

The common problems of all these towns are shortage of food, refugees and insufficient accommodation for the troops. It will be appreciated that in the early stages of occupation of these towns, it is difficult for the C.A.O. to carry out civil administration, owing to the many calls on their time by the Military. Generally speaking, the civil population have been cooperative.

2. Rioting.

A separate memorandum on this subject is attached to this report (Appendix A)

3. Refugees.

The refugee problem grows, and with it the accompanying demands for supplies ever increasing difficulties of transport. Although no refugees have come through the lines in masses, it is reliably reported that owing to the German scorched earth methods large numbers of the inhabitants are homeless. These people are unable to move at present owing to the flooding of rivers and blown bridges.

A separate letter has already been addressed to you on this subject.

B. FOGGIA PROVINCE.

Civil Administration.

Until the future of the town has been decided, the principal provincial departments are not being moved into Foggia.

The town of Torre Maggiore is still under consideration as the possible provincial capital of the Province.

Representatives of the Departments of Finance, Ammassi, Alimentazione and Medicafe are now located in Foggia.

Accommodation problems in the town are being made more and more difficult by the continuous seizing of premises by ADW. DET. NAAF.

Civilians are suffering hardships and loss, and the administration of the town and railway and the health of the Province is being prejudiced by the seizure of essential administrative buildings without sufficient notice being given by ADW. DET. NAAF.

2. Political

Generally speaking, political activity is of a subdued nature. Communist centres appear to be situated in Cerignola and San Severo. The Fronte Nazionale seems to be a "front" only.

3. Transport.

There is a great shortage of transport. An Army estimate puts the

2.

Transport (Contd)

requirements at 250 x 3 ton lorries, which includes exports to Campobasso Province.

4. Organisation.

Eight officers have been transferred to Campobasso Province.
The present location of personnel in Foggia Province is as follows:

	<u>Officers.</u>	<u>O.Rs.</u>
Provincial Headquarters.		
FOGGIA Town	11	40
LUCERA	5	2
CERIGNOLA	3	3
SERRACAPRIOLA	2	1
SAN SEVERO	2	3
MANFREDONIA	2	3
Under orders for CHIETI Prov.	2	2
	29	59

5. Legal.

Civil Courts have been opened in several centres, lists of which are now yet available.

6. Public Safety.

Several arrests of the former Squadrista in Foggia and San Severo, have been made by F.S.S. including Sig. Pipe Giovanni, former Podesta of Foggia and Sig. Lombardi, Prov. Chief of Alimentazione, Camerino, Gino and Captain Edward Suchs (a Yugo-slav) were arrested in San Severo on 15 Nov on charges (inter alia) of improperly representing themselves to be acting under authority of A.M.G. and of forging permits.

7. Public Health.

Lt-Col. Farinaci's report is attached (Appendix B). The need for hospitals and for a Provincial Medical Officer for the Public Health Department is stressed by Lt-Col. Temperly, S.C.A.O. Foggia.

8. Refugees.

Arrangements for interrogation and clearance of refugees are now satisfactory. Control of refugees is made difficult owing to army truck drivers giving lifts to all and sundry.

C. CAMPBASSO PROVINCE.

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Additional supplies of salt are urgently needed, some districts have received no supplies for 4 months.

3.
5. Public Safety.

The Chief of the Questura at Campobasso has been removed from office and a new chief appointed in his place.

4. Riots.

A separate memorandum is attached to this report (Appendix A)

5. Legal.

No cases of importance have been tried during the week.

6. Medical.

A separate report by Lt-Col. Farinacci is attached to this report (Appendix B).

7. Transport.

The difficulty of shortage of transport for essential supplies for the Province is one which requires immediate attention. Bulk supplies can be obtained from Foggia Province, and from outlying regions, but the whole supply problem is bound to break down unless transport can be provided to move these supplies from the stockpiles to the area into which they are required.

Col. H. J. H. H. H.
Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
AMG. H.Q. Eighth Army.

SUBJECT: Disturbances in 15th Army Area.

15th Army Group.

15th Army Group.

25 Nov. 43.

1. No riots have been reported other than those which are already known, and which it is understood are to be investigated by Major Owsley. This officer has not arrived at this H.Q.

2. It has not been possible to prove that there is any real organization behind the riots and in every case AF authority has been recognized. The 15 Corps Liaison Officer, who was asked to investigate and submit his views, reports as follows:-

In my opinion these disturbances need not be taken too seriously. They are definitely not directed against the Allied Forces in occupied territory or against AF, nor do they have any particular political significance other than a very local one. However, it is essential in the interests of good order and government, and as a point of discipline in occupied territory, that any set up approved by AF, co-operating with FSS, should receive the support of the population, and for this reason riots and demonstrations have been rigidly suppressed wherever they have occurred. It is to the credit of AF officers in the field that it has not yet been necessary to call upon military units in the neighborhood to assist them, and incidents such as the one recorded below, where an officer has tackled an angry mob single handed are not infrequent. The prompt action of Lt. Gerique in this case broke up what would certainly have developed into a bad riot.

The reasons may be summarized very briefly as follows:-

- (1) A not unexpected reaction ^{against} Fascism. The peasant now feels that he is now at liberty to have his say without fear of immediate arrest and imprisonment.
- (2) A knowledge that owing to lack of communications and transport it is impossible for civil police to call in reserves to quell a riot of any size 2121
- (3) A definite shortage in certain commodities (every effort is being made to import essential supplies).
- (4) The belief that by making trouble he may in some way get his own back on the more wealthy citizens and local officials who true to Fascist form, have in the past corruptly exploited the peasants.

The above are probably the chief reasons for the riots. Unfortunately the rioters are seldom able to supply a workable solution to their problems, and this is one of the reasons why it is important to retain where possible the existing trained officials who do at least have some knowledge of local government, and, provided they are closely watched it should be possible to prevent them misusing their authority to the extent they did in the past.

It is important to note that up to the present, no evidence has come to light which would indicate that this rioting has behind it any sort of organization from without. Riots are purely local affairs and for reasons previously expressed they

...directed against the Allied Forces in occupied territory or against AAF, nor do they have any particular political significance other than a very local one. However, it is essential in the interests of good order and government, and as a point of discipline in occupied territory, that any act up approved by AAF. cooperating with RRS, should receive the support of the population, and for this reason riots and demonstrations have been rigidly suppressed wherever they have occurred. It is to the credit of AAF officers in the field that it has not yet been necessary to call upon military units in the neighborhood to assist them, and incidents such as the one recorded below, where an officer has tackled an angry mob single handed are not infrequent. The prompt action of Lt. Garigue in this case broke up what would certainly have developed into a bad riot.

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- (3) A definite shortage in certain commodities (every effort is being made to import essential supplies).
- (4) The belief that by making trouble he may in some way get his own back on the more wealthy citizens and local officials who turn to Fascist firms, have in the past corruptly exploited the peasants.

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It is important to note that up to the present, no evidence has come to light which would indicate that this rioting has behind it any sort of organization from without. Riots are purely local affairs and for reasons previously expressed they should be dealt with severely at the outset. At the same time the views of the peasants should not be ignored entirely.

3. There are also attached reports on the rioting in Calle Sanita on Nov. 4th. The first report made by Mont. Garigue, who himself handled the situation alone in an admirable manner, and the second by 412 P.S.S. These reports are given in detail as they are typical of the type of riot occurring.

4. There is undoubtedly a feeling of dissatisfaction amongst the people, particularly in the back areas that the "political choice" which they have been promised is not eventuating as quickly as they hoped. This feeling is accentuated probably by the fact that the form of government which we are using is still totalitarian in fact, though we profess that it is not in theory. For example the prefect is still the dominating figure in the province and his decision as regards appointments of ~~postestas~~ ^{postestas} are those which are and should be listened to. You will therefore find that a violently anti-Communist prefect will be influenced in his appointments by his

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political views, which is inevitable until such time as elections can be held. This is impossible in an operational zone, particularly as elections in this country will almost certainly lead to serious demonstrations.

Captain
Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
2nd Bn. Eighth Army.

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

785015

COLE

COLLE SANITA, 29
Province RM.

6.11.45.

To : O.C. i/c M.O. 412 P.S.S.

Subject: Report on Commune of COLLE SANITA.

From : Sgt. R.B.

Sir,

Following on a personal visit of the ALLOT officer for the Commune of Colle Sanita (Lt. Garigue) to our section H.Q. reporting the occurrence of a riot in that town on the previous day; I proceeded to COLLE SANITA on the morning of the 5th inst to make investigations and also a general survey of conditions in the commune.

The following is a very brief account, substantiated by independent witnesses, of the riot that had taken place in COLLE SANITA on the morning of the 5th inst:

At approx. 10.30 hrs. on the morning of the 4th Nov. 1945, a mixed crowd of agricultural peasants from the frazione INCORATA, SANITA, and GIUGLIA (in the commune of COLLE SANITA) converged on the Municipio building in COLLE SANITA, made forcible entry into the premises and commenced throwing out office furniture and files into the street. Others outside the building set fire to these with the aid of petrol and incendiary material brought along specifically for the purpose. Efforts were made by the few employees of the Municipio to prevent this and in the ensuing melee several were struck and injured, among them the Communal Secretary. These injuries proved later to be very slight. The conflagration in the street had assumed serious proportions when the ALLOT officer (Lt. Garigue) arrived on the scene, having just been informed that some form of demonstration was taking place outside the Municipio. He promptly took action in dispersing a large crowd of about 200 people and entered the building to prevent the intruders doing further damage to the building and property. As the fire was threatening to take hold of the building itself, Lt. Garigue instantly formed a fire squad which succeeded in putting out the conflagration. During this time no members of the COM had appeared on the scene. Only after the affair was ended did the Maresciallo and one of the Carabinieri appear on the scene. From many of the witnesses I learned that only the ALLOT officer's courageous action of the ALLOT officer prevented a serious riot and 219 I was informed that seven of the rioters had been arrested later by the ALLOT officer.

From inquiries made, it was obvious that the whole affair had been pre-arranged as the different contingents arrived in town at the same time. The subject of the demonstration was difficult to understand and the participants in general had only a confused notion of what it was all about.

Interrogation of the people gaoled, and also of peasants in INCORATA, was extremely difficult, but the main grounds for the demonstration seemed to have been:

- a) Shortage of food like, Bread, Salt, Oil etc.
- b) Heavy Taxes imposed on the peasants
- c) Lack of funds to assist indigent people
- d) Grain Mill not working sufficiently to meet common needs.

...of the riot that had taken place in COLLE SANITA on the morning of the 5th inst.

At approx. 18.30 hrs. on the morning of the 4th Nov. 1943, a mixed crowd of agricultural peasants from the frazione DECORATA, LANERA, and GIUNIMA (in the comune of COLLE SANITA) converged on the Municipio building in COLLE SANITA, made forcible entry into the premises and commenced throwing out office furniture and files into the street. Others outside the building set fire to these with the aid of petrol and incendiary material brought along specifically for the purpose. Efforts were made by the few employees of the Municipio to prevent this and in the ensuing melee several were struck and injured, among them the Communal Secretary. These injuries proved later to be very slight. The conflagration in the street had assumed serious proportions when the ASOT officer (Lt. Garigue) arrived on the scene, having just been informed that some form of demonstration was taking place outside the Municipio. He promptly took action in dispersing a large crowd of about 200 people and entered the building to prevent the intruders doing further damage to the building and property. As the fire was threatening to take hold of the building itself, Lt. Garigue instantly formed a fire squad which succeeded in putting out the conflagration. During this time no members of the CCN had appeared on the scene. Only after the affair was ended did the Maresciallo and one of the Carabinieri appear on the scene. From many of the witnesses I learned that only the **24191** courageous action of the ASOT officer prevented a serious riot and that the ASOT officer was informed that seven of the rioters had been arrested later by the ASOT officer.

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Interrogation of the people gaoled, and also of peasants in DECORATA, was extremely difficult, but the main grounds for the demonstration seemed to have been:

- a) Shortage of food like, Bread, Salt, Oil etc.
- b) Heavy Taxes imposed on the peasants
- c) Lack of funds to assist indigent people
- d) Grain Mill not working sufficiently to meet community needs.

These matters had already been taken in hand by the ASOT officer, Lt. Garigue and since, the requisite action taken.

It was freely stated by the dissatisfied peasants that the food shortage, heavy taxes, etc., were due to the late outgoing Fascist party. Their action, however, had been misguided in attacking the Municipio and leaving unselected prominent ex Fascist officials.

The absence of Carabinieri during the occurrence was rather curious, and there seems to be reasonable grounds for supposing that the present Maresciallo, AUGUSTINO Giuseppe fu Pietro, had fore-knowledge of demonstration and lacked the courage or resolution to deal with the issue. During my stay he was very cooperative but did not appear to disclose all he knew of the affair, nor does he seem energetic enough to run his present commune. There are 4 Carabinieri under the Maresciallo, covering COLLE SANITA, CIABELLO, DECORATA and NEIMA, and under present circumstances this force could possibly be slightly augmented. With reference to the Maresciallo, it should be mentioned that the new Podesta

(see later para.) is desired that the present Maresciallo should be transferred elsewhere.

During the evening of the 5th inst (approx. 18.00 hrs.) the Maresciallo of the CUN case and informed the ASSET officer and myself that an attempt was to be made that night by peasants from the fincas ILLORAMA to storm the jail and release the seven locals arrested that day for complicity in the riot. So arranged for the Carabinieri to patrol the town and vicinity of the jail, whilst the ASSET officer, his driver mechanic and myself went down to ILLORAMA to speak with the local inhabitants. There were no signs of an impending raid and no discussion with the peasants, their grievances and also the cause of the relatives already in jail. From inquiry of these people and subsequent interrogation of the prisoners, it was found that two men: FILIA Giorgio fu Angelo (nicknamed PATTINER) of Contada Monti (near GALLI 311111) and MARCO Giuseppe of Orsina (near ILLORAMA) were the ringleaders of the disturbance. The latter was presumably in flight, but FILIA Giuseppe was arrested the following day by the CUN. It is expected that MARCO Giuseppe will be arrested within a few days. The seven people quailed primarily, reaved to have been minor tools, stupidly following the promptings of the two men named above. They will be released in small groups shortly as soon as the gravity of their offences penetrates their rural skulls.

In view of the strained situation, it seemed incumbent on us to make further changes in the administration of the commune. Working in close collaboration with Lt. Gargner, the ASSET officer, it was arranged to replace the Podesta PAULIERI Vincenzo, lawyer, born 1909, in office for the past 6 years and wretched of resigning, by another person. The obvious choice seemed to be M. MELLA Vincenzo, fu Giuseppe, Via Leonardo Galgarietti 99, COME S. ANTONIO, pensioner ex Clerk to Court, Age 70 yrs, who was held in popular esteem and had been always anti fascist. This change of Podesta has been greatly welcomed by the people.

The Communal Secretary, P. MELLA Alberto, although previously in office under the fascist regime could not be classed as an extreme fascist and the general opinion of the people in the commune seemed to be in his favor. At the request of the new Podesta it was arranged for Mella to continue on a period of trial in his present office.

As a great deal of the whole trouble in the district was an aftermath of the fascist administration I took into custody the late political secretary, M. MELLA Guido, as an assurance to the populace that fascism would be rooted out. The following particulars on MELLA were obtained locally:

M. MELLA Guido fu Raffaele. Place Geribaldi 13, COME S. ANTONIO. Arrived here 5.11.43; Place Geribaldi by 7.8.3. Profession: Chemist (pharmacist). Born: 7.3.84 at Colle S. Anna. Was Political Secretary from 13.10.41 to dissolution of party, and previously had been Instruttore dei Giovani Fascisti - pro military. Joined P.M.F. on 24.11.1922 (M.F. 344444).

Status - 21 years (5 children) 1 epileptic daughter only at home. Military Status: Tenente and Tenente during last war, in Italian Infantry. Promoted Captain (in Congo) 9.12.39, transferred to Carlo S. Antonio Militare on 30.12.39. During present war was engaged in military duties as he was the only chemist in the district. Identity Card: U.M.F.M. No. 492, issued 17.5.30.

A search of the house and pharmacy was made and all fascist files and stamps collected. An automatic pistol was found, loaded, in the pharmacy, but it was found subsequently that the Maresciallo had mistakenly made out a permit for MELLA to carry a pistol when out on night duty. This permit has been withdrawn, and the Maresciallo has been ordered to return to his duties.

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In view of the strained situation, it seemed incumbent on us to make further changes in the administration of the commune. Working in close collaboration with Lt. Carignani, the ASST officer, it was arranged to replace the Podesta PAULINO Vincennes, lawyer, born 1909, in office for the past 6 years and who was of resigning, by another person. The obvious choice seemed to be DE VILLI Vincenzo, 74 Giuseppe, Via Leonardo da Vinci 99, Collesanto, pensioned ex Clerk to Court, Age 70 yrs, who was held in popular esteem and had been always anti-fascist. This change of Podesta has been greatly welcomed by the people.

The Communal Secretary, DE VILLI Alberto, although previously in office under the fascist regime could not be classed as an extreme fascist and the general opinion of the people in the commune seemed to be in his favor. At the request of the new Podesta it was arranged for DE VILLI to continue on a period of trial in his present office.

As a great deal of the whole trouble in the district was an aftermath of the fascist administration I took into custody the late political secretary, DE VILLI Guido, as an assurance to the populace that fascists would be rooted out. The following particulars on DE VILLI were obtained locally:

DE VILLI Guido de Collesanto. Piazza Garibaldi 13, Collesanto. Age 21.18.00
bms 5.11.43; Piazza Garibaldi by 2.8.5. Profession: Chemist (pharmacist)
Born: 7.3.84 at Collesanto. Was Political Secretary from 13.10.44 to dissolution of party, and previously had been Institute del Giovane Fascisti - pro military. Joined P.N.F. on 24.11.1922 (NOT Registered).

Status - Widower (5 children) 1 epileptic daughter only at home.
Military Status: Tenente and Tenente during last war, in Italian Infantry. Promoted Captain (in Convegno) 2.12.39, transferred to Corpo Sanitario Militare on 30.12.39. During present war was awarded all military honors as he was the only chemist in the district. Identity Cards U.N.H.G.V. No. 192, issued 17.5.39.

A search of the house and pharmacy was made and all fascist files and stamps collected. An automatic pistol was found, loaded, in the pharmacy, but it was found subsequently that the pharmacist had mistakenly made out a permit for DE VILLI to carry a pistol when out on night duty. This permit has been withdrawn, and the OGBR informed that they have no power to authorize any persons to carry arms.

Opinion locally classed DE VILLI as being the most active fascist of the district. Nevertheless, there was no evidence to show that he had been an extreme fascist or had used his office to further his own ends. He does not appear to be dangerous at all, but owing to the local feeling having run high against the old regime it was thought politic to have him taken into custody. There does not appear to be any strong feelings locally against DE VILLI, a colorful individual.

DE VILLI Guido.

DE VILLI Alfredo, Leonardo Garignetti, 74, Colle Santino.
Age 35 yrs. Prof. Music Teacher (M.A.), graduated from Royal Conservatory of Music Naples. Went to America 1937/38 returning through death of parents. Politically anti-fascist, refusing to be officer in S.I.F., consequently unemployed for long period. Very intelligent, speaks English fairly fluently. Reliability, A1.

3. The situation at present in the commune of COLIN SANHITA is quite normal, and thanks to the efforts made by the ARVOY officer, (Lt. Carrière) most of the hills are working again. The changes in the local administration have also been greatly welcomed, and the obvious intention of the ARVOY organization to do all possible locally has been realized and appreciated. There seems very little likelihood of any recurrence of trouble in this commune of COLIN SANHITA.

Sgt. 10350045,
Sgt. R. J. Broad,
442 P.S.I.

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Report on riot in the Commune of COLLE BANCIA
on the 4th November 1943.

1. On instructions from Capt. BALATON, MIJOT Liaison 5 Div. to visit COLLE BANCIA, I arrived at this town on the 3rd Nov. 43, at approx. 16.00 hrs.
2. On arrival, I went directly to the MUNICIPIO, where I found a meeting of 23 persons who were holding a reunion on the question of food supply to the Commune. I immediately took the chair, and after finding out the names and occupations of the persons present, carried on with the meeting. The situation was, as presented to me, the following.
 - a) A shortage of grain.
 - b) A shortage of petrol to get this grain milled.
 - c) Various other produce, i.e. Salt, Oil, etc., of which the Commune is without.
 - d) The lack of funds within the Commune to pay its employees or the Public Assistance money to poor families.
3. During the meeting, there was suddenly a great amount of noise and shouting coming from the street. On inquiring for the reason, I was told that some women were making a demonstration, the reason being the lack of bread. I went outside and saw approx. 20 women who were shouting loudly. After explaining to them what we were doing to ease the situation, they went home.
4. At the end of the reunion, I included a short mention on MIJOT, and explained the relationship with the civil Government.
5. After this reunion, I took the Comisario Prefectio and the Marcialio of the Carabinieri apart, finding out from them more about the situation within the Commune. No mention was made at any time, by them, of any critical situation. On the contrary they both assured me that, beside the shortage of food everything was very quiet and the people were satisfied.
6. The next morning, at about 08.00 hrs, a civilian person came to the house where I was billeted and informed me that some large demonstration and riot was taking place at the Municipal building.
7. I immediately went out. Outside the streets were full of people and outside the MUNICIPIO there was a crowd of well above a 100 persons.
8. The MUNICIPIO had been broken in, and civilians were throwing out windows the various records and documents into a fire. At the moment of my arrival some chairs, desks, tables were being dragged out and placed on the top of the fire. No Carabinieri were present. The crowd itself was shouting "Viva America" when they saw me in the street.
9. I dispersed the crowd by firing six shots into the air, and entered the MUNICIPIO where I found a dozen persons, of the poor class helping by their dresses breaking up the remaining of the office furniture and records desks. It was impossible for me to carry out immediate arrest owing to their large number and to the fact that the fire was gaining rapidly and they started started running out from the building when I entered.

- a) A shortage of grain.
 - b) A shortage of petrol to get this grain milled.
 - c) Various other problems, i.e. Salt, Oil, etc., of which the commune is without.
 - d) The lack of fund within the Commune to pay its employees or the Public assistance money to poor families.
- During the meeting, there was suddenly a great amount of noise and shouting coming from the street. On inquiring for the reason, I was told that some women were making a demonstration, the reason being the lack of bread. I was outside and saw approx. 20 women which were shouting loudly. After explaining to them what we were doing to ease the situation, they went home.
4. At the end of the reunion, I included a short session on AGOT, and explained the relationship with the civil Government.
 5. After this reunion, I took the Commissario Prefetisio and the Marchello of the Carabinieri apart, finding out from them more about the situation within the commune. No mention was made at any time, by them, of any critical situation. On the contrary they both assured me that, beside the shortage of food everything was very quiet and the people were satisfied.
 6. The next morning, at about 06.00 hrs, a civilian person came to the house where I was billeted and informed me that some large demonstration and riot was taking place at the Municipal building.
 7. I immediately went out. Outside the streets were full of people and outside the MUNICIPIO there was a crowd of well above a 100 persons.
 8. The MUNICIPIO had been broken in, and civilians were throwing out windows the various records and documents into a fire. At the moment of my arrival some chairs, desks, tables were being dragged out and placed on the top of the fire. No Carabinieri were present. The crowd itself was shouting "Viva America" when they saw me in the street.
 9. I dispersed the crowd by firing six shots into the air, and entered the MUNICIPIO where I found a dozen persons, of the poor class judging by their dresses breaching up the remaining of the office furniture and records desks. It was impossible for me to carry out immediate arrest owing to their large number and to the fact that the fire was gaining rapidly and they started started rushing out from the building when I entered.
 10. On returning into the street, I got hold of a few civilians which were still outside and organized them into a fire squad. Their prompt action saved the building.
 11. After putting out the fire, I started the inquiry into the causes of the riot, the names of the persons present who took active part in it, and the places at which they lived.
 12. It was not until approx. 10.30 hrs that I was able to find any of the Carabinieri.

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13. During the riot various members of the Comune Staff had been injured. the Secretaria himself badly beaten up. I obtained from him a list of names of the persons which were responsible for the riot. From this list I arrested during the day seven persons, who all owned up to the fact that they were within the MUNICIPIO building during the riot.

14. Detail report in being made by the Sindaco of the Carabinieri and all documents relative to this case are being collected.

15. From further investigations it appears that this riot is a reaction from the Fascist regime. Owing to the fact that the same people which were the heads of the comune are still there and are still carrying most of the fascist practices, they felt that this was the only way out of it. Their grievances in also related to the shortage of food; and the misuse by the heads of the comune of the available grain storage.

16. The riot itself seems to have been prepared over a period of time. Most of the rioters are peasants from the surrounding district and had walked as much as 40 kms to come in. Bottles of petrol were used by the rioters to set fire to the building as was also some German incendiary (or explosive material), these exhibits are held at the Barracks of the Carabinieri. The prompt action of the fire squad, who collected these bottles and this material before the fire got under way saved a major incendiary. There is no organized fire service in this village and no running water.

(Lt. P. Garrigue)
C.I.D. AMST.

GOING SARDINIA until tomorrow evening.

P. Garrigue, Lt.

Colle Sannita 15.00 hrs.
4. Nov 43.

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Subject: Public Health

To: Group Captain Benson, Commanding AMOT, Eighth Army, Italy.

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1. Medical Supplies for the Forward Areas are rapidly being furnished as quickly as transportation becomes available. Up to this date, both the Provinces of Foggia and Campobasso have each been given approximately 10 tons of Emergency Medical Supplies. Unfortunately, their means of transport are limited and therefore very much dependent upon AMOT for procuring of the trucks. The C.A.O.S. in the Forward Areas have been cooperating by taking back with them in their vehicles the Medical supplies needed for the communes that they serve. Thus far this has worked but in case of the farthest communes the help has been somewhat slow. However, I believe that soon this defect will be remedied. The supplies received thus far are adequate in quantity for the next several months but unfortunately, the variety is too limited; for example there is a great need for Sulphur Ointment for the Scabies which is very prevalent in both Campobasso and Foggia, Insulin is non-existent in either of the two provinces and none has been received. The same deficiency exists with regards to Smallpox Vaccine and Diphtheria Antitoxin. Can there be a special request made of the 15th Army Group, AMOT for the above items as well for a supply of X-Ray Films and Sodium Hyposulphite for the X-Ray Laboratory of the Campobasso Civilian Hospital? The amount of adhesive Plaster and Gauze Bandage roller thus far has been a negligible amount and has been almost all completely distributed to Foggia and Campobasso. The amount of civilian wounded being cared for in the Civilian Hospitals of Lervino, Termoli, Carpinone and Campobasso are very great and consequently their needs for these particular items are greater than normal times. I have decided to send up about 10 tons of Medical Supplies from Foggia (which have just arrived 18 November 1943) to Vasto to be used for that Forward Area behind the V Corps. This matter will take at least one week for obvious reasons. In the meantime I am taking with me tomorrow several boxes of supplies which should hold that area for the time being. Does this proposed manoeuvre meet with your approval? In addition there is an apparent shortage of shoes and winter clothing for many of the poor and for the many refugees who are streaming back from the forward areas and of course the same thing applies to Foggia.

2. Ambulance Service for the civilians in the province of Campobasso has been handled by the American Field Service Units but they are being withdrawn for military reasons. I feel that the Italian Red Cross should furnish the province with at least two ambulances. Perhaps the Eighth Army Medical Units which may have Captured Italian Ambulances in their possession may be willing to give them up to the Civilian Authorities.

3. Hospitals are overcrowded but functioning fairly efficiently especially the Civilian Hospital of Campobasso where the 13th Corps A.D.M., Lt. Col. Morgan, has helped by furnishing Doctors and Corps men for the congested institution. The hospital is now being run in a highly commendable manner and I feel that the A.D.M. have shown what can be done with a small hospital when the right men are in charge.

The Hospitals of Foggia are also overcrowded and the town of Foggia is still without Hospital Services. An extract of the report of the 1043 for the C.A.O. in Foggia is as follows: Dr. Grillo, Medical

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The Hospitals of Foggia are also overcrowded and the town of Foggia is still without Hospital Services. An extract of the report of 7 November 1943 by the C.A.O. in Troia is as follows: Dr. Grillo, Medical Director, Troia, asks that AMFOT give consideration to Surgical Cases sent from Foggia to Troia. The normal capacity at the Troia Hospital is 25 patients; however, by emergency measures, it has been extended to 45 patients, the majority of whom have been sent from Foggia. It has now become impossible to accommodate or to give proper medical attention, in Troia, to further cases. The doctor states that if permission was given by AMFOT to set up a clinic in Foggia, as formerly, it would greatly assist in the present difficulties.

4. Refugees are increasing in number and their distress is greater due to winter and the fact that the Germans are very proficient in their "Goorochet Earth" Tactics. So far there has been no reports of

contagious diseases except for the endemic Typhoid Fever and Malaria. However, the situation is such that Typhus Fever may break out anywhere and any time. The Campaign against the Body and Head Lice has been begun in both provinces by use of Public Posters and exhumation of people in their homes by the visiting Sanitary Officers.

5. The province of Foggia is in need of a provincial Laboratory and steps are being taken to get this re-established as soon as the Military situation allows. This also pertains to the Anti-malarial centers such as Foggia and Isernia. A Maternity Hospital is being established in Lucera and a Mothers and Baby's Clinic is being started in Foggia. This service in the province of Campobasso had also been discontinued due to the war and now is in the process of being reopened.

6. The town of Foggia is without the services of its old slaughter House (which is now used by the Military as a Storehouse). The Meat being consumed consequently is not inspected by the Veterinary Service as is required by Italian law. Consequently, there is a great danger to the community. The meat is, so I have been told by the Veterinary, slaughtered in the Farms and then transported to the local butcher shops. Many of the pigs are probably infested with Taenia Solium. There have been cases of Red Fever and of Swine Fever among the Pigs of Campobasso province. In this connection there was just outside town of Foggia an Institution called Stazioni Zootrofiliensi which furnished the four provinces of Abruzzi, Campobasso, Potenza, Bari, and other parts of Italy with Serums and Vaccines for the prevention and treatment of Animal Diseases. This service has been discontinued since July 1943. It is the desire of the Provincial Medical Authorities to reopen the Laboratory. I have made this desire known to S.C.A.O. of Foggia and he has promised me to investigate the possibilities. He felt however that the Air Forces would object to it as they had already made overtures towards requisitioning it for their own troops. The failure of reestablishing a Laboratory of this type as well as the Provincial Laboratory, previously mentioned in paragraph 5, would seriously hamper the efforts of the Public Health authorities in preventing the spread of disease epidemics in both the Human and Animal kingdom.

7. In connection with the distribution of Medical Supplies I have given the Medico Provinciali of both Foggia and Campobasso permission to sell the medical supplies wholesale to Drug-houses and Pharmacies at the wholesale price established by the Italian Minister of Interior and also have given them permission to allow the same Drug-houses and Pharmacies to sell retail at the same price standards. This procedure was taken in order to prevent too much profit on the part of the drug-houses and retailers, and to prevent hoarding of the consumer. These established prices are contained in the Bulletin "TARIFA UFFICIALE DEI MEDICINALI PER LA VENDITA AL PUBBLICO" published by the Ministero dell'Interno Direzione Generale della Sanita Pubblica 1935 with its amendments latest of which is dated 1939.

I wish that I can be granted the privilege of "Write-off" for Breakeage of Medical Supplies. This is important in as much as I have found several bottles of medicine which were broken and the contents spilled and yet the outer case was intact as were the seals. I have been giving the Medico Provinciali credit for the losses thus far.

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8. Additional note on Hospitals in Campobasso: Up to October 25th there was no Civilian Hospital in Termoli, since then there has been organized one of 20 bed capacity which was full to capacity on November 6, 1943. Supplies sufficient for ordinary care were delivered to that institute as well to the Larino Civilian Hospital. Another hospital was begun in Carpinone to take the place of the 100 bed Civil Hospital of Isernia which was destroyed in the fight for Isernia and its back. This hospital is being helped by the medical units of the 14th Corps who are allowing us the use of their transport to help equip the building.

9. The greatest obstacle to improvement in Medical Care of the

(3)

22

Civilian population has been the lack of communication and transportation; There has been no reporting of Contagious disease in Campobasso Province since September 10th and even that report was obviously incomplete, showing but 15 cases of Typhoid Fever and 20 cases of Malaria, 7 cases of Undulant Fever (Malta Fever), 6 cases of Diphtheria and Group and 7 cases of Paratyphoid Fever. This report was for the first ten days of September and was from 24 communes out of a total of 134. Then there was no reporting until October. This report was for the period October 1st to November 6th with but 4 Communes reporting, namely: Campobasso - 1 Case of Diphtheria; Gildone - 2 cases of Typhoid Fever; Jelsi - 1 case of Typhoid Fever; and Guglionesi - 1 case of Typhoid, 23 cases of Malaria and 1 suspect case of Rabid Dog.

10. I think that Foggia Province should have a Medical Officer on duty with the Provincial AM full time. The present Officer while capable is not a Doctor and many factors which can only be handled by a Public Health Doctor constantly occur much to his embarrassment. I have so much territory to cover so that I am unable to devote too much time in any one province. I have spent, on this tour, two and one half days in Foggia alone. If there were a permanent duty Medical Officer I am sure that I could have done all I had to do in a couple of hours or a day at the most.

11. It is urgently requested that I be furnished with a reliable transport as soon as possible. This transport is to be used for the Medical Duties exclusively. Too many things have happened in the past where because I had no ready transportation available, I have had either to let the thing go hang itself or else, fortunately for me, borrow one from the A.D.H. 13th Corps.

Respectfully Yours

(Signed) Charles J. Farinacci,

Lt. Col. M. C.
Div. of Pub. Health Eighth Army.
AMOT.

Extract Copy S.C.A.O. Foggia
" " S.C.A.O. Campobasso.

B. Placed this message through 8 Army Hq. 25/11 1005
1 copy sent 8 Army

CONFIDENTIAL

US CIPHER MESSAGE
IN

FOLIO NO 08885
25 NOV 43

FROM : SEARS FOR FARGO
TO : FILPOT FOR GERRY FOR BENSON
FROM MCSHERRY RPT TO FREEDOM
FOR MGS

TOO 1120A
THI NIL
TOR 1506

ORIG. NO : S-3093 CITE FARGO 854

COPY MALATESTA RPT MALATESTA REPORT DATED LAST AUGUST URGENTLY
REQUIRED, NOT AVAILABLE HERE

AMCOT 4 ACTION

SMC 1620A/25.
T.T.1640A/25. JAG.

ACTION

2111

SUBJECT:- Campobasso.

20
H.Q., A.M.G.,
15 Army Group,
C.M.F.

Allied Commission Control,
Brindisi.

AMG/78/20

(for the attention of Lt. Col. N. Monfort) 19th November 1943

I have received your letter of the 12th November 1943, AMG/POL/SEC/, enclosing a report dated the 11th November 1943 from the Italian Civil Affairs Office, and I thank you for the document.

I am sending the report to S.C.A.O. Eighth Army for his comments.

/SCH.

sgd
Major General,
Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

19
SUBJECT:- Report on Campobasso.

H.Q., A.M.G.,
15 Army Group,
C.M.F.

S.C.A.O.
Eighth Army.

AMG/78/19
19th November 1943

I enclose a copy of a report in Italian on the situation in Campobasso, prepared apparently by Sgr. Innocenti, who is the Head of the Civil Affairs Office in the Brindisi Government, corresponding more or less to the Ministry of the Interior.

I should like your advice as to whether any action is called for on the report, but I expect you to warn the Prefect in Campobasso that communications to the Italian Government must be made through the S.C.A.O., Campobasso inasmuch as he is acting as an appointed officer of the Allied Military Government and Military Governor, G.O.C. in C., 15 Army Group.

see 18

/SCH.

Major General,
Chief Civil Affairs Officer.

Encl.

2110

1 NOV 1943

18

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B

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION. A.P.O. 512.

12 NOVEMBER, 1943.
AMG/COI/SEC/

SUBJECT: CAMPOBASSO

TO-----A.M.C.O.T. H.A.
15 ARMY GROUP.

FROM-----A.M.C.I.O.
ALLIED MILITARY MISSION.

Handwritten:
Hollister
Sawyer 1/15
received
replied
with copy
to be kept
15A

Attached is a copy of P.M. 151 of 11 Nov. 1943 from the Italian Civil Affairs Office, for your information and any action you may consider taking.

See 19 { B Marine
for A.M.C.I.O., A.M.C.
LT. COL. 1/14

Handwritten:
C.A.O. 18-18A Subj: MIA - a rough summary
in English. Has shown to 15 Army

12 NOVEMBER, 1943.
AUG/COI/SEC/

SUBJECT: COMPENSATION

TO: A.M.F.O.P. H.E.
15 ARMY GROUP.

FROM: A.M.F.I.O.
ALLIED MILITARY MISSION.

Attached is a copy of P.M. 151 of 11 Nov. 1943 from the Italian Civil Affairs Office, for your information and any action you may consider taking.

See 19 E B memo
for A.M.F.I.O., A.M.F.
I.P. COI.

52 C.M.O. 18-184 sub: with a rough summary
L. English. Has spread 18-184 Army
for action?

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16x1
17.5.
50.

Handwritten notes:
Said to be
15 Nov 43
No copy
in copy of 8/11

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL AFFAIRS.

S.M. - The Head of the Government.

Regarding the: Memorandum of Political Situation at Casablanca.

Regarding the Political and Economic situation of Casablanca and around the provinces occupied by Allied Troops.

We have done everything in our power to get rid of the Pro Germans, dispossess their services and so forth.

The Anglo-American troops have occupied all the schools, the National Building, the Palace of Justice, the Seminary, the Military quarters, the Principal Hotel, the biggest palace of the city and all offices had to move and they are now having a difficult time looking for accommodation.

They also took over the Post Office, Telephone Exchange, Telegraph Office, the gas office and the electricity building.

All the shops are practically empty because the Anglo-American troops have bought them out and are paying ridiculous prices for poultry, eggs, wines and liquors.

All the pharmacies are completely out of medical supplies and doctors are unable to provide medicines for their patients.

Furthermore the Anglo-American troops are going as far as using violence against Italian civilians, occupying private houses and commandeering things for themselves.

The Barracks around Tervoli, Casablanca, Tervoli, Tervoli and Tervoli are occupied by Canadian Troops and their behaviour is far from good.

We would like you to take this matter into consideration and help us solve this matter. It will be of great help to us if the troops will co-operate, by not paying these enormous prices, and furthermore behaving themselves better than at present.

The Prefect,
Head of the Office.

2108

Ga/Ez

COPY

UFFICIO AFFARI CIVILI
PRESSO

S.E. IL CAPO DEL GOVERNO

P.M. 151 II.II.943.

MISSIONE MILITARE ALLEATA

(Col. Monfort)

N. 2453/ A.C.

OGGETTO

Campobasso-Situazione politico-
economica.

Per opportuna conoscenza di comunica la seguente relazione circa la situazione politico-economica di Campobasso e degli altri Comuni di quella Provincia occupate delle truppe Alleate:

"Il noto Comitato antitedesco, costituitosi in questa città, continua la sua opera, che spesso non è sovrada odi personali, di affiancamento alle autorità anglo-americane.-

Il 30 ottobre 1943 è stato fermato il dott. PISTILLI Renato, fino a pochi anni fa Podestà di Campobasso, ed è stato ordinato a tre magistrati, il giudice di tribunale Varrone Tito, il pretore De Lellis Nicola ed il pretore aggiunto Evangelista Italo di rassegnare le dimissioni della carica. Sono stati anche licenziati i componenti il corpo delle guardie municipali accusati di scarso rendimento.-

Il nuovo questore avv. De Vita Agostino, del quale le autorità inglesi incominciano a non nutrire molta fiducia, ha ricostituito la questura nominando quattro funzionari di P.S. scelti fra i componenti il comitato antitedesco e confermando nell'impiego tutti sottufficiali e gli agenti di P.S. che già prestavano servizio.-

Le truppe anglo-americane hanno occupate tutte le scuole, il convitto nazionale, il palazzo di giustizia, il seminario, il distretto militare (nella parte non distrutta dell'incendio), l'albergo principale, il palazzo più grande della città di proprietà di certo Di Penta e numerose case di private abitazioni. Il comando del distretto militare, che si era costituito ed installato nei propri uffici, è stato fatto sloggiare dai comandi inglesi ed ora è in cerca di locali che difficilmente potrà trovare.-

I servizi pubblici e cioè le poste, i telegrafi, i telefoni, il gas, la luce non funzionano ancora.-

I negozi di tutti i generi sono quasi completamente vuoti poiché le truppe anglo-americane acquistano tutto ed a qualsiasi prezzo.-

Il Patrimonio zooteonico subisce ogni giorno forti falcidie anche per il notevole consumo delle truppe di occupazione. le

circa la situazione politico-economica di Campobasso e degli altri Comuni di quella Provincia occupate dalle truppe Alleate:

"Il noto Comitato antitedesco, costituitosi in questa città, continua la sua opera, che spesso non è sovrastata da odii personali, di affiancamento alle autorità anglo-americane."

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Presso il locale ospedale civile, e le farmacie locali sono quasi completamente esauriti i medicinali e vi è nell'ambiente sanitario viva preoccupazione poiché gli stessi medici temono di non poter continuare a curare i numerosi feriti ed ammalati.

L'arma collabora con le autorità; inglesi che apprezzano la sua opera e lo spirito di disciplina.

Nei vari Comuni della provincia già liberati, l'ordine pubblico è devanque soddisfacente e solo nel capoluogo, dove finora sono state fermata circa 60 persone perchè ritenute di accessi sentimenti fascisti

e quindi sospette e pericolose per le forze anglo-americane, si vive in uno stato d'animo alquanto perplesso, ciò perché quasi tutti i cittadini hanno la convinzione che l'opera del noto comitato non sia sempre serena e che le autorità anglo-americane nutrano nei suoi componenti una fiducia non sempre meritata.-

Le azioni belliche per motivi non noti allo scrivente, proseguono con molta lentezza e fanno sorgere il timore che, col sopraggiungere dell'inverno, in questa zona particolarmente rigida, possano essere arrestate con tutte le disastrose conseguenze derivanti della presenza sia delle truppe tedesche le quali, secondo le voci non controllate che qui giungono, commettono violenze e spruzzi di ogni genere e sia di quella anglo-americane alune delle quali, indubbiamente senza aver avuto analoghi ordini in merito, compiono diversi abusi che si concretano spesso in atti di violenza contro le persone, nell'occupazione di case private e talvolta anche nel saccheggio delle stesse.-

Diverse caserme dell'arma, poi, come quelle di Termoli, di Campobasso, di Toro, di Torella e di Baranelle sono state occupate da truppe che continuamente si avvicendano e quasi sempre sono canadesi.-"

IL PREFETTO

Capo dell'Ufficio

Innocenti.

79
AMG, H.Q. 8th Army.

Ref: OA/7/1/19A

14 Nov 43.

AMG, H.Q.
15 Army Group.

1. The following report on the Eighth Army Area up to Nov. 6, is forwarded for information:-

2. Foggia Province was taken over by personnel of No. 4 Region under Lt.-Col. Temperley on Nov. 5th and the Eighth Army AMG. personnel under Major Talbot moved forward and took over Campobasso Province the same date.

CAMPORASSO. Province.

3. Military Situation.

The advance of 13 Corps along the axis Vinchiatura - Isernia and in the mountain region to the north continues. The town of Isernia was occupied on and patrols have pushed beyond. In the hilly country to the north progress has been slow.

4. Fifth Army formations are advancing in Campobasso parallel with 13 Corps south of the Main Corps axis.

5. In the north of the province, 5 Corps have passed the boundary of Campobasso, along the axis Termoli Vasto, and are into the province of Chieti, having occupied Vasto.

6. Supplies.

(a) Grain. Figures based on the 1942 harvest, shown at Appendix "A" show that a surplus of grain should exist in the province. It has not, however, been possible to verify the position for this year as yet, owing to the fact that for operational reasons it has not been possible to collect the grain into the Amassi from the farms, and also owing to the lack of transport available for collection. There has undoubtedly, too, been a definite destruction and removal of grain by the Germans from the Isernia district. In view of the above, it was decided to begin building up a stockpile of flour in Campobasso from the Foggia district and the first 100 tons has been delivered by means of W.D. transport. The remainder will follow as soon as transport difficulties can be solved.

(b) Fuel. Fuel supplies are still urgently needed to enable mills operate, and the Corps have up to date supplied certain quantities of petrol which supplies must now cease. Quantities of fuel required are being ascertained and forwarded to 15 Army Group for urgent calling forward.

(c) Salt. The existing stocks are exhausted and a stockpile of 50 tons will be built up, but means of transport have still to be found.

(d) Other Supplies. Reports received indicate that in areas not occupied the conditions are better, but supplies are never the less scarce. To meet this it has been agreed by Eighth Army that fresh meat will not be bought by them until AMG is satisfied that there is a surplus available.

7. Maximum prices have been circulated in agreement with Eighth Army. It has been clearly pointed out that these prices are the maximum and that C.A.Os should when possible, in agreement with the Pedestals, fix them at a lower level for their part. It has been issued that all prices must be prominently

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(d) Other Supplies. Reports received indicate that in areas not occupied the conditions are better, but supplies are never the less scarce. To meet this it has been agreed by Eighth Army that fresh meat will not be bought by them until AMG is satisfied that there is a surplus available.

7. Maximum prices have been circulated in agreement with Eighth Army. It has been clearly pointed out that these prices are the maximum and that C.A.O.s should when possible, in agreement with the Pedestals, fix them at a lower level for their particular communes. Instructions have been issued that all prices must be prominently displayed.

8. Finance. There is no change in the banking position excepting that a Finance Officer is now available at Campobasso who can go forward and meet the more urgent needs of communes until such times as normal banking can be resumed. A meeting on financial questions has been arranged for Sunday, Nov 14th at this H.Q. at which representatives of 5th Army will be present to coordinate financial matters between the two Armies.

...../9

550

9. Legal.

The Italian courts are ready to function and the list of judges has been submitted to and passed by F.S.S. The S.L.O. has issued instructions for their immediate opening, which will enable pending cases to be disposed of. At the meeting referred to above, legal representatives from 5th Army will attend to coordinate matters of legal policy between the two Armies.

10. Medical.

The two most serious problems are:-

- (i) Shortage of medical supplies.
- (ii) Accommodation for wounded civilians.

As regards (i), supplies are being sent up and a stockpile formed at Campobasso as soon as transport can be made available.

As regards (ii), wounded civilians who cannot be accommodated in the existing civilian hospitals are being evacuated to areas further south, mostly to Bari. Military hospitals can no longer take in any civilian cases.

It is requested that 2000 T.A.B. ampoules be supplied as an emergency to meet any needs in cases of typhoid which may break out. None were received in the stock of medical supplies from Naples.

11. Transport.

This, as usual, is still the most pressing need. It is not possible to rely on the Army for transport except in the possible case of back loading, which in effect can only be of value as regards refugees. Distribution forward is the main problem and in this connection A. & Q.M.G. Eighth Army is requesting Italian Seventh Army to furnish each Corps AMG with 50 Italian military lorries. It is requested that 15 A.G. should back this recommendation to the limit.

12. The following more detailed information individual Corps Areas is given:-

13. 13 Corps Area.

(a) Campobasso.

(i) The arrest of the Questore and vice Questore together with certain other Italians by F.S.S. has created some feeling locally. A list of the arrested persons and the charges is being obtained and will be closely scrutinized. Felonies committed at the present time consist chiefly of curfew offences and a separate police report as at Oct. 26 is attached.

(ii) Electricity and water were available in the city on Nov. 7th and 5th respectively.

(b) Refugees are dealt with by the Refugees Officer in his separate reports, but it is worth noting that 13 Corps Liaison Officer states that as the advance continues westwards the number of refugees appears to be diminishing, this is probably due to the fact that Neapolitan refugees are being met with in less numbers and the local refugees from the bombed out houses have not yet come in from the hills.

(c) Isernia Town. This place has been badly knocked about, not only by but by retreating Germans, destroying all buildings and installations.

As regards (i), supplies are being sent up and a stockpile maintained at the top of the mountain.

As seen as transport can be made available. As regards (ii), wounded civilians who cannot be accommodated in the existing civilian hospitals are being evacuated to areas further south, mostly to Bari. Military hospitals can no longer take in any civilian cases.

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(c) Isernia Town. This place has been badly knocked about, not only by bombing but by retreating Germans, destroying all buildings and installations. About 1000 more dead are reported in the city with enormous quantities of debris and no food. Work of clearing debris and burying dead is proceeding and food is being taken in. Local government has broken down in the town and a critical

(5)

food situation is developing owing to farmers having used up their seed grain for feed. This is being dealt with.

(d) There have been several instances of rioting and demonstrations in areas down the L of C, in particular Gildone, Cerenaggiore and Colle Sanita. There have also been instances reported from across the Benecente border, and an officer has been sent to investigate as the area is one which it is difficult for Fifth Army to get at. A report on these demonstrations is being called for.

14. 5 Corps Area. This section of Campobasso Province lying as it does on the coastal area does not present the same supply difficulties. Termoli is a supply centre and there is available in the district a surplus of grain amounting to some 2500 tons. There are no large towns in the area, the biggest being Larino. The problems are not great other than distribution. Most towns have a water shortage and no electric light, due to destruction by the enemy. The utilities are being repaired and will be working shortly. Petroleum supplies are urgently required in this area for operating mills and tractors.

15. Foggia Province.

The general situation in Foggia Province is still unsatisfactory owing to the inability of finding suitable premises to house a central Provincial Government. The requirements of the N.A.A.F. are such that every available building of any size or quality is required by them for operational purposes or billeting the staff of the H.Q. Accommodation for a limited number of departments of the Provincial Government has been found, but insufficient for the complete organisation, while it is impossible to find living accommodation for the officials and clerks and their families. Accommodation elsewhere in the province is equally unavailable, owing to the requirements of the Army. Under the circumstances therefore the functioning of the central government is both erratic and slow.

16. The supply situation in this province is becoming clearer but the usefulness of the surpluses of food, particularly grain, is severely handicapped by lack of transport for distribution. Stocks of grain still await collection on the farms, while the distribution of stocks already collected to areas such as the western portion of Campobasso is dependent upon Eighth Army L of C transport, all of which is really required for operational purposes.

17. The army's requirement of oats and hay for mules has been satisfied out of surplus stocks and possible surpluses of other commodities which they require are being investigated with a view to supplying their needs. Items in particular demand are wood, charcoal, poultry and sheep.

18. The question of the Prefect corresponding direct with the Italian Government has been taken up with him by the S.C.A.O. and the proper procedure made clear to him.

19. The judges have now been vetted and instructions been given to open all criminal courts as quickly as possible.

20. There is a great need for civilian hospital accommodation in the town but the N.A.A.F. requirements already mentioned militate equally against this. Otherwise the medical situation is satisfactory and distribution of medical stores is being effected.

21. There appears to be a certain amount of political unrest of which the cause and origin are at the moment obscure. A further report on this will

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21. There appears to be a certain amount of political unrest of which the cause and origin are at the moment obscure. A further report on this will be given as soon as investigations in progress have been completed.

22. The situation in Foggia Province may be summarized by saying that with the exception of Foggia Town the rest of the province is quiet and rapidly returning to normal. The three main difficulties with which AMG is having to contend are the lack of a proper central Government, (a) lack of transport and petroleum supplies (common to the whole of the Eighth Army area), (c) the situation in Foggia Town.

Bygrave
Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
AMG, HQ. Eighth Army.

REFUGEES - EIGHTH ARMY AREA.

1. The whole problem created by refugees is so linked up with broad policy and international reaction, that only by coordination of a set policy by A & Q staffs can any sort of administrative efficiency be obtained.

This policy should be formulated immediately after conference by interested parties and a definite instruction issued by A.P.H.Q.

The plan should be long term visualizing the situation that will develop in Europe as operations continue. The present refugee situation on the Italian front may be likened to an abscess that was developing in a healthy body (the healthy body being the allied military machine). It has at last been realized that large numbers of refugees in battle zones may well stop the battle, and did indeed interfere with our rearward action in France 1940. The action of removing refugees from Eighth Army forward areas, which is going on at the moment, has at least prevented drastic action, which may have been necessary if the abscess had not had hot fermentations applied.

2. By the 17 Nov. 43 some 5,000 (a) refugees (b) displaced persons (c) ex non-Italian internees will have been removed from forward battle zones of the two Corps Areas of Eighth Army. The first move took place on 24 Oct. 43.

3. The system at present in force is somewhat rough and tumble, and trying for women and children who form 60% or more of bodies in transit.

These civilians make their own way to Div. collecting areas and are embussed in military transport returning to Corps railheads.

Coaching or wagon rolling stock is in position at railheads each evening to receive 100 approximately. The coaches or waggons are then sent off as soon as possible generally each evening to Lecce via Bari.

Rations are issued for 48 hours at Div. embussing points from Italian sources where possible, but from military sources when Italian supply breaks down.

Q (Mu & Tn) Rear Eighth Army do not like the scheme, as the railheads are in danger of being fouled for lack of latrine accommodation and the breakdown of security regulations.

A daily flow of 100 bodies through each railhead has now started and will continue for an indefinite period. In addition sudden large moves are necessary involving perhaps 2000, and then request is made for coaching stock to Q (Mu & Tn) Rear Eighth Army subject to 48 hours notice. This task is at the moment being tackled by two officers. One officer is tied to a telephone and the other attempts to cover the two corps fronts.

4. There exists in the Allied Commission a sub-commission for displaced persons. This is the organization responsible for all movement, administration and eventual repatriation of civilians. There is urgent need for the sub-commission to become alive and have a clear grasp of events in forward areas, and coordinate the L of C and rear areas.

5. If and when railheads move forward Q (Mu & Tn) Rear Eighth Army have agreed to allocate a site for an AMG Refugee Railroad.

It is therefore proposed that the following layout for all refugee evacuation from forward areas to rear be used.

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5. If and when railheads move forward Q (Mu & Tn) rear Eighth Army have agreed to allocate a site for an AMG Refugee Railroad.

It is therefore proposed that the following layout for all refugee evacuation from forward areas to rear be used.

(a) A refugee railhead at F.M.C. in the vicinity of suitable siding ²⁴⁰³ which will be sited a P.O.W. cage for 1000 adapted and improvised for women and children refugees. British staff to be supplemented by Italian Welfare Services. Disinfection to be carried out here and registration, a separate wing to be kept for non-Italians.

(b) A P.O.W. cage for 2000 situated at Foggia. Security interrogation and general segregation may be carried out here, and liaison with rear areas for the eventual

(2)

reception of refugees.

Therefore required to come forward:-

1. P.O.W. cage complete in personnel and equipment for 2000.

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Italian Red Cross and other welfare workers.

Red Cross comforts.

6. Items for discussion, and coordinated direction from A.F.H.Q. are:-

- (a) Collection and marshalling in forward areas.
- (b) Transport - Road - Rail - Sea.
- (c) Medical control.
- (d) Supply - Food - Clothes - Medical Stores.
- (e) Engineer services.
- (f) Registration.
- (g) Camp administration.
- (h) Security.
- (i) Reception.
- (j) Survey of future commitments and reconnaissance of areas to be evacuated and inspection of camps of liberated political prisoners.
- (k) Planning for eventual rehabilitation in original domicile.
- (l) Providing for the stateless, by negotiation with governments interested in immigration.

(Signed) T Matthews

Major,
Evacuation Officer,
AMC, HQ, Eighth Army.

15 Nov. 43.

IL PREFETTO DI FOGGIA

79 10/11/43
Bovino 13 November 1943 *16*

TO :

Lt. Colonel Temperley,
S.C.A.O.
A.M.G.O.T.
FOGGIA.

Dear Colonel Temperley,

Yesterday when I arrived in Bovino after the lunch that I had at the 8th Army HQ. I have found the Chief of the Staff of Italian Army H.E. Generale Ambrosio who told me that I have been appointed to a General Commander in Chief of the Carabinieri Reali of Italy.

I am so leaving my Province and the Prefecture of FOGGIA with a big regret for the cordial and kind co-operation that we had for your initiative and I assure you Dear Colonel that I have for you since the first time that we met a strong sympathy.

I shall be very glad to have you at lunch or at dinner for Sunday 14 or for Monday 15 at 12.30 or 19.30 p.m. as you like better. I will have so the chance to introduce the new Prefect, General Cotronei, to you. The new Prefect will assist with me at the meeting that we shall have Tuesday 16 at 9 o'clock in your Office in FOGGIA.

Many wishes Dear Colonel from
Yours very sincerely,

Il Generale, Commandante
l'Arma dei RR.CC.

PAH on the River side
2101

(COPY)

79 per Aug 8 am 151
ADVANCED DETACHMENT 12 H AIR FORCE
APO 650, U.S. ARMY.

11 November 1943.

SUBJECT:- Removal of furniture.

TO :- Town Major.

1. R.A.F. Reg, guards on buildings earmarked for Air Force Hqs., report that civilians have attempted to remove furniture from such buildings on authority from your office.
2. Buildings for Air Forces, whether offices or billets, are to be requisitioned with furnishings, as was done in Algiers, Tunis, Palermo etc. there is no question of the Legality of the procedure. This matter has already been discussed with the 86th Area and Amgot and it was agreed that civilians would be permitted to remove personal items such as clothing, valuables, cooking utensils, dishes, bric - a - brac only.
3. I have directed British and American guards to stop removal of furniture from all buildings earmarked for Allied Air Forces.

Sgd:- HAROLD B. WILLIS,
Colonel, A.C.
Commanding.

Copy to:- 86th Area
Amgot.

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Sgd:-

HAROLD B. WILLIS,
Colonel, A.C.
Commanding.

Copy to:- 86th Area
Amgot.

2100

PA
in My River under

13 NOV 1943

ALLIED MILITARY MISSION. A.P.O. 512.

10 NOVEMBER, 1943.
AUG/ CCEPI/10.

SUBJECT: THE PREFECT OF FOGGIA.

TO----- A.M.G.O.T. H.Q.
15 ARMY GROUP.

FROM----- A.M.G.I.C.
ALLIED MILITARY MISSION.

Attached is a memorandum, P.M. 151 of 8 Nov. '43, from the Italian Civil Affairs Office on various matters raised by the Prefect of FOGGIA.

The Italian Government quite agree that such questions, in A.M.G. territory, should be taken up by the Prefect with the local A.M.G. authorities, and they wrote on 29 Oct. '43 to this effect to the Prefect, concerned. Presumably, the Prefect of FOGGIA had not received this communication at the time of writing his complaints.

30 Nov 1943

2099

LT. COL.
A.M.G.I.C., A.M.G.

2099

For 14-14H. 2099

TO----- A.M.G.O.T. H.R.
15 ARMY GROUP.

FROM----- A.M.G.I.O.
ALLIED MILITARY MISSION.

14A

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30 Nov 2099
IT. COL.
A.M.G.I.O., A.M.G.

GR
2099
To see if 14-14A. *Ref. Jan ?*
mid. *kind no action now necessary*
SSO
15/11/43

C O P I A

P.M. 151, li 8 Novembre 1943

N. 2663/A.C.

A P P U N T O

PER LA MISSIONE MILITARE ALLEATA

=====

1 - S.E. il Prefetto di Foggia ha fatto presente che in quel luogo la vita tende in qualche modo a riorganizzarsi, essenzialmente perchè gran parte delle persone sfollate - nonostante i divieti vigenti, si sono ai vari paesi, in numero di 25-30 mila, riversate nella città semidistrutta al fine di salvare quello che è ancora possibile della loro casa e dei loro restanti mobili.

Sarebbe gradito avere assicurazione che il sopraggiungere di nuovi reparti militari alleati, che a quanto si dice interverrebbero dichiarare Foggia "città militare" non ponga questa popolazione, già così duramente provata dalle vicende della guerra, nella condizione di dover ancora una volta abbandonare le proprie abitazioni.

2 - Quel Prefetto ha inoltre prospettata la necessità di trasportare gli uffici della Prefettura, da Bovino dove provisoriamente si trovano e che sarà tra qualche tempo isolata per la neve, in altra località e precisamente in Torre Maggiore.

Anche in questo caso tornerebbe gradito avere assicurazione che in detto paese non saranno stabiliti presidi di truppe alleate, il che imporrebbe un ulteriore gravoso e pressochè impossibile trasferimento della sede di questi uffici.

3 - Il detto Prefetto infine segnala che nella intera provincia le scuole sono tuttora chiuse e che non è stato ancora sentito iniziare gli esami della sessione autunnale, in attesa dell'arrivo da Napoli della Commissione inglese incaricata di dare in merito le opportune direttive.

Tenuto conto della importanza che sotto vari aspetti presenta la questione scolastica, si prega voler prendere in considerazione la opportunità di autorizzare l'inizio degli esami e di voler impartire le disposizioni del caso

1 - S.E. il Prefetto di Foggia ha fatto presente che in quel Casale di Poluogo la vita tende in qualche modo a riorganizzarsi, essenzialmente perché gran parte delle persone sfollate - nono stante i divieti vigenti, si sono dai vari paesi, in numero di 25-30 mila, riversate nella città semidistrutta al fine di salvare quello che è ancora possibile della loro casa e dei loro restanti mobili.

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Si resta in attesa di un gradito cenno di risposta in merito alle decisioni che saranno adottate sulle prospettate questioni.

IL PREFETTO
Caso dell'Ufficio
fto) Innocenti.

C O P I A

P.M. 151, li 29 Ottobre 1943

N. 1380/A.C.

ALLE LL. EE. I PREFETTI di:

Foggia-Matera-Potenza-Napoli-Salerno

Benevento-Avellino-Campobasso

Da parte dei Capi delle Province e degli altri uffici pubblici, si è cercato di mettersi in contatto con il Governo, non appena ciò è stato consentito dal ristabilimento delle comunicazioni interrotte a causa della occupazione tedesca, allo scopo di riferire sull'attività svolta nel frattempo e di ottenere direttive per l'avvenire.

Nel prendere atto delle comunicazioni pervenute in proposito, si precisa che, trattandosi di territori nei quali le esigenze militari hanno una assoluta prevalenza su quelle della vita civile, è stato stabilito, d'accordo con il Comando Militare Alleato, che il compito di impartire queste direttive sia delegato alle dette Autorità Militari.

Pertanto il Governo, pur continuando ad interessarsi in modo adeguato alle necessità di codeste Province, manterrà il proprio intervento nell'attività di esse nei limiti fissati col citato accordo, fino a quando l'allontanamento della guerra da codeste zone ed il conseguente graduale ritorno alla vita civile non consentirà di ripristinare - d'intesa con le Autorità Alleate - il normale esercizio dei pubblici poteri.

2097

IL CAPO DEL GOVERNO

fio) BADOGLIO

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2097

IL CAPO DEL GOVERNO

fto) BADOGLIO

COPY.

TRANSLATION.

N. 1380/A.S.

P.M. 151, 29 Oct 43.

The Prefects of:- Foggia, Matera, Potenza,
Naples, Salerno, Benevento, Avellino
and Campobasso.

The Heads of the Provinces and other Public Officials are trying to get in touch with the Government but are unable to do so owing to interrupted communications, caused by the Germans.

We fully understand that Military personnel come before our civilians - that was all settled with the Allied Military Mission - and that any person wishing to repatriate will have to report to the above Military Authorities.

The Government wishes to help the citizens of these Provinces who wish to repatriate, if the Allied Military Mission and the Government will come to some sort of understanding, making available a limited area far enough from the fighting zone.

The Head of the Government

fto) BADOGLIO.

TRANSLATION.

COPY.

P.M. 151, 11 Nov 43.

N. 2663/A.C.

To The Allied Military Mission.

1. The Prefect of Poggia has done everything in his power to reorganize life for the citizens, and more for the evacuees, even people from 25 - 30 miles away come back to the half demolished town to try to save some of their clothes and furniture if still in existence.

From what I can gather allied troops are every day pouring in, and it looks that Poggia is, in other words, a military city. I hope that the civilians who, at the time of the blitzes had to leave their homes, will not again have to be sent away.

2. The Prefect has had to move the offices of the Prefettura from Bovino, where they were temporarily located, to Torremaggiore, owing to the heavy snow storms, even in this case it would be a good thing to let us know if military troops will occupy these various places, for the transportation of these offices will mean a lot of inconvenience.

3. The Prefect wishes it to be known that through the closing of the schools throughout the whole Province, it was impossible for the pupils to sit for their final exams. Now that the English Commission has arrived from Naples we hope that the opportunity will arise.

As regards to the schools, we would be very much obliged if this matter will be taken into consideration at your earliest convenience, letting us know what we will have to do.

We hope for a favourable reply as regards to the questions we have asked in this letter.

THE PREFECT,
HEAD OF THE OFFICE.

2095

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

Subject: O.V.R.A.

H.Q., A.M.G.,
15 Army Group.
C.M.F.

AMG/79/13.
12 November 43.

M.G.S.
A.F.H.Q.

The attached report received from A.M.G. 8th Army is forwarded for information.

R.J.P. THORNE THORNE
Colonel.,
Senior Staff Officer.

RJPT/EN

2094

SECRET

To: C.A.C.

Subject: C.V.R.A.

Campobasso, October 23th, 1943.

Investigation by this office has brought forth information concerning C.V.R.A. activities and C.V.R.A. Agents in various communities of Italy. Records seized by this office show definite proof of the following persons as C.V.R.A. Agents:

Before the year 1942: Gr. Uff. Dott. PERUZZI Francesco at Questura MILAN.

" " " MORICI Giuseppe " " " Bologna

Comm. Dott. VERDIANI Ciro " Governor of Lombardia

Comm. MORUZZO Eduino " P.M. Ispettorato at Palermo 2093

Comm. Gr. Uff. MURCIA Mariano " Questura Bologna

Comm. Dott. CUONHARIA Pietro " " Catania (Sicily)

Comm. Dott. D'AMERIA Giuseppe " " Bologna

Comm. Dott. MENCHINCHERI Carlo " " Firenze

Comm. N U D I Fr. the Questura of ROME

From 1942 on since now: Comm. Dott. BAPLANTA Casuallo at the Prefettura VARE (this man is the C.V.R.A. - CHIEF for Italy)

Comm. Dott. PERRILLO Tommaso at the Questura Milan

Comm. CIGLIO Armando, Capo di P.S. " Bologna

Gr. Uff. Dott. CONSCIE Giuseppe at the Questura Bari

Comm. Dott. ALEXANDER Pasquale " " " Avuzzano

Comm. Dott. ROBERTI Raffaele " " " Palermo (Sicily)

Comm. Dott. PASTORE Riccardo " " " Naples

C.V.R.A. office for the censor by the MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO, ROME is held by

Following persons as C.V.R.A. Agents:

Before the year 1942: Gr. Uff. Dott. PERUZZI Francesco at Questura MILAN.
 " " " MERCI Giuseppe " " Bologna
 Comm. Dott. VERDIANI Ciro " Governor of Libiana
 Comm. MORIMINO Eusebio " E.N.M. Ispettorato at Palermo 2093
 Comm. Gr. Uff. MORICIA Mariano " Questura Bologna
 Comm. Dott. GUCCINIARIA Pietro " " Catania (Sicily)
 Comm. Dott. D'ANDREA Giuseppe " " Bologna
 Comm. Dott. MENCHINIERI Carlo " " Firenze
 Comm. NUDI Dr. the Questura of Rome

From 1942 on since now: Comm. Dott. BARNATA Tesoldo at the Prefettura ROME (this man is the C.V.R.A. - Chief for Italy)
 Comm. Dott. PETERILLO Tommaso at the Questura Milan
 Comm. CIGLIO Arnaldo, Capo di P.S. " Bologna
 Gr. Uff. Dott. CONSOLE Giuseppe at the Questura Bari
 Comm. Dott. ANDREANI Pasquale " " Avversano
 Comm. Dott. ROBERTI Raffaele " " Palermo (Sic)
 Comm. Dott. PASTARE Piccardo " " Naples

C.V.R.A. office for the center by the MINISTERO DELL'INTERNO, ROME is held by chief-officer Comm. VERDIANI Ciro contemporarily with his office by the Governor for the occupied province of LIBIANA.

C.V.R.A. officer and correspondent for SARDINIA and FRANCE is Comm. Dott. DINO MAURIS at the Prefettura of SASSARI.

Since 1943 the C.V.R.A. officer in Chief for the occupied territories of SLAVENIA and DALMATIA is the HIGH COMMISSAR at LIBIANA.

C.V.R.A. Offices in ITALY:

Chief-office at the MINISTERO dell'Interno at ROME, Section No. II/S, ZONA

OFFICE: Questura MILAN for Lombardia-Piemonte-Liguria-Tre Venetie.

SUBJECT: Report.

ATTN: H. H. 8th Army.

Ref: 0A/7/1/17A.

31 Oct 43.

H. H. Q.

Army Group.

1. The forward position has not changed considerably since the date of my last report. Various small towns have been occupied and AVOGNI officers insisted, the more important being VINCIGLIANO, BARBARISIO and GASTROPOLINO. The town of SESTO has also been taken over since, although it is not on the axis of the 8th Army, it comes into CAMPORASSO Province. No detailed reports have yet been received of any of these places.

2. CAMPORASSO. The town is normal and the difficulties that arose over the Municipal Buildings and referred to in my 0A/7/1/3A of 24 Oct have been settled. (It is hoped that such difficulties will not arise in the future.) The food situation is not as good as was originally thought and steps are being taken to build up a stockpile from FOGGIA.

3. FOGGIA. (a) The position is unchanged as regards the accommodation for the Central Government. Endeavours were made again to find suitable accommodation in other towns but these have all failed and the central Government will have to function from FOGGIA. It is being organized now.

(b) The food situation is satisfactory.

(c) Water and Electric Light are now both available.

(d) The sanitary conditions are improving and it is anticipated that repairs to the sewers will be completed in about 3 weeks time.

(e) A report on the fire services is attached, from which it will be seen that they are in effect non-existent. Could representations be made to the Italian authorities to assist FOGGIA by providing the equipment set out in para 10 of the attached report.

4. It would be as well in this report to draw attention to the position of FOGGIA. A letter, imputing many allegations against AVOGNI, which was referred to under ref. 0A/7/1/16A dated 30 Oct 43 (a copy of both letter and the reply was handed to A.A.G. 8th Army), which letter was apparently followed by the Prefect with a request to the Italian Government to establish an Italian Garrison at FOGGIA or Bovino to restore order in the Province. The original letter written by the Prefect, though misdirected was in certain points relative to the position. The establishment of an Italian Garrison would not in my opinion serve any purpose. His implication that there is disorder in the Province is not true. There is disorganization admittedly caused by the bombed state of FOGGIA and aggravated by the city being practically taken over by the N.A.A.F. A military necessity of this nature is bound to militate against the resumption of normal economic life and administration and no doubt autocratic acts distant from the Prefect have been perpetrated by the services.

5. Island of Tressili. The food position of the island is satisfactory and the position is safeguarded until the end of December. Water is available to the end of Oct and further arrangements have been made.

6. Medical Supplies. 40 tons of medical supplies have been received from FOGGIA.

2092

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places.

2. CAMPORASSO. The town is normal and the difficulties that arose over the municipal buildings and referred to in my O.7/1/8A of 24 Oct have been settled. It is hoped that such difficulties will not arise in the future. The food situation is not as good as was originally thought and steps are being taken to build up a stockpile from FOGGIA.

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(b) The food situation is satisfactory.

(c) Water and Electric light are now both available.

(d) The sanitary conditions are improving and it is anticipated that repairs to the sewers will be completed in about 7 weeks time.

(e) A report on the fire services is attached, from which it will be seen that they are in effect non-existent. Could representations be made to the Italian authorities to assist Foggia by providing the equipment set out in para 10 of the attached report.

4. It would be as well in this report to draw attention to the position of Foggia. A letter, imputing many allegations against me, which was referred to under ref. O.7/1/16A dated 30 Oct 43 (a copy of both letter and the reply was handed to A.A.G. 8th Army), which letter was apparently followed by the Prefect with a request to the Italian Government to establish an Italian Garrison at Foggia or Bovino 'to restore order in the Province'. The original letter written by the Prefect, though misdirected was in certain points relative to the position. The establishment of an Italian Garrison would not in my opinion serve any purpose. His implication that there is disorder in the Province is not true. There is disorganization admittedly caused by the bombed state of Foggia and aggravated by the city being practically taken over by the N.A.A.F. A military necessity of this nature is bound to militate against the resumption of normal economic life and administration and no doubt autocratic acts distasteful to the Prefect have been perpetrated by the services.

5. Island of Tressiti. The food position of the island is satisfactory and the position is safeguarded until the end of December. Water is available to the end of Oct and further arrangements have been made.

6. Medical Supplies. 40 tons of medical supplies have been received from Naples and will be used for emergency situations in Foggia Province, and other provinces as they are required.

7. Preliminary reports from the town forward of Vinciguerra on the Ischia road show that food is scarce. (A more detailed report will follow.) Fuel for the mills is a pressing need, but 13 Corps are giving all possible help in this respect until other arrangements can be made.

/8.....

-2-

8. Political. There is nothing of interest to report other than the remarks made in my letter OA/7/1/15A dated 30 Oct 43. The area captured so far in Campobasso seems partly fairly quiet.

9. Refugees. continue to be a pressing problem over 2 1000 have now been evacuated from the forward areas and temporarily housed in towns in Foggia Province. (A separate report is being written on this subject.)

10. 26 Officers of No. 4 ^HRegion have arrived during the past week. No transport, other ranks, equipment etc have come with them. They appear to have no instructions, some say they were detailed for one province, some for another. There is no Medical Officer with them. They are now being organized but it is essential that Brigadier Carr should visit this H.Q. where he has officers already in the area of administration.

C. J. M. W.
Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
AMC. H.Q. 8th Army.

2091

785015

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
FOGGIA

28 October 1943

SUBJECT : Fire report for the Commune of Foggia

TO : HQ, AMGOT, Palermo

1. Undersigned submits a preliminary fire report for the Commune of Foggia.

2. Attention is called to the fact that at present there is not functioning in Foggia any organized fire brigade. This is true of the whole province.

Copies to:

HQ, AMGOT, Palermo
Major Talbot
Major Steel
Group Captain Benson
File-2

William A. Lessa
WILLIAM A. LESSA, 2d Lt
Civil Affairs Police Officer

2090

Fiera di Foggia
per il progresso antichistico dell'ingegneria italiana
(eretto in onore Morali con R.D. 14 Aprile 1939 All. n. 171)

A. di Foggia

Risposta a nota A. del

0013330

Foggia, li

OPUS

FIRE REPORT

Commune of Foggia

Province of Foggia

The head of the provincial Vigili del Fuoco is Alfonso Busacca, who controls the local station and those at the only other three communes of the province, namely, San Severo, Cerignola, and Manfredonia (which are here not reported upon).

1. At present there is not an active fire brigade in Foggia, since it has been temporarily disbanded on account of the war situation.
2. Ordinarily the town possessed a fire brigade consisting of two officers and 80 men, a total of 82.
3. As noted above, the fire brigade is not functioning but is prepared to re-establish service.
4. Chief officer is Engineer (=Captain) Busacca Alfonso.
5. There are no auxiliary firemen available.

6. FIRE FIGHTING APPLIANCES

- a. Motor pumps: two or three of capacity 750 liters/minute.
- b. Motor pumps carrying escape ladders: none
- c. Motor turntable extension ladders: one
- d. Motor escape carrying vehicles: none
- e. Motor fire tenders, rescue vans, canteens, etc.: none
- f. Horse drawn steam or manual pumps: none
- g. Trailer pumps: none
- h. Towing vehicles available: none
- i. Manual pumps capable of being towed: none

2089

7. WATER SUPPLY

- a. Water supply is adequate

1. At present there is not an active fire brigade in Foggia, since it has been temporarily disbanded on account of the war situation.

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- f. Horse drawn steam or manual pumps: none
- g. Trailer pumps: none
- h. Towing vehicles available: none
- i. Manual pumps capable of being towed: none

2089

7. WATER SUPPLY

- a. Water supply is adequate
- b. Hydrants in the streets are spaced about 200 meters apart
- c. The water mains system is functioning
- d. There are no static tanks, though one of 100 cubic meters ~~was~~ being constructed
- e. There are no other sources of water supply. In former times wells were available but since the opening of the Apulian Aqueduct these have been closed.
- f. There are no water-carrying vehicles

785015

8. No arrangements exist for mutual assistance with neighboring communes.

9. There are no private fire brigades in the commune.

10. Recommendations:

The commune has need for the following fire-fighting equipment:

1 truck of 20 quintals capacity
2 " " 6 "
20 picks
20 shovels
50 hatchets
1 motor pump
hose

Most important is the need for a fire station. This would have to accommodate 50 men and provide offices and a garage. No station exists at present.

END OF REPORT

28 October 1943

Copies to:

HQ, AFMOT
Major Talbot
Major Steel
Group Captain Benson
File-2

2088

William A. Jones
William A. Jones, 2d Lt
Civil Affairs Police Officer

785015

Subject: Report of Prefect of Foggia.

AMG/79/11. — 11

1 Nov 43.

B.G.S. 15 Army Group.

I attach a Minute by A.M.G. 8th Army commenting on the letter written by the Prefect at Foggia to Marshal Badoglio (copy attached). This answer is written from the view point of the allegations made against Civil Affairs Officers.

In my opinion the letter is entirely misdirected and I will show the correspondence to General Rennell on his return.

RJ
R.J.F. THORNE-THORNE,
Colonel.,
Senior Staff Officer.

AMG.
15 Army Group.
C.M.F.
RJFT/EN

2081

785015

SUBJECT: Report.

AMG. H.Q.,
15th Army Group.

AMG. H.Q. 8th Army.

Ref: OA/7/1/16A

30 Oct 43.

NOV 1943

Attached is a letter in answer to the letter written
by the Prefect of Reggio to Marshal Badoglio.

This answer is written entirely from the view point
of the allegations made against Civil Affairs officers.

It is entirely in my opinion, misdirected, but in my
answer I find myself under an obvious difficulty in that the chief accus-
ations are the Army, who no doubt can answer for themselves if called
upon.

550 see action II
52 mfj

Refman
Group Captain, 2086
Officer Commanding,
AMG. H.Q. 8th Army.

SUBJECT: Report.

P.M.C. HQ,
15 Army Group.

AMG.HQ. Eighth Army.

0A/7/1/15A

30 Oct.43.

1 NOV 1943

1. The letter written by the Prefect at Foggia to Marshal Badoglio dated 19 Oct.1943, a copy of which was handed to me on my recent visit to Bari, calls for some detailed comment in view of paragraph (b) which lays at the door of AMGOT various actions with which, in fact, they were in no way connected.

2. It will be as well to take the points raised by the Prefect in detail before commenting in general on the tone of the letter and the merits and demerits of the whole Foggia position as set forth in his letter.

3. Para (a) There is no need for me to comment on the paragraph, which is not levied at AMGOT, excepting to point out that there is an element of truth in the words "for this reason many areas will not be farmed". If agricultural settlement buildings are requisitioned and the inhabitants moved, the land they cultivated must suffer.

As regards AGIP I am informed that the allegation at any rate insofar as Foggia town is concerned is not the case.

4. Para (b) (i) "Intrusion in every branch of civil life.....are taking complete charge."

This is broadly speaking true and is the work the Allied Military Government must do, though the "taking charge" is done through the local Podestas etc. and not direct.

(ii) "Changing the village Mayor"

I know of one case where this done by AMGOT for very good reasons. The new Podesta appointed by AMGOT has proved in every way successful, but the Prefect sent instructions superseding him by another Italian who was not acceptable to AMGOT. This has since been rectified and the AMGOT appointed Mayor remains. I know of no other cases in which AMGOT have removed any Podesta at any rate without consulting the Prefect.

(iii) "Arresting Persons".

No one has been arrested by AMGOT. It is not their function, excepting in glaring cases, which are brought to the attention of the I.S.S. I know of none. Usually AMGOT is accused of not arresting or causing the arrest of Fascist inclined authority.

(iv) "Letting prisoners free".

No prisoners have been let free by AMGOT excepting after a fair trial, or investigation in the case of political prisoners. Gaols have frequently found when AMGOT officials entered with the doors wide open and this has caused considerable trouble as AMGOT has had to endeavour to find and collect the prisoners so that each case could be examined.

(v) "Issuing order not to pay taxes."

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(v) "Issuing order not to pay taxes."

The only tax which AMGOT officials have forbidden to be paid is the "Sindacati contribution" which it was decided by higher authority should be abolished. It is understood that the Prefect wishes to reinstate this as being the only method of collecting money for relief. He has been refused permission.

food stores."

(vi) "Taking without consideration provisions out of civil

food stores." This has never been done by AMGOT who require all civil stocks of food to feed civilians. The Prefect may be referring to certain surplus stocks of grain

(2)

enting in all to about 100 tons, which were sent to Naples. This, of course, and still is a necessity to help the population of that city.

(vii) "Publishing prices and labour tariffs, etc."

No price tariffs have as yet been published by AMGOT. They are in print at the moment of writing and will be applicable to the whole of Foggia Province and other provinces as captured within the axis of Eighth Army. Labour prices have been published and are the same as those originally approved of and drawn up by the army in Sicily.

(viii) "Appointing themselves Town Governors". I regret I am unable to answer this allegation as I do not know what is meant. SERRACAPRIOLA is the H.Q. of 5 Corps and has an AMGOT Liaison officer attached to the Corps and the usual two AMGOT officers looking after the town and the district. Perhaps the Prefect is referring to the Town Major.

(ix) "Shutting up city houses, quartering troops in them, thus arresting the civil life of the town".

As an accusation against AMGOT this is merely stupid. The opposite is invariably the case, and it is AMGOT that has to fight to retain the necessary accommodation for Provincial and communal administration. Examples are Foggia, where the available buildings were requisitioned by the N.A.A.F. and even to-day there is no proper accommodation from which to carry on the Provincial Government.

(x) "Issuing orders for work at enormous prices".

The only "works" which AMGOT have ordered are the clearing of debris in the streets and works in connection with road maintenance. Authorized labour rates have been paid, which are probably admittedly too high. They are not governed by AMGOT.

(xi) "Hiring workmen whose wages.....financial possibilities"

Certain works have been put in hand for operational needs, such as road repairs (mentioned in (x) above). Payment for this is made through the Province, but provision for payment is made by AMGOT. Foggia has had 16,000,000 of AMGOT funds, which are used to pay for outgoings which cannot strictly be called a provincial expenditure. The statement as made by the Prefect is quite false.

(xii) "Setting their eyes on the arms deposited.....arms not quickly take the arms over."

Arms are collected under the proclamation and are safeguarded and tabulated. They will be returned in due course when security allows. Instances have occurred of arms being requisitioned, chiefly revolvers belonging to Carabinieri, but never by AMGOT.

5. The Prefect ends his letter by making suggestions: (a) This is a ~~matter~~ for higher authority and does not concern AMGOT. (b) AMGOT officers will be gradually withdrawn into central positions. Foggia has always been a difficult province. It was originally under Region II and was afterwards administered by the AMGOT Officers in Apulia, who were under the Allied Military Mission. It then reverted to Region II and was finally put under Eighth Army AMGOT. It will now have to be taken over by Region 4 as Eighth Army AMGOT moves forward. This does not lead to continuity but to a series of difficulties. (c) The opening of Italian criminal courts

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6. I must express my views as to the general picture which has given rise no doubt to the letter from this Prefect, which is the subject of discussion. They are short and fall into two headings.

(3)

(i) Position of Foggia Province. Logically, economically and geographically, Foggia province is part of Apulia Compartimento. I feel that the Prefect, cooperative as he is, does not appreciate the fact that military necessity has caused the temporary removal of Foggia Province from Apulia. He still considers perhaps that he is responsible to the Italian Government (Witness the report referred to in his letter), whereas, he is, in fact, only responsible to the Allied Military Government.

(ii) Disruption of Provincial and Communal Administration.

This was primarily caused by the bombing and subsequently aggravated by the eruption of the M.A.A.F. (referred to in my letter of 7/1/54 dated 13 Oct. 1943). The Prefect must realize there is a war which necessitates measures being taken which however distasteful they may be and however militant against civilian life, are an operational necessity.

(iii) Normally cooperation between Provincial Governments and AMGOT is of the closest. But in view of the scattered position of the Provincial Administration, it has not and is not yet possible to work with them in the normal close liaison. Had this been possible I think the Prefect would more readily have been able to appreciate what AMGOT is doing and has done. I cannot but help sympathizing over certain of his allegations, for which, I feel, there is certain justification, but the criticisms are misdirected.

By...
Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
AMG.HQ. Eighth Army.

Copy to A.A.G. - Eighth Army.

2083

78
29 OCT 1943
9
ALLIED MILITARY MISSION
APO 512

23 October 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: Headquarters 15th Army Group.

The attached letter from the Prefect of Foggia to Marshal
Badoglio has been transmitted by the Italian Government to this
Mission. It is forwarded to you for your information.

Maxwell D. Taylor
MAXWELL D. TAYLOR
Brig. Gen., U.S.A.
Acting Chief of Mission

1 Inclosure

Ltr referred to
above

2. Upon given 4 AMG. 8' 2082.
(G. Hugh Brown) who was upy.

TO SRS
G2

31/10

28/10

PAH

TO: GENERAL MAXWELL D. TAYLOR

ALLIED MISSION -Brindisi-

Following directions of H.E. Marshal Badoglio I'm sending you copy of a letter which the Prefect of Foggia addressed him.

The Chief of Government's Secretary

/s/ Lt. Col. G. Valenzano

.....
COPY of a letter dated Oct. 19, 1943 addressed from the Prefect of Foggia to Marshal Badoglio.

On 12th inst. I already reported to Y.E. on the general situation of this province.

However the situation is daily worsening for two principal causes:

a) Overbearing attitude of the numerous allied troops who, as I already said, take over houses, farmhouses, and country-houses ousting tenants and peasants, forbidding them to enter their property even to get their implements.

For this reason many areas will not be farmed. The very few vehicles saved from German destruction are "requisitioned", that is robbed, because nobody indemnifies for them; they are taking over the ADIP oil tanks and also requisitioning the empty barrels, thus rendering impossible an emergency depot.

b) Intrusion in every branch of civil life by numerous officers of civil affairs who, assigned in almost all villages, are taking complete charge, ousting or changing the village Mayor, arresting persons, and letting prisoners free, issuing orders not to pay taxes, taking without consideration provisions out of civil food stores ("ammassi"), publishing price and labour tariffs different, of course, for each town, even appointing themselves (as at Serracapriola) Town Governor, shutting up City Houses (as at Castelluccio dei Sauri), quartering troops in them and forbidding the Mayor and employees to enter, thus arresting the civil life of the town, issuing orders for works at enormous prices, hiring workmen whose wages they order to be paid by the Town Administration or by Civil Engineer Department without taking notice of their financial possibilities; are now setting their eyes on the arms deposited by the citizens and they may seize them if our Military Authority does not quickly take the arms over.

They are mostly youngsters (some of them are 23-24 years old) who have no single direction of action, not coordinated, who act at random without knowing all our difficult corporative system which, cannot be abruptly abolished.

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This "civil service" which wants to do everything is raising so great a hitch in the life of the region which is more tied up now than during the period of German pillage raids.

We had thought the effort would be to help us: they didn't give us anything. We want nothing tough; we only wish to be let free to pursue our errands; we'll go on, as we can, in our misery.

To pursue the hope of enabling the Province of Foggia, whose food condition is worsening daily, to go on living it is absolutely necessary:

a) The Province should not be considered as conquered land but armistice zone and troops should be severely instructed to respect ownership and the freedom of labour.

b) These civil affairs officers should immediately be recalled from the towns they rule, leaving only two or three of them at the Prefecture, as control, but when an agreement on what to do is established we ought to be sure not to have it changed.

c) The administration of justice should proceed according Italian laws and through Courts and Italian offices of judicial police, leaving to English Court power to proceed only for felony and misdemeanor against operating troops.

It will thus be ended that "walk in and get out" from prisons, which fact gravely diminish the prestige of our Government.

d) The Province Administration should receive about twenty trucks for more urgent transports, mostly for food supplies.

2080

SUBJECT: Report.

AMSTOT H.Q.,
15th Army Group. (2 Copies).

AMSTOT H.Q. 8th Army.

Ref: OA/7/1/8A.

21 Oct 43.

1. The position in Foggia City has changed since the date of my last report under ref. OA/7/1/8A and it has now been agreed to allocate sufficient accommodation in the town to enable the Prefect and his staff to return and function in the city.

2. The medical situation has been dealt with in a separate letter, under ref. OA/17 dated 20 Oct 43.

3. Various towns have been occupied during the last week of which only one, Campobasso is of any importance. This town was entered on Oct 14th by Captain Grizzard with three other officers.

4. It has not been possible to do more than obtain a rough idea of the situation and keep the civilians from panicking as the town has been more or less under shell fire ever since.

5. The Municipio had been gutted by the Germans and the Prefect had moved into the administrative buildings. These have been requisitioned by 13 Corps as a C.C.S. This matter has been taken up with them and 13 Corps Liaison Officer is meeting A.D.M.S. 13 Corps today Oct 21st.

6. There is sufficient flour in the city for two weeks and also a supply of pasta and rice. Water will be put on in the city almost immediately. Electricity may take some days as the transformers were damaged by the Germans.

7. Banks as have already been reported, will be opened on Friday Oct 22nd. 75,000,000 Lit. was found in the city. All the employees of the Province have been paid up to the end of November and those of the Comune up to the end of October.

8. There is one civilian hospital, small but modern and sufficient for the needs of the city. There is the usual shortage of medical supplies. There appears to be no disease and there are sufficient doctors.

9. The Post Office has approximately 120 employees, all paid up to Dec. 31st. The building was fired by the Germans, but not badly damaged. There are approximately 1,000,000 lire of stamps and 60,000 Lit. in the Post Office Safe.

10. Little damage has been done to the telephone and telegram facilities and they could be put into operation in a very short time.

11. The population is violently anti-German. The attitude that they are now Allies is definitely present. Italian flags are being flown but these have been ordered to be hauled down. This has caused a certain amount of 'disappointment', but the reason given was that the troops are not conversant with the political situation and would regret the flying of the Italian flags.

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12. The usual arrests, before the arrival of the troops, had been made by the anti-fascist element and some 20 persons were in prison. These are being investigated by the F.S.S.
13. The Carabinieri are functioning and there has been no looting. At the request of the A.P.M. Canadian Div. wine shops have been closed. There reopening is being arranged in conjunction with the Town Major.
14. The prison was bombed and 240 prisoners escaped. These are being re-created when found and their cases investigated.
15. The chief difficulty is lack of Municipal transport which had been removed by the Germans.
16. In Termoli the situation has been most unsatisfactory owing to the attitude and behaviour of the S.S. Brigade which captured the city. A report is being sent in through 5 Corps Liaison Officer separately and will be forwarded as soon as received.

C. F. A. W. G. began to see in any 17.....
 Prefect. R. M. P. M. 24/10
 Supplies

-2-

17. The attitude of the people is bitter and frightened of fly because of the looting. This also applies to the Carabinieri who were disarmed and humiliated by the troops.

18. A copy of the C.A.Os. report is attached.

Copy to M.G.G.S.,
8th Army.

Ensign.
Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
Angot H.Q. 8th Army.

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SUBJECT: Report.

AMCOT 8th ARMY

Ref:- OA/7/1/5A.

13 Oct 43.

AMCOT H.Q.,
15th Army Group. (2 Cops)

1. The location of Officers in area of 8th Army was forwarded to your H.Q., on 11th Oct under reference OA/15/6A, giving position as on Sunday Oct 10th. 2/14. Desiderio has been temporarily given the special work under the C.S. of 8th Army of organising the labour required for maintenance of roads and also reopening stone quarries, which is urgently needed for construction work on the Foggia airfields. With him is the State Engineer of Foggia Province. My letter OA/7/1/5A of 10 Oct, paras 4-10 incl. refers. The following officers were left out of the location statement and are distributed as follows:-

2/Lieut. Monaco	-	temporarily with	5 Div.
2/Lieut. Tesaro	-		Foggia.
2/Lieut. Misossi.	-		Foggia.

2. Forward operational area 8th Army. There are few problems arising in any of the towns in the forward area which cannot be dealt with at this H.Q. The political situation referred to in my OA/7/6A dated 6th Oct 1943 is giving no trouble and law and order is proceeding smoothly.

3. Supply. This is not a serious problem in the areas captured up to date. There are naturally certain shortages particularly salt, but this can be dealt with locally when the back organization is completed. I will refer to them later. The main problem is one of coordination of supplies as regards rationing. My letter of 13th Oct 1943 ref. OA/12 refers. It is also considered that a directive should be given coordinating the prices of grain and flour which should become effective in all Southern Italy including that portion now under the Italian Government. My consideration be given to this and instructions sent.

4. Foggia. This city must be considered separately. On taking over the province of Foggia, I found a situation of some difficulty in the city of Foggia, due to the eruption of the M.A.A.F. and the dislocation of the provincial and town administrative system. The Prefect was in Bovino with certain of the Provincial Officers. The city administration was distributed between FOGGIA and TRUVA. There was no real administration and no coordination between AMCOT and the Provincial administration. In addition the AMCOT officers in FOGGIA city were working under considerable difficulties. My memorandum handed to the C.O.A.O. of 9th Oct. refers.

5. Wing Commander Beer was accordingly sent to Foggia to endeavour to straighten out the various problems. The relationship between AMCOT and the M.A.A.F. is gradually clarifying and several meetings have been held with them. I must point out that the difficulties are very largely due to the ignorance of the M.A.A.F. as regards the functions of AMCOT.

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6. It was quite obvious that the most important point was to centralize the Provincial Government and the AMGOT officers. It was accordingly agreed with the Prefects that accommodation should be found if possible in TORRE MAGGIORE and Capt. Rawlings was instructed to proceed to that city today to explore the position. BOVINO where the Prefect is at present is quite unsuitable as a Provincial centre as it is a small town, on the top of a hill and no office accommodation.

7. It was also decided to move the head office of the Banca d'Italia if possible to Torre Maggiore and convert the existing Foggia Office or some other suitable smaller bank into a branch bank.

8. It is essential that a provincial AMGOT H.Q. be set up as soon as possible, but this cannot be done until the officers from M.A. and for Region 4 begin to arrive.

9. BANKS. The necessity of reopening banks in the forward areas is obvious and has been continually stressed by the Advanced H.Q. with 15 Corps. After a meeting with the Provincial authorities held at Bovino on the morning of Oct 12th it was decided to reopen the banks for ordinary business with no limits to withdrawals as from a.m. on Friday Oct 14. My signal OA/6 dated 12 Oct refers.

/ In my letter.....

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In my letter of 04/7/15A of 19 Oct I gave the approximate amount of cash for the towns in the forward areas, Lucera was omitted. The figure has since come in and is 1,500,000 Lit, which has been obtained by the Banco di Napoli from Bari. Terpoli, which is in the Compartimenti of ABNJA has been excluded for the moment for the opening of the Banks. The total therefore of cash available throughout the Province of Foggia comes to some 55,000,000 Lit. exclusive of the 50,000,000 Lit. which I requested Colonel Craftsey Smith over the telephone should be brought up.

10. I regret to report that Capt. Hower is a sick man and is probably going into hospital. This will leave the province with no F.O. at a time when one is most essential. There are many financial questions which require supervision and discussion and which are of urgent importance.
11. Electricity. will be on in Foggia any day, for a limited extent. Electricity is also on in Lucera but not sufficient to enable mills, electrically operated to be run.
12. Water. Supply is still quite inadequate everywhere but this cannot be remedied until the Apulian aqueduct is restored. This I understand is being attended to from Bari and it is difficult to get an idea how long it will take.
13. Mills. No where is there sufficient electricity to operate the mills. But many can be run on Napkin and arrangements have been made through the Prefect for the necessary supplies of Napkin to be delivered to central points.
14. Medical Supplies and Health. In general health is good. There are a few typhoid cases but as yet nothing serious and there is reported to be some 400 cases of malaria in San Bartolomeo. The question of supplies is important. Before this H.Q. took over a demand for Medical Supplies was submitted by Col. Rannici through Region II, but not in a proper form. A letter has been sent to Region II enquiring as to what action has been taken. Is there any means by which a limited amount of Medical Supplies could be sent up to this area particularly of the following:-
 - T.A.B. Vaccine.
 - Quinine.
 - Sulfonamide.
 - Iodine.
 - Bandages and Gauze.
 - Cotton Wool.
15. No attempt is being made to put in any long term requirements of supplies, nor food supplies through 8 Army. It is clear that to put in for long term requirements through the Army is not feasible owing to the continual moving forward of Army bases and the same remarks apply to food supplies (which are not urgently needed as yet). A copy of a letter relating to this subject has been received from Palermo under ref AMGOT/5202/ES data 30 Sept 48 which it is specially in connection with Calabria, bears on the whole question as it will affect every province.
16. Food supplies for Naples. Nothing as yet has been arranged by this H.Q. but it is understood that instructions will be given if any practical means of transport can be found. A convoy of trucks from Naples arrived carrying petrol and an endeavour was made to send grain back, but owing to the lack of trucks it was found impossible to do this. It is reported that sacks are available in Naples and they have been requested to send over as many as possible which can be filled here and returned with the next and subsequent convoys arriving.

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17. In general the forward area does not present any urgent or insoluble problems and there is no pressing political problem. The chief difficulty is to organize the Foggia area particularly in relation to the R.A.A.F. It is understood that this whole will have been discussed at the meeting at 15th Army Group on Oct 12th the results of which are awaited.

18. There is a considerable amount of mined Barite of a high aluminium content, which is available in the Manfredonia Region. The Barite mines are not working but could be restarted. Policy as regards this question is requested as presumably Barite could be of great interest to the U.K. as an export.

By: 8th Army.

Group Captain,
Officer Commanding
8th Army d.s.

10. C.C.A.C.
H. Q. ANGOT
8 Army

October 9

Memorandum on the position in FOGGIA

The present position in FOGGIA city and Province other than the operational forward area is disturbing.

The number of officers is not yet sufficient but this will be rectified on the arrival of the three coming from TARANTO and the eighth from M. E. They are however completely without transport and there is none available in that area. Transport cannot be made available to them from the forward area as what little there is there is woefully insufficient. Even with the arrival of a certain amount of vehicles with the officers coming from M. E. the position will still remain serious. More is still urgently needed in the forward area which must remain or rather become mobile.

The highest ranking officer at present in Foggia is an American Lt-Col who is a doctor and whose services as such are very much needed throughout the province. After that there is only a captain. Foggia is fast filling up with the S.A.F. and senior officers are coming in and ordering the Angot officers to do this and that, many of the orders being impossible of carrying out or nothing to do with Angot.

Foggia is to be an ~~area round~~^a the city closed to all civilian excepting those in the city now in the few houses which are still inhabitable. It is intended that labour shall be employed up to a figure not exceeding 5000 but this labour is not to remain in the city at night. This will mean transportation of a very large number of men daily and Angot is asked to arrange it all.

Angot has been told that there must be Angot officers in the city as long as it is a closed military area, which of course will be for a very long period of time. This will have to be considered in relation to the question of 8 Army Angot when it moves on further north and hands over the province.

The Provincial H.Q. has moved to Bovino ~~and~~ but the army say they must have representatives in Foggia. They also wish the railway repaired and expect Angot to do this.

Refers to
S/C.

2075

Copy.

REPORT ON TOWN OF TERMOLI
As of October, 8, 1943.

Arrived in Termoli with Lt. Gallup and driver. Hired an Interpreter, got established in a vacated house. Hired a woman to keep it clean. Posted "Out of Bounds" and ANGOT signs wherever necessary.

Had a brief conference with Podesta and the Captain of the Carabinieri and obtained the following information:

POPULATION 10,000
PODESTA Italo Sciarretta (very cooperative liked by the populace)
CARABINIERI Capt. Giacomo Mazzarini and eleven others.
Other Police Guardia di Finanza - 10
Municipale - 5 (all put under Cara)
SEGREARIO Giovanni Colona (fled with Germans) Vice Secretary put in charge).
COMMUNAL TREASURY 20,000 Lire (sufficient for three weeks-financial data being compiled.
BANKS. One - Closed - no cash - deposits 12 Million Lire- data forthcoming
COURTS One- closed- bombed- looted- records OK-President Ovidio Fusco.
PRISON On-Max capacity 32- empty- guards disarmed by Germans- four prisoners escaped no criminal cases-President Ovidio Fusco Jurisdiction Termoli Campomarino, San Jacomo, Porto Cannone- Guards rearmed.
SCHOOLS Two - one now a Hospital, other a billet.
WATER Interrupted - being repaired this end - now using river water, very unsanitary
ELECTRIC Interrupted- source at Foggia and Pescara - being repaired at this end.
Housing 100 hit and uninhabitable.
FOOD Generally, good.
No Salt.
No Soap (sanitation)
No Matches.
No Fuel (charcoal, necessary to cook)
TRANSPORTATION Bad - 6 cars; seized by troops (not properly requisitioned - will contact commanding officers concerned - no trucks - no petrol (troops)
PROSTITUTION Negligible.
MORALE OF PEOPLE. Frightened, despondent, suspicious, bitter (wanton looting and unnecessary destruction of property by British in their presence.)
INTERNEES Three, arrangements made with F.S.S. to vet and sent to Bari.
FASCISM Suspect list given to F.S.S. and GSI.
POLITICAL ACTIVITY None - Cara instructed.

A general conference was held the next day; all persons in any way connected with the commune were present. The following instructions were given and action taken.:

1. CARABINIERI, instructed re
Armbands
Jurisdiction
No political activity.
Standard of discipline and efficiency expected
All Allied Officer to be saluted.
Curfew set at 1800 hrs (in accordance with wishes of tactical C.O.)
Wine Shops open only between 1000-1200 and 1500-1600
Circulation Passes routed thru them to me.
2. Proclamations and Notices posted.
3. Prices were fixed - price list being printed for distribution
4. Rates of pay to continue as before.
5. Secretary instructed re one system of relief based on need,

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balance sheet and pertinent data to be made ready and available.

6. Electrical engineer put to work at this end - to make survey and report.
7. Engineer put to work at this end - to make survey and report
8. Men of relief and other unemployed put to work on dangerous buildings and road (instructed re interference with military)
9. Communications chief introduced to and put in liaison with signal Corps.
10. Sanitary chief instructed to rebury improperly buried dead-put in liaison with British Hygiene section - to make survey and report.
11. Bank representative to prepare required data.

PROBLEMS.

1. Very urgent need of Charcoal or wood necessary to cook food, and bake bread etc. diet is principally pasta - many people eating cold food only (bread, cheese)
2. Urgent need of a Town Major - approximately 7 units billeted now, with request for more room - people who fled to country sides to evade fighting troops returning (200 the first day, 300 the second) find their homes broken into by troops billeting there, with personal belongings looted, and wanton destruction of locked doors and furniture - no place for people to sleep - cannot be sent away because of XIII Corps order - cannot remain out of doors because of rigid curfew - Podesta ordered to instruct people to double up, which is difficult because troops have taken beds out of houses not occupied by troops.
3. Large shed filled with explosives - awaiting caps necessary to properly detonate same - much loose ammunition, grenades, bombs etc. - arrangements made to centralize approachable stuff - shed guarded from populace.
4. Innumerable requests from people for permission to return to their homes - all denied, in accordance with instructions - internees and foreign refugees are being referred to F.S.S for vetting and removal.
5. Italian soldiers, 30 - 40 - roaming about the town - hungry - curfew trouble, suspect agents amongst them - arrangements being made to collect them to POW cage near here.
6. Local doctors homes have been looted - instruments and medicine taken - list of requirements being drawn up - attempt will be made to secure replacement.
7. Prestige of Carabinieri - Carabinieri being used as pratt boys by Officers in town - carry parcels, run errands, etc. Suggest a form sheet be printed informing allied troops that they have been authorized to be the sole arm of law enforcement in Italy - prestige also suffers in respect to the populace - no longer respect or fear them - soldiers abuse them in presence of populace who laugh at their plight - uniforms are ragged - arms have been taken - Beretta Pistols taken as souvenirs by troops - A notice has been printed to the effect that they have been authorized and are to be obeyed and respected (written in Italian) The greatest obstacle to the efficient functioning of the Carabinieri is the deliberate efforts of tactical troops to humiliate and degrade same, the looting of their Headquarters.
8. Contempt for AMGOT, - failure on the part of troops - including most officers to appreciate our point of view and to consider our work as having any real importance. If not openly rebuked or scorned, are treated with a congenial contempt and patronizing indifference. Officers approached with respect to the problem of looting have made such statements as "They well deserve it, serves them right...." Billet in Caserma of Carabinieri and Fascist H.Q. and loot the Municipios. Excessive purchase of bread and meat, despite higher H.Q. orders to the contrary. Despite knowledge of the presence of AMGOT, military Officers will not deal with civil matters through AMGOT. It appears that the troops in this section have not been acquainted with or cognizant of the relative position of AMGOT in the prosecution of the war. (Those officers with whom I have had time and opportunity to talk with have admitted that my point of view and sense of values with respect to affairs AMGOT was not sufficiently appreciated, and have thereafter been most cooperative).

9. Looting - it is appreciated that troops are naturally embittered against the Italians in general (many of them have had buddies shot by the Italians ~~in Africa~~ soldiers in Africa) and that a certain amount of looting of trinkets and jewelry binoculars, revolvers etc. if not condoned, can be understood; however, there has been a wanton destruction of personal belongings which have no worth whatsoever to the looters - chairs have been used to break open closed closets, vases are broken, cabinets are tabled etc. Vacated ransacked homes are used as toilets both on the floors and walls (I personally caught two sailors in the act) - Bogus receipts are issued to people who accept them in good faith - and private automobiles are seized without proper authorization or requisitioning forms for pleasure purposes.

(Sgd) Paul M. Klepacki, Jr.
2nd Lt. C.M.P.

2072

785015

Subject: Report

LOT HQ.,

2 ARMY GROUP.

A-7988
ALDO & ARMY MAIN

Ref: Q4/7/6A

6th October 1943.

1. The following is a preliminary report on the occupied portion of Northern FOGGIA Province.

2. LOCATION.
Officers are now located in the following towns:-

CASTELNUOVA	Capt. Schaffler
TERMOLI	Lieut. Shannon
MOTTA	Lieut. Castle
VOLTURNA	Capt. Mavis
SERRACAPRIOLA	Lieut. Klepck
GARGANO PROMONTORY	Lieut. Hartley
LUCERA	Lieut. Garigue
S. SEVERO	Lieut. Torcellini.

3. SUPPLIES.

Up to date the supply problem has not proved to be one of great seriousness. There has been so far only one place which has been reported as short of food, namely SAVIGNANO, which is in Region III area. Major Hebert, Liaison Officer with Can Div has been ordered to investigate.

4. WATER.

There is a general shortage, owing to our still being in the area affected by the cutting of the Apulian Aqueduct. But with the amount of rain which has fallen the situation should improve.

5. ELECTRICITY.

In general there is none. It is not as yet known to what extent lines can be repaired.

6. BANKS.

Have been closed and the amount of money available has not been reported.

7. LIAISON.

The boundary between 5th and 8th Army is clear but there is a certain amount of overlapping into Region III. I propose sending an Officer over to contact Lt. Col. Hume and arrange a programme with him.

8. POLITICAL.

This is probably the greatest problem and which in its present form, we have not met in anything like the present degree. There have been serious ~~village~~ in several towns particularly in TORRE MAGGIORE, SERRACAPRIOLA, and CASTELNUOVA. In many cases AMOT officers have arrived in towns before F.S.S. and in towns where there are no troops have had to singlehanded stop visiting. ~~villages~~

The political feeling is violently antifascist and the ~~village~~ are caused by the towns people, immediately after the departure of the Germans, starting up mob rule. Carabinieri have been disarmed by them and in one case a Carabinieri has been shot.

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Have been closed and the amount of money available has not been reported.

7. LIAISON.

The boundary between 5th and 8th Army is clear but there is a certain amount of overtapping into Region III. I propose sending an Officer over to contact Lt.Col. Hume and arrange a programme with him.

8. POLITICAL.

This is probably the greatest problem and which in its present form, we have not met in anything like the present degree. There have been serious ~~villages~~ in several towns particularly in TORRE MAGGIORE, SERRACAPRIOLA, and CASTELNUOVA. In many cases ANGOT officers have arrived in towns before F.S.S. and in towns where there are no troops ~~we~~ have had to singlehanded stop visiting. ~~villages~~

The political feeling is violently antifascist and the ~~villages~~ are caused by the towns people, immediately after the departure of the Germans, starting up mob rule. Carabinieri have been disarmed by them and in one case a Carabinieri has been shot.

I think that this ~~villages~~ is really caused by the feeling of the people who after 21 years of oppression under Fascist rules, now see an opportunity of getting their own back.

There is however a minority of genuine Communism but I do not consider it serious. As an example Major Willard has reported a desire for a general division of land.

There would appear to be greater number of Fascists in the areas now being dealt with than has been the case in the past and his against this element that the disturbances are based. It will in my opinion be necessary to take drastic action against any and all Fascists which are met with, and instructions to this effect have been issued to C.I.Os in agreement with G.S.I. (b) 8 Army.

Byrnes
Group Captain,
ANGOT 8 Army Main.

B.V. n. comm. 1/2/42
13/2/42

GASANO PROMONTORY

LUCERA

S. SEVERO

Lient Hartley

Lient. Garigue

Lient. Torcellini.

SECRETCOPYOFFICER ONLYSUBJECT: Political Repercussions,AMCOT H.Q. 8th Army.H.Q. AMCOT,
Palermo.Ref.No.ECA/7/37A/RCAG
21st September 1943.

Throughout the whole area of Reggio Calabria Compartimento varying reports come through of political disturbances of a Communist nature which have occurred, particularly in the Reggio Comune and at Cosenza.

2. There is however no evidence to show that there is any Communist tendency in the Compartimento and the more reasonable explanation is that these disturbances are caused by the usual Calabrian unruly element who have always been against law and order and now for the first time after years of oppression see an opportunity of going back to their old days of brigandage.

3. I should mention that nowhere has there been any serious disturbance. Frequently one hears of the action of the Camorra. Whenever anything goes astray or something cannot be obtained, it is put down to the Camorra, but in fact the Camorra never have been suppressed even by the Fascists.

4. Generally speaking, Calabria would appear curiously free of real politics. The Calabrese are an agricultural people and appear to want to be left alone to pursue their agricultural work. There is no evidence of any Separatist element as was found in Sicily.

5. There is however a definite feeling that sufficient Fascists have not been put in prison. There may be an element of truth in this particularly in places where the Army have passed through quickly or by passed and which are occupied by the Italian Army. In the Reggio region I have given instructions to tighten up on the question of weeding out Fascists.

(Signed) C. Benson,
Group Capt.
R.C.A.O.
AMCOT H.Q. Region 2.

2070

0 4 6 3

SECRET.

OFFICER, J.Y.

Subject: Relationship between AMGOT and the Italian Army.

H.Q. AMGOT 8th Army.

A.A.G.,
8th Army Main H.Q.

Ref. No. MCA/1/254/ROAD.
20th September 1943.

When the original BAYTOWN operation was planned, an armistice had not been arranged, but it was envisaged that there was a possibility of 8th Army going through the toe of Italy without much resistance and the German and Italian armies retiring into a line further north. This would have meant that there were likely to be areas in which there would be no British Troops and no Italian troops.

2. A directive was given by General Alexander in connection with the distribution of AMGOT Officers where there were not British Troops and instructions were given as along the lines of the Directive by Major General Lord Rennell, H.Q. AMGOT Palermo, a copy of which is attached.

3. As it has turned out, a situation has arisen which is somewhat different. There are many places which are now not in occupation of British Troops, particularly in the South, in Reggio Province and in places such as COSENZA. As far as possible AMGOT Officers have been limited to towns where there are British Troops, or through which L. of C. run. Exceptions however must be made owing to the necessity of the supply problem.

4. There is however a different problem arising now on which a policy ruling is required. Cities are being found in which there are no British Troops but an organised Italian Unit. Such instances are for example ROSSANO and CASTROVILLARI.

5. The point arises as to the position of AMGOT Officers in such cities. Is the AMGOT officer empowered to give definite orders as regards supply, the running of the Carabinieri (which is a military body) and the general maintenance of law and order, which must be obeyed by the Italian Military Commander whatever may be his rank.

6. A typical example is for instance the imposition of curfew, which if it is to be of any value must also include Italian Military.

7. Pending a decision in these matters, I have given instructions that AMGOT officers will not be stationed in cities which are in sole possession of organised Italian Units.

8. It must however be realised that such orders will inevitably affect the administrative chain of Military Government, which cannot function if certain areas are excluded, particularly in the allocation of Supplies etc.

(Signed) G. Benson,
Group Captain,
H.Q.A.G.,
H.Q. AMGOT 8th Army.

2069

Copy to: H.Q. AMGOT,
Palermo.

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