

286

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SCE File

SECRET

File No. 040 - CIVIL AERONAUTICS, ITALY

No.	FROM	DATE	TO	SYNOPSIS
SWNCC 286 - Series - Security Aspects of Allowing Italy to Engage in Inter-National Civil Aviation.				
1	SWNCC	12Apr46	SWNCC Dist	SWNCC 286/D. Ref a Memo fr Air Coord Committee for a draft reply;
2	SCE	22Apr46	Mr. Dowling(S) Col. Reynolds(W) Comrd. Borel(N)	SCE-17. Aptmt of a Working Party, for above.
3	Working Pty.	----	SCE	Report of the Working Party.
4, 5 & 6	SCE	----	War Mbr State " Navy "	SCE-17A. Approval Slips on 286/D.

SECRET



THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



SCE-17A

MEMORANDUM FOR: STATE MEMBER, EUROPEAN SUBCOMMITTEE
WAR MEMBER, EUROPEAN SUBCOMMITTEE
NAVY MEMBER, EUROPEAN SUBCOMMITTEE

The report of the working party on SWNCC 286/D,
dated 6 May 1946, is circulated for consideration
by the European Subcommittee.

It is requested that you indicate your con-
currence or comment hereon.

Florence Whiteside
Florence Whiteside
Secretary, European Subcommittee

APPROVED: For Admiral McCrea.
P. A. Borel, Comdr., USNR
DATE: 6 May 46.

286/1 - 7 May 46

(6)

THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

SCE-17A

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WWS
SE
APPROVED: *John Hickman*

DATE: 5/7/46

(5)

Issued as 286/1

9 May 46

ENCLOSURE

SECURITY ASPECTS OF ALLOWING ITALY
TO ENGAGE IN INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION

Report of the SWNCC Subcommittee for Europe

THE PROBLEM

1. To consider whether there is any objection from the security standpoint to the resumption by Italy of international civil aviation activities.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

2. Following the overthrow of the fascist regime, Italy surrendered to the Allies, declared war on Germany, and was granted cobelligerent status. The Italian Government has restored democratic processes and cooperated consistently with the western powers.

3. At Potsdam the U.S., U.K., and the Soviets stated that the conclusion of a peace treaty with a recognized and democratic Italian Government would make it possible for the three governments to fulfill their desire to support an application from Italy for membership of the United Nations.

4. After the Peace Treaty becomes effective, and within Treaty limits, Italy will resume sovereign status and be in a position to apply for membership in the International Civil Aviation Organization of which the U.S. and U.K. are signatory states.

5. Members of the International Civil Aviation organization obligate themselves not to use civil aviation for any purpose inconsistent with the aims of the convention. These aims are to develop civil aviation in a safe and orderly manner on a basis of equality of opportunity that it may help create and preserve friendship and understanding among nations.

6. On 16 March 1946, the Combined Chiefs of Staff approved, without qualifications, an Italian request that Italy be allowed to resume internal civil air transport.

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DISCUSSION

7. United States policy toward Italy is to progressively aid Italy in taking those steps which will enable her to achieve equality status in the family of nations. Now the question arises regarding possible objections from the security standpoint to the resumption by Italy of international civil aviation activities.

8. While it is not anticipated that Italy will enter any bloc unfriendly to the United States, the decision on this question must be based on an examination of factors related to possible additional threats to security created by Italian resumption of international civil aviation activities. These factors are:

- a. Experience gained by Italy in aviation matters which might be converted for use in military aviation;
- b. International implications of the necessities for establishing fueling and servicing facilities;
- c. Use of privileges for purposes of espionage.

9. Since Italy will be allowed to resume internal civil air transport, Italian personnel will be in a position to gain experience in the manufacture and operation of civil aircraft. In addition, to permit the resumption of international civil aviation would apparently:

- a. Increase the amount of experience gained;
- b. Increase the number of planes operated and the type of planes used;
- c. Give personnel long-range operating experience.

None of the above is conclusive however. The amount of experience gained would depend entirely on the total aviation activities resumed. It does not follow that restrictions placed on one category would not result in an increase in a permissible category. Any restrictions imposed regarding international aviation activities would therefore only give assurance that some personnel may be prevented in getting some type of operating experience. Therefore, unless aviation activities were wholly prohibited, Italy could carry on the development of manufacturing techniques for long-range aircraft and develop training methods

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which would give personnel training simulating long-range flights. Furthermore, past experience has shown that it is difficult for an organization trained to discharge civilian activities in time of peace successfully to take over military commitments in time of war.

10. The international implications attendant upon the provision of airports and services for an international airline can effectively be controlled, first, by any body provided by the peace treaty for supervising the execution of the treaty terms, and second, by organs of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

11. The control of persons for the prevention of espionage can effectively be established by the use and extension of existing controls covering other channels of communications and transportation.

CONCLUSION

12. There is no objection from a security standpoint to the resumption by Italy of international civil aviation activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that:

a. Subject to comments from the military point of view by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, SWNCC approve the above conclusion.

b. After approval, SWNCC notify the Air Coordinating Committee of the conclusion.

THE STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BCE-17
22 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Walter Dowling, Steering
Member (S-623)
Col. John M. Reynolds (W-2273)
Comdr. Paul A. Borel (N-61558)

SUBJECT: Appointment of a Working Party,
SWNC Subcommittee for Europe

1. The State, War, and Navy Departments have designated the above-named individuals as a working party to study and report to the European Subcommittee on SWNCC 286/D.

2. In clearing the report of the working party with the member of the European Subcommittee in your department, please have the attached approval slip signed and return it to the Secretary, European Subcommittee, Room 178, State Department.

3. Copies of SWNCC 286/D are enclosed herewith

Florence Whiteside
Ensign (W) USNR
Secretary, European Subcommittee
Extension 3151 - Navy

Encl.
Approval slip
Cy. of SWNCC 286/D

Security Aspects of Allowing Italy to Engage in Civil Aviation
CC: Col. Wood

286/1 - 7 May 46

286/D (2)

S E C R E T

COPY NO. 65

SWNCC 286/D

12 April 1946

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STATE-WAR-NAVY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

DIRECTIVE

SECURITY ASPECTS OF ALLOWING ITALY TO
ENGAGE IN INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION

Note by the Secretaries

The enclosure, a memorandum from the Secretary, Air Coordinating Committee, is referred to the State-War-Navy Coordinating Subcommittee for Europe for preparation of a draft reply.

ALEXANDER D. REID

B. L. AUSTIN

HAROLD W. MOSELEY

Secretariat

SWNCC 286/D

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S E C R E TE N C L O S U R E

April 11, 1946

Memorandum from the Secretary, Air Coordinating Committee

Question has arisen in the Air Coordinating Committee with respect to the incorporation of provisions relating to civil aviation in the Italian Peace Treaty. Consideration of this matter raises the question as to whether there is any objection from the security standpoint to the resumption by Italy of international civil aviation activities.

It is, therefore, requested that the State-War-Navy Coordinating Committee consider and take appropriate action with respect to the security aspects of allowing Italy to engage in international civil aviation. The Air Coordinating Committee will appreciate advice of SWNCC's action at the earliest possible date.