

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority NND877092  
 By MS NARA Date 7.22.03

SECRET

33854

The following Armistice conditions were presented to the  
 Italian Commander in Chief

-by  
 General Dwight D. Eisenhower,  
 Commander in Chief of the Allied Forces

acting by authority of the Governments of the United States and  
 Great Britain and in the interest of all of the United Nations.

1. Immediate cessation of all hostile activity by the Italian  
 Armed Forces.
2. Italy will use its best endeavors to deny, to the Germans  
 facilities that might be used against the United Nations.
3. All prisoners or internees of the United Nations are to be  
 immediately turned over to the Allied Commander in Chief, and none  
 of these may now or at any time be evacuated to Germany.
4. Immediate transfer of the Italian fleet and Italian aircraft  
 to such points as may be designated by the Allied Commander in Chief,  
 with details of disarmament to be prescribed by him.
5. Italian merchant shipping may be requisitioned by the Allied  
 Commander in Chief to meet the needs of his military-naval program
6. Immediate surrender of Corsica and of all Italian territory,  
 both islands and mainland, to the Allies, for such use as operational  
 bases and other purposes as the Allies may see fit.
7. Immediate guarantee of the free use, by the Allies, of all  
 airfields and naval ports in Italian territory, regardless of the rate  
 of evacuation of the Italian territory by the German forces. These  
 fields and ports to be protected by Italian armed forces until this  
 function is taken over by the Allies.

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X 8. Immediate withdrawal to Italy of Italian armed forces from all participation in the current war from whatever areas in which they may now be engaged.

9. Guarantee by the Italian Government, that, if necessary, it will employ all its available armed forces to insure prompt and exact compliance with all the provisions of this Armistice.

10. The Commander in Chief of the Allied forces reserves to himself the right to take any measure which, in his opinion, may be necessary for the protection of the interests of the Allied Forces for the prosecution of the war. The Italian Government also binds itself to take such administrative or other action as the Commander in Chief may require, and in particular, the Commander in Chief X will establish Allied Military Government over such parts of Italian territory as he may deem necessary in the military interests of the Allied Nations.

11. The Commander in Chief of the Allied Forces will have the full right to impose measures of disarmament, demobilization, and demilitarization.

12. Other conditions of a political, economic and financial nature with which Italy will be bound to comply will be transmitted at a later date.

The conditions of the present Armistice will not be made public without prior approval of the Allied Commander in Chief.

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These terms do not visualize Italy's active assistance in fighting the Germans. The extent to which the terms will be modified in favor of Italy will depend on the aid the Italian Government and people will render to the United Nations against Germany during the remainder of the war. The United Nations, however, state without reservation that, wherever the Italian forces or Italians fight the Germans or destroy German property or hamper German movement, they will be given all possible support by the forces of the United Nations. Meanwhile, provided information about the enemy is immediately and regularly supplied, Allied bombing will, so far as possible, be directed upon targets which affect movements and operations of German forces.

Cessation of hostilities between the United Nations and Italy will take effect from a date and hour to be set by General Eisenhower.

The Italian Government must undertake to proclaim the armistice immediately after it is announced by General Eisenhower and to order their forces and people to collaborate with the Allies and to resist the Germans from that hour.

The Italian Government must, at the hour of the armistice, order that all United Nations prisoners in danger of capture by Germans, shall be immediately released.

The Italian Government must, at the hour of the armistice, order the Italian Fleet and as much of their merchant shipping as possible to put to sea for Allied ports. As many military aircraft as possible shall fly to Allied bases. Any ships or aircraft in danger of capture by the Germans must be destroyed.

Attachment - No. - 3b.

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Meanwhile there is a good deal that General Badoglio can do without the Germans becoming aware of what is afoot. The precise nature and extent of his action must be left to his judgment; but the following are the general lines suggested:

*no impos. ss* (1) General passive resistance throughout the country if this order can be conveyed to local authorities without German knowledge.

*net* *now* (2) Minor sabotage throughout the country particularly, communications and air fields used by the Germans.

(3) Safeguarding of Allied prisoners of war. If German pressure to hand them over becomes too great, they should be released.

*nofta* (4) No Italian warships to be allowed to fall into German hands. Arrangements to be made to ensure that all these ships can sail to ports designated by General Eisenhower immediately after the order is given by him. Italian submarines should not be withdrawn from patrol as this would reveal our common purpose to the enemy.

(5) No merchant shipping to be allowed to fall into German hands. Merchant shipping in Northern ports should, if possible, be sailed to ports south of the line Venice-Leghorn. In the last resort they should be scuttled. All ships must be ready to sail for ports designated by General Eisenhower.

*x* (6) The Germans must not be allowed to take over Italian coast defenses.

*alumni* (7) Arrangements to be made and to be put in force at the proper time for Italian formations in the Balkans to march to the coast with a view to their being taken to Italy by the United Nations.

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