

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785015

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28 pp.

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785015

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DIVISIONAL REPORTS, AUGUST
JULY, AUG. 1943

28 pp.

1	4 Sep	225/40	Monthly Situation Reports
FOLIO	DATE	REF.	TO/FROM
2-3	AUC	-	Report of Public Safety Division
4-5	5 Sept	-	TO Col. Chelyne
6	6 Sept	3016 PH	From "
7-11	Aug	-	Report of Civil Supply & Resources Div
12-14	Aug	-	Report of Fine Arts & Monuments Dept.
15-17	Aug	"	" Legal Division
18-19	14 Sept	Cases heard from 12 July to 31 Aug, by Provinces	
Total 20	4 Sept	225 HQ	To all Division Heads
20-26	13 "	2051/F.	To CCAO from CPO.

All Heads of Divisions
to see this file. Please
pass quickly, Property Controller
returning file to Registry

FINANCE *cyf 23/9*

LEGAL *23/9*

PUBLIC HEALTH *23/9*

PUBLIC SAFETY *23/9*

CIVILIAN SUPPLY *23/9*

PROPERTY CONTROLLER *CHS/A*

23/9/43

Registry

Return

T D Registrar

1001

PIA

30/9/43

ROUTING SLIP.

C.C.A.O.
D.C.C.A.O.
C.S.O.
A.C.S.O.
Lt. Col. Clough
Major Smith
Major McDougall
Major Pearey
Captain Talbot
Captain Warner
Captain Sherwood
Captain Graham
Lieut. Van Houkelon
Lieut. Krupa
P.R.O.
Adviser P.A. & M.
Education Officer.

REMARKS.

Date

Registry.

26
Subject: Report on Activities of the Financial Division
(10 July - 31 August 43)

To: C.O.A.O.

AMGOE/2054/E.

AMGOE H.Q. SICILY

13 Sep 43.

INTRODUCTION.

1. The spearhead of the Finance Division into Sicily was represented by five officers, two with 8th Army and three with 7th Army. Through chronic shortage of personnel, the latter group were employed for some time as Civil Affairs Officers.
2. In initial stages, the instructions prepared at CHREA for both F.O's and C.A.O's worked adequately. On 20th July, a meeting was held at RAGUSA to discuss current problems in the light of experience. This resulted in the issue of G.A.I. No.14 laying down the method of treating State salaries, pensions, and military family allowances. Staff continued to arrive sporadically at different ends of the Island; and it was not until 9th August that the majority reported for duty. By the end of the month, 22 officers were assigned to the Provinces and 28 to Headquarters. This latter amount includes 13 Accountants and 5 on the staff of AMFA; both of which sections must be centralized for reasons of efficiency.
3. I should like to take this opportunity of saying how tirelessly the staff have worked, from the jack-of-all-trades in the Province to the specialist at Headquarters.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

4. From the first day of occupation it was clear that the heaviest demands on AMGOE for advances would be for (a) normal recurrent expenditure, mainly salaries, (b) relief and (c) payments for grain. Together these still remain our principal expenditure which has increased considerably since the rise in the subsidy paid for grain under G.O. No.3.
5. Budgets for Communes and Provinces were found to be available in great detail at the Provincial capitals. But no centralized records exist for State Expenditure as the civil services were paid direct from Rome. Since its arrival the Revenue Section has concentrated on obtaining information on the many and varied forms of State concerns, but it has not been found possible to centralise Island-wide activities in the Capital. Thus, when permission was granted by the C.C.S. to pay Army and Civil Service pensions, instructions were issued on a provincial level to make the necessary payments and book against State expenditure. Through lack of records, communications and transport, it has been impossible and probably not wise, to centralise these payments.

light of experience. This resulted in the issue of military family allowances. Staff continued to arrive sporadically at different ends of the Island; and it was not until 9th August that the majority reported for duty. By the end of the month, 22 officers were assigned to the Provinces and 23 to Headquarters. This latter amount includes 13 Accountants and 5 on the staff of AMFA; both of which sections must be centralized for reasons of efficiency.

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PUBLIC FINANCES:

4. From the first day of occupation it was clear that the heaviest demands on AGO for advances would be for (a) normal recurrent expenditure, mainly salaries, (b) relief and (c) payments for grain. Together these still remain our principal expenditure which has increased considerably since the rise in the subsidy paid for grain under G.O. No. 3.

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6. Italian Revenue offices are re-assembling their dispersed personnel and records; and are being re-housed where necessary. The staffs of the monopolies, Customs and Lotteries are largely idle, but the Intendente has been instructed to use them to replace staff shortages and to deal with arrears of work in other revenue sections. Fairly large stocks of tobacco belonging to monopolies are reported in Catania where an investigation is now in process. The possibility of restarting this activity is under discussion with the Civilian Supply Division. It is estimated that the reopening of Lotteries would assist Sicilian revenue by 25/30 million lire per year net, and would give employment to the lottery agents normally remunerated by commission who will otherwise be placed on relief.

7. Unless large stocks of fiscal stamps or the original printing plates become available by next month, shortages are likely to cause us trouble.

8. Under General Order No. 2, the moratorium was lifted to provide for all taxation payments; and persons could pay direct in cash or, having funds on deposit in a local bank, were allowed to authorize the bank to pay in cash, all taxation due. Up to the present time, little revenue has reached provincial or State treasuries and become available to reduce the cash required for advances. It should be remembered that a large amount of people are on relief, many are

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ing far from their homes; and the banks have not been opened. Considerable improvement is anticipated in September when a large portion of the August tax instalment, deferred by local orders to relieve hardship and avoid the seizure by the seattore of personal chattels, should flow into the coffers.

BANKING.

9. In late July a rough estimate of the cash position of the banks disclosed that the sum involved, excluding the provinces not then occupied, was about L. 350,000,000 of which the bulk was in Caltanissetta, used a central store by the Banca d'Italia. Only in Ragusa and Palermo did the Banca d'Italia obey their orders from Rome to burn currency and securities. In the former, the amount of currency destroyed amounted to L. 20,000,000 and in Palermo only L. 70,000. These cases of inspired incendiarianism, provided a useful stick with which to beat the Banca d'Italia when necessary.

10. Investigations in Palermo gave a picture for the whole island of deposits totalling L. 6,000,000,000. Most banks had transferred the bulk of their securities to Italy, cash was largely dissipated, and as the date of occupation drew nearer, large quantities of assegni circolari and vaglia were paid out.

11. In Palermo, an Inspectorate committee of personnel from the local banks was formed to prepare and assemble data on the conditions of the banks. This committee has functioned well and has been in close contact with the Controller of Financial Institutions.

12. When the picture became clearer, it was agreed that the banks should be re-opened on a basis of L. 5,000 maximum withdrawal plus payrolls and taxation payments, as the idea of a limited percentage withdrawal is abhorrent to the Sicilian, and strongly suggests the final payment of a bankrupt. The date of the re-opening of the banks was conditioned upon the reception of further A.M. lire from the U.S.A. and General Order No. 6 was not published until a date after the end of the period covered by this report. It decreed that banks in the Palermo Province could be opened on 6th September, and all other banks on 15th September; the delay being caused by physical distribution of cash to the banks on an Island-wide basis. The Banca d'Italia is not to be re-opened except for Treasury operations.

13. The Banca Nazionale del Lavoro was thoroughly investigated as it was known that its business was closely allied to Fascist organisations, and handled exclusively the accounts of the Unions and Syndicates. A stringent blocking programme which will be dealt with in the next monthly report, has been imposed furnishing adequate safeguards in respect of this type of business. As the bank is the third most important in the Island, and transacts a substantial volume of ordinary banking business, it was decided to allow them to re-open in common with other banks.

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14. Much difficulty arises on the method of dealing with Postal Savings. The Palermo post office was occupied by Seventh Army Rear Headquarters, and records have been destroyed and dispersed. Instructions have been issued to all Provinces to report on the aggregate liability for postal savings, and the situation will then be re-examined. The Postal Savings system enjoys much confidence among the poorer elements of the population.

15. Another difficult problem is that of handling *assegni circolari* and similar types of paper. They are not being treated as deposits under General Order No.6; and we are considering their registration in order to ascertain the scope of our problem. No new paper is to be issued by banks without our express authorization; and existing holders cannot dispose of such paper. There is no doubt that the amount in the pockets of the people is very large.

SOCIAL INSURANCE.

16. Of all problems concerning the Financial Division, this is the most complex. The field of Social Insurance embraces a number of complicated systems with accretions of a non-insurance nature, imposed by the Fascist Regime for

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political motives. Of the many concerns the Istituto di Previdenza Sociale is the oldest and most efficient, and its continued operation is comparatively simple. The Casse Mutue Malattie which cover sickness were in some part under the aegis of the workers' and employers' syndicates. By implication the life of the syndicates has been terminated by the abolition of Contributi Sindacali under General Order No. 2; and this question is inter-related to the labour proposals now under consideration. There is no reason why the Casse Mutue Malattie should suffer from the abolition of the syndicates, but it is considered necessary that their multifarious branches should be combined, for the sake of economy and efficiency into fewer institutions. Social Insurance is obligatory on employers. Only in the case of Contributi Unificati were premiums collected by the Esattori on rolls which combined:-

- (a) Contributi Sindacali.
- (b) Premiums for Previdenza Sociale.
- (c) Casse Mutue Malattie Levatore Agricoli.

A formula has been established for continuing collection by the Esattori of (B) and (C) but eliminating (A). This procedure will function until the end of the current year. Thereafter a plan is being prepared which will place the collection of (B) and (C) on the Esattori's land tax roll as an additional percentage.

17. Except in Agriculture, premiums to the Previdenza Sociale are paid by stamps purchased by the employer and affixed in the employee's booklet. Such stamps amounted to about 57 denominations, largely of fractional sums, and were previously supplied from Rome to the Previdenza Sociale and the Post Offices. In existing circumstances it is hoped that a new source of supply will not need to be established by AMGOI. In the case of Casse Mutue Malattie, premiums are paid by the employer by his own contributions and deductions from the employees' wages. All premiums are now being transferred direct to the Insurance concerns. Income has always fallen far short of Revenue; and AMGOI will find it necessary to supply substantial funds to enable the concerns to resume actively the payment of benefits.

18. In the field of private insurance, investigations disclosed that none of the firms operating in Sicily has a Head Office in the Island. Each agency is independent, reporting directly to the mainland. It was decided not to grant financial assistance to such agencies but to re-examine them later on the mainland.

POSTAL SERVICES.

19. As stated above, the General Post-Office in Palermo is occupied by the 7th Army to the exclusion of the Civilian staff; and the early days of August were taken up in finding alternative accommodation and in transferring what was left of the records from old offices to new. Meetings were held with the local postal officials.

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Stage I. Delivery of postcards in Palermo.

Stage II. A similar delivery in other towns.

Stage III. Introduction of an inter-communication service between towns for postcards.

Stage IV. Inclusion of sealed letters in Stage III.

20. Agreement was reached with the 7th Army that the sorting office in the main post office might be made available, a concession which enabled the delivery of postcards in Palermo to begin on 24th August. AMGOT postage stamps, of which a considerable stock has arrived, were on sale to the public at five branch post-offices in the City. Only the 15 centesimi denomination for postcards was issued. At the moment of writing this report, AMGOT postage stamps and covering instructions are being distributed through C.A.O.'s to Postmasters with a view to initiating similar deliveries in about 100 towns. Within the next month will follow the gradual introduction of a service between towns of both letters and postcards on an

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and while basis. It may then be possible to accept the large amount of letters from prisoners of war, which we are being pressed to deliver by Widesst.

AMFA AND CURRENCY.

21. During the first 12 days of occupation, A.M.F.A.'s activities were carried out in Algeria and Tunisia, and confined to completing arrangements both for receipt of the first air shipment of A.M. Lire, and with appropriate Finance Officers and Paymasters of the two Armies for proper accounting of A.M. lire transfers to the Armies by AMFA; and for preparation by the Armies of monthly statistical reports of their cash receipts and expenditures in Sicily.

22. Thereafter A.M.F.A. was engaged in transporting its first receipt of A.M. Lire to Sicily, carrying the currency into its accounts, making the first bulk transfers of A.M. Lire to the Armies and to the Provincial S.C.A.O.'s, acquiring the necessary vault and office facilities in Palermo, and establishing a bank account in the Banca di Sicilia. At the end of this period the first balance sheet of AMFA was prepared, dated 9 August 1943, and attached as Exhibit A. This balance sheet serves to recapitulate AMFA's principal activities during this period:

a) A.M. Lire notes received by air amounted, as of this date, to Lire 2,163.2 million. The full amount of these notes was carried into the balance sheet as a liability.

b) The sum of about 1,000 million lire was paid out to the Chief Finance Officer of the 7th Army, primarily for the purpose of meeting his 31 August payroll. A portion of this sum was, however, used to make exchange for North African francs and yellow-seal dollars still possessed by officers and men. Small amounts of B.M. pounds were also presented for exchange.

c) The sum of 532 million lire was advanced to Provincial S.C.A.O.'s as working balances. The entire amount was charged to Occupation Costs. When any part of this is used to make advances to provinces, communes, or to various organizations and enterprises, these amounts will appear under "advances" (presumed to be recoverable), with a consequent reduction in the amount charged to Occupation Costs.

d) AMFA made its first advance during this early period -- other than transfers to the Armies or to AMG officials -- in the form of an advance of 1 million lire to the State Railroads for the purpose of meeting essential payrolls.

23. In the remainder of the month of August AMFA's concern has been primarily with the following two groups of activities: (a) Participation in further development of policy and planning; (b) continued banking transactions, as reflected in the balance sheet of August 31, attached as Exhibit B.

a) In the field of policy and planning the principal matters have been:

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- a) In the field of policy and planning the principal matters have been:

- 1) Arrangements for the reopening of the banks, dependent on receipt of additional supplies of currency and now planned for the 6 September in Palermo Province. AMFA drew up the form of credit agreement to put the banks in funds (in collaboration with the Legal Division) and AMFA officers participated in Island-wide surveys of the banking situation.

- 2) Estimating currency needs, and scheduling arrivals. With additional shipments delayed, arrangements were made for the two Armies to continue to use of dollars and B.M.'s, and to provide such currencies for AMG use in emergency.

- 3) The accounting procedures and the allocation of accounting responsibility within AMG continued to occupy the attention of AMFA; a 'modus operandi' has been agreed and the S.C.S. requested to approve our interpretation of their accounting instructions.

- b) The Balance sheet of 31 August, attached as Exhibit B, indicates, by comparison with Exhibit A, that AMFA's cash reserve has declined to 236 million lire. This decline was due chiefly to outpayments of an additional 290 million to Provincial S.C.A.O.'s between 10 and 31 August. At the same time, 112 million lire held by the S.C.A.O. at Siracusa were transferred to the Command Paymaster

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of the 8th Army. These are being held by him as a reserve until enough lire can be supplied to permit the British forces to shift from BMA's to lire. Arrangements were also completed to provide funds to the U.S. Navy through the Disbursing Officer at the Naval Operating Base in Palermo. By the end of August 30 million lire had been turned over to him. The Royal Navy is able to obtain funds, when necessary, from British Army Paymasters. Funds needed by the American merchant fleet are being provided by the U.S. Naval Disbursing Officer. British-flag merchant ships or ships under British charter are currently being provided with funds by the Royal Navy, but other arrangements are under discussion with British Army Paymasters.

24. The Balance sheet, form of which has since been amended, also shows a further development of ALFA's activities in other directions. Advances to the State Railways increased to 30 million, principally for salaries. This represents the first advance made by ALFA to an Italian State institution on an Island-wide basis. Toward the end of August the Civilian Supplies Division arranged its first export transaction -- citric and tartaric acids -- and came to ALFA for an advance of 2 million to cover a partial payment to the supplier.

ACCOUNTS.

25. Owing largely to the delay in the arrival from Tripoli of the Chief Accountant, the majority of the Civil Affairs and Finance officers who were to undertake initial accounting operations, had left Chrea before receiving the administrative instruction on accounting, cash books and a supply of essential vouchers. These were dispatched, but failed to reach their destination, with the disappointing result that many officers landed in Sicily without instructions or forms.

26. On arriving in Palermo, where the security ban of North Africa no longer applied, the printing question was tackled, and urgently-needed forms and cash books were ordered and distributed to as many sub-accountants as could be reached. Several accounting officers have toured the provinces instructing and advising on accounting matters. A directive has been issued calling for returns of revenue and expenditure for the same period as covered by this report. As many accountants as could be spared have been sent to the provinces to assist in the preparation of these reports and to settle accounting queries on the spot. In view of the frequent changes in Civil Affairs officers - one commune has had four - it is hoped that this method will allow better results than to await the arrival of the reports and thereafter send off inquiries by correspondence. Progress has been made on the ANGO accounting manual, which will prove of value to the inexperienced officer called upon to undertake financial duties.

27. Now that more centralized control is possible, we are considering limiting the sub-accountancy machinery to Finance officers except where the volume of work of a C.A.O. and inaccessibility to Provincial H.Q. justifies the appointment of a sub-accountant. To assist the provincial financial officer, it was hoped to post an accountant to handle this increase in his work. But the proposed dilution of staff has not been possible.

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A.P. GRANTLEY-SMITH

A.P. GRANTLEY-SMITH.

Colonel,

Chief Finance Officer.

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EXHIBIT 'A'.

21

Allied Military Government
ALLIED MILITARY FINANCIAL AGENCY

Balance Sheet as of 9 August 1943

Assets.

(All amounts in Lire)

Cash.

Current	743,319	
On deposit in Banco di Sicilia	574,936,000 ^o	
In reserve	53,952,000	
Total cash		629,631,319 ^o

Expenditures on account of occupation costs.

U.S. Army	1,000,324,000	
Provincial S.C.A.Os	532,160,000	
AMG Administrative expenses:		
Civilian Supply Division	4,000	
AMPA.	20,661	
Total expenditures on account of occupation costs.		1,532,568,661

Advances.

Railroads of the State	1,000,000	
Total advances.		1,000,000
TOTAL ASSETS.		2,163,200,000 ^o

Liabilities.

New A.M. Lire notes received.		2,163,200,000 ^o
TOTAL LIABILITIES.		2,163,200,000 ^o

^o Figures adjusted to show correct amounts on basis of check subsequent to 9 August.

EXHIBIT 'B'

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
 ALLIED MILITARY FINANCIAL AGENCY
 Balance Sheet as of 31 August 1943

Assets.

(All amounts in lire)

Cash.

Current

Lire	356,982	
U.S. Dollars	319,200	
IMA pounds	58,180	734,362
On deposit in Banco di Sicilia		183,417,164
In Reserve		53,952,000

Total cash

238,103,626

Mutilated currency.

1,705

Angot stamps charged to Postal Section

90,000

Expenditures on account of occupation costs

British Army	112,064,000	
U.S. Army	1,141,184,000	
U.S. Navy	30,266,000	1,283,514,000
Provincial S.C.A.Os.		610,096,000
AMG HQ administrative expenses		267,643

Total expenses on account of occupation costs.

1,893,967,643

Export account, Civilian Supply Division

Purchase of goods for export.

2,000,000

Advances:

Railroads of the State	30,000,000
Industries and individuals	5,000

Total Advances.

30,005,000

TOTAL ASSETS.

2,164,077,974

Liabilities.

New A.M. Lire notes received.

2,163,200,000

Angot postage stamps issued

90,000

Deposits:

Civilian Supply Division, sale of goods	214,584
Property Controller, revenue from films	63,100

TOTAL DEPOSITS.

277,684

Suspense account (deposit by CFO pending clearing of his imprest account)

510,490

TOTAL LIABILITIES.

2,164,077,974

Major L. C.

19

Herewith table of cases heard up to 31 Aug for C.A.O.
I have not had time to get it typed.

2. I hope to get out soon a comparative statement
showing the classes of offences charged and the range
of sentences imposed.

3. The enclosed table will be annexed to C.L.O.'s Progress
Report to 31 Aug which will be finished later in the
afternoon.

H. L. C.
Sec.

14 Sep 43

D.C.C.A.O.

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I don't think that you have seen this file

T.B.
2/19.

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Province.	General Units.		Superior Units		Summary Units		Total Cases.
	Found Guilty	Found Not Guilty (all charges)	Found Guilty	Found Not Guilty (all charges)	Found Guilty	Found Not Guilty (all charges)	
Palermo.	1	-	46	2	341	42	432.
Catania.	-	-	-	-	88	40	128
Messina.	-	-	-	7	4	2	13
Agirgento.	5	-	16	4	261	21	307
Trapani.	-	-	-	-	46	-	46
Tricacusa.	-	-	-	-	226	28	254
Ragusa.	-	-	-	-	40	3	43
Callinischia.	-	-	7	1	7	-	15
Enna.	-	-	-	-	32	1	33
II Corps (U.S.)	-	-	-	12	5	1	18
Totals.	6	-	69	26	1,050	138	1,289. (Persons)

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Period: 12 July 1943 to 31 August 1943.

File No.
ALGOT HQ.

SUBJECT: Report of Legal Division.

TO : D.C.L.O.

1. Herewith a report on the work of the Legal Division, ALGOT, for the period ending August 31, 1943.

2. Counsel Work. The considerable part of the time of the C.L.O. and D.C.L.O. has been devoted to answering queries on legal questions emanating from the various Divisions, preparing new general orders, orders for the appointment of courts, general instructions to Legal Officers, etc. In addition, it has been necessary to make minor revisions in Proclamations and re-write General and Special Administrative Instructions for Post-Husky Operations in the light of experience in Sicily, to arrange for the simultaneous and uniform printing of Post-Husky Proclamations in Algiers and Palermo and their distribution, to check the legal sections and proclamations in the Italy Bible, as well as both the Sicily Gazette and the new Italian Gazette.

3. ALGOT Courts.

a. A statistical table is submitted covering General, Superior and Summary Military Courts, broken down for each Province, showing the convictions and acquittals - marked Annex 1. This table includes all cases heard up to 31 August in respect of which the Records have been received at this Headquarters.

b. ALGOT Courts are now functioning in each Province, including those still under tactical command. In those Provinces not yet administered by ALGOT the courts function under appointment by the tactical Commanders.

c. In general, Allied Military Courts are functioning efficiently and correctly, and are keeping their dockets up to date, though further improvement is being made to insure that prisoners be not held in jail awaiting trial longer than absolutely necessary. Generally the Rules of Procedure are well understood ~~there~~.

d. Considerable trouble has been caused by the volume of minor cases brought in by the Carabinieri in some localities, notably Palermo. Instructions have been given to permit the Italian Courts to handle such minor cases as small price violations which are also violations of Italian Law, but under close supervision of the Legal Officers, to see that true Black Market cases are handled by our Courts.

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- d. Considerable trouble has been caused by the volume of minor cases brought in by the Carabinieri in some localities, notably Palermo. Instructions have been given to permit the Italian Courts to handle such minor cases as small price violations which are also violations of Italian Law, but under close supervision of the Legal Officers, to see that true Black Market cases are handled by our Courts.
- e. Altogether too many trivial curfew violations are being brought in by the Carabinieri. One reason is that in some localities, curfew was set at an hour or more before dark, and arrests made fifteen minutes thereafter. As the defendants had no watches and no signal was given, such cases should never have been brought in, and are generally dismissed. Curfew should be made to coincide with the actual hour of darkness, with exceptions for air-raids, bread-lines, and in some localities, water lines, which should be patrolled by the local police, and these violations should be severely punished.
- f. There is a tendency to give too light sentences. Steps are being taken to correct this. If not successful, minimum sentences will have to be imposed.
- g. Wire cutting cases cause grave concern. Upon the trial, it very generally becomes apparent, and often the arresting officers themselves testify -- that the defendant had no intention to interfere with communications, but honestly believed that wire on the ground

was abandoned. As a result, light sentences are often given. If this practice persists, and wire cutting also continues, a stiff minimum sentence will have to be imposed, and warning posters posted along the lines.

4. ITALIAN COURTS.

- a. The landing of the first Allied troops on July 10, caused most of the Italian Courts to cease to function. However, in certain parts of the territory not directly affected by the operations, a few remained open, and in spite of general instructions to the contrary some C.A.O.'s decided that considering the local conditions it was advisable to let them function or even to open them. However, the fact that most of the judicial personnel had fled to the country made it often impossible for the C.A.O.'s to achieve their purpose.
- b. On August 4th the situation was rather obscure and the lack of communications prevented the Legal Division at HQ from ascertaining the exact position of these Courts in the Provinces. It was agreed that before contemplating their general re-opening, it would be necessary to co-ordinate the activities of all Italian Courts and make sure that the Rules of Procedure were similar in all Provinces and that persons would not be charged in Ragusa with an offence which would not be one in Trapani. [Consequently it was decided to create an Italian Advisory Committee in Palermo to ensure the uniformity of Italian Legislation and Procedure throughout the island.]
- c. Conferences took place on 6 and 9, 10 and 12 August and the Committee was eventually formed. It was composed of four high Italian Officials; the President of the Court of Appeal, the Avvocato Generale, President of the Tribunale and Procuratore del Re.
- d. In the course of the conferences, general directives were agreed as to the rhythm of the re-opening of Courts, temporary modification to procedure to meet present contingencies and the re-organization of the Bar Association.
- e. *Conferences with the Italian General Committee*
As the result of this, official directives were published by the C.S.C. on August 19th for S.C.A.O.'s, to the effect that the Criminal Chambers of all Italian Courts could be re-opened forthwith. Detailed instructions in regard to Procedure, the function of the Italian Committee and the aims which were to be achieved, being issued at the same time.
- f. On August 20th the Legal Officer in charge of Italian Courts started his tour of the Provinces. In each capital he had meetings with the S.L.O. and the higher Italian Judges, explaining to them the general policy to be pursued and fixing an early date for the re-

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- g. The situation in Catania, (where the Court of Appeal exists) was especially acute in view of the fact that the troops were still in the town and much damage done to public buildings. A Committee on the lines of the Palermo one was formed.
- h. Returning on August 26th he strongly recommended the re-opening of all Civil Courts [in full agreement with S.L.O.'s] ~~this was agreed upon by the C.S.A.O. on recommendation of the C.I.F., and on August 31, further instructions were given opening all Italian Courts throughout the island.~~
by CLO
- i. Another meeting of the Italian Committee had taken place on August 28th and the Officer i/c Italian Courts had decided with them that a small council of "avvocati" should be convened at once to ~~prepare~~ *draw up* the statutes of a new, independent and democratic Bar Association.
- j. On September 1st all Italian Courts were functioning in spite of some extremely serious difficulties, such as reduction of personnel,

wages, transport, postal communications, appointment of Italian Officials, congestion of jails, organization of circuits for the Courts of Assizes, and finally, the transfer from bomb premises to new ones. These problems will be solved gradually as normal conditions of life are restored.

5. PRISONS and PRISONERS.

a. On or about August 15th it came to notice that there were many cases of injustice in Palermo Jail. An officer of the Legal Division was therefore charged with investigating the situation in this jail from a legal point of view.

b. It was found that, apart from prisoners duly serving sentences awarded by Italian Courts, the prisoners fell under the following headings:

1. Prisoners awaiting trial by Italian Courts.
2. Confinati from Ustica.
2. Prisoners held at the disposition of the former Italian Military Tribunal

The following action has been taken:

1. Every effort has been made to expedite the hearing of these cases by Italian Courts and the Italians here have been instructed to liberate on bail as many as possible having regard to the Italian law and the gravity of the offence alleged.
2. These were interviewed individually. Thirty-five were liberated, and seventeen interned as dangerous to the Allied Forces if set free.
2. These totalling twenty-one, have been brought before the same officer and have been liberated except for two cases in which serious crime was alleged. In these two cases, criminal proceedings are being taken in the Italian Courts.
- c. Instructions were issued on September 7th to all S.C.A.O.'s directing that similar investigations be made in the provinces and that action be taken on the same lines as in Palermo.
- d. In addition to the above, a further eighty-five "confinati" were brought over from Ustica. Each of these men has been personally interviewed: all but four have been released.

These interviews have established that many abuses, such as star-

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These interviews have established that grave abuses, such as starvation, beating and torture by water pump, existed in Ustica. The men responsible for these abuses are now held, with a view to proceedings being taken against them. Arrangements have been made for the necessary "confinati" to be available as witnesses.

A further batch of about eighty are due in Palermo on September 10th and will be dealt with similarly.

W. C. Chandler 984
W. C. CHANDLER
Lt. Col. AUS
Chief Legal Officer

WC/Jed

AMGOT H.Q.
11th Sep. 1943

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Memorandum to:- Lt. Col. Spofford, Chief of Staff.
Subject:- Report for the month of August on progress
in the Department of Fine Arts and Monuments.

1. Establishment of Office. Captain Mason Hammond, Advisor on Fine Arts and Monuments arrived at Syracuse on 29th July 1943 and established preliminary office with AMGOT Advance H.Q. He remained there until the 3rd August and the office was established at Palermo on the 4th August, where it is now. Later Capt. F.H.J. Maxse reported as Assistant Advisor on Fine Arts and Monuments.
2. Damage to Fine Arts and Monuments. Our chief occupation has been to collect reports on the damage done by Aircraft before the complete occupation. The damage to works of art may be considered under three headings:-
 - Works of Art
 - Books and Documents
 - Monuments
3. Works of Art. Most of the works of Art had been removed by the Italian from the exposed Museums, Churches and other Public Buildings and stored in various places, notably in the country. For instance most of the treasures in Palermo were stored in the Convent of San Martino della Scala. Objects were well packed, stored with due regard to protection from fire and damp and under adequate shelter.

The Bordonaro collection of paintings in Palermo is safe. The 8 important Flemish tapestries in the cathedral of Marsala are also reported safe as also the only Della Robbia piece in Sicily, in the Church of Sta. Maria di Gesù at Trapani. This piece is a Madonna and Child.
4. Books, Documents and Relics. So far as Palermo is concerned details of how Books and Documents have suffered will be given in a later paragraph. The Fardella Library at Trapani seemed to have suffered no damage.

The important collection of Greek Manuscripts, the bequest of one of the 15th Century Scholars, Constantine Lascais, who came to Sicily from Constantinople to Messina, were stored in a Convent at Bronte. This Convent is said to have been hit and the condition of the Manuscripts and Archives has not yet been ascertained.

The Nelson relics at Bronte were somewhat plundered by Germans and slightly by U.S. Troops, but have not suffered severely.
5. Monuments have suffered chiefly in the bombed cities and ports such as Palermo, Marsala, Trapani, Catania and Messina. Details of all the above, with the exception of Palermo are not yet available but damage is extensive. Particulars of damage done in Palermo are given later.

Fortunately the important monuments of the Norman Period, the Cathedral, the Palazzo Reale with the Capella Palatina, the Church of San dei Erimiti, San Cataldo, the Martorana, have not been touched. The famous Cathedral and Cloister of Monreale is also untouched as also is believed the Cathedral of Cefalu.

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Besides the happy preservation of the great Siculo-Norman monuments in the Palermo area, with their brilliant Mosaics, the Greek remains for which Sicily is justly famous--the Theatre and Cathedral at Syracuse, the temples at Agigento, Selinunte and Segesta--are fortunately unharmed either by battle or by the passage of troops.

6. Detailed damage in Sicily.

(a) Palermo. Apart from the above the damage in Palermo is very extensive and few buildings remain untouched. Important Mediaeval, Renaissance and especially Baroque Churches have suffered heavily. The Church of the Annunziata is completely ruined, that of San Francesco d'Assisi badly damaged as are those San Giuseppe dei Teatini, Santa Maria di Piedigrotta, the fishermen's Church by the harbour and the Casa Professa (Church of the Gesù). These three Churches are important Baroque buildings. The above are but a few of the Churches damaged.

The 14th Century Palazzo Abatelli has had its facade loosened but the Palazzo Chiaramonti and Schiafani are not seriously hurt.

The National Library with one of the finest reading rooms in Europe, has been so badly damaged as to render it unsafe. Fortunately most of the books had been stored in cellars and are safe, though one important storeroom is blocked off by rubble and the books will deteriorate unless rescued. At present the Palazzo Mazzarino has been requisitioned for the Biblioteca Nazionale as a reading room and the books are being transferred to this Palazzo. ~~the Gancia~~

In the Gancia a large hall with the judicial records of the 14th Century was destroyed and the records burned.

(b) Syracuse. The Chiesa dei Miracoli (15th Century) is almost wholly destroyed. Palazzo Benevanto has a large corner destroyed endangering the Facade. This was done by German bombs.

(c) Bronte. A valuable collection of Greek Manuscripts from Messina were also stored in a Convent at Bronte and were buried in its collapse.

(d) Assoro. A good deal of damage has been done to a Norman Church. Repairs are now at hand.

7. Programme of Repairs and Restoration. In the present programme with respect to Works of Art, Documents, and Monuments our present task has been to do the minimum necessary to protect them from further damage, whether in consequence of weakened condition of buildings, or to weather, or to theft. In this connection the progress is slow due to the fact that the financial policy of AMGOT with regard to repairs, salaries, maintenance and extraordinary work could be decided only recently, and the Superintendentes and Heads of Institutions were without funds, cut off as they were from their source of income in Rome.

Furthermore there is great difficulty in providing adequate material to repair roofs and windows to keep out the rain and make the buildings habitable in winter. This is particularly important if any programme for the reopening of institutions as museums, academies, etc. is to be undertaken. It is recommended that roofing material and some transparent window covering be brought from abroad, since the tile industry of Sicily will not suffice to meet the demand and also no window glass is made here.

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A recent heavy rain illustrated vividly, in the damage wrought in buildings, the risk to which surviving frescoes and stuccoes, such as those of Serpotta, the Oratories of Sta Zita and San Lorenzo, will be exposed if the roofs and windows are not repaired against the winter rains.

With regard to theft Police Guards and Patrols guard the principle buildings.

Work in clearing the rubble from the principally damaged Churches and Monuments is proceeding as also certain efforts to prevent further collapse of walls and facades.

8. Finance. A directive has now been approved and will shortly be sent to the S.C.A.Os. of the Provinces. Briefly salaries and maintenance expenses are to be maintained as before the occupation. Extraordinary expenses have to be approved by the C.C.A.O., through the C.F.O., before being paid.

In all three cases the S.C.A.O. of the Province tells his F.O. to advance the money to the Superintendencies and the Institutions through Regio Tesoro. The Superintendants render accounts to the Regio Tesoro.

In the case of Palermo a total sum Lire 1,128,000 has been advanced for period ending 31st October to the 3 Superintendencies (Gallerie, Antichita, and Monumenti), the National Library, Botanical Gardens and the State Archives. In the provinces the same advances will be made for the same period after which the question will be reviewed.

9. Cooperation of Heads of Superintendencies and Institutions.

I should like to say a word on this subject so far as Palermo is concerned. All the Superintendents and all the Directors of Institutions have cooperated most willingly and very patiently under somewhat trying conditions. They have also been good enough to express appreciation of our dealings with them.

at Palermo

10. Committee Meetings. Weekly meetings take place on Wednesdays with the 3 Superintendents and the Director of the National Library. Either Captain Hammond or Captain Maxse take the Chair. It was originally started by Lt. Colonel Rodd, and the chief subjects discussed are General Finance, Accounts, progress of work done and any new directives or decisions which come from this Headquarters. So far it has worked smoothly and serves a useful purpose. The Economos (Treasurers) are also present.

11. CONCLUSION. It is inevitable that this first report can only be on general lines, since the first month is bound to be so to speak only a preliminary reconnaissance of assessing the damage to Monuments and the Policy to be assumed for their repair. It is hoped that more concrete results will materialise out of the present Policy. Capt. Hammond is at present doing an extensive tour of Eastern Sicily and will report thereon. Our difficulties would be eased if Transportation could be allocated to this Department, which has the whole of Sicily to deal with and not merely one Province.

F.H.J. Maxse

F.H.J. Maxse
Capt.

In the Field.
12th Sept. 1943.

Assistant Advisor for Fine Arts and Monuments.

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CITIL SUPPLY AND DEMAND.

REPORT FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 1943.

1. Agriculture As provinces were occupied, normal activities were resumed quickly; mainly gathering in grain.

Confusion was caused among farmers and SACs alike by the continued existence of the mainly Fascist - or Fascist-tainted - organisations controlling the various branches of agriculture. Many of these branches reported direct to Rome and there was little co-ordination of them within the island. No hasty change could be made, but a comprehensive plan for the coordination and control of Sicilian agriculture was reaching its final stages by the end of the month.

Production was found to have decreased owing to insufficient rainfall and to lack of fertilizers over the past two years; minimum quantities ^{of the latter} have been requested for next seasons crops. A general order was published at the beginning of the month raising the official price of grain to the producer, and creating an artificial falling market for Sept. and Oct. This was successful to some extent in inducing producers to give up their grain early.

2. Fishing... Fishing was permitted from the beginning of the month on the South Coast, and by the end of the month limited daylight fishing was permitted round most of the island. The U.S. and British naval authorities specified different limits and conditions. Fish caught was adequate for coast towns, except Palermo, but there was no cold storage or transport available generally speaking to carry catches inland.

3. Food. The staple food is bread and pasta. Difficulty was experienced in obtaining grain from producers and in nearly all provinces bread was on a "hand-to-mouth" basis during the first half of the month. Lateness of harvesting, military operations, damage to mills, and acute shortage of

transport all contributed to this. Transport was made for surplus

and to lack of fertilizers over the past two years; minimum quantities have been requested for next season's crops. A general order was published at the beginning of the month raising the official price of grain to the producer, and creating an artificial falling market for Sept. and Oct. This was successful to some extent in inducing producers to give up their grain early.

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at 300 grames bread and 40 grames pasta. The exceptions were certain large towns (Salerno 150 grames, *(Succ. raised to 200 grames)* Trapani and Marsala 200 grames, Catania 230 grames)

and the province of Messina. This province was not occupied till the middle of the month, and it was found on occupation that mills were all out of action; our total stock of imported flour was therefore divided between Messina and the Lipari Islands, which were also without milling facilities. Arrangements were then made for Enna province to supply Messina, but the urban ration of bread could not be raised above 100 grames.

Fruit and vegetables were plentiful everywhere. Much market activities are an accepted part of Sicilian life, but they are conducted by small open-air stalls, it is thought by any large organization. Bread, olive oil, eggs and sugar are the main foodstuffs involved. Two raids carried out during the month on two small towns at opposite ends of the island revealed stocks of wheat, sugar, petrol etc. in a large number of houses, often as much as a ton in a house. Grain cannot, however, be legally seized until the end of October; other commodities must be declared under General Order 1000, were still being printed at the end of the month.

In Eighth Army area AMOCT supplied all reasonable requirements of S.T. for bulk foodstuffs. In Seventh Army area permits were permitted to buy in detail, but G.A.O.s soon commented in enforcing notices and obtaining the foodstuffs required.

4. Resources. A Resources Board under AMOCT auspices has worked with conspicuous success in Eastern Sicily. At the end of the month a similar board was being organized for Western Sicily, with the ultimate view of combining the two in an Island Resources Board.

5. Industry. Owing to extensive damage and the closing of banks, ^{no} major industries were started, surveys were made of the ^{existing} ~~existing~~ ^{and} ~~present~~ ^{indus-}tries.

6. Utilities. A complete survey of the electric power situation was made and work was done in cooperation with both armies to ensure the use of power for essential purposes, and to supplement the grid by repairing and operating small local generators. Owing to lack of rain the hydro plant at Palermo did not generate, and extensive damage to dikes led up the operation of the grid system.

bulk foodstuffs. In Spanish Army areas units were permitted to buy in detail, but G.A.O. soon concentrated in enforcing rationing and obtaining the foodstuffs required.

4. Resources. A Resources Board under AMMOF auspices has worked with conspicuous success in Eastern Sicily. At the end of the month a similar board was being organized for Western Sicily, with the ultimate view of combining the two in an Island Resources Board.

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6. Utilities. A complete survey of the electric power situation was made and work was done in cooperation with hotel managers to ensure the use of power for essential purposes, and to supplement the grid by repairing and operating small local generators. Owing to lack of materials the hydro plant at Palermo did not generate, and extensive damage to cables held up the operation of the grid system.

7. Communications. A survey was made of telephone systems in the island. S.C.A.O.'s set indoor-antenna exchanges working, where the owner did not wish to contract them, and reestablished essential civilian subscribers. Communications between S.C.A.O.'s and from it to S.I.A.O.'s were not established. Preparations were made to operate the island telephone system when it is eventually handed over to AMMOF.

8. Labour. The wage rates agreed with armies before occupation ⁹⁸⁷ out well; there were discrepancies between British and U.S. spheres of influence owing to divergent policies on overtime work, which had not been



A labour plan to abolish the P₂ sector syndicates was drawn up and presented

A preliminary cost of living study for the provinces was made, and similar

Most labour was employed directly by the armed forces, but a certain amount

Transmittal. (a) Reed. Practically all civilian and shipboard crew

is available for ACORN PROJECT COLLECTION. ASTORIA WAS

of unskilled labour was employed by AUST in clearing debris in the towns and in rough and ready repairs to roads.

9. Transport. (a) Road. Practically all civilian and administrative transport including ambulance work was halted by the armed forces, and there was an acute shortage for AUST purposes such as grain collection. Assistance was forthcoming from both armies until the imminence of other operations made this impossible. The G. in the order of 3 August that all civilian and emergency transport was to be turned over to AUST had produced no result by the end of the month. Late in the month it was possible to reconstitute about 20 vehicles in Mesdun, and the collection of wheat for cannibalisation in that province (where the retreating enemy had taken them) was proceeding. Some difficulty was experienced in persuading the armed forces that civilian vehicle operating under AUST licence should not be seized or stripped. The Istituto Nazionale Trasporti (INT) was taken over by AUST and plans made for a belated long-haul system operated from Va. AUST had no service for officers and civilian officials authorized by GUG's was instituted, and bus services for workers in Palermo province were permitted to operate.

(b) Rail. All railways were operated by military engineers and the director of the state railway system was required to take all railway employees available for the military operating services; AUST advanced money to pay all railway employees. A certain amount of rail space was made available to AUST on returning military wagons, and a limited passenger service for essential workers was permitted in Palermo province.

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Discussions were started on the eventual handing over to AUST of both narrow and main gauge systems.

10. Mail. (a) Radio. Stocks were sufficient for essential purposes such

as mills and power plants, but additional coal, timber, imported from Sicily, will be required by October and we intended on D + 105 and subsequent convoys.

Coal for railways was used from existing stocks and provided by imports by the allies.

By arrangement with U.S. Naval operating base, a construction mine by RSCG with a civilian agency to salvage 3,000 tons of coal in ~~the~~ ^{subur} ~~subur~~ ^{subur} slips in Palermo harbor.

(b) Liquid. Large stocks of maffa and benzine were left by the enemy zone of which have been handed over to ARMA. Maffa is used in power plants, vehicles, pills and generators. 600 tons diesel oil are being salvaged from sunken ships in Palermo harbor.

Demand made on the allied forces for liquid fuel were small, and were due mainly to the facts that enemy dumps had not been located and that transport was not available to move them.

Plans for fuel retaking were prepared and will be put into effect when the control and licensing of vehicles, undertaken by Public Safety Division is complete.

11. Civil Requirements (a) Stockpiles. The stockpiles in North Africa for Sicily amounted to 15,700 short tons, broken down as follows: D + 15, 2,500 tons D + 30, 3,500 tons; D + 45, 4,600 tons, D + 60, 3,300 tons.

The D + 30 stockpile was called forward on 1 August and a coaster arrived at Catania on 30 August with 5,200 tons on board.

On 8 August the D + 15 stockpile was called forward; 200 tons had arrived at Palermo by 31 August. Virtually no use was made of these supplies, which

some of which have been handed over to ALGERIA. Plants in need in power plants, vehicles, mills and generators. 600 tons diesel oil are being salvaged from sunken ships in Palermo harbor.

Demands made on the armed forces for liquid fuel were small, and were due mainly to the facts that enemy dumps had not been located and that transport was not available to move them.

Plans for fuel rationing were prepared and will be put into effect when the control and licensing of vehicles undertaken by Public Safety Division is complete.

14. Urgent Requirements (a) Stockpiles. The stockpiles in North Africa for Sicily amounted to 13,700 short tons, broken down as follows: D + 25, 2300 tons; D + 30, 3500 tons; D + 45, 4,600 tons; D + 60, 3,300 tons.

The D + 30 stockpile was called forward on 1 August and a coaster arrived at Catania on 30 August with 3,200 tons on board.

On 3 August the D + 15 stockpile was called forward; 200 tons had arrived at Palermo by 31 August. Virtually no use was made of these supplies, which consist mainly of flour, and which were regarded as an emergency reserve.

(b) Long-range Requirements. Requirements for the 6 months 15 Oct. 45 to 15 April 46 were estimated and recommended on 31 August 45. They included, foodstuffs, seed potatoes, fertilizers, soap, clothing, solid and liquid fuel, household stores for refugee families, paper, tar paper to repair one room in one damaged house, tools and materials for house repairs, electrical and industrial equipment, and medical supplies. Total about 150,000 tons.

(c) Exports. Owing to the need for quick turn-round of ships, limited port facilities, and to lack of information on ships returning empty to U.S. and U.S. it was not possible to establish an export programme. Surveys of commodities available for export were made and also estimates of

(5)

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exportable supplies for the next six months; these figures were sent to
AFHQ for transmission to U.K. - U.S. The main items were citrus fruits and
derivatives, sulphur, wine, almonds, sunco,

An initial export of 100 tons citric acid and 40 tons tartaric acid
was made on 28 August on a ship returning in ballast to the U.S. Three
hours' notice was given to arrange and load this shipment.

12. General. The main problems throughout the island were those of supply,
particularly of grain and power, and to a lesser extent of fuel. The main
problem of CAO's was in feeding the civilian population.

Coming to a desire not to depend too much on imports from SCIO's, and to the
difficulty of communications, the officers of this Division spent a great
deal of time in travelling. The results obtained from these personal ^{visits}
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British officers whose appointments had never been filled, was felt more and
more as the month went on.

W. H. L. S.
Lt. Colonel.

CSH/

owing to a desire not to remain too long exposed from SOG's, and to the difficulty of communications, the officers of this Division spent a great deal of time in travelling. The results obtained from these ~~visits~~ were well worth the long journeys and consequent loss of time involved.

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W. H. S.
Lt. Colonel.

C3H/

SUBJECT: Malaria Situation in Rwanda - ANZOT.

ANZOT/3016/H.

TO: Chief Staff Officer.

6 Sept 15.

Ref your ANZOT/225/H dated 4 Sep 13.

In view of a comprehensive interim report recently submitted the following will essentially be a review. A report in much greater detail of health conditions prevailing in Siakili will be submitted at the end of September.

The organization is working relatively smoothly. Contact has been made with all provincial Headquarters and with many C.A.Os.

Health conditions are surprisingly good with the notable exceptions of an outbreak of Typhoid Fever at SAKIDIA - KOSUMBI and a few other places. The measure that typhoid fever had occurred were entirely unfounded.

Civil Hospitals are functioning satisfactorily in nearly all centres. Medical Staffs are available. These are co-operating wholeheartedly.

The situation as regards medical supplies is improving but is not wholly satisfactory owing to transport difficulties. Enlarged medical stores bridges are being arranged for the provinces and the disposal of these will in future be the concern of the C.A.P.H.s without reference to ANZOT H.Q. A copy of the circular on this subject is attached. The subject of medical supplies has been discussed with a representative of the D.H.S. A.P.H.Q. with special reference to future estimates both for territory now occupied and for territories likely to be occupied in the future.

The malarialogist on the ANZOT H.Q. Public Health Division staff has visited several provinces with regard to malaria problems. At the suggestion of the Surgeon, 7th Army, all malaria work in the 7th Army area is to be coordinated by Army Malaria Control Units. This suggestion has been welcomed and S.C.A.Os of the provinces concerned have been asked actively to cooperate in this. Useful anti-malaria work is being carried out in Syracuse province.

Col. Hiscodis lately Professor of Public Health Administration in Yale University and now of the Military Government Section Washington has visited ANZOT and been given every facility for carrying out investigation on the spot into ANZOT Public Health Division activities.

The personnel question has been difficult with notable blanks in T.C. especially British Officers.

An urgent matter now is the improvement in conditions in the Mental Hospital KOTO referred to in my recent tour notes.

of an outbreak of Typhoid Fever at SORDIA - NOBILIA and a few other places. The reason that Typhoid Fever has occurred here entirely uncaused.

Civil Hospitals are functioning satisfactorily in nearly all centres. Medical Staffs are available. These are expanding satisfactorily.

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The meteorologist on the Angot H.O. Public Health Division staff has visited several provinces with regard to malaria prophylaxis. At the suggestion of the Surgeon, 7th Army, all malaria work in the 7th Army area is to be coordinated by Army Malaria Central Units. This suggestion has been welcomed and S.C.A.Os of the provinces concerned have been asked actively to cooperate in this. Useful anti-malaria work is being carried out in Syracuse province.

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An urgent matter now is the improvement in conditions in the United Hospital HOTO referred to in my recent four notes.

The D.M.S. A.P.H.O. visited the H.O. during the month when the possibility of help from Angot to British Military sick the enclosed.

The activities of the Welfare Section are described in the enclosed annex.

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A. S. Samuel

D. COLONEL SAMUEL.

Colonel.

Director of Public Health.

REPORT: Report of Activities during August.

REPORT IN SICILY

To: Col. Chayne

1 Sept. 1943.

During the first week in August my time was largely occupied in becoming acquainted with the Italian Welfare Organisation in Sicily and in attempting to meet emergencies confronting agencies because of the closing of banks and their consequent inability to secure funds to carry on.

Specifically the following headquarters activities have been carried on during the month:

(a) Several Island wide Welfare Institutions have been studied and funds to carry on their activities were recommended to the Finance Division.

(b) A detailed study of the health insurance program was initiated and will be concluded shortly. Study of other insurance programs under way.

(c) Conferences were held with Officials of Palermo and a reorganization of the Child Welfare program was proposed to the S.C.A.C. and is now being put into effect.

(d) Conferences were held with Officials of Palermo Province and a revised plan for relief administration was proposed to the S.C.A.C. and has now been put into effect in the Province.

(e) Field trips have been made to Catania, Siracusa, Noto and Agrigento where discussions of local problems were held.

(f) A camp for released Yugoslav political prisoners was established in Palermo and is now functioning.

(g) An Island wide study of the refugee problem has been initiated and is now under way.

(h) A plan for a program of Child Welfare is now being drafted for Siracusa at the request of Lt. Col. French.

(i) Standard relief forms for use throughout the Island have been prepared and are to be submitted shortly for approval.

(j) A study of the cost of living of relief clients requested by the S.C.A.C. is now in process, to be used as the basis for recommending relief standards.

(k) A brief report on the question of persons preferring relief to work in Palermo province was submitted at the request of the Executive Council. A more detailed study of this subject with respect to the whole Island is being prepared.

(l) Drafting of plans, in cooperation with the new president, for the reorganization of the Italian Red Cross in Sicily is now under way.

(m) Preparation of a monthly relief and social insurance report form, which is to be submitted for approval soon.

(n) Preparation in cooperation with Legal Division of a procedure for handling juvenile offenders. This has been approved by Legal and sent out as an order to legal officers.

(o) Preparation in cooperation with Public Safety of a procedure for dealing with juveniles arrested for violation of Annot regulations.

(p) Organization of a clearance procedure for urgent Civilian messages going outside the Island. *Decision on this is pending with C.S.O.*

(q) Preparations of an order to impound the funds and property of the C.I.L. and Dopolavere organizations.

(Cont.)

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There have been conferences on other subjects too numerous to mention and we have handled many miscellaneous problems such as the request to reopen the Rotary International, requesting funds for strangled Nationals of other Nations. etc;

Ernest F. Witte
Ernest F. Witte
Major, D.F.H.

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION

Report for August 1943

It was not until the main body of Officers arrived from North Africa on 9 August that the Division had any staff with which to operate. Circumstances had made it impossible to carry out the duties allocated to the C.A.P.Os. in the Field in the AMGOT plan, and it was well past the middle of the month before the Division was represented in the field by more than a dozen or so Officers acting as C.A.P.Os., the remainder being required as C.A.Os.

The main difficulty was therefore to obtain a reasonably clear picture of the public safety situation on the island. Only two or three general reports of S.C.A.Os., have been seen in the Division and for reasons with which this report is not concerned it was not until the end of the month that a few reports were received from Provincial C.A.P.Os.

Officers were sent out from HQ. to obtain as much information as possible on the spot and brought back useful reports, although much remains to be done.

On the police side, our efforts have been concentrated on establishing a close understanding with the Carabinieri Reali, a move which met with a ready response from Gen. Samino. The latter fully realises the dependence of the C.C.R.R. upon the Allied Military Government, and the objective of giving the C.C.R.R. the maximum support and at the same time making no secret of the fact that AMGOT intended to direct the C.C.R.R.'s, general policy was always kept well in view. The Civil Police Section is now established in a suite of offices at the Carabinieri barracks in PALERMO.

Contact was also established and maintained with the Palermo Questore and the Colonel in command of the Guardia di Finanza. Progress has been made with the survey of the latter's organisation and, in consultation with Legal and Financial Divisions we are now in a position to exercise the necessary control over this police agency.

A considerable amount of time has been involved in checking the arrests made by C.I.C., F.S.P., and S.C.A.Os. (or on their instructions). It was soon apparent that it was desirable to concentrate in the Civil Police Section the responsibility for checking with the Security Services and/or the Carabinieri the reliability from a security point of view of all Italians employed in AMGOT Offices, which led to a decision to establish a central register of all persons coming to notice either as Fascists, Anti-Fascists, Separatists, hostile or friendly disposed towards the Allies, etc. This has necessitated a good deal of preparatory work for which there is little or nothing to show at this early stage.

The Civil Police Section has also been called upon to make inquiries into the usual heterogeneous collection of reports, complaints, accusations, etc., apart from investigating and following up cases of black market operations.

The information regarding prisons when planning was undertaken was very meagre

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The Civil Police Section has also been called upon to make inquiries into the usual heterogeneous collection of reports, complaints, accusations, etc., apart from investigating and following up cases of black market operations.

The information regarding prisons when planning was undertaken was very meagre indeed and the earliest opportunity was taken to obtain reports by the Prisons Section's own Officers on some 30 penal institutions. The general impression resulting from these reports was that whilst by no means good, conditions generally were not so bad as one might have expected. Conditions in the political internment colonies on the island of Ustica and the penal colony on the island of Favignana were, however, very bad and it was found necessary to close them both. There were in existence a number of small prisons with a very small prison population and it has already been possible to close a number of these. In some cases the prison directors have had to be moved. Following the visits of the inspecting Officers the directors have generally taken energetic steps to improve matters to which their attention has been drawn. The appointment of an Italian Director of Prisons for Sicily which has been made with the concurrence of the Procuratore del R.G. should have the dual effect of securing an all-round improvement in the conditions prevailing in the prisons and of implementing the policy of getting the Italian Officials to do the work.

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Inspection visits have been made by officers of the Fire and Civil Defence section to most of the towns in Sicily. The Fire Fighting Organisations had a good reputation for devotion to duty prior to the invasion and this reputation has been generally maintained, although it has been found necessary to remove some of the senior officials for incompetency. A number of appliances were seized by the troops in the early stages and, while some have been recovered, others are still untraced. In Palermo the existing organisations both for Fire Fighting and Civil Defence have been overhauled and strengthened and arrangements are in hand for obtaining additional equipment and appliances for both services throughout the Island.

It was not until nearly the end of the month that one of the three Officers assigned to the Traffic and Registration Section became available and he lost no time in working out a scheme for controlling the operation of motor vehicles in the Island, which scheme has been submitted for approval.

Continuing emphasis has been placed upon local officials carrying on to the maximum not only their normal functions but as well the unusual requirements of the present situation.

Every effort is being made to limit the Division's activities to supervision and to avoid operation.

I wish to add that the officers performing Public Safety duties out of this Headquarters have very promptly and generally grasped their responsibilities and have carried them out in a satisfactory manner.

Samuel Bolles
SAMUEL BOLLES,

Col. Inf.
Commissioner of Public Safety.

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Col. Inf.
Commissioner of Public Safety.

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File 76

AMGOT/225/HQ.

AMGOT H.Q. SICILY.

4 September 1943

Subject: Monthly Situation Report - AMGOT.

To : All Division Heads.

1. To assist in the preparation of the monthly situation report covering AMGOT activities for the month ended August 31, the C.C.A.O. wishes to have a brief account of the activities of each of the Divisions.

2. Would you prepare and deliver to the C.S.O. such a statement at your earliest convenience.

C.S.O.

DISTRIBUTION:

Legal
Finance
Civil Supply
Public Safety
Public Health
Controller Property.

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