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PORT OF
APR - MAY

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PORT OF VIAREGGIO
APR - MAY 1945

TYPEHEAD

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMISSION

PORTS & WAREHOUSE DIVISION

PORT REPORT

PORT OF VIAREGIO

{ OPENED: 11 APRIL 1945
CLOSED: 22 MAY 1945 }

10000 / 148/3454

THIS FOLDER

CONTAINS PAPERS

FROM APR. 45

MAY 45

CATALOGUE -

COPY

TRANSLATION

CAPITANERIA DI PORTO
VIAREGGIO

22 May 45.

SUBJECT: Port of VIAREGGIO.

With reference to your letter of the 21 May, the following information is given regarding the services of this Command which has the jurisdiction of the Port of VIAREGGIO and of the coast of the zone.

A). The activities of the Port of Viareggio before the war were the following :-

1) Arrival and departure of ships travelling from and to Greece for the Olive Oil trade which was refined in the establishments then existing near this Port. The transport to nearby ports of building materials manufactured in the vicinity of Viareggio. The arrival from the Islands of motorboats carrying wine and coal. This was the inward and outward traffic of the ships, to which must be added those designated to the marble industry, which were numerous.

2) Fishing Fleet: About 30 Motor Fishing Boats (large) and the same number of small boats, formed the fishing Fleet in Viareggio before the war. Practically all the catch was unloaded at Viareggio and neighbouring ports, thereby giving life to a flourishing industry and a good source of alimentation.

3) Shipyards: The numerous shipyards existing in this port constructed wooden ships up to 500/600 Tons, Motor Fishing Boats, Towing Boats, Motor Boats, etc., This industry has always flourished, as the Viareggio constructors were famous all over Italy. Naturally the yards gave work to a great number of special labourers, carpenters, calkers, etc.

The above three mentioned activities were under the supervision and jurisdiction of this Command. (Administration, Police, and Sanitation). The arrivals and departures were dealt with by a N.C.O. and two sailors, whose duty was to control the ships' documents, etc.

A similar control was made on the Fishing Fleet, with the addition that part of personnel of this Command followed the course of the fishing industry at the dumps and distributing centres.

The Shipyards were also constantly under supervision as regards to construction, repairs, etc., and assistance given in towing and launching ships.

The personnel of this Command, before the war, for out-door services, (comprising the guarding of the coast under its jurisdiction from Torre del Lago to Marina di Carrara, 36 Kilometres in length, and about 1500 concession licences under its administrative and

D: TRANSPORTATION S/C, AC
Rome

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The personnel of this Command, before the war, for out-door services, (comprising the guarding of the coast under its jurisdiction from Torre del Lago to Marina di Carrara, 36 Kilometres in length, and numbering about 1500 concession licences under its administrative and police control, consisted of 3 N.C.O.s and 6 sailors as a minimum, under the orders of a Subaltern Officer.

Interior services. For the interior services, the registering of seamen, which number approximately 11.000, the examination of same, the formalities of arrivals and departures of vessels, the issuing of crew rolls, the embarkment and disembarkment of the seamen, visits on board the vessels, etc., the personnel was composed of 1 Officer, 2 N.C.O.s and 2 Sailors.

With regard to the construction of ships (checking the tonnage, registration, annual control of licences of vessels of minor tonnage (about 900 registered), the staff was composed of 1 Officer, 2 N.C.Os and 2 Sailors.

For the enrolling Office before the war, the personnel was as follows: 1 Officer, 2 QM, N.C.Os and 4 Sailors. This staff attended to medicam exams of the men enlisted, the assignment of same, and the administration of the men in service subsidies, etc..

For the "Sundry Duties" there were 2 N.C.Os and 6 Sailors who attended to the following duties: Maintenance of craft, Sailors' mess, ordnance.

In all, therefore, this Command, with jurisdiction from Torre del Lago to the mouth of the Parmignola River, had, before the war a staff of 6 Officers (including the Commander), 10 N.C.Os and 19 Sailors.

B). Activities of the Port at the present moment.

1) The inward and outward traffic of this Port is temporarily suspended, but it is hoped that it will soon be re-activated if only on a limited scale. It is to be borne in mind that the industries indicated above, (oil refiners, building material manufactures, etc) are already resuming work. However, it is necessary that are now, the staff of this Command supervises the works in progress in the Canal of the Port in order to assure the navigability of same.

2) About 30 Motor Fishing Boats, between large and small, are ready to take to sea. The necessary supply of Nafta is awaited, and the completion of the clearance of the canal. Numerous sailing and other boats are already fishing, with benefit to the aliment-ation of the population. It is necessary however that a control by members of the staff of this Command be effected with regard to the departure and arrival of these boats, the regularity of their paper, and their crews.

3) The Shipyards, which have increased since before the war are working, and also those that were damaged have commenced repairing the yards and the construction of ships. This industry is to-day on account of lack of vessels, very active. Labour however is scarce.

The interior services of this Command have all been reactivated except for the enlisting bureau, which is in course of preparation. All the other services are proceeding favourably, although slowly due to lack of staff which has not yet been assigned to this Office.

C). The present personnel is made up as follows:

1 Officer and 5 N.C.Os.
Personnel to be sent, and which is considered the minimum necessary is as follows: 1 Superior Officer to act as Commander, 2 Officers for

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1 Officer and 5 N.C.Os.
Personnel to be sent, and which is considered the minimum necessary is as follows: 1 Superior Officer to act as Commander, 2 Officers for the Seamen's section. 2 Officers for the technical services, accounting etc 1 Officer for enlisting Office 2 N.C.Os 15 Sailors etc, making a total of 24.

D). General Information.

The minimum necessary staff has been requested for the moment, but additional members would not be too much in consideration of the Police service of the Port and the vast zone under control, which was previously carried out in conjunction with the fascist port militia, now suppressed and which will have to be attended to exclusively by the staff of this Command.

Sgd. RICCARDO RANGONI
Commander Port of VIAREGGIO.

COPYHEADQUARTERS
TOSCANA REGION
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

File Ref: RVIII/

Date: 27 Apr 45.

SUBJECT PORT OF VIAREGGIO.

TO : PC, LUCCA.

1. Reference your LU/B2 dated 24 Apr 45.
2. Please ascertain what is the precise object of assigning Italian Naval Personnel to VIAREGGIO. Were any such personnel formerly employed, and if so, what were their duties?
3. VIAREGGIO is NOT listed as a port and before submitting any recommendation some definite data is required as to normal port activities.

By ORDER of Colonel KIRKWOOD:

Sgd. D.M.FINDLAY,
Junior Comdr ATS
Acting Adjutant.

gkmp.

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
VIAREGGIO

Date 22 April 45.

Ref 125

SUBJECT:- Port of VIAREGGIO
 Request for Italian Navy Personnel.

TO :- Provincial Commissioner.

1. Upon assuming duties as CAO of VIAREGGIO, was informed by the CAO of 92nd Division that Port Authorities of P.B.S., LIVORNO, were not interested in VIAREGGIO as a Port. Authority was given verbally to proceed with the reconstruction of the Port and the salvaging of sunken vessels.

2. Work on both projects is proceeding to the point where the Comandante del Porto is requesting that Royal Italian Navy Personnel be again assigned to the Port, and formal request is enclosed.

3. Request that application be forwarded.

Sgd. E.A. VALENTINE
 Capt S.R. - CAO

LU/82
 HQ LUCCA PROVINCE, ALLIED MILITARY GOVT, APO 394, US Army 24/4/45
 TO :- Regional Commissioner, Toscana Region

Request that communication be forwarded to Italian Navy Sub-Commission thru Channels.

For the Provincial Commissioner:

Sgd. PASQUALE D'ERASMO
 1st Lt., QMC
 Executive Officer

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Viareggio 11 Apr 1945.

REGIA MARINA

R. CAPITANERIA DI PORTO

VIAREGGIO

Ufficio A.C.

Prot. 320

Sig GOVERNATORE MILITARE E ALLEATO

V I A R E G G I O

ARGOMENTO:- Servizi di questo Comando.

Questa R. Capitaneria di Porto si trova attualmente nella impossibilità di svolgere i complessi servizi previsti dalla legge italiana per il Compartimento di giurisdizione che si estende da Torre del Lago fino al limite della provincia di La Spezia, per la mancanza del previsto personale della R. Marina.

Si interessa pertanto vivamente il Sig. Governatore Militare Alleato di Viareggio affinché voglia a sua volta interessare il Ministero della Regia Marina Italiana allo scopo di far destinare con urgenza a questa Capitaneria gli Ufficiali che dovranno collaborare con il Comandante Capitano RANGONI, i sottufficiali e i marinai previsti, al fine di una soddisfacente svolgimento del servizio.

Si precisa che questo Comando oltre alle attribuzioni relative alla navigazione, alla pesca, al demanio marittimo, al lavoro portuale, alla leva militare, alle costruzioni ed ai ricuperi navali ecc., esercita anche, secondo la legge, le funzioni di polizia amministrativa per tutta la zona di giurisdizione e pertanto le disponibilità del personale adatto è assolutamente necessaria onde evitare ritardi ed inconvenienti nella regolare espletazione di tutti i servizi.

IL CAPITANO DI PORTO-COMANDANTE DEL PORTO
F.to Riccardo RANGONI

P.C.C.

Viareggio 20-4-1945
IL CAPITANO DI PORTO
(Riccardo RANGONI)

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Viareggio 20-4-1945
IL CAPITANO DI PORTO
(Riccardo RANGONI)

IL CAPITANO DI PORTO-COMANDANTE DEL PORTO
F.to Riccardo RANGONI

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