Commission
 File 147 A

0030

1111