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HAMILTON SPECTATOR

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# CANADIANS ARE TAKEN TO REICH

## Foresee No Early Return of Prisoners From Italy

Ottawa, Oct. 2.—(CP)—The External Affairs Department to-day issued a "warning" that "no immediate hope can be held out for the early return to our own forces" of Canadian prisoners of war formerly held by Italy.

These Canadians, chiefly R.C.A.F. personnel, numbered fewer than 100 before the invasion of Sicily, the department said in a statement. It added:

"While the release of Allied prisoners of war was a prime condition of the military armistice with Italy, it must be emphasized that many of these prisoners fell at once into German power.

"The Germans claim that nearly half of the British prisoners of war held in Italy have been transferred to Germany. Some have escaped into neutral territory, where they are temporarily detained. Relatively few British prisoners of war are yet known to have reached Allied lines.

"While the number of Canadians in any group is not yet known, every effort is being made by the Canadian Government to locate our men. These difficulties and delays are due to the present, confused situation and large-scale military operations in Italy."

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WAR  
EUROPEAN  
1939  
GERMANY  
PRISONERS

*Canadians*  
*Italy*

*see  
Stamps  
in volume*