

'Signees' Pro-Ally, And Not Prisoners, Says Col. Haskell

Col. James B. Haskell, post commander, explained today that members of the Italian Service Units stationed here are co-belligerents in the war against Germany and do not hold the status of prisoners of war.

"These former Italian army soldiers volunteered for work in the American war effort," the colonel added. "The units were formed as a result of military necessity to relieve a shortage of manpower."

The "Signees"—as they are called since they have signed a pledge to work for the Allied cause—have been accepted by the United States, Great Britain and Russia as co-belligerents.

"The rate of pay is almost the same as that of regular prisoners of war who work," Col. Haskell said, "and the only extra reward they receive for their contribution to the war effort is additional freedom. This takes the form of sight-seeing or educational tours and recreational visits to nearby

(Continued on Page 8)
