

ACC AC 218 10000/148/1866 PISA-MONTECATINI - PISTOIA
DEC. 1944

-MONTECATINI - PISTOIA - PRATO - FLORENCE

1944

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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HEADQUARTERS
FIFTEENTH ARMY GROUP (OVHD)
APO 777 U.S. Army

TNS/C

SECRET
By: AUTH of
CO: 152A6
DATE: 24 Dec 44

23 December 1944

SUBJECT: Development of Railway Line 218; Pisa - Montecatini - Pistoia - Prato - Florence.

TO : Cinc, AFHQ, APO 512, U.S. Army (Attn EMRS)

1. Due to the necessity for a 5 Army railhead nearer the front than Leghorn and the obstructions found in the Gerreville Tunnel, which will delay opening the Pistoia railhead for an indefinite period, it will be necessary to establish a railhead at Montecatini. It is therefore requested that Montecatini be developed for a capacity of 3000 TPD to open not later than 15 January. This railhead will be used exclusively by 5 Army.

2. Further requests in regard to reconstruction at the earliest date are as follows:

a. Pistoia to be developed to a capacity of 4500 TPD. CG, 5 Army will make allocation of tonnages to interested parties at a later date but this railhead will be basically for 5 Army supplies. In addition PBS will require trackage on a separate spur for one to two hospital trains per week. PBS will construct such road facilities as are found necessary for evacuation purposes.

b. Prato to be developed to a minimum capacity of 1000 TPD. Use of this railhead has been established initially as follows:

1. U.S. Air Corps 500 TPD
2. 5 Army Br. Incr. 350 TPD
3. In. Stores 150 TPD
4. Total 950 TPD

c. Rifredi (outskirts of Florence) to be developed to a capacity of 600 TPD, allotted initially as follows:

1. Allied Commission 300 TPD
2. 5 Army Br. Incr. (For Florence City Command) 150 TPD
3. 2 British Hospital Trains per week 115 TPD
4. Total 565 TPD

d. Florence Central Station to be developed so that PBS can utilize the western end for one to two hospital trains per week without interfering with the the 5 Army Rest Center. No supplies will be hauled into or out of the main station unless authorized by 5 Army.

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3. Plans for the lay out of these projects will be forwarded your headquarters at the earliest date.

4. It is requested that this headquarters be kept advised as to opening dates of the above requested railheads.

For the Commanding General:

O. C. LEWIS,
Lt. Colonel, G.S.C.,
Actg. Adj. General.

c.c.
MRS
Fifth Army
Allied Commission
AAFSC/MTG
PB9
RCE 1212 Railway Construction and Maintenance Group
Florence City Command
719th Railway Operating Bn.

Internal Distribution:

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