

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

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

/382

TYPHUS FEVER
DEC. 1943, JAN. 1944

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
APO 512

15 January 1944

DAILY BULLETIN)

NUMBER 15)

1. DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICATIONS:

Difficulties have arisen in the past as a result of improper distribution of publications. In order to clarify the distribution situation and avoid future misunderstandings, the following should be noted by all concerned:

The Distribution Section, AG, makes distribution of all publications, originating or reproduced for circulation in this Headquarters in accordance with approved lists. The section originating a special document will indicate the special distribution desired in the lower left hand corner.
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2. TYPHUS PRECAUTION:

The following is an extract of Circular # 6, Hq
PIS, dated 10 January 1944, subject: TYPHUS RESTRICTIONS IN NAPLES, is reproduced for information and guidance for all concerned.

"An immediate check of the vaccination records of both officers and

(Example):

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2. TYPHUS PRECAUTION:

The following is an extract of Circular # 6, Hq PBS, dated 10 January 1944, subject: TYPHUS RESTRICTIONS IN NAPLES, is reproduced for information and guidance for all concerned.

"An immediate check of the vaccination records of both officers and enlisted men. Individuals who have not been given typhus vaccine within four months will be given a stimulating dose immediately, followed by the remainder of the series if necessary. Individuals working habitually in close proximity to civilians will be given the stimulating dose at intervals of one month rather than four."

(AG)

3. AG/ACC CIVILIAN OFFICIALS:

all civilian personnel officially associated with this Hq and ACC will submit in writing, to Capt L.W. STEARNS, Asst Adjutant General, Room D, Mezzanine Floor, their correct name and position title by 1200 hours, 16 January 1944.

(AG)

4. CABLE ADDRESS:

Effective 17 January 1944, messages for AMG Region II should be addressed "DISTWO for AMG Region Two".

(AG Misc)

5. OFFICE SECURITY (POST OFFICE):

The senior officer in each group occupying offices in the Post Office building, is responsible for the security of his own offices. AG Headquarters occupies only one wing of one floor, which there are many entrances. There are no guards available for the building, so all offices must be locked when not in use.

(Hq Comdt)

Daily Bulletin # 15, dated 15 January 1944 cont'd.

6. REQUESTS FOR PERSONNEL FROM NORTH AFRICA:

Sections and Directorates who wish to call forward from North Africa, personnel already assigned to them, will forward a list of such personnel to G-1 immediately. All Sub-Commissions,

Owing to accommodation difficulties, such personnel cannot be billeted in NAPLES, and the Sub-Commissions or Branches concerned, will be responsible for ensuring that arrangements are made for their temporary attachment to Regions or Provinces. (G-1)

By order of Colonel SPOFFORD:

L. V. STELLIS
Capt, AGD
Asst Adj Gen

OFFICIAL:

L. V. STELLIS
L. V. STELLIS
Capt, AGD
Asst Adj Gen

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L. W. STEARNS
L. W. STEARNS
Capt, AGD
Asst Adj Gen

DISTRIBUTION:
a. b.

Subject :- Typing Control.

A.F.S.Q. Adv. Adv. Board,
C.M.F.

3005/A.L.

11 Jan. 1944.

1. In order that Military and Civil Anti-Typing measures may be co-ordinated and all available resources utilized to the best advantage, it has been decided to set up a Committee of Control. This will be called the Typing Control Board.

The Board will be composed of members, each of whom has, and will retain, responsibility for Typing control measures within his own sphere. Their responsibilities are defined below. As members of the Board each member is entitled to express his opinion on any aspect of Typing control which might affect his present or future responsibilities.

The object of the Board is to ensure co-ordination between its members and to provide means for producing a unified policy.

2. The Board will consist of the following :-

Name.	Appointment.	Responsibility.
Brigadier R.W. Galloway.	DEMS, AFHQ Adv. Adv. Ech.	Chairman of the Board. Co-ordination of all matters affecting allied Forces.
Brig. Gen. Loch.A. Fox (or his rep. Colonel W.A. Sclaf)	Head of U.S. Typing Commission	Technical advice to Military on anti-Typing measures and control. The initial organization and direction of anti- Typing measures for the

The object of this report is to ensure coordination between its members and to provide means for producing a unified policy.

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Brigadier R.W. Galloway.	DMG, AFHQ Adm. Adm. Ecl.	Chairman of the Board. Co-ordination of all matters affecting Africa. Purchase.
Brig.-Gen. Loch.A. Fox (or his rep. Colonel J.D. Galloway)	Head of U.S. Typhus Commission	Technical advice to Military on anti-Typhus measures and control. The initial organization and division of Anti- Typhus measures for the civilian population, with the exception of hospital isolation. These responsibilities will eventually be taken over by A.M.G. In carrying out his responsibilities for the control of Anti-Typhus measures among the civil population, the Head of U.S. Typhus Commission will act through the normal machinery of A.M.G. for co-ordination with the Isle of Civil authorities.
Colonel D.T. Galloway (or his rep Colonel Public Galloway).	Director of A.M.G.	Co-ordination with Typhus Commission and ultimate control as specified above. Responsibility for organi- sation and administration of Civil Hospital and Auxiliary Services.

Cont/...Sheet 2...

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Sheet 2.

Colonel Arnest. Surgeon, Penin- Executive control and
sular Base direction of Anti-Typhus
Section. measures - U.S. troops.

Colonel McQuat ADMS 57 area Executive control and
(representing direction of Anti-Typhus
DDMS No. 2 District) measures - British
troops.

Lt.-col. H.D. ADM, AFHQ Adv. Secretary.
Chalka. Admin. Ech.

3. The Board will advise the D/C.A.O., A.F.H.Q. Adv.
Ann. Schedule on all matters of policy affecting Typhus
Control and will report to him as often as is considered
necessary.

It will direct the activities of the Local Committee
in HAPLES. (This consists of Medical representatives of the
Allied Forces, the U.S. Typhus Commission and A.M.C.,
together with certain Public Health Officers and Physicians,
as indicated in the Appendix).

4. The first meeting will be held at a date to be
decided by the Chairman. Subsequent meetings will be held
at such intervals as may be considered necessary from time
to time.

W. J. Johnson

Major-General,
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer.

APPENDIX "A"

A Local Committee will be formed to discuss the

It will direct the activities of the Local Committee in Naples. (This consists of Medical representatives of the Allied Forces, the U.S. Typhus Commission and A.M.C., together with certain Public Health Officers and Physicians, as indicated in the appendix).

4. The first meeting will be held at a date to be decided by the Chairman. Subsequent meetings will be held at such intervals as may be considered necessary from time to time.

W.H. Johnston

Major-General,
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer.

W.H./amb.

Appendix "A"
+++++

A Local Committee will be formed to discuss the various problems connected with Typhus Control in the NAPLES area. It will consist of the following Military and Civil Medical representatives :-

- British:- Gen. Fox and/or representatives of the Typhus Commission.
- Naples Public Health Officer, A.M.C. Region III.
- A.D.H., A.F.S.Q. Adv. Adm. Echelon.
- Representatives of Surgeon, Fifth Army.
- " " Surgeon, Peninsular Base Section.
- " " D.D.M.S., 10 Corps.
- " " A.D.M.S., 1 Canadian Echelon.
- " " A.D.M.S., 37 Area.
- " " A.D.M.S., 84 Sub Area.
- " " British Typhus Research Team.

- S.M.C., Royal Navy, Naples.
- S.M.C., 3 Base Area, R.A.F., Naples.
- Chief Naval and Military Medical Officers of the Italian Navy and Army.
- Professors Marinelli, Bergoni, Schuchard, Wini and Orsi.
- Brig. Patterson and/or representative Allied Control Commission, and any other Medical Officers whom it may be desired to attend from time to time.

/ amb.

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 Eric Patterson (for Reps Allied Control Commission) (10)
 Ericsson, Fed. U.S. Hyland Control Commission,
 Room 15, 2nd Floor, Quatern Building M.P.L.S. (4)
 Regional Public Health Officer, A.M.C. Region III.
 A.D.H. Adv. Adv. Echelon, A.F.H.Q.
 Surgeon, FIFTH ARMY.
 Surgeon, Peninsular Base Section.
 A.D.M.S. 1st Cdr. Ech.
 A.D.M.S. 37 area.
 A.D.M.S. 34 Sub area.
 British Typhus Research Team (Maj. Stuart Harris),
 c/o A.D.M.S. 37 area.
 C.W.C., Naval Exchange, R.M. Barracks, M.P.L.S.
 E.M.O. 3 base area, R.M.F. M.P.L.S.
 Professor Maricelli
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 Professor Orsi
 c/o A.D.M.S.
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T.A.F. (2)

XII A.S.C. (2)

D.D.M.S., Adv. Adv. Adv. A.F.S.D.

Infir. Battalion (for type Allied Control Commission) (10)

Infir. - Gen. For. U.S. Typing Control Commission,

Room 15, 2nd floor, Quattara Building, NAPLES (4)

Regional Public Health Officer, A.M.A. Region III.

A.D.H. Adv. Adv. Adv. A.F.S.D.

Surgeon, Fifth Army.

Surgeon, Peninsular Base Section.

A.D.M.S. 1st Cdr. Adv.

A.D.M.S. 37 Adv.

A.D.M.S. 54 Adv.

British Typing Research Team (Maj. Stuart Harris),

c/o A.D.M.S., 37 Adv.

S.M.O., Naval Engineering, R.N. Naples, NAPLES.

S.M.O., 3 Adv. Adv. Adv. A.F.S.D.

Professor Marinelli

Professor Bergami

Professor Banducci

Professor Rinaldi

Professor Orzi

D.M.S., Office of the Surgeon, A.F.S.D. (2)

Director of Public Health, A.M.C., 13 Army Group (4)

A.D.M.S. British Incumbent, Fifth Army.

Colonel Farrel, Italian Army Medical Services, NAPLES.

Colonel La Torre, Italian Naval Medical Services, NAPLES.

/auth.

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Typhus Fever

ME/504/11
23 Dec 43

Report on Typhus Situation at Naples - Dec 1943.

The Director of Public Health and 15 Army Group proceeded to Naples on 17 Dec.

Conferences.

1. On arrival an opportunity was afforded to attend the weekly meeting on Preventative diseases held by Col. Crichton the recently appointed Regional Director of Public Health Region III. The proceedings of this meeting together with proceedings of the previous meeting will be found in appendices 1 and 2 of this report.

Hospitalization.

2. It will be seen that emergency hospital arrangements are in hand. It was impressed on the Italian authorities that circumstances demanded the acceptance of conditions which naturally would be unacceptable in normal times. Speed is the essential.

Contacts.

3. Though the system of follow up of contacts has been slow in coming to fruition it definitely is a growing concern.

Rockefeller Foundation Personnel.

4. The assistance of the Rockefeller Foundation experts is much appreciated and long discussions and conferences were held at which Dr. Soper, Dr. Davies and Dr. Kitchie were present Brigadier Downs was present for a part of one of these conferences.

The system of dusting.

5. The system of dusting is roughly as follows:- 400lbs of D.D.T. concentrates have been obtained, 100,000 cans of D.V.L. are being liberated, Talc as a diluent is available locally in adequate amounts. Pumps or guns are available but an improved type is desirable. A multiple type should be produced to enable large numbers to be dusted 500 pumps were expected by air. Transport for dusts is available in adequate amounts. There will be 40 dusters employed immediately men and women have been trained, 1500 people had been dusted in 2 days but this

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Shelters.

6. The eviction of people from the so is being coordinated with the Public Health Dept. In the meanwhile an organisation of powdering the occupants is being developed.

Railway Travel.

7. Trains are being run at frequent intervals arrangements for the dusting of all travellers were in hand.

Refugees.

8. The number of refugees coming down through Naples is small, a party of approx 200 was awaiting onward disposal at the time of my visit. Dusting was demonstrated. 327 }

1 Copy in 040.

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Types of Powder.

9. It was noted that 400 lbs of D.D.T. are available. Dr. Soper has been requested to estimate quantities required for his dusting programs which comprises two main items (a) Contacts. (b) Mass disinfections. It will be observed however that 100,000 cans of M.I.L. are being released for use at Naples. While the situation is such that any or all form of reliable dusting powders are received with gratitude it is felt that with a situation as at Naples where we have Typhus as a real entity, supplies of D.D.T. might be issued as a priority issue for civil use and the Army might have its needs met with M.I.L. with which at least a second dusting is essential. While this can be controlled in the Army, control will be difficult if not impossible in the civil population. This will be further represented by General Fox on his return to A.F.H.Q.

Inoculation.

10. Arrangements are being made for the inoculation of certain additional classes of people. This will include Police, Prisoners in Jails - Warders - Welfare workers. Depending on the availability of vaccine so will this program be extended to include all dock workers.

Visits to Naples.

11. A recommendation has been submitted to A.F.H.Q. that members of Allied Forces other than those who have business of military importance should for the present be excluded from Naples. The crowding in Naples is unbelievable and the presence of very large numbers of soldiers with little to do in Naples is highly undesirable in present circumstances. The association of Typhus, Lice, V.D. prostitution might well be brought home to troops by the appropriate authorities.

Propaganda.

12. Until the plan for mass disinfection is completed and adequate supplies of powder are actually available on the spot, intensive propaganda would be inappropriate but when that stage in planning permits it is felt that great results could be anticipated from this agent properly employed.

Coordination.

13. It will be noted that practically every branch of the services American and British were represented at the meetings held. In addition a separate meeting of military authorities was called when every one was brought completely into the picture. I called on B.D.H.S., A.F.H.Q. and the A.D.H.S., 57 Sub Area.

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Visit of General Fox.

Typhus

14. Brigadier General Fox, head of U.S. Commission Middle East visited Naples on 20 Dec and an opportunity of discussing the problems with him, Col. Hume, and Col. Critchley, arose. General Fox agreed on the absolute necessity of our contact follow up programme, suggested an extension of our inoculation plan and supported the recommendations on limiting access to Naples for members of the Forces. It is needless to add how much the visit of this outstanding authority on Typhus and its prevention was appreciated.

Refugees in General.

15. Already some 20,000 refugees have been evacuated through 8 Army back to Italian Controlled Territory. This on the whole has proceeded relatively smoothly. A sanitary screen is in course of preparation but is at present incomplete. Any hold up in the Army areas would if it were allowed to occur be a serious matter but a hold up further back pending the organised disposal and distribution/...

2.

and distribution of the refugees seems highly possible and very probable. For that reason it is felt that some arrangements for this eventuality should be made now. A medical and sanitary screening could then be done which would be thoroughly than is possible forward. A plea in the very strongest terms possible is made for such a camp and a disused P.O.W. or Interned Camp such as that at GRAVINA would be highly desirable. It is felt that all measures must be tightened up now so that the occurrence of Typhus can be limited with no opportunity to spread with disastrous results, such a camp would serve the whole Army Group Area.

16. The spread of this disease from Naples to Africa and other countries is highly possible unless port health authorities are warned and are on the watch for outbreaks may well occur.

17. Every assistance in every possible way is being given to Dr. Soper and his co workers.

18. The number of cases of Typhus for the first 3 weeks of Dec. is approximately 80. About 90 are under treatment. The mortality is 25%.

Handwritten signature

L. COLON CHETRE.
Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

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" 5 Army.	-	(6)

Handwritten: HQ and Staff

D. GORDON CHENE,
Colonel,
Chief Staff Officer.

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R.A.F., R.A.N.A.P., U.S.A.A.F.

APPENDIX 1 to AVE/004/16
dated 23 Dec 63.

Minutes of a Special Meeting on Typhus held on December 17th, 1963,
in the Offices of the Public Health Division, Region 3, Prefettura
Building, Naples.

1. Those present were Colonel Orlenton (in the Chair), Colonel G. Chettyre, Colonel Griffin, Lt. Colonel Shields, Major Gill (A.P.H.O. Naples City), Major Schiele, Major Frizelle, Captain Turner (Sanitation Officer, Naples City), Dr. Soper (Rockefeller Foundation - Typhus Control), Professor Marinelli (Director Ospedale Riuniti), Professor Orsi (Ufficielle Sanitario Comunale, Naples), Professor Bergam (Commissario d'Igiene Pubblica, Naples), Professor Beradino (Ufficielle Sanitario Provinciale), Professor Mini (Bacteriologist), Captain Seregineff (Assistant to R.I.H.O. Region III and A.P.H.O. Avellino).
2. The following attended on the following day (18th) as they were unable to be present at the main meeting. Major MacMillan RMC, 10th Corps Representative, Lt. Col. Gillmore USMC, 5th Army Representative, Major Cherry USMC, R.H., A.C.C., Lt. Col. Swerney U.S. San. Corps Representative, Metropolitan Area, Naples, Major McCallum U.S. Med. Corps Representative, Metropolitan Area, Major Stein USMC, representative PBS., Major McNeil (V.E. Control PBS.).

3. Disinfestation Stations -

I. Foce Hospital - Steam disinfestation not operating owing to much more serious damage to the water system than was anticipated. Repairs estimated to take several days.

II. Albergo del Poveri - Steam Disinfestation Centre now established and in operation. All inmates and staff of the Institution have been disinfested. By Tuesday the station will be available for public disinfestation on a large scale.

III. Powder Disinfestation - A beginning has been made by powdering 700 travellers leaving by the new bi-weekly Train Services to Bari; 666 patients and staff at the Incumbili Hospital; 250 patients and staff at the Foce Hospital.

Dr. Soper reported that it had not hitherto been possible for Case Contacts to be dealt with at their homes owing to lack of transport and trained personnel. Major Gill stated that 19 light cars with drivers could be placed immediately at the disposal of Dr. Soper and that he would guarantee that four would report to him the next day. Professor Bergam stated that he had procured one autobus which he intended to use for mass disinfestation at the Foce and

3. Disinfestation Stations -

I. Pace Hospital - Steam disinfestation not operating owing to much more serious damage to the water system than was anticipated. Repairs estimated to take several days.

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III. Rowler Disinfestation - A beginning has been made by powdering 700 travellers leaving by the new bi-weekly Train Service to Bari; 666 patients and staff at the Incoronelli Hospital; 250 patients and staff at the Pace Hospital.

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Dr. Soper stated that in his experience the mere powdering of case contacts was not sufficient and that the entire population of large districts of the town would have to be dealt with. For this purpose it was his plan to establish several disinfestation (powder) stations in different parts of the town.

Colonel Cheyne, while agreeing that the general project of disinfestation of the population would doubtless have to be undertaken, insisted that the immediate problem to be dealt with was the house or Case Contact and that these would have to be dealt with at once.

IV. Availability of Powder - Beside the M.Y.L. tins obtained from U.S. QM stores locally, a supply of 200 lbs. D.D.T. Concentrate had been received by air from North Africa and the release of a further supply of 200 lbs. had been authorised from a consignment made to P.B.S. Suitable pumps had also been asked for from Africa.

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Col. Cheyne/.....

-2-

Colonel Cheyne requested Dr. Soper to estimate his supply needs for the entire program envisaged by him.

Dr. Soper detailed the difficulties experienced in powdering the passengers at the Railway Station so as to ensure that all those travelling were dealt with. It was considered that these difficulties could be overcome. Dr. Soper also pointed out the further effectiveness of D.D.T. powder as compared with K.I.L. powder now in use and recommended that, for this reason, priority for the release of powder for civilian purposes should be given over that for the Army where the population to be dealt with was subject to discipline and was accessible for frequent inspections and powderings if necessary.

Colonel Cheyne promised to represent this point to the appropriate authorities.

4. Ricoveri - It had been ascertained by a visit to the San Jostano Ricovero that although hundreds of people sleep there at night, the Ricovero is empty in the daytime. It was decided therefore that a night powdering squad should be organized to work in the Ricovero when the people were present. Meanwhile the desirability of evicting habitual occupants from Ricovero was stressed and application was again to be made to the appropriate authorities.

5. Cosmo Hospital - Now that this Hospital had been released by the Army and R.A.F. authorities, Professor Bergami was requested to see that it was put into order for the reception of patients, in part or in whole, within a week. It was pointed out that it was futile to wait for perfection in detail and that an emergency Hospital to deal with the epidemic threatening the town had to be established without delay.

6. Meeting of Physicians on Typhus - An unexpected difficulty in calling this meeting had been experienced by the Hanking of Medical Societies. Professor Bergami was requested to circulate all physicians through the Press, inviting them all to a purely scientific meeting.

7. Sancti Hospital - Refers to this Hospital, to serve as an Air Raid Casualty Station, were still held up because of the tangle regarding the financial authority which is responsible. Professor Bergami was requested to obtain the orders of the Prefect on the subject and to refer to him for any funds which may have to be advanced to the purpose.

8. Gesu and Maria Hospital - Professor Marzulli reported that this Hospital had only been slightly damaged and could be put in order in a short time. Professor Marzulli was requested to take this matter in hand urgently.

Marinelli the desirability of evicting habitual occupants from Riverfront was stressed and application was again to be made to the appropriate authorities.

5. Cotugno Hospital - How that this Hospital had been released by the Army and U.S.A.F. authorities, Professor Bergami was requested to see that it was put into order for the reception of patients, in part or in whole, within a week. It was pointed out that it was futile to wait for perfection in detail and that an emergency Hospital to deal with the epidemic threatening the town had to be established without delay.
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7. Accoladi Hospital - Requests to this Hospital, to serve as an Air Raid Casualty Station, were still held up because of the trouble regarding the financial authority which is responsible. Professor Banducci was requested to obtain the orders of the Prefect on the subject and to refer to ASG for any funds which may have to be advanced to the purpose.
8. Roma and Maria Hospital - Professor Marinelli reported that this Hospital had only been slightly damaged and could be put in order in a short time. Professor Marinelli was required to take this matter in hand urgently in case it was required as an extension for the Cotugno.

(Signed) W. Christon.
Col.

20.12.43.

APPENDIX 2 to 1285/504/11
Dated 23 Dec 43.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE

Minutes of Meeting on Preventible Diseases, held Dec. 10, 1943,
in the Offices of Public Health & Welfare Division, Region 3,
Prefettura Building.

1. The meeting was called to order at 1508 hours by Colonel Orlington, R.P.H.O., Region 3.
2. Those present were: Lt. Colonelin Page and Shields; Majors Gill, Horner, Snyder and Stein; Lt. Commander Toner; Captains Seregineff and Turner; Dr. Soper; Professors Bergami, Marinelli, Ninni and Orsi.
3. Colonel Orlington reviews the situation with Typhus cases reported to date; the plans under way and the accomplished facts since the previous meeting of December 3rd.

A. DISINFECTION BY STEAM AND CLEANSING.

- a. Faoe Hospital, where 2 showers and 4 bath tubs are available, the local disinfectant, though not suitable for present purposes could be supplemented by one of the two portable, Italian Military type disinfectors, now located there for repair and adjustment, but as yet not in shape for immediate use.
Faoe Hospital was discussed in a suitable Intermittent Center for contacts of Typhus cases.
- b. Albergo Foveri, where at present in the rear of the Institution is one room with 24 showers will be in condition for use on and after Monday, Dec. 13.43, and additional shower space can be made available at a later date. Capt. Turner plans to install at this Institution one of the 2 portable, Italian Military type, disinfectors.
Colonel Orlington arranged for a visit with Professor Bergami to Albergo Foveri, scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Dec. 11th instant.
- c. Renniti Hospital, accommodation with 2 bath tubs and 2 showers, is to be examined by the hospital engineer who will report the results to Professor Marinelli.
- d. Port site, Via Cattaneo, Private Baths Institution for the Public,

- a. Pace Hospital, where 2 showers and 4 bath tubs are available, the local disinfectant, though not suitable for present purposes could be supplemented by one of the two portable, Italian Military type disinfectors, now located there for repair and adjustment, but as yet not in shape for immediate use.
Pace Hospital was discussed as a suitable Intermittent Center for contacts of Typhus cases.
- b. Albergo Roveri, where at present in the rear of the Institution is one room with 24 showers will be in condition for use on and after Monday, Dec. 15.43, and additional shower space can be made available at a later date. Capt. Turner plans to install at this Institution one of the 2 portable, Italian Military type, disinfectors. Colonel Critchton arranged for a visit with Professor Bergami to Albergo Roveri, scheduled for 8:30 a.m. Dec. 11th instant.
- c. Bennetti Hospital, accommodation with 2 bath tubs and 2 showers, is to be examined by the hospital engineer who will report the results to Professor Marinelli.
- d. Port site, Via Cotrone, Private Baths Institution for the Public, though not equipped with showers has a number of bath tubs. The building was damaged in the bombing, and before further consideration as a Disinfection Center, will be examined by Professor Bergami and/or his representatives. This and other tentative disinfection centers could supplement their facilities with portable, Italian Military type, disinfectors of which five (5) are located at the Italian Military Hospital (New Trinita) and one (1) in the Medical Stores of Region 5 (MCS) now under Major Gail's direction.
- e. Old Cotrone Hospital, according to Major Gail, the R.A.F. unit is making preparations to vacate this Institution by Dec. 13, instant. Professor Bergami and Ornd agreed to send a squad of Civil Police and workmen to commence the cleaning and the policing of the Institution. Colonel Critchton arranged with Professor Bergami to pay a field visit to this Institution on Dec. 11th.

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B. DISINFESTATION BY POWDER, MTL AND DDT TYPE.

Colonel Crichton and Doctor Soper discussed the powder disinfection program for typhus patients and contacts. It was stated that Army authorities have released the requested MTL powder; the possibility of DDT powder becoming available at a later date was discussed.

Arrangements were made with Professor Bergami and Ornd to provide 12 men and several women from the Italian public health staff of Naples City for instruction at the Old Cotugno Hospital Disinfection Station, on Dec. 11th instant at 10 A.M. The working week of the Disinfection Squad will be arranged for.

Capitale Inamabile, was discussed as a Secondary Powdering Center.

C. TRANSPORT.

Professor Bergami stated that the Transport Company of Naples has already placed an autobus at the disposal of City Health Department, for the transport of Disinfection personnel and equipment.

D. Professor Bergami suggested a general meeting of Physicians of the city for the discussion of general topics and of Typhus and its Control. Colonel Crichton named Professor Firenze Director of Cotugno Hospital as visiting lecturer on the topic of Typhus and Professor Bergami on the topic of the preventive aspects of Typhus control. The meeting is to be held at the University at a later date and Professor Bergami is to make the necessary arrangements and report progress to Colonel Crichton.

E. AIR RAID SHELTERS, are still a problem in that adequate housing for refugee occupants is not as yet available. Dr. Soper suggested the powdering of all persons entering the air raid shelters by trained health department personnel, as the first step in the disinfection program of occupants of air raid shelters.

F. RESTRICTION OF MASS - MEETING out of Naples was discussed. It is realized that movement of individuals is an overwhelming problem with which the present police force is unable to cope.

G. HOSPITAL PROBLEMS.

The availability of the entire Pace Hospital for Venereal disease patients was discussed. Professor Bergami proposed the closing of the surgical unit at the Pace Hospital and the announcement to the public of the transfer of

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4. HOSPITAL PROBLEMS

The availability of the entire Pace Hospital for Venereal disease patients was discussed. Professor Bergami proposed the closing of the surgical unit at the Pace Hospital and the arrangement to the public of the transfer of this unit to the nearby Laicale Hospital, when the latter is repaired from previous bomb damage.

The surgical patients from the Pace can be readily transported to the Regina Margherita Hospital. It was stated by Major Gill that there were only some forty (40) patients, most of whom are ambulatory and should be moved by truck, while the five or so bed cases can be moved by ambulance.

Professor Marinelli commented that about 500,000 lire will be required to condition the Laicale Hospital. It was mentioned that there still was a legal trouble as to the directorship of the Laicale Hospital, the contestants are the Morvillo and Samuti Hospital groups. Referring to the Prefetto was asked upon to settle the Laicale Hospital. The importance of adequate bed space for infected prostitutes at the Pace was deemed essential, in the light of the serious Venereal Disease Problem in Naples.

SCHEME OF ORGANIZATION of the Italian Provincial and City Health Services was discussed. Professor Bergami will prepare the present chart of organization for reference purposes.

The meeting adjourned at 1650 hours.

File
Colonel D. G. Cheyne, C.E.D., M.C., M.D., Director of
Public Health, Notes on Typhus in NAPLES.

AMF/504/9.
5. Dec. 43.

HEADQUARTERS

10 DEC 1943

AMG

NAPLES - 2. Dec.

1. There is no doubt that Typhus is now prevalent in NAPLES. It appears to have originated in a Serbian Camp in March of this year, and continued intermittently since. There has been a total of some 200 cases, with 22 cases in October and 40 cases in November. These have been scattered throughout the town. They are nursed at the Ospedale S. Giorgio - an old delapidated out of date hospital some 15 - 18 kms from the centre of NAPLES. This hospital has no disinfection arrangements.

2. I attended a conference at which the following were present :

Col. T. Young, D.D. of Hygiene, A.F.H.Q.
Lt. Col. Chalke, A.D. of Hygiene, A.F.H.Q.
Lt. Col. Campbell, " "
Professor NIMI, Prof. of Bacteriology, Naples.
Professor MORELLI, Director of Hospitals.
Col. Crichton, C.I.E.M.S., recently arrived and
designated D. of P.H., Region IV.
Lt. Col. Dobos, Acting D. of P.H. Region III.

Various other military officers and civil provincial and other Health Officers.

3. Lt. Col. Dobos described what had been done. Prof. Nimi described serological findings.

4. It was decided that Col. Crichton would take over the direction of anti-typhus work immediately, and would be attached to Region III.

5. After inspecting S. Giorgio Hospital it was decided that every effort will be made to obtain better accommodation, such accommodation to permit of the increased number of cases which will almost inevitably arise when diagnosis becomes more accurate on attention being focussed on the possibility of the disease occurring. Progress reports of incidence of the disease will be submitted to all concerned weekly on Sundays.

6. It is essential that contacts are followed up and disinfections adequately carried out. For various reasons this has not been done. A centre must be established to which contacts may be brought and disinfected.

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7. To meet the requirements of paras. 6 and 7, it was decided that every effort be made to obtain the COTUPIO Hospital - a large hospital formerly used as a Civil Infectious Hospital, and where there was a first class Disinfection Plant. This would be the Reception Hospital for Typhus of at least 250 beds, and a Central Disinfection Plant for contacts. It is occupied at present in part by A.A. Gunners, and is earmarked for 113 R.U. R.A.F. The "Q" Staff at Adv. Adm. Echelon A.F.H.Q. referred us to Metropolitan Comd. Col. Adams, who in turn referred us to Group-Capt. Cullley, Mc.J. Base. The last mentioned officer was willing to vacate the hospital provided I could find suitable alternative accommodation. This has been referred to G.O.C. Adv. Adm. Echelon A.F.H.Q., Col. Hume R.C.A.C. Region III, AME 5 Army, and also to higher formation in view of its very great importance. The establishment of good hospital accommodation and disinfection arrangements is a pivot in control measures to meet a situation which, if not taken in hand NOW, may have repercussions of a most serious nature not only in the health of the civil population and later the military population, but even on military operations.

8. There is some evidence that the occupation on a semi-permanent basis of "Bocoveros" in Naples may be a factor in the spread of the disease. Four cases have been reported in people who lived in this way. It is so obvious that this can be a factor that it was decided to recommend to the Regional

This is a copy to Adm. III

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authorities that orders be issued for their closure, except during an "Alert". This has been accepted. A census will be made of those affected, and if they cannot be absorbed they will be treated as refugees and evacuated through the agency of displaced persons Sub-Commission, A.C.C.

9. The need for disinfection facilities is so urgent that the Army (M.M.Y.Secs.) have been ordered by the A.D.H. immediately to construct up to 100 improved field disinfectors of the SERRINER type to be used at once for disinfection of effects of patients and contacts. Improved bathing facilities will be similarly created forthwith.

10. The local authority will also endeavour to take over at least one of the civil bathing stations which are very efficient, and to which the civil population will be asked to go for cleaning up and disinfection. It is hoped the military will be able to release at least one such installation to which improvised disinfectors will be attached. The possibility of obtaining a Mobile Bath Unit was considered, but the D.H.S. thought there was little likelihood of this.

11. Disinfection powder is on its way by air - enough to make one ton of powder. In the absence of Talcum Powder flour will be used as a diluent. Methyl Bruth is available locally and can be utilized.

12. AMSCOT Naples will assist the transport of contacts of cases to the disinfection centre when established.

13. Much can be done by intelligent propaganda. Carefully worded articles on louse problems in the press, both English and Italian, will be useful. Posters - possibly radio and the cinema, all have their place. The British and American films on the louse should be shown.

14. To summarize - the typhus problem long anticipated is here. Every factor is present which may lead to a serious outbreak, overcrowding, privation, lack of soap, disorganized medical services, and only by the promptest of measures on the lines indicated above and by cooperation of all concerned can the results essential for success of military operations be achieved.

D. GORDON GIBBS.
Colonel.
Director of Public Health.

100/110.

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DDP/ALC.

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