

ACC

10000/147/383

REP. 169 /CS

MEETING ON HANDING OVER TO  
ITALIAN GOVERNMENT

MAR. - AUG. 1946

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MARCH, 1946

**Present:** Col. H.H. SCUDDER, A.C.

Lt. Col. F.B. GROSSELTINGER, R.A.A.C.

Maj. S.R. TEW, I.L.I.C.

Lt. C.V. JOHNSON, R.A.A.C.

Lt. C.I. CUMMINGS, A.C.

Ing. BIFULCO, Azienda di Stato

Ing. SAGNO, ItalCable

1. Col. SCUDDER stated that the meeting was being held in order to comply with Deputy Theatre Commanders' orders and extend Rome - US radio telephone service to Naples for troops use only. Service will be limited to Sundays and in order to arrange for this the following schedule was agreed:

|         |                             |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| LIVORNO | Monday, Wednesday, Friday   |
| GORIZIA | Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday |
| NAPLES  | Sunday                      |

2. Lt. JOHNSON will arrange for the number of calls allotted to Livorno to be increased (at the expense of Rome) to compensate for the loss of one days' service.

3. The booking Office at Naples will be open from 14.00 hrs to 20.00 hrs. on Saturdays in order that maximum use of circuit may be made on Sundays.

4. Operating hours at Naples on Sundays will be from 12.00 hours until such time as traffic justifies.

5. Rome Naples telephone circuit will be made available from 14.00 hrs Saturday until 06.00 hours Monday of each week beginning Saturday March 16.

6. Lt. JOHNSON will arrange for special service Officer in Naples to contact Ing. Calvanese of the Azienda di Stato and the PBS Signal Officer in order to select location for booking office and operating room. Lt. JOHNSON will notify Maj. TEW as to location selected so that provision of local connection may be included in TCO. As there is a shortage of telephone booths special service and PBS will endeavour to supply this need.

7. Lt. Col. GROSSELTINGER will make all arrangements for providing of local connection in Rome.

Ing. BIPULCO, Azienda di Stato  
Ing. SAGNO, Italcable

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8. Rate will be \$12 for unit of 3 minutes plus 75 lire per unit.

Copies to: All present.

AFHQ Att: Deputy Chief Signal Officer.

Rep. 169

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REF 169

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD MARCH 1, 1946

|          |                      |                         |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| PRESENT: | Col. H.H. SCUDDER,   | Allied Commission       |
|          | Col. J.R. PATTERSON  | CSO's Branch, AFHQ      |
|          | Lt. Col. J.C. BRADY  | Long Lines Liason Group |
|          |                      | AFHQ                    |
|          | Lt. Col. E.D. HARVEY | Long Lines Liason Group |
|          |                      | AFHQ                    |
|          | Maj. C.H. CARROLL    | Long Lines Liason Group |
|          |                      | AFHQ                    |
|          | Ing. CARLETTI        | U.S.T.                  |
|          | Ing. BIFULCO         | Azienda di Stato        |
|          | Ing. CARTOCCI        | MARESE                  |

Col. Scudder opened the meeting by stating that CSO's AFHQ Memo of 25 Feb. 1946 would constitute the agenda.

Discussion took place concerning the delay in wage payments to MARESE personnel which had culminated in a work stoppage at Milan. Col. Scudder stated that a very strong telegram had been dispatched by the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, to the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications and a copy had been sent to the Prime Minister. It was felt that this action should result in corrective measures being taken.

Maj. Carroll raised the question of spares for and repairs to Auto Vehicles and Ing. Cartocci stated that in some instances (especially where amounts involved exceeded 10,000 lire) requests for authority to effect repairs required by law approval on such a high level that delays were bound to occur. Maj. Carroll brought out however that requests from the field were left unanswered for unconscionable periods and at Col. Scudders' request Maj. Carroll agreed to provide the Communications Sub-Commission with detailed evidence of such delays in replying to communications from the field. 2343

On the question of spares it was brought out that the list of maintenance spares had not yet been prepared by Ing. Cartocci who was still awaiting detailed requirements from

- 2 -

the field. Col. Brady agreed to have one of his Officers determine whether such a list could not be compiled here in Rome on the basis of the number and types of vehicles held by MARESPE. It was requested by Maj. Carroll and Col. Scudder that care must be taken to insure that such a list should be on the basis of 3rd. echelon scale.

Maj. Carroll asked whether a list of additional items needed to bring the maintenance line spares up to a 2 years supply level had as yet been produced. Col. Scudder replied that he had understood that Maj. Carroll was to have produced such a list himself as MARESPE was unacquainted with U.S. and British materials and would experience great difficulty in preparing an accurate estimate of requirements. Maj. Carroll agreed to produce the list by March 4 or 5th.

On the question of lack of replies to requests for and failure to supply repeater station spares, Ing. Bifulco stated that there were some items which the Azienda did not have available but were procuring from suppliers but that he knew of no cases where replies to requests from the field had not received prompt replies. Further discussion on this was dropped pending receipt of full report from Maj. Burns which Col. Brady will transmit to the Azienda for investigation.

Ing. Bifulco reported as to the staffing of repeater stations in the north that changes had been made at Verona, a Director was on the way to Udine and that steps were being taken to obtain additional staff at PLEZZO. At this latter the local considerations made it next to impossible to send additional staff from Italy but that it was expected to effect local recruiting.

U.G. technicians had been made available or would soon be available at all Fault controls and Ing. Bifulco stated that the Azienda was fully aware of the need and was doing all it could to obtain additional staff. He told the meeting that demands on the Azienda for staff exceeded their available supply of trained men and it was increasingly difficult to meet such requests as U.G. technicians, to be of any use, required a comparatively long experience. However he was hopeful of obtaining sufficient staff to meet all essential requirements.

- 3 -

On the subject of written instructions to new MARESPD Directors at Milan, Bologna and Venice. Ing. Carletti stated that necessary directives had now been issued and it was agreed that Col. Brady would review such instructions to determine their adequacy.

There was discussion as to the splitting of MARESPD areas and Bologna Fault Control. Ing. Cartocci had prepared instructions on this but before sending them to MARESPD Directors it was agreed that Maj. Carroll would review them to be sure that they were in accord with instructions given by him during his recent tour of the north.

Col. Brady and Maj. Carroll are to determine and take necessary action with regard to sub-division of Bologna Fault control area.

Ing. Carletti and Ing. Bifulco agreed that the necessary teleprinters could be made available for needed connections at Bologna and other points and expect to have machines in situ by March 8. Col. Brady is to check this for accomplishment.

Ing. Bifulco stated that he had taken up with the Chief Engineer Azienda di Stato, Milan the question of turning over to UST U.G. cable records covering N.W. Italy and that it was expected this would be accomplished shortly. He was unable to fix a date and Cols. Brady & Scudder stressed the need for speed as control of U.G. cable was passing to UST within a week and without proper records UST could not assume control.

No discussion took place on the utilization of the 2 12 - channel German telegraph terminals as experiments being carried out have not yet been completed.

Copies to: All present

Chief Signal Officer AFHQ.

2342

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/ec

RCP.169.15.CS

MEETING HELD JAN. 28, 1946

Present: Col. H.H. SCUDDER  
Lt. Col. H.T.W. MILLAR  
Lt. Col. J.C. BRADY  
Maj. C.H. CARROLL  
Dr. M. FANO  
Ing. A. CARLETTI  
Ing. O. CARTOCCI

Col Scudder opened the meeting by stating that it was felt that, in view of the imminent departure of several Officers familiar with the long lines situation, it was necessary to get the Long Lines Dept. of the Ministry organized with all possible speed.

It was agreed that the MARESEE organization and personnel would be merged with the U.S.T. and Ing. Carletti is to submit organization chart to Col. Brady by Jan. 30, 1946.

Dr. Fano agreed to continue his efforts to obtain additional space for U.S.T. and Col. Scudder stated that he would raise with Admiral Stone the question as to whether anything could be done by AC to assist in the matter.

Maj. Carroll will arrange to have the Administration submit to the Communications S/C a list of additional maintenance materials required to fill estimated 2 year's requirements since a check of the original project has disclosed marked deficiencies in some items.

Maj. Carroll expressed his satisfaction with the present MARESEE directors and stated that they were all of very good calibre. It was stated by Maj. Carroll and confirmed by Ing. Cartocci that pay of MARESEE employees is arriving with considerable delay. Dr. Fano will take steps to correct this.

Discussion took place on the subject of tools which are still not available in sufficient quantities.

- 2 -

Dr. Fano is to examine this on the occasion of his trip to Milan. It is believed that ample supplies of the badly needed items exist and can be obtained. Maj. Carroll is to have an additional quantity of sleeve crimping tools included in the list of maintenance parts needed.

It was learned from Maj. Holland in Milan that a quantity of shoes were in the possession of 2 District for delivery to authorised representative of Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. It was stressed that these shoes are for distribution to outside workers of Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications but that MARESPE linemen are to be given top priority. Col. Scudder emphasized the necessity of insuring that distribution was not confined to large centres but that country districts where need was greatest be taken care of. Col. Brady will urge 2 District to speed delivery and Dr. Fano will insure that suitable representative is named to replace Dr. Fadda who is no longer available.

Ing. Cartocci reported that vehicles of British origin were still immobilised due to lack of spares. Col. Millar and Maj. Carroll are to follow this up since report is at variance with conditions believed to exist.

Col. Brady stated that transport could be made available for an engineer to inspect repeater station maintenance and the Administration will submit the name of the engineer by Monday, February 4, 1946. It was brought out that this is a full time job and that all repeater stations are to be regularly inspected.

The Administration is interested in obtaining any telegraph carrier equipment which may be declared surplus by the Allies. It was pointed out by Col. Millar that all the equipment turned over to Ing. Danni from German stores had not been used and Ing. Cartocci is to follow this.

It was agreed that the civil telegraph system is adequate to carry all UST traffic to and from the field but that teletype connections to civil offices may be needed in some centres in order to speed delivery. Ing. Carletti is to arrange these where needed and is to be prepared to take over handling of <sup>2511</sup> circuit allocation on the U.G. Cable south of Naples by Monday, February 4, 1946

.7.

- 3 -

Col. Brady stated that it had not been necessary for the L of C to take over allocation of circuits in all districts (notably Foggia, Taranto and the zones west and North of Milan) and that this had been left to local Military Authorities. The UST is to prepare and submit to Col. Brady a list of circuits which they intend to take over so that necessary arrangements may be made with local military.

23.9

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
G-5 Section  
APO 512

1692

14

S-19

16 August 1945.

SUBJECT: Turnover of Military Telecommunication Facilities to Italian Government.

TO : Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO 394.  
(Attn: Communications Sub-Commission) ✓

see 8

Reference your REP.169.CS of 29 June.

1. The War Department has confirmed, as per recent conversations this section - your Sub-Commission, that the U.S. portion of the lines and equipment in question is to be disposed of by the surplus property method. The ANLC, with offices in Rome, have been advised and should have all details of the routes declared surplus.

2. It is unofficially understood that a similar method of disposal is at the present time being worked out for the U.K. portion of the lines.

For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5:

*R. C. Carson*  
R. C. CARSON

Major, G.S.C.,

Economics & Supply Division.



|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Director          | <i>W.H.</i> |
| Deputy Director   | <i>W.H.</i> |
| Chief Telecoms    |             |
| Chief Postal      |             |
| Chief Coms O      |             |
| Asst Chief Postal |             |
| Censorship        |             |
| Chief Clerk       |             |

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| CH-35   |  |
| REF     |  |
| FILE    |  |
| REP-169 |  |
| Date    |  |

2338

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
Office of the Chief Signal Officer

311.3/2/1

APO 512, U.S. Army  
19 July 1945

SUBJECT: Hand-over of Routes to Italian Government for Operation and Maintenance.

TO : See Distribution.

1. Reference is made to minutes of a meeting held in Signal Plans conference room at 1430 hours, 22 June 1945.

2. Annex "A" of transfer agreement referred to in paragraph 6 d of reference minutes should include in all cases the following:

a. Pole head diagram showing:

(1) Facilities to be retained by Allied Forces in red.

(2) New construction identified by the project number under which it was installed.

b. Line route map indicating the geographical location of the route in such form as to clearly identify it from any others in the same vicinity.

3. A sample Annex "A" indicating the desired form is attached hereto.

For the Chief Signal Officer:

  
I. W. GLEASON,  
Major, Signal Corps.

Incl:  
Annex "A".

Distribution:  
CAFSO, MAAF  
CSO, L of C Italy  
SigO, PBS  
SigO, RAAC  
CSO, 1 District  
CSO, 2 District  
CSO, 3 District  
✓ Director, Comm Sub-Com, AC  
Signal Section, AFHQ

2337



## Highway

Railway,

- +---+---+ Railway
- +---+---+ Route of telephone line involved in this transfer
- +---+---+ Route of connecting lines, or other lines in vicinity,
- +---+---+ Point of connection

rule of connecting lines, or not involved in this transfer

Route number or name

KW-24

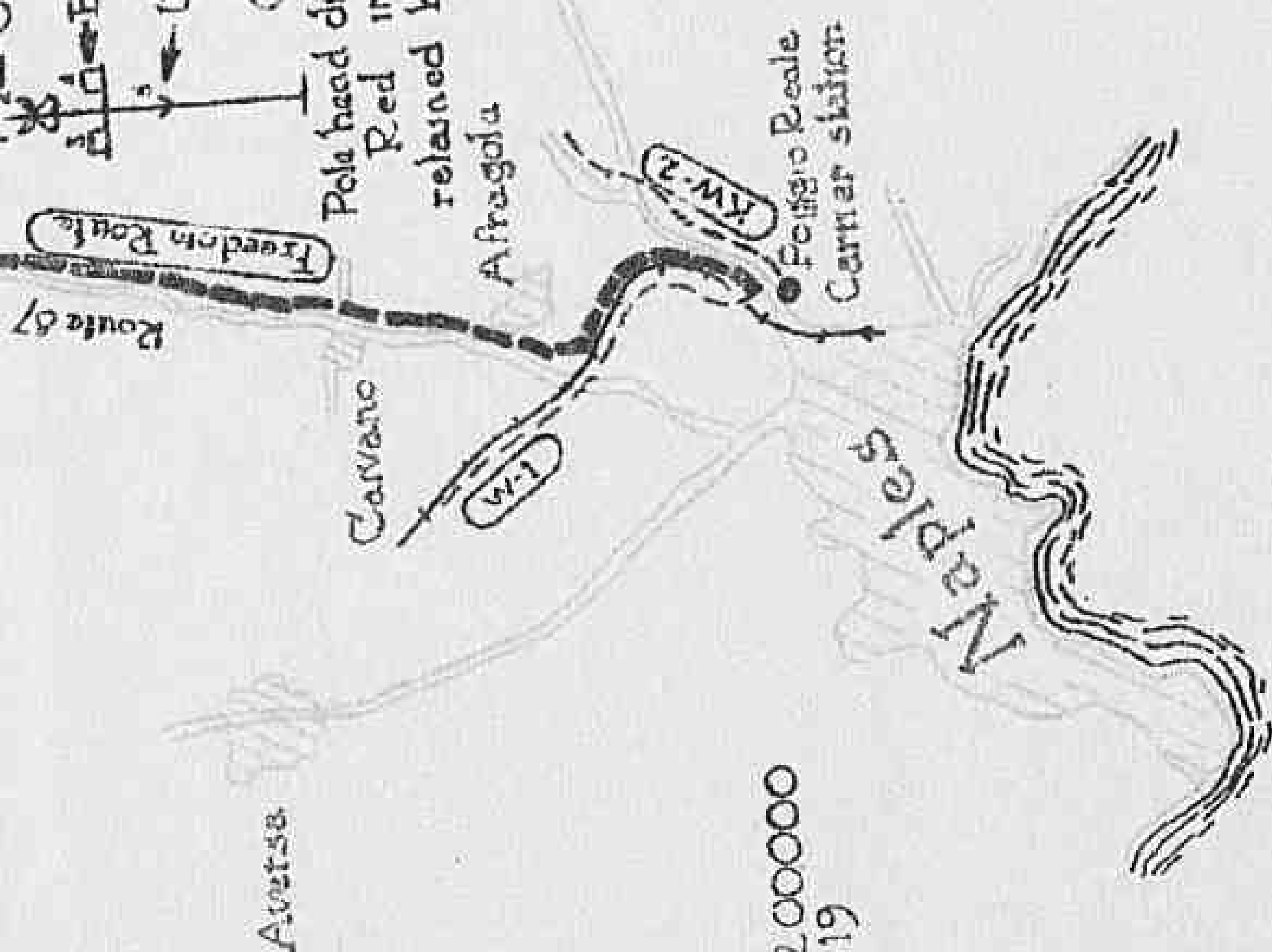
## Allocation

Donc 142 Circolo

Aug 4 Milford

Original circuit const.  
3mm. cu.  
Br const. 2 cts. 200lb  
Proj. 3 Dist/200  
U.S. Const 1 ckt. 0.80 cts  
Proj PBS/500  
General repairs Proj. LC/300  
Pole head diagram (Back to Naples)  
Red indicates circuit to be  
replaced by Allies.

2356



Italy  
Scale 1:200000  
Sheet No. 19

## Legend

Highway

Railway

Route of telephone line involved in this transfer

Route of connecting lines, or other lines in vicinity,

not involved in this transfer

Route number or name

KW-2

## Allocation

Pairs 142

Circuits Reserved for Allied Military

445

Spares

Annex A to

Transfer Agreement dated

Sample

Sample

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HTWM/ec

112

REP.169. .CS

7 August, 1945

SUBJECT: Italian Maintenance of Military Circuits.

TO : CSO L of C Main.

1. The Italians state that on several occasions they have found the Signals officers at fault controls unaware of the contents of the minutes of the meeting at Caserta on 22 June, and the procedure for handing over to Italian maintenance. This statement has not been checked in any way.

2. They instance Ancona, Bologna, and Firenze, as controls where they have had to explain matters.

3. Another difficulty that has arisen is that of petrol. It has not been possible to obtain supplies yet from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce whose supplies are very restricted, and have not been increased.

4. The matter is receiving attention but it is requested that assistance be given with petrol and oil at Bologna and Ancona until a final arrangement is made.

H.H.SOUDDER,  
Lt.Col.Sig.C.  
Director.

235

file

1820

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/epc

REF.169.11.CS

28th July, 1945

SUBJECT: Turnover of Circuits to Italian Operation

TO: Major L.G. Hawker (B)  
R.A.A.C. Liaison Telecomms Officer

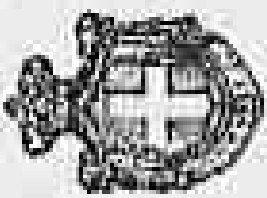
1. A letter has been received from the Italian Administration to the effect that in Ancona the South Africans have removed their personnel from fault control points turned over circuits to the Italians and all of this without in any way following the procedure laid down for such turnover by G.S.O., L.of C., Italy.

2. Please investigate and report.

H.H. SCUDDER  
Lt. Colonel, Sig.C.  
Director.

*original handed to Maj Hawker  
at 1500hrs 28.7.45. [Signature]*

2334



# MINISTERO POSTE E TELECOMUNICAZIONI

SOTTOSEGRETARIATO DI STATO  
SEGRETERIA

Prot. N° *39015* / Cart/Am

Risposta al foglio N. 169. C.S.

del *26/6/45*

Allegati

O G G E T T O: Manutenzione

rete Fault-Control di Ancona

COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

SUB - COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

A.P.O. 394

L'Ufficio "Marespe" ( Fault Control ) di Ancona comunica che gli ufficiali Sud-Africani dirigenti il locale Fault Control, hanno ritirato i loro uomini da tutti i test points della zona senza attendere che il rappresentante dell'Amministrazione Italiana si fosse convenientemente attrezzato per il proprio lavoro.

Non sono state tenute presenti, per la cessione delle linee le norme fissate nella riunione tenuta in Caserta il 22 giugno u.s., e, conseguentemente, non sono stati firmati i verbali di consegna delle linee.

Naturalmente, nonostante quanto sopra il Marespe di Ancona eseguirà il suo lavoro con ogni mezzo a sua disposizione e si spera che non si verifichino gravi disservizi.

Director

Director

Chief Telecoms

Chief Postal

Chief Coms O.

Chief Chief Postal

Censorship

SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

*Barber*

Prot. N° 39045/Cart/An

Risposta al foglio N. 169. C.S.

del 26/6/45

Allegati

OGGETTO: Manutenzione

rete Fault-Control di Ancona

COMMISSIONE ALLEATA

SUB - COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS

A.P.C. 394

L'Ufficio "Marespe" ( Fault Control ) di Ancona comunica che gli ufficiali Sud-Africani dirigenti il locale Fault Control, hanno ritirato i loro uomini da tutti i test points della zona senza attendere che il rappresentante dell'Amministrazione Italiana si fosse convenientemente attrezzato per il proprio lavoro.

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|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Director          |  |
| Chief of Staff    |  |
| Chief of Telecom  |  |
| Chief of Postal   |  |
| Chief of Coms O.  |  |
| Asst Chief Postal |  |
| Censorship        |  |
| Chief Clerk       |  |

AL SOTTOSEGRETARIO DI STATO

*Barber*

|          |        |
|----------|--------|
| REP. 169 | B/Fwd. |
|----------|--------|

Date 27 LUG 1945

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/epc

REP.169. .CS

29th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Development of Italian Telecommunications

TO: Under-Secretary of State for P.T.

1. With the liberation of the North, there became available the manufacturing capacity and engineering knowledge of several telecommunication companies. Several of these companies were found to have sizeable stocks of completed or partially completed carrier equipment.
2. The existing shortage of wire and transport counsel the maximum use of carrier equipment and it naturally follows that no long distance open wire construction should be undertaken except with the use of carrier in mind.
3. This Sub-Commission is confident that the technical committee studying the rehabilitation of Italian Telecommunications is keenly aware of the necessity of the fullest utilization of all facilities and that blind restoration of telecommunication facilities as they existed before the war will not be undertaken nor permitted.
4. It is hoped that you will feel free to call on this Sub-Commission for any advice or assistance which is within its powers to lend you in completion of an overall plan for the re-establishment of telecommunications in Italy.

2332

H.H. SCUDDER  
Lt. Colonel, Sig.C.  
Director.

see ~~PH~~

File

1824

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHB/epc

18

REF. 169. .03

29th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Turn-Over of Military Telecommunications Facilities  
to Italian Government

TO: A.F.M.C., G-5  
Att: Major Carson

1. Reference is made to minutes of meeting held at Caserta on June 22nd, 1945 and the discussion as to whether the definite transfer of ownership of military routes should be accomplished by A.C. requisition or by declaration of routes as surplus property.

2. This Sub-Commission's representative has reported that he pointed out some of the complications which would arise by adoption of the A.C. requisition method. If all the routes were essential the requisition method might be practical (although minutes of meeting report Major Gleason as stating that the only method for transfer of U.S. Property is the surplus property method). However, as pointed out by our representative, the entire amount of material on all routes is not essential to Italian economy altho' by and large it may be stated that the turn-over is essential as many of the routes will be used "as is" and others will supply badly needed material. Adoption of the requisition method would result in the Italian Government being required to pay full cost for all routes, some of which would be useful to the Italians only for the recovery value of the materials. It is considered as unduly onerous to require payment of full construction cost where only recovery of material is intended. Declaration of routes as surplus would permit, however, the establishment of sales prices by negotiation.

3. It is the recommendation of this Sub-Commission that the surplus property method be adopted as the more practical. A combination of the two could, of course, be used but this is not recommended.

see 14

H.H. SCUDDER  
Lt. Colonel, Sig.C.  
Director.

File

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
AFC 39th  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/epc

REP.169. .CS

26th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Turn-Over of Routes

TO: H.E. The Under-Secretary of State for P.T.

1. Inclosed herewith are 2 copies of minutes of meeting held in Caserta on June 22nd, 1945.

2. Your attention is drawn to the necessity of reaching agreement with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce with reference to P.O.L. for use in maintaining routes. If you will let us have an estimate of quantities per Fault Control we shall see what can be done to assist.

H.M. SCUDDER  
Lt. Colonel, Sig.C.  
Director.

2 Incls: 2 Copies of Minutes with attachments.

2320

file

see 10

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
Office of the Chief Signal Officer

MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN SIGNAL PLANS CONFERENCE  
ROOM AT 1430 HOURS, FRIDAY, 22 JUNE, 1945

PRESENT: Brigadier W.C. BUCHANAN, CSO, L of C ITALY, Chairman  
Major P.G. CARSON, G-5 Section, AFHQ  
Major I.W. GLEASON, Wire Div., Signal Section, AFHQ  
Major L. HAWKER, A.C. and RAAC, Rome  
Major D.G. HAYNES, CAPSO, MAAF  
Major F.F. HELMICK, Signal Officer, PBS (SOUTH)  
Major H.E. HILEY, HQ No. 2 District  
Captain T.A. KEEBLE, Wire Div., Signal Section, AFHQ  
Captain D.E. LATROPE, G-5 Section, AFHQ  
Captain W.V. LAW, Signal Section, PREBASE  
Captain F.E. LINDIARD, L of C ITALY (Main)  
Captain R.G. SAYER, HQ, No. 3 District  
Captain T.R. TEN, HQ, No. 1 District  
CWO J.M. MARSH, Signal Section, AFHQ

1. The purpose of the conference was to outline, to Signal Officers responsible, the procedure to be followed in the transfer of Allied Military wire routes for operation and maintenance to representatives of the Italian government.

2. Brigadier BUCHANAN opened the meeting by a presentation of the historical background of the developments to date, the salient points being:

a. At a conference held in Rome on 4 June 1945, attended by the Under Secretary of State for Postes and Telecommunications, CSO, L of C Italy, a representative of CSO, AFHQ, representatives of the Allied Commission and of all concessionary companies, a preliminary agreement was reached as to the procedure to be followed in the transfer of Allied Military routes to civilian operation and maintenance as follows:

- (1) A department has been organized under the Under Secretary of State for Postes and Telecommunications which will carry out the Italian Government's responsibilities in connection with the transfer of routes for maintenance and operation.
- (2) A representative of this Department, with full authority to act for the Italian government and all concessionary companies, will be assigned to each Fault Control with whom Signal Officer responsible can deal directly.
- (3) The Italian government, through these representatives, will assume responsibility for the operation and maintenance of all routes at its own expense as rapidly as desired by the Allied Military, provided adequate transport is made available.

Representatives of the Italian government have been nominated and

PRESENT: Brigadier H.G. BUCHANAN, G-5 Section, AFHQ  
 Major P.C. CARSON, G-5 Section, AFHQ  
 Major I.W. GLEASON, Wire Div., Signal Section, AFHQ  
 Major L. BAWKER, A.C. and RAAC, Rome  
 Major D.G. HAYNES, CAPSO, MAAP  
 Major F.F. HELMICK, Signal Officer, PBS (SOUTH)  
 Major H.E. HILEY, HQ No. 2 District  
 Captain T.A. KEEBLE, Wire Div., Signal Section, AFHQ  
 Captain D.E. LATIROPE, G-5 Section, AFHQ  
 Captain W. V. LAW, Signal Section, PENTBASE  
 Captain F.E. LIDDARD, L of C ITALY (Main)  
 Captain R.G. SAYER, HQ, No. 3 District  
 Captain T.R. TEE, HQ, No. 1 District  
 CWO J.M. MARSH, Signal Section, AFHQ

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(1) A department has been organized under the Under Secretary of State for Postes and Telecommunications which will carry out the Italian Government's responsibilities in connection with the transfer of routes for maintenance and operation.

(2) A representative of this Department, with full authority to act for the Italian government and all concessionary companies, will be assigned to each Fault Control with whom Signal Officer responsible can deal directly.

(3) The Italian government, through these representatives, will assume responsibility for the operation and maintenance of all routes at its own expense as rapidly as desired by the Allied Military, provided adequate transport is made available.

b. Representatives of the Italian government have been nominated and one is now available at each Fault Control.

c. The detailed arrangements for coordinating the transfer of routes with these representatives will be discussed and formulated at this meeting.

3. Brigadier BUCHANAN then pointed out that the planned transfer arrangement was only an interim provision and should not be confused with any plan for the ultimate disposition or sale of theater wire facilities to the Italian

government. He further stated that two plans were under consideration for the final disposal of Theater wire facilities, as follows:

- a. That, by and large, and with possible minor exceptions, existing wire routes be considered as essential for the economic recovery of Italy and, as such, be handled as a G-5 commitment.
- b. That all wire facilities be declared excess by the Theater Commander and authority obtained from the War Office and War Department for disposal through authorized agencies.

4. Major CARSON (G-5) stated that proposal outlined in Paragraph 3a above would require a substantiating statement from the Allied Commission for each route involved, and as it was conceded that certain routes were not essential for the National economy and recovery, some other plan would be required for routes which could not be so classified.

5. Major GLEASON stated that from the American viewpoint the only procedure which could be followed was:

- a. Wire and cable routes must first be declared excess to the needs of the Theater by the Theater Commander.
- b. The War Department must then declare these wire and cable routes as surplus to its requirements.
- c. Final disposal action will then be handled by the Army-Navy Liquidation Commission which is solely responsible for disposal of surplus property in this Theater.

6. Brigadier BUCHANAN then discussed the detailed procedure to be followed by Signal Officers in the transfer of routes for operation and maintenance. It was agreed that:

- a. As the existing military routes are generally rehabilitated civil routes and, in many cases, as now constituted, include plant formerly the property of several distinct governmental agencies or concessionary companies, all dealings must be made with the local representatives of the Ministry of Postes and Telecommunications who would represent all agencies concerned.
- b. Signal Officers responsible will initiate an orientation program with the Italian representatives to acquaint them with the routes under their jurisdiction.
- c. Signal Officers responsible will advise the Italian representatives in advance, insofar as possible, as to when the various routes will be transferred to civilian operation and maintenance, in order to permit efficient planning for necessary personnel by the Italian government.
- d. A memorandum outlining the terms under which responsibility for maintenance and operation is assumed by the Italian Government (copy attached) will be signed in triplicate by the Italian representatives for all routes to be transferred and for any routes already transferred. One copy of this agreement will be retained by the Italian representative, one

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b. Signal Officers responsible will initiate an orientation program with the Italian representatives to acquaint them with the routes under their jurisdiction.

c. Signal Officers responsible will advise the Italian representatives in advance, insofar as possible, as to when the various routes will be transferred to civilian operation and maintenance, in order to permit efficient planning for necessary personnel by the Italian government.

d. A memorandum outlining the terms under which responsibility for maintenance and operation is assumed by the Italian Government (copy attached) will be signed in triplicate by the Italian representatives for all routes to be transferred and for any routes already transferred. One copy of this agreement will be retained by the Italian representative, one by the Signal Officer responsible, and the third forwarded to the Wire Division, Signal Section, AFHQ, through CSO, L of C Italy.

NOTE: Facilities to be retained for use by the Allied Military will be indicated in red on Annex "A" to transfer agreement.

e. Signal Officers responsible are authorized to turn over routes to civil maintenance and operation at their discretion except in the case of L of C routes, which will require the prior approval of CSO, L of C Italy.

f. AFHQ has authorized a pool of captured enemy vehicles which will be made available to responsible Signal Officers for loan at their discretion as required for civilian maintenance.

NOTE: Gas and oil for this transport will be made available by the Italian government from its allotment currently available.

g. Until such time as final disposal action has been consummated, necessary maintenance material will be made available by responsible Signal Officers to the Italian representatives for the maintenance of all routes transferred.

h. In all cases of overlapping of interests between Base Sections, Districts, or IMAF, the Signal Officers concerned will coordinate their activities to provide necessary information to the Italian representatives.

NOTE: In the Florence Fault Control Area, the area east of and including open wire routes Pl-P4, Rome-Florence-Bologna, will be a No. 1 & 3 District responsibility. In the area west of open wire routes Pl-P4, Rome-Florence-Bologna, PES will control.

#### Distribution:

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Signal Section, AFHQ     | 5 |
| G-5, Section AFHQ        | 2 |
| CAPSO IMAF               | 2 |
| CSO, L of C Italy (Main) | 2 |
| CSO, No. 1 District      | 2 |
| CSO, No. 2 District      | 2 |
| CSO, No. 3 District      | 4 |
| Signal Officer, PES      | 4 |
| Signal Officer, RAC      | 2 |
| Director, Communications |   |
| Sub Commission, AC       | 4 |

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| Signal Section, AFHQ     | 5 |
| G-5, Section AFHQ        | 2 |
| CAPSO MAF                | 2 |
| CSO, I of C Italy (Main) | 2 |
| CSO, No. 1 District      | 2 |
| CSO, No. 2 District      | 2 |
| CSO, No. 3 District      | 4 |
| Signal Officer, PES      | 4 |
| Signal Officer, RAAC     | 2 |
| Director, Communications |   |
| Sub Commission, AC       | 4 |

2327

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
Chief Signal Officer, L of C, Italy

Date

Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications  
Royal Italian Government

Italy.

Attention:

1. The Allied Military proposes to turn over to your Ministry responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the telephone lines or equipment described in the attached diagram and schedule marked Annex "A".

2. By executing the form of acceptance appearing at the end of this letter, you will indicate your acceptance of responsibility for such maintenance and operation on the following terms and conditions:

a. The Allied Military reserves the right to retain and operate any desired circuits.

b. The Allied Military reserves the right to priority service over all lines without cost and to resume maintenance and operation of any or all lines at any time without notice.

c. All lines must be preserved intact and your Ministry will be held pecuniarily liable by the Allied Military for any damage or destruction other than that attributable to reasonable wear and tear; your Ministry or its nominee shall not employ any device, equipment or electrical current which will have a harmful effect on the lines or equipment as now constituted; provided further, that this provision shall not limit the right of your Ministry or its nominee to divide or rearrange existing circuits in the interest of effecting the best possible communications for both military and civilian purposes.

d. Your Ministry or its nominee shall be permitted the use of all facilities (except those reserved exclusively for Allied traffic), and to augment these lines, provided prior concurrence is obtained from the Chief Signal Officer, \_\_\_\_\_, and line route diagrams and all other pertinent information with respect to such augmentation is furnished to the above mentioned Signal Officer.

e. In no event shall your Ministry or its nominee remove any material or equipment from any line.

f. The Allied Military shall retain control of all lines and equip-

ment, but the cost of maintenance and operation by your Ministry will be borne by the Italian government or its nominee; the Italian government shall save the Allied Military harmless from all claims of any nature incident to or arising out of the operation and maintenance of these lines by your Ministry or its nominee.

g. Your Ministry shall obtain all necessary transport and maintenance facilities through existing channels in cooperation with the Chief Signal Officer, L of C, Italy.

h. This temporary arrangement for the maintenance and operation of these lines does not in any way affect the present rights of the Allied Military with respect to these lines nor does it supersede or affect any existing agreement between the Italian government or its nominee and any Allied organization.

i. This agreement shall remain in effect at the will of the Allied Military or until such time as ultimate disposition of these facilities is consummated by the Allied Military.

j. This arrangement has no bearing on or relation to the eventual disposal of these facilities by the Allied Military.

3. If your Ministry desires to assume responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the above described facilities upon the terms and conditions set forth herein, the acceptance appearing at the end of this letter should be properly executed by the authorized regional representative and the original and two signed copies of this letter forwarded to the undersigned within five days.

Very truly yours,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signal Officer, \_\_\_\_\_

# A C C E P T A N C E

The undersigned duly authorized representative of the Italian Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications hereby accepts responsibility of \_\_\_\_\_  
(time and date) for maintenance and operation of the above described facilities upon the terms and conditions outlined herein.

Distribution: \_\_\_\_\_

5

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
AFO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/epc

T.24.86.08

13th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Turnover to Italian Government of Telephone Plant  
TO: H.E. The Under-Secretary of State for P.T.

1. Reference is made to your letter of 6th June, 1945  
8/15.3/32562.

2. The plan proposed by you appears a sound one and if  
the Zone Representatives are up to the task should prove  
successful.

3. It is still our feeling (as expressed to you)  
that a certain leaven of Concessionary Company representatives  
would have served to insure that spirit of collaboration  
which is so necessary when facilities belonging to several  
organizations must be administered for the common good.

H.H. SCUDDER  
Lt. Colonel, Sig.C.  
Director.

2324

for RFP  
169

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/epc

13th June, 1945

T.24.85.05

SUBJECT: Turnover to Italian Government of Telephone Plant  
TO: C.S.O., L.of C. Italy (Main)

1. I had a meeting to-day with the Zone Representatives which the Ministry proposes to send out to handle taking over of maintenance and operation of open wire circuits from which military personnel may be withdrawn.

2. The task before them was explained in detail and each one given the opportunity to ask questions. I am sure that each one understands the magnitude and importance of the task before him and the necessity for collaboration among the different communication agencies.

3. The question of no concessionary company men having been named was again raised with the Under-Secretary of State and he insisted that the representatives named were fully competent. For State employees they made a good impression on me.

4. The plan, as I explained to you, is to have the zone representatives make their HQs. at Fault Control points. There is inclosed for your information copy of translation of letter from the Under-Secretary outlining the plan and naming the representatives.

5. At this morning's meeting two questions were raised:

a. Maintenance of vehicles which may be turned over to Italians.

I answered that if vehicles were of Italian manufacture (many captured from the Germans are) maintenance would be entirely an Italian problem. If vehicles are of Allied or German manufacture the problem is somewhat more complicated. Allied vehicles could be maintained at most Fault Control points at Italian Truck Battalions, Garages operating under A.C. supervision. For German made vehicles the problem would be very difficult and I hope receipt of any such vehicles can be avoided.

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2323

File  
RFP  
161

T.24.85.CS

13th June, 1945 Continued.

b. Petrol, oil and tires.

Fano stated that, altho' he had agreed at our last meeting that supply of such items would be made from the allotment made to the Italian Government, he was experiencing difficulties already and expected that any increased demand would be even more difficult. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce has told Fano that food distribution requires nearly all the allotment of the Italian Government and that telecomms needs cannot be met.

I told Fano that he would have to get his supplies from the Government allotment but that I was sure Signal Officers would help him out in emergencies and that I would bring pressure to bear on the Ministry of Industry to insure that the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications received its fair share of the supplies available to the Italian Government.

6. As agreed with you the Zone representatives who are to proceed to their posts from Rome will wait here until you let us know the Signal Officer to whom each one is to report.

H. H. SCUDDER  
Lt. Colonel, Sig. C.  
Director.

Incl: Translation of letter S/15.3/32562

2322

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION  
APO 394  
Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/epc

REF.169.3 .CS

6th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Turnover to Italian Government of Telephone Plant  
TO: C.S.O., A.F.H.Q.

Inclosed herewith 2 copies of Minutes of Meeting held June 4th, 1945 in Allied Commission Headquarters to discuss eventual turnover to Italian Government of telephone plant now used by Allied Military.

H.H. SCUDDER  
Lt. Colonel, Sig. C.  
Director.

Incls: Two copies of Minutes

Copies to: C.S.O., L.of C., Italy  
H.E. The Under-Secretary of State for P.T. (10)

2321

# HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AFC 394

Communications Sub-Commission

WHS/enc

6th June, 1945

Minutes of Meeting Held June 4th, 1945 in Allied Commission Headquarters to Discuss Eventual Turnover to Italian Government of Telephone Plant now used by Allied Military.

## Present:

Chairman Brig. W. C. Buchanan C.S.O., D. of C., Italy  
Lt. Col. R. H. Scudner Allied Commission  
Major I. T. Gleason Signal Section, A.F.H.Q.

|                 |                                            |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| S. E. Fano      | Sottosegretario I. T.                      |
| Comm. Aurini    | Capo Servizio Telegraf.                    |
| Ing. Rifulco    | Direttore Azienda Stato                    |
|                 | Servizi Telefonici                         |
| Ing. Cartocci   | Servizi Telegraf.                          |
| Ing. Viesi      | Segreteria Sottosegretariato P. I.         |
| Ing. Rodais     | Soc. S. I. E. T. (for Soc. I. E. L. V. E.) |
| Ing. Picotri    | Soc. Cino                                  |
| Ing. Santomauro | Soc. S. E. T.                              |
| Ing. Conti      | Soc. S. E. T. I.                           |
| Ing. Cinoecchio | S. I. E. T. (for Soc. S. I. E. F. E. L.)   |

Brigadier Buchanan opened the meeting by stating that with the termination of the war in Italy it was hoped progressively to turn back to civil administration various routes which have been used by the military and that the object of the meeting was to discuss and consider the most convenient methods for the accomplishment of this end. He pointed out that all dealings in connection with the turnover would have to be with representatives of the Italian Government and not with the individual organizations to which the routes may have belonged in the past.

Brigadier Buchanan then went on to trace the development of the routes which are not in exactly the same condition as before the war. He stressed the fact that Allied policy in providing military communications had been to restore in so far as possible the civilian telecommunications system.

The Brigadier with the aid of a detailed map, then gave in detail for many of the main military routes the conditions which had been encountered varying from very little destruction in the extreme south to complete destruction (either by battle damage or enemy action) from Salerno to the north. Such damage had necessitated rebuilding routes without regard to their former ownership so that a military route as at present constituted might comprise several sections of different prior ownership.

Brigadier Buchanan pointed out that this condition made it

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Lt. Col. H.H. Souder Allied Commission  
Major E.W. Gleason Signal Section, A.F.H.Q.

S.E. Fano  
Comm. Aurini  
Inf. Bifulco

Ing. Cartocci  
Ing. Viesi  
Inf. Roddis  
Ing. Picotini  
Ing. Santonaro  
Ing. Conti  
Ing. Cinocchio

Sottosegretario F.T.  
Capo Servizio Telegrafici  
Direttore Azienda Stato  
Servizi Telegrafici  
Servizi Telegrafici  
Sottosegretario F.T.  
Soc. S.I.E.T. (for Soc. I.E.L.V.E.)  
Soc. Cino  
Soc. S.E.I.  
Soc. S.E.I.  
Soc. S.E.I.  
S.I.E.T. (for Soc. S.I.E.F.E.L.)

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Brigadier Buchanan pointed out that this condition made it necessary that responsibility for maintenance and operation of routes turned back to civil administration must be vested in one authority. It was therefore necessary that one official in each zone be charged with the responsibility of indicating to Signal Officers the civilian agency to which a given route should be assigned for maintenance and/or operation. Since military district

boundaries did not appear to coincide with civilian administrative organization Dr. Fano was asked for the Government's suggestion in the matter.

Dr. Fano stated that the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications had established a Department under the Under-Secretary for Posts and Telecommunications which would be responsible for the over-all organization to which Allied Signal Officers would look whenever they were prepared to turn over any given open wire route constructed or in use by the Allies. Within the next week the Italian Government would prepare and submit to C.S.O., A.F.H.Q., thru the Allied Commission, a plan naming the representatives in each zone proposed by the Government. Generally it was intended that representatives would establish themselves at existing fault control points and that each representative would have full power to speak for all civil agencies within his zone.

On the subject of transport Brigadier Buchanan stated that it had been recognized for a very long time that it was quite impossible for civilian agencies to commence undertaking the maintenance of the network unless they were supplied with some means of transport. So far the allotment of transport which had been made by the Italian Government for the maintenance of Telecommunications had been microscopic in quantity. This however was very natural in view of other demands considered of higher priority e.g. distribution of food.

Brigadier Buchanan said that in spite of his most urgent representations during the past nine months, to date it had not been possible to obtain a declaration of policy as to whether and when it will be possible to sell transport to the Italian Government, it appeared preferable to sell whatever transport was made available as in this way control and responsibility for the operation would be entirely up to the Italian Government.

Brigadier Buchanan went on to say that, as soon as the war finished in Italy, he had made a request on A.F.H.Q., for the provision of captured transport which had been agreed to. Vehicles would be issued to Military Districts which had been given authority to issue such vehicles on loan to civilian agencies to maintain routes within their areas which were of interest to the Military. This limitation on use appeared capable of an interpretation liberal enough to insure that sufficient vehicles would be provided.

Brigadier Buchanan stated that provision of petrol, lubricants and tires would have to be made, through the usual channels, out of the allotment of petrol to the Government through the Allied Commission. Dr. Fano agreed to this.

In reply to a question raised by Dr. Fano, Brigadier Buchanan said that he envisaged the turnover to civilian agencies (development progressively and further stated that it was of great importance that zone representatives of the Italian Government be carefully chosen.

At this point Dr. Fano questioned the representatives of the railway companies as to the availability of members of the railway companies as Zone Representatives.

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At this point Dr. Fano questioned the representatives of the Concessionary Companies as to the availability of members of the staffs of the companies for appointment as Zone Representatives.

Upon assurance that such repairs would be made available within the capacity of the Companies, Brigadier Buchanan developed further his concept of the mechanics of the turn over.

He stated that he envisaged the Signal Officer of a district, having decided that he wished to turn over a given route for maintenance or operation, going to the Zone Representative and arranging with him for the provision by the military of the necessary vehicles as well as those materials, unavailable to the civilian agencies, necessary for proper maintenance of the route. At the same time the Signal Officer would indicate whether the route were being turned over entirely with no further military interest or whether there were still a military interest requiring that it be maintained as a unit rather than being broken up into its component parts.

Lt. Col. Scudder stated that, although central control of Zone Representatives would be exercised from Rome, it was important that representatives be given ample power to settle all minor matters locally and that they be men of a calibre capable of making decisions and taking action locally.

Ing. Ginocchio raised the question of the underground cables and in reply Brigadier Buchanan stated that, as everyone present knew, the underground telephone cable system had either been repaired or was being repaired by the Allied military with the assistance of civilian personnel of both the Azienda di Stato and civilian companies. In the usage of the underground cables the same problem arose as with the open wire network i.e. circuits requiring the use of cables which were formerly the property of several civilian agencies.

In connection with the repair of underground cables, Brigadier Buchanan stated that he was pleased to report that large quantities of repeater station equipment removed by the Germans had been found near Verona. A certain portion of this equipment would be needed to replace military items now installed at repeater stations but a sizable amount would be available for use by the Italian Government and Concessionary Companies.

Dr. Fano raised the point discussed at a previous meeting as to payment for services rendered the military.

Brigadier Buchanan said that the question only arose 23 in connection with services rendered by agencies other than Government agencies and that he saw no reason for departing from the existing arrangement which was that Civilian Companies would render monthly statements which would be certified for services received by the latter stated Signal Officer and forwarded to the Italian Government for settlement with the Company rendering the statement. It was agreed that there was at present, no reason to change the existing system.

Lt. Col. Scudder stated that to sum up the meeting there had been three main questions raised which required an answer. 1. The question of taking over

to the civilian agencies, necessary for the maintenance of the route. At the same time the Signal Officer would indicate whether the route were being turned over entirely with no further military interest or whether there were still a military interest requiring that it be maintained as a unit rather than being broken up into its component parts.

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Lt. Col. Scudger stated that to sum up the meeting there had been three main questions raised which required an answer.

1. Is the Italian Government interested in taking over open wire installations made by the Allied military.

2. Is the Italian Government interested in taking over carrier equipment in the event that it becomes available for disposal.

3. Is the Italian Government prepared to assume over-all responsibility for maintenance and operation of open wire installations (and possibly carrier equipment) turned over to it by the Allied military.

Dr. Fano said that the Italian Government's reply was in the affirmative to all three questions.

The meeting then adjourned.

Copies to: C.S.O., L.of C. Italy (2)  
C.S.O., A.F.H.Q. (2)  
H.E.The Under-Secretary of State for P.T. (10)  
File (5)

2318

Brigadier Buchanan speaking:

I shall speak in English. If anybody has any difficulty understanding what I say is you please ask Colonel Spedden or Major Diddson he will translate and make clear. BRIG. BUCHANAN OPENED THE MEETING BY STATING THAT THE SUBJECT OF THIS MEETING IS THE FINISH OF THE WAR IN ITALY <sup>IT WAS</sup> HOPE D

progressively to turn back various routes which have been used by the military during the war and ~~what we want~~ <sup>THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING WAS</sup> to discuss and consider ~~the~~ the methods most convenient by which

these routes can be turned over to the civil. So far as the American and British Governments are concerned, we deal as an Allied force and must deal direct with the Italian Government. Therefore, obviously, some convenient arrangement must be worked out and that is why I have asked you gentlemen to be here -- to work out a convenient arrangement to effect the transfer without disruption of communications. As you will see very shortly when I go over the history of the development of these routes, they are not in exactly the same condition as they existed prior to the war. I think that it would possibly be best, and I shall make it most clear as I want to go over on the map, just how the system has developed because there have been in a number of instances fairly considerable alterations; that is to say, our policy has been in providing communications for military purposes to restore in so far as possible the civilian telecommunications system and that for two reasons: the first reason being that unless there was complete disruption it was easier to restore telecommunication routes and secondly we believe that by so doing we would facilitate the eventual restoration of telecommunications in the country. That is what we have tried to do. (The Brigadier <sup>has given a description of the system which is complete. He has also indicated by a map the routes which are to be restored. (Then a discussion</sup> then went over to the map and traced the history referred to above). Then a discussion ensued and the Brigadier said the following: "From our point of view our military and administrative districts do not, I imagine, conform to your administrative districts. At least they do insofar as compartmental are concerned but where we use district it may include three or four compartments; that, I think, is too large a unit to be dealt with by one person and I therefore think that it would be more simple if we in the military could suit your convenience in relation to your district. That is to say, if you will tell us what size or extent of zone is suitable to be dealt with by one individual and will nominate the individual for that zone we, I think, can inform the individual with the designated person. That, I think, we could

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any groups within the zones to get in contact with the appropriate person as nominated by the Government." (Some are discussions). Then the Brigadier said: "The officer nominated must be able to speak for <sup>all agencies within his zone</sup> Italy for the whole lot."

TRANSPORT - The Brigadier: "We have recognized for a very long time that it was quite impossible for the civilian agencies to commence undertaking the maintenance of all the networks (?) unless they were given some means of transport. So far ~~as~~ the allotment of transport which has been made available to the Italian Government has been only, I understand, a microscopic quantity for the maintenance of all telecommunications systems. That is very natural because of other very important things <sup>such</sup> as distribution of food. But if we wish and hope to turn over the operation and maintenance of telecommunications system to you you must have some form of transport. That, as you, Dr. Fano, I have represented for the past nine months to Allied military authorities and also to our Governments. Unfortunately to date it has not once again been possible to get a declaration of policy as to whether it will be possible and when it will be possible to actually sell transport to the Italian Government. That is what I personally would prefer to do because it seems to me that it is much better that we should actually pass to you directly under you and the Government's control the transport which they will use with their own men. to maintain the lines. I think it would be bad and unfortunate that we should endeavour to exercise any control as to ~~how~~ how you employ your men. You have your own organization and methods of doing it. And I would prefer that when we pass transport to you it be operated entirely under your own arrangements, under your normal organization. All I have succeeded in doing so far/as soon as the war finished is I placed a demand with AFHQ for the provision of captured transport. They have agreed to that and have ~~said~~ said that they will make vehicles available to me. These will be issued to the military districts and the military districts or the Signal <sup>23</sup> ~~officers~~ <sup>officers</sup> of the military districts have been given authority to issue these vehicles on loan to civilian agencies to maintain routes within their areas which are of interest to the military. Now that description of routes which are of interest to the military, as I told to Colonel Scudder, I think we can interpret very liberally because ~~it is~~ <sup>it is</sup> to a great extent at present all routes or communications ~~will~~ are of interest to the military and I have

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do and what we shall endeavour to do is to get a certain number of additional vehicles so that ~~there/they/~~ they be cannibalized for maintenance.

(Here one of the Italian officials spoke and the Brigadier stopped).

He continued afterwards: "The only thing that AFHQ will have to say is the condition of loan of these vehicles to civilian agencies is that they do maintain such routes as we may nominate to meet our requirements. The question of issue of petrol and oil and lubricants will be effected to the civil agencies who receive the vehicles through the usual channels out of the allotment of petrol to the Government through the Allied Commission. I think that will not present ~~any/~~ any difficulty."

(Here Lt Col Scudder made an explanation to the Brigadier of some point brought up by the Italian official). The Brigadier replied: "The answer is unfortunately no because if we issue to civil agencies military vehicles under the present regulations these vehicles must be placed on the charge of a military unit who will be entirely and financially responsible for these vehicles. You will readily understand that I am not prepared to ask the commanding officer of a unit to hold the financial responsibility for vehicles he issues to civilian agencies over whom we cannot possibly have control."

(Interruption). Then he went on: "I see this turning over to the civil developing progressively, that is to say, we find out that a route (for example Rome to Tivoli)

is of no use to us. The local Signal officer in Rome goes over to whom you have

nominated; then they talk -- now many vehicles do you require, etc." He continued:

"But before turning over it will be necessary for the Signal Officer of the military area who will have by this time vehicles to make vehicles available for the civil to be

able to ~~take~~ take what he is asking them to do. (Interruption) He went on: "If they

will nominate their representatives for the zones as soon as possible I will communicate the names of these representatives to the various Signal officers and I shall say to them, if you have any route of which you wish to turn over maintenance of ~~operation~~

to civil agency you approach so and so who is entitled to speak for all the agencies and make the necessary arrangements. (Interruption) The Signal Officers at the same time

~~are turning it over entirely~~ that they turn over a route to the civil will indicate whether they are turning it over entirely and saying that so far as ~~affairs~~ can be foreseen there is

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CABLES -- The Brigadier: "The position of the cables in this country, the underground cable, is that as you all know the cable has been repaired, the state cable has been

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repaired from Palermo to Naples and from Bari to Naples; also from Rome, Florence, Bologna. Now linked up with the cable is the cable of the line from Ancona to Bologna, which is now terminated in the state repeater station in Bologna. The repeaters in Bologna were destroyed. In Florence also, the cable of Teti, Florence-Lucca-Livorno-Viareggio, has been repaired and there again that cable is terminated in the state repeater station in Florence. In Lucca it is the equipment of the Teti, in Livorno it is just terminal unrepeated. We propose to continue the repair of that <sup>CABLE</sup> terminal (?) from Viareggio-Genova. A cable from Milano-Vercelli-Torino is in process of repair. The other cable which is possibly of interest and which is partly a new cable is the one from Bologna to Verona. We are using the German company that destroyed it to repair it. Also during the war a cable was laid down from Verona to Alfa <sup>to</sup> Trento. (Here followed some more specific instances). In the usage of these cables we get the same problems as existed in the open wires that were formerly the property of one or two agencies or possibly three agencies. We rely <sup>on</sup> our communication from Livorno to Ancona on a cable which belonged to the Teti, <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>Stall and Jund</sup> (Some more instances). As you know in repairing the cable from Palermo upwards to Florence we have progressively taken away equipment from lower stations to place it in stations that have been destroyed by the Germans. Now I am very glad to be able to tell you that near Verona and other places we have discovered very large quantities of equipment that the Germans had removed and intended to carry into Germany. I am arranging to collect all that equipment at Verona. We will use a certain amount of it to replace ~~the~~ military equipment but that will in addition leave quite a suitable balance of equipment ~~for~~ which belongs to the Italian companies and Government.

## SUMMING UP:

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Lt Col Scudder speaking: "Three problems were presented to the meeting. First: is the Italian Govt interested in taking over open wire installations made by the Allied military, and the Italian Govt's answer is yes. ~~Second question:~~ Second question: in the event that carrier equipment is available for disposition to the Italian Govt, is the Italian Govt interested in taking it over? The answer to that is yes. Third question was the method by which the maintenance and operation of the open wire network constructed by the Allies would be taken over by the Italian Govt. Dr. Fano stated

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## SUMMING UP:

23.4

Lt Col Scudder speaking: "Three problems were presented to the meeting. First: is the Italian Govt interested in taking over open wire installations made by the Allied military, and the Italian Govt's answer is yes. ~~Second~~ Second question: in the event that carrier equipment is available for disposition to the Italian Govt, is the Italian Govt interested in taking it over? The answer to that is yes. Third question was the method by which the maintenance and operation of the open wire network constructed by the Allies would be taken over by the Italian Govt. Dr. Fano stated that the Minister for Posts and Telecommunications had established a department under the Undersecretary of Posts and Telecommunications which would be responsible for the over-all organization to which the Allied military Signal officers would look whenever they were prepared to turn over any given open wire ~~be~~ <sup>be</sup> constructed or in use by the Allies. The Italian Govt will prepare and submit to Brigadier Buchanan through the Allied Commission a plan naming the representatives in those zones which

may be determined by the Italian Government. The proposal is that the fault control points at present used the Allied military should be the headquarters of the representatives of the Italian Government in the field. (Then the Brigadier added what follows). "When the Signal officers of the various districts turn over to the civilian agencies for maintenance, they have authority to make available to these civilian agencies vehicles taken from the Germans (?). When a route is handed over entirely to a civil agency for maintenance the Signal Officer of a particular area will indicate both to the civil agency and also ~~to the Allies, or rather,~~ to AFHQ, the quantities of materials required for such maintenance."

(Interruption) *Payment* -

Then he went on: "From my point of view I see no reason to depart from the existing arrangement. That is to say, we deal as we have dealt in the administration of payments for services rendered to the Government. The companies at our service furnish us with bills which our Signal officers certify and return. Thereafter ~~the companies~~ it is a matter of arrangement between the Government and the company. There is no desire to depart from that arrangement unless you see any reason to do otherwise.

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(Interruption) ~~Continued~~

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