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HEADQUARTERS
COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
APO 512

27 December 1944

SUBJECT: Italo-Swiss Frontier Control Discussions.

TO : G-2 (CI) Section, AFHQ, APO 512, US Army.

1. Major Pompei, SIM/CS; Colonel Gaetano, Guardia di Finanza; and Captain Cajono, Carabinieri, gave the following information as to pre-war controls exercised by the Italian government.

a. Guardia di Finanza was dispersed over the length of the frontier to prevent contraband from crossing the frontier. To effectively guard the frontier, a series of permanent guards were set up on a triangular basis. Two points of the guard triangle were on the frontier, the third was one or two kilometers back and served as a rest camp and headquarters. Communication between these different sections was effected by telephone if possible, otherwise by courier (walking or riding, depending on the roads, or lack of them).

(1) Col. Gaetano added that men would be in this area who could be re-incorporated into the service.

(2) Lake patrols also were used by the Guardia di Finanza, and both equipment and men were moved into Switzerland at the outbreak of the Allied invasion. These men and the equipment would return when frontier control by the Allies is put into effect.

(3) The greatest problem that will present itself, however, according to Col. Gaetano, is the necessity of re-equipment, both in men and materiel.

b. The Carabinieri were used before on the actual checking of passengers in conjunction with the P.S. This was more of a political than a security question during pre-invasion days. At Chiasso and Ponte de Chiasso there were 176 Carabinieri stationed, and at Domodossalla there were 39.

(1) Both Carabinieri and P.S. Agents travelled on the boats to Switzerland and checked passengers for political reasons (i.e. stop lists, etc.)

(a) The Swiss control agents did not cross the frontier since the boats stopped right on the frontier.

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Ltr to G-2(CI), AFHQ - Continued.

c. Frontier passes - The permit system in effect previously was so arranged that the local police headquarters (Italian) gave out permits to known frontier residents. In addition, those residents who have land on either side of the frontier are permitted to cross back and forth.

2. Conclusions:

It was understood that the dominant role of frontier control is a military control for security purposes. The counter intelligence function would be effected by C.I.C. with SIM/CS assistance. Prevention and apprehension of clandestine crossers would be a preventive responsibility under the direction of C.I.C.

JAMES T.O. HRAAFIADT
2nd Lieutenant, M.I.

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Official figures submitted by Maj Price - Revenue Section, Finance
S/Commission
AOC - 18 December 1944.

A Italian Inter-departmental committee formed, at our request, to plan the resumption of frontier controls, is making arrangements for skeleton staffs to be ready to man the frontiers at short notice. They have 95 Customs officials, 1,200 Guardia di Finanza and 200 CC.RR ready to move at a few days notice, and a force of at least 358 Public Security agents is being prepared. The men will continue their present duties until required for the frontiers.

The following table shows the provisional strengths of the skeleton forces:

Frontier	Normal Control Zone	Provinces included	Length of Frontier Kms.	SKELETON STAFFS			
				Customs	RGF	CC.RR	P.S. Agents
*			*				*
Swiss	Como	Vercelli Novara Varese Como Sondrio	1167	40			
*			*		474	122	216
							*
Total skeleton staffs			2508	95	1200	200	358
Pre-war (Approx.)				707	5000	560	358

These figures include senior officials who could be sent forward at the first opportunity to reorganize the controls; to ascertain the condition of offices, equipment, stores, and remaining staffs and to call forward the skeleton forces as and when necessary to make up deficiencies and to direct them to their posts.

(translated copy of report from Major Dotti, SIM/CS)

P.M. 151, 10 Nov. 44

MEMORANDUM.

SUBJECT: Frontier control.

This service was carried out by personnel of the

- Royal Carabinieri
- R.Guardia di Finanza
- Pubblica Sicurezza.

The R.Guardia di Finanza, with a strong body of guards along the frontier saw to the revenue and to the political-military control of travellers.

As for passes open to regular traffic, carabinieri and P.S. agents saw to the political control of travellers and the R.Guardia di Finanza personnel to the revenue, under the command of a P.S. commissioner.

A C.S. agent was on duty at every important pass for the control of elements suspected of espionage activities.

* * *

(Sd) DOTTI-Major.

A Italian Inter-departmental committee formed, at our request, to plan the resumption of frontier controls, is making arrangements for skeleton staffs to be ready to man the frontiers at short notice. They have 95 Customs officials, 1,200 Guardia di Finanza and 200 CC.RR. ready to move at a few days notice, and a force of at least 358 Public Security agents is being prepared. The men will continue their present duties until required for the frontiers.

The following table shows the provisional strengths of the skeleton forces:

Frontier	Normal Control zone	Provinces Included	Length of frontier kms.	Skeleton staffs			
				Customs	RCF	CC.RR	P.S. Agents
French	Turin	Imperia Cuneo Turin Aosta	602	20	409	80	90
	*		*		*		

These figures include senior officials who could be sent forward at the first opportunity to re-organise the controls; to ascertain the condition of offices, equipment, stores, and remaining staffs and to call forward the skeleton forces as and when necessary to make up deficiencies and to direct them to their posts.

ALPINE PROTECTIVE ZONE

1. The Alpine Protective Zone includes the following cantons:-

Haute-Savoie: SALLANCHES - SAINT GERVAIS - CHAMONIX.

Savoie: BEAUFORT - BOURG ST. MAURICE - AIME - MOUTIERS - BOXEL -
LANSLEBOURG - SAINT MICHEL - MODANE.

Hautes-Alpes: LE MONESTIER - BRIANCON - AIGUILLES - L'ARGENTIERE -
GUILLESTRE - EMBRUN -

Basses-Alpes: SAINT PAUL - BARCELONNETTE - LAUXET - ALLOS.

Alpes-Maritimes: SAINT ETIENNE DE TINEE - GUILLAUMES - SAINT SAUVEUR -
SAINT MARTIN de VESUBIE - PUCET THENIERS - UTELLE -
LEVENS - CONTES - NICE - VILLEFRANCHE - MENTON -
L'ESCARENE - SOSPEL - BREIL - ROQUEBILLIERE.

a. Travel within and out of the zone is regulated by the General Commanding the Alpine Sector (Etat-Major, 5th Bureau).

b. Entry into the zone is only authorized in the following three cases:-

- (1) Holders of an ordre de mission issued by a ministerial department for a purpose which concerns the war effort or the national economy.
- (2) Persons returning to their place of residence.
- (3) Persons who can prove a compassionate case (illness requiring stay in a medical establishment in this region; illness or death of a near relation residing in this region).

In consequence, entry into the zone is not allowed for the purpose of touring or winter sports.

The military authority entitled to issue laissez-passers for the zone (type 308 BSM for French citizens and 309 for foreigners) is:

For French:

The Etat-Major, 5th Bureau, of the region of residence, and, by permanent delegation, the Section of Gendarmerie of the arrondissement of residence.

For Foreigners:

The Etat-Major, 5th Bureau, of the region of residence.

They will be issued either (a) on presentation of a ministerial ordre de mission for persons belonging to the class (1) above, or (b) after examination of regular application for laissez-passer transmitted with recommendation by the Maire or Commissaire de police of the commune of residence.

FRENCH-ITALIAN FRONTIER (Length 602 Kms) List of the Principal Crossings

Priority	Crossing	Rail or Road	Location of Control Posts		Observations	Pre-War Staffs				
			Customs	Pub. Security		Customs	RCF	CC.FR	F.S. Agents	
1	FREJUS Tunnel Sheet 7/MR.K4418 MONGINEVRO sheet 7/MR.K4702	Rail road	Modane (France) 7/MR.K4031 Clavier's 7/MR.K4802	Bardonecchia 7/MR.K4418 Monginevro	Main Line Home, Turin/ Lyons, Paris	45	49	16	18	
2	VENTIMIGLIA sheet 10/MR.S8688	Rail road	Ventimiglia Grimaldi 10/MR.S8080	Ventimiglia Ponte S. Luigi 10/MR.S8088	Coast Route Genoa/Nice	21	20	17	14	
3	S.DALMAZZO sheet 10/MR.N8717	rail and road	S.Dalmazzo	S.Dalmazzo	Turin, Cuneo/Nice. Rail passes into France and back into Italy at Piena.	10	34	13	11	
4	PIENA sheet 10/MR.N8901	rail and road	Piena	Piena		2	18	11	7	
5	COLLE IA MADDALENA (OP) sheet 10/MR.N362	road	Argentera 10/MR.N3858	Colle Ia Maddalena (CC.FR. only)	Cuneo to Gap Blocked Nov/May PSA at Saluzzo	-	13	4	6	
6	MONCENISIO (OP) sheet 7/MR.H4455	road	Molaretto 7/MR.H5245	Moncenisio (CC.FR. only)	Turin Susa. PSA at Susa Blocked Nov/May	1	6	9	5	
7	PICCOLO S. BERNARDO (OP) sheet 4/MR.C4601	road	Aosta 4/MR.C8105	P.S. Bernardo (CC.FR. only)	Aosta/Seez. PSA at Aosta Blocked Nov/May	2	7	5	4	

RECOMMENDATION: Open Nos 1 and 2 initially and No. 3 as soon as possible thereafter.

O.P. = Observation Post.

MINISTERO DELLE FINANZE
 COMANDO GENERALE DELLA R.G. DI FINANZA
 -Ufficio Militare-

PROSPETTO della dislocazione della R. Guardia di Finanza lungo
 la frontiera alpina.

COMANDI	DISLOCAZIONE	FORZA
Legione	Genova	
Circolo	Savona	
Brigata di frontiera	Mortola	10
" " "	Grimaldi	8
" " "	Piena	18
" " "	Olivetta S. Michele	17
" " "	Rocchetta Nervina	13
" " "	Pigna	14
" " "	Calvo	8
Legione	Torino	
Circolo	Torino	
Brigata di frontiera	Usseglio	7
" " "	Balme	7
" " "	Forno Alpi Graye	7
" " "	Bobbio Pellice	9
" " "	Prali	7
" " "	Susa	12
" " "	Esille	6
" " "	Laveney	13
" " "	Bessans	6
" " "	Bardonecchia	49
" " "	Bousson	10
" " "	Claviere	9
" " "	Ulzio	6
" " "	Melezet	6
" " "	Biond	9
" " "	Allomont	7
" " "	Estrounles	15
" " "	Villanova Baltea	15
" " "	Porta Littoria	6
" " "	Courmayeur	10
" " "	Scez	7
" " "	S. Giacomo d' Ayas	6
" " "	Gressoney La Trinite	6
" " "	Cervinia	12
" " "	Ceresole Reale	6
Circolo	Cuneo	
Brigata di frontiera	Vinadio	11
" " "	Bagni di Vinadio	7
" " "	Argentera	13
" " "	Acceglio	11
" " "	S. Dalmazzo di Tenda	34
" " "	Entraque	12
" " "	Castelfino	7
" " "	Chianale	7
" " "	Crissolo	7

COMMAN DI

DISLOCAZIONE

FORZA

Circolo

Brigata di frontiera

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Novara

Macugna 12
 Spocchia 10
 Ronco 10
 Piaggio Valmara 12
 Cavaglio 8
 Alagna 6
 Varallo 7
 Antronapiana 13
 Bognanco 16
 Montecrestese 14
 Verzo 15
 Iselle 27
 Bugliaga 9
 Re 22
 Ponte Ribellasca 10
 Finero 8
 Baceno 11
 Formazza 11
 S.Rocco di Premia 10

Legione

Circolo

Brigata di frontiera

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Milano

Sondrio

Sondrio 26
 Chiesa 31
 Tresenta 32
 Teglio 7
 Ponte Valtellina 20
 S.Martino 10
 Sernio 19
 Madonna di Tirana 41
 Villa di Tirano 28
 Grossotto 22
 Mazzo 13
 Leprese 7
 Bernio 19
 Stelvio 12
 Senogo 24
 Chiavenna 21
 Villa di Chiavenna 41
 Campo Dolcino 14
 Monte Spluga 10
 Novate 13
 Gordona 23

Circolo

Brigata di frontiera

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Varese

Clivio 26
 Ca Bella 16
 Saltrio 21
 Porto Ceresio 26
 Ca del Monte 10
 Casamoro 13
 Brusimpiano 20

Continued -

<u>Circolo</u>			<u>Varese</u>	
Brigata di frontiera			Gaggiolo	25
" " "			Farnasette	20
" " "			Terbera	14
" " "			Dumenza	27
" " "			Ponte Tresa	19
" " "			Cremenaga	19
" " "			Somnegio	10
" " "			Lavena	12
" " "			Curiglia	11
" " "			Lozzo	14
" " "			Zenna	22
<u>Circolo</u>			<u>Como</u>	
Brigata di frontiera			Chiasso Inter/le 1	62
" " "			Chiasso Intern/le 2	40
" " "			Ponte Chiasso 1	32
" " "			Ponte Chiasso 2	42
" " "			Maslianigo	29
" " "			S.Ambrogio	12
" " "			Monte Bisbino	12
" " "			Piazzola	19
" " "			Bugone	18
" " "			Binate	22
" " "			Murelli	22
" " "			Serafino	11
" " "			Ronago	16
" " "			Murini	16
" " "			Bizzarone	28
" " "			Rolero	22
<u>Circolo</u>			<u>Menaggio</u>	
Brigata di frontiera			Gravedona	17
" " "			Dossoliro	28
" " "			Germasino	36
" " "			Dasio	17
" " "			Buggiolo	33
" " "			Oria	28
" " "			S.Margherita	8
" " "			Cavargna	11
" " "			S.Nazzaro	14
" " "			Pellio d'Intelvi	26
" " "			Lanzo	31
" " "			Zocca	14
" " "			Casasco	21
" " "			Trabello	23
<u>Legione</u>			<u>Trento</u>	
<u>Circolo</u>			<u>Bolzano</u>	
Brigata di Frontiera			Colle Isarco	23
" " "			Fleres	19
" " "			Ridanna	20
" " "			S.Giacomo in Vizzè	25
" " "			Brennero	70