

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

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WEEKLY BULLETIN, ARCHIVES HISTORY
AUG. 1945

ARCHIVES HISTOIRE - 28/AB

August 18, 1945

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 234 - VOL. II, No. 20

POLITICAL

*Melior latiorque est certa pars, quam
operosa victoria.*

LAVY

Perhaps, it was the hovering shadow of peace, at once exhilarating and sobering; perhaps, the awe still lingering as the aftermath of the atomic bomb, perhaps, simply the dog days; whatever the cause, the past week has been almost without events worthy of note in the field of Italian politics.

The Council, to be sure, had a two-day session (July 9 and 10) but its agenda contained no surprises and nothing controversial. Administrative autonomy was granted to the Val d'Aosta; plans for welfare and reconstruction were discussed and it was decided to allot one billion lire for "shelter houses" for those whose homes have been destroyed. The exact definition of the word "partisan" was studied but no conclusion reached—or at least none announced. Approval was given to Italy's joining the Central European Railway organization, after exposition of its merits by Transport Minister La Malfa. Paretti-Grieva, Commissioner for Eparation, was appointed President of the Brescia Court of Appeals. The Council then adjourned, presumably, like the rest of us, to wait for the official end of the war.

Comment.

Prime Minister Parri, commenting on the Japanese surrender, which he said "marked the end of one of the most despicable regimes", hoped that it would allow the United Nations to turn to the work of world reconstruction and

herself, had shown her solidarity with the free peoples of the world by declaring war on the common enemy. He, too, said that it seemed "logical to expect that eventually more shipping and supplies will become available to the stricken countries".

On the question of the precedence of administrative or Constitutional elections, the issue is now very clearly drawn. Liberals and Labor Democrats having come out in favor of having the administrative elections first. This lines them up on the side of the Christian Democrats and divides the six parties into two groups of three. The Democratic party, outside the C. L. N., is also in favor of early administrative elections, thus balancing the Republicans whose contrary sentiments we recorded last week.

Not Ready.

The thesis of the moderate parties is that the country is not yet ready for the grave decisions that the *Costituente* will have to take; this point of view was put forward by Rossetti in *Radio-Roma* and supported by the non-partisan *Secolo XIX*. Morandi, the socialist leader, speaking in Genoa, said, however, that the Socialists would come to the *Costituente* elections with a complete program for the solution of all major problems.

Parri, interviewed by Overseas News Agency, was quoted as saying that Italy must be a member of the United Nations before the *Costituente* elections can be held, but added that he hoped negotiations would not be long delayed. (He also said, when questioned, that, in his opinion it would be unjust to deprive Italy of Eritrea, Somalia and the "Mediterranean colonies".)

IIQ. REGION

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RECEIVED

POLITICAL.

*Minor intelligence not certain point, quam
speciosa victoria.*

LIVY.

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Comment.

Prime Minister Parri, commenting on the Japanese surrender, which he said "marked the end of one of the most despicable régimes", hoped that it would allow the United Nations to turn to the work of world reconstruction and that, in particular for Italy, more tonnage might be now available for relief and greater help forthcoming from the Allies to help put Italy on her feet.

Admiral Stone, in a statement given to the press, said that Italy could share in the universal satisfaction inasmuch as she, though still suffering

herself, had shown her solidarity with the free peoples of the world by declaring war on the common enemy. He, too, said that it seemed "logical to expect that eventually more shipping and supplies will become available to the stricken countries."

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Parri's speech is indeed the clue to the week. Italian politics are not so much inactive as expectant. Italy is waiting; waiting for the Council of Foreign Ministers, for the peace treaty, for a final clarification of her position, waiting, too—and more hopefully now—for more economic help from the victorious United Nations.

ITALY TURNS THE FIRST CORNER

As a change from the rather gloomy picture of Italian industrial prospects a month ago, it is good to report that, in the calculated opinion of Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, Italy has now turned the first corner on the long road back to economic recovery, keeping our fingers crossed over shipping despite the end of the war. One solid fact buttresses this thesis, namely, that the critical deficiency of coal will be met, in part at least. Brigadier Anderson brought this news back from London where he attended the conferences of the European Coal Organization and of the European Economic Council. To sum up, here is the story: As a result of the now verified coal imports and of a steel master plan basically drawn up by Col. Glendinning, director of the Industry Sub-Commission, and now being put into effect, Italian key industries should be back operating of least to 50 per cent. of capacity instead of the 10 per cent. or less they have been. The productive cycle has been planned to have a cumulative effect and should give employment to 500,000 persons in the related basic industries. Chronologically, the significant events are as follows:

Coal, of course, has been the great deficiency, being, as everyone knows, Shortage Item No. 1 in the world. A definite commitment has been obtained for 350,000 tons a month, perhaps even a little more, for the rest of 1945. For September 367,000 tons were promised and some of the shipments have already arrived and been delivered to factories where the coal has been welcomed with cheers by the workers and an immediate lift in morale. Coal allocation has been the subject of considerable thinking at A. C. Headquarters where an allocation committee has been set up which includes Italian Government representatives. The coal is allocated by user, that is, railroads, public utilities, industry, hospitals, bakeries and food plants. It is then re-allocated by bulk to regions which, within their own discretion, re-allocate within the area on the same principles.

The chief criterion of allocation within these

Supply and Production in England, as top dispensers of priorities and materials.

Keystone of the industrial recovery plan is the steel industry, for which a plan has been drawn up which envisages an annual production of 1,000,000 tons of steel a year or 50 per cent. of Italian steel capacity. Choosing only the most efficient plants, it is planned, for example, to produce this million tons by using only about 400,000 tons of coal a month and utilizing electric power to the highest degree possible, by conversion of furnaces where necessary. In fact, to produce the second million tons of steel would require another 1,300,000 tons of coal a month since second-class steel plants are involved. Thus, for the time being, only the first-class plants will be used since they can fully utilize the amount of coal that it will be feasible to import.

In the next six months, 565,000 tons of steel are programmed, of which electric furnaces, mostly in the North, will make 372,000 tons; Central Italy steelworks (Terni, Piombino and San Giovanni Valdarno) will make 151,000 tons and Southern plants (Torre Annunziata) will produce 36,000 tons. Terni, by the way, once one of the biggest armament works in Europe, has already been converted into one vast railroad repair shop and is fixing up locomotives and railroad cars and making electrical equipment. Terni plans to make 93,000 tons of steel by March, 1946. In the steel situation, it is imperative that swift progress be made this fall since steel depends on pig iron, which, with electricity falling off in the winter months, will have to be made the next few months. Manganese ore and chrome from Rhodesia for ferrous alloys and refractories from Austria are being arranged for.

Another basic industry being restored is that of textiles. Enough cotton and wool is on the way virtually to restore full production, which requires a monthly import of 13,000 tons of cotton (from Egypt and the United States) and 2,500 tons of wool. It is expected that 50 per cent. of full production will be reached within another month.

The Italian power situation, discounting the current setback forced by the record dry weather, is also now in basically a more favorable condition than expected, although the lack of rainfall

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In the next six months, 505,000 tons of steel are programmed, of which electric furnaces, mostly in the North, will make 372,000 tons. Central Italy steelworks (Terni, Piombino and San Giovanni Valdarno) will make 154,000 tons and Southern plants (Torre Annunziata) will produce 36,000 tons. Terni, by the way, once one of the biggest armament works in Europe, has already been converted into one vast railroad repair shop and is fixing up locomotives and railroad cars and making electrical equipment. Terni plans to make 93,000 tons of steel by March, 1946. In the steel situation, it is imperative that swift progress be made this fall since steel depends on pig iron, which, with electricity falling off in the winter months, will have to be made the next few months. Manganese ore and chrome from Rhodesia for ferrous alloys and refractories from Austria are being arranged for.

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The Italian power situation, discounting the current setback forced by the record dry weather, is also now in basically a more favorable condition than expected, although the lack of rainfall in the South will make that area a deficiency one this winter. However, the introduction of the 50 cycle frequency universally in Italy is now making it possible for real exchange of power between all sections, which had never been done before. Power from the North can be fed into Central Italy and power from Central Italy will

be good to report that, in the calculated opinion of Brigadier D. L. Anderson, Acting Vice President of the Economic Section, Italy has now turned the first corner on the long road back to economic recovery, keeping our fingers crossed over shipping despite the end of the war. One solid fact buttresses this thesis, namely, that the critical deficiency of coal will be met, in part at least. Brigadier Anderson brought this news back from London where he attended the conferences of the European Coal Organization and of the European Economic Council. To sum up, here is the story: As a result of the now verified coal imports and of a steel master plan basically drawn up by Col. Glendinning, director of the Industry Sub-Commission, and now being put into effect, Italian key industries should be back operating of least to 50 per cent. of capacity instead of the 10 per cent. or less they have been. The productive cycle has been planned to have a cumulative effect and should give employment to 500,000 persons in the related basic industries. Chronologically, the significant events are as follows:

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The chief criterion of allocation within these premises is the productive efficiency of the plant and, naturally, the need for the product, counsel on which is given by the recently-established National Industrial Council, (comprised of representatives from industry and from the Government) which acts similarly to the War Production Board in the States and the Ministries of

shortly be available to the South, subject only to the capacity of the conductors. To this end, the present emphasis is upon the repair of heavy transmission lines interconnecting North, Central, and Southern Italy. Already several transmission lines are in service to supply the Florence area from the North and will be supplemented by others. A line connecting Central and Southern Italy is expected to be ready this fall. With a transmission system available once more, it will be possible to move blocks of power through Italy to areas needing it most.

Water Supply.

There is a difference sometimes between the present generating capacity and the electrical demand for actual use because of insufficient water supply at various points to make full use of the available generating capacity. In Central and Southern Italy, and in Sicily, the electrical demand is the maximum that can be produced with the available water and fuel. If more electricity could be produced, it could be used. In Northern Italy, there is still a surplus of power, which will diminish as more electricity is used for industrial and domestic purposes, and as less water becomes available from melting snows in the North during the cooler months. Because of a scarcity of fuel in the North, electricity is being increasingly used for domestic cooking purposes and will also be used extensively for heating this winter.

The table that follows tells its own story:

Area	Pre-War Capacity (Kilowatts)	Capacity Available Upon Allied Entrance	Present Installed Capacity
North Italy	4,645,000	4,200,000	4,235,000
Central Italy	1,228,250	65,000	351,500
Southern Italy	38,500	156,900	286,000
Sicily	91,973	43,800	64,000
Sardinia	96,080	96,080	96,080
	6,179,703	4,553,780	5,042,580

The fertilizer industry this year will also be close back to normal. There are two complementary fertilizers used in Italy—nitrogenous and superphosphate. The latter in peacetime used a million tons of phosphate rock a year; at least 500,000 tons for the rest of 1945 have

Coal will also help the building trade industries—brick and cement—rise to 50 per cent. of production. Sardinian coal production is once more satisfactory, July having seen an output of 50,000 tons, which is 50 per cent. above the average of the 17 months ending last April.

Procurement.

On the general supply question, Brigadier General Edward B. McKinley, head of the Economic Section, is in London also and will now go to Washington to clear up the matter of who will be responsible for procurement of civilian supplies for Italy, now that military responsibility is ending (officially 31 August). The way matters stand at the moment, the supply responsibility would be in somewhat of a snarl by October if the channel is not laid down now. There has been talk of UNRRA assuming this responsibility but that has to be decided at the UNRRA Council now in session and in any event could not occur before the first of the year. On the American side, the FEA will probably do the procurement, with the War Department acting as its agent as long as there are military channels in the Italian theater.

The Italian foreign exchange situation—denoting the wherewithal to buy raw materials and fuel—is also a little clearer, though not rosy by any means. From the U.S., Italy now has \$150,000,000 in credits for the Category B part of the joint program against which purchases are currently being applied. There is also another \$100,000,000 of U.S. Lend Lease aid, under different arrangements. The British Government has another earmarked \$12,000,000 for the B program and also has other plans of assistance in the hopper.

In brief, Italy, can at least see the future. Italy will have to produce enough goods to obtain foreign exchange credits to buy coal and raw materials to produce goods to get credits to buy coal and raw materials, etc. This means one thing: Not as many commodities will be available for the civilian population as they require or want. To pay her way, Italy will have to sustain herself on a lower standard of living than before the war and trust to hard work, industry and luck to bring her economy gradually and slowly to a higher level.

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MORE MEDALS

In a ceremony at A. C. Headquarters attended by Regional Commissioners and all top executives of the Commission, Rear Admiral Ellery W. Stone, USNR, the Chief Commissioner, pre-

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Area	Pre-War Capacity (Kilowatts)	Capacity Available Under Allied Entrance	Present Installed Capacity
North Italy	4,645,000	4,200,000	4,200,000
Central Italy	1,297,500	15,000	151,000
Southern Italy	361,900	156,000	280,000
Sicily	91,673	45,800	64,000
Sardinia	96,080	90,000	96,000
	6,476,223	4,543,780	5,947,000

The fertilizer industry this year will also be close back to normal. There are two complementary fertilizers used in Italy—nitrogenous and superphosphate. The latter in peacetime used a million tons of phosphate rock a year, at least 500,000 tons for the rest of 1945 have now been obtained in contracts from the French. Nitrogen production depends on power. One third of the plants are in the North and so adequately supplied with power; one-third are small, scattered ones using coal, which is now arriving, but the remaining third of production is at Crotona, which has had to shut down because of the deficiency of power in the South.

sented decorations to six officers and three enlisted men 14 August. Given the Legion of Merit were Colonel Leonard D. Densmore and Nelson W. Monfort; Lieutenant Colonel James H. Pe-nick, Joseph D. Scholz and Rowland W. Rushmore, and Major Joel Rosenbaum. Given the Bronze Stars were First Sgt. Robert A. Reid, Staff Sgt. Nicholas D. Angolini and T-4 Lawrence W. Shenfield.

Further awards were announced in MTOUSA General Orders, as follows.

Legion of Merit - Major Henry E. Hudson, Major Edmund L. Palmieri, First Lieut. Louis Mehr, Lieut. Col. Ernest T. DeWald, Lieut. Col. Harry G. Hershenson, Major Harry R. Bradbury, Col. John K. Weber, and Lieut. Col. Guy L. Warren.

Bronze Star - Lieut. Col. William A. Hartman, Lieut. Col. Wilson C. Williams, T-4 Donato A. Pascale, Sgt. Henry C. S. Piper, Staff Sgt. Louis J. Padula, T-3 Vincent Gambardella, Staff Sgt. Eugene J. Journalist, Staff Sgt. Eric Stein, First Lieut. Frederick Hart, First Lieut. Edward E. Nevans, Jr., First Lieut. Edmund W. Nash, Capt. Milton T. Hill, Pfc. Gaetano F. Avveduto, Pfc. Anzo A. Grassi, Pfc. Bernard Herheimer, T-5 John V. Apicella, T-5 Emanuele Di Matteo, T-5 Augustus J. Pusateri, Cpl. Albert L. Laverato, T-4 Adolph S. Grossi, T-4 Joseph Luizza, T-4 Anthony E. Visco, Sgt. Guy Ferri, Technical Sgt. Maurice G. Picciotti, T-4 Marshall Ruscelli and Major William H. Savin.

TURNOVER HUDDLE

Regional Commissioners of the North were called in to Rome 3 and 14 August to give last-minute reports on conditions preparatory to hand-over of the territory to Italian Government jurisdiction next month. The RC's were in general agreement that the sooner the turnover took place the better, with the only alternative being to remain until after the elections (probably in April) a contingency dependent strictly upon the retention of Allied troops in the country. It was thought probable that the return of territory would include Liguria, Piemonte, Lombardy and Venezia, with the

enough to put into effect all the necessary legal machinery of the operation.

From an administrative and economic standpoint, the turnover, it was pointed out, was feasible any day, but from a public safety standpoint, there were a lot of reservations, the Executive Commissioner said in summary. Col. Norman E. Fiske, the Deputy Executive Commissioner, remarked that AMG without Allied troops was futile and that a position of AMG being supported by the Italian Army not satisfactory. The Italian Army, incidentally, is to be returned to the operational control of the Italian Government by September 30. It was proposed that, after the turnover, a group of liaison officers, probably 150, be kept in the North to help in residual problems in industry and public safety as well as displaced persons until CNRRA takes over from the latter.

Col. W. J. Legg, director of the Food Sub-Commission, in his last appearance before the top field officers, since he is being invalided home, was paid tribute by Brigadier Lush for his energy and devotion to duty in feeding Italy up to the Alps. The Colonel explained his proposal for instituting a uniform food scale throughout Italy, making the 300-gram ration universal and equalizing present discrepancies between the North and the rest of the nation.

The plan, which is now going through the final coordinating clearances, would go into effect just before the AMG withdrawal. It is a return to the Italian system of rationing, contrasted with that imposed by the Allies, and is expected materially to simplify the present complicated rationing system. The equalization will give increases and decreases to both the South and the North. The proposed ration scale for all Italy would then be 200 grams of bread a day for the normal consumer and 66 grams of pasta. Normal consumers in the 9 to 18 age group would get 225 grams a day. Heavy workers would get a supplement of 100 grams of bread and 20 of pasta, the same amount of pasta going to very heavy workers plus 200 grams of bread. The nation-wide supplement to heavy workers would substantially assist in the cause of general reconstruction, Col. Legg said.

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The North, whose special ration setup was not disturbed upon Allied entry at request of the civilian leaders, would be affected as follows: Normal consumers' ration would gain 50 grams, rising from 150 grams a day to 200. Workers who have been getting 325 grams would drop 125 grams as normal consumers but be eligible for the workers' supplements. In the South,

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heavy workers who have not been getting supplementary rations except in isolated cases would get the new supplement while the normal rationeers would have their pasta ration dropped by 14 grams from 80 to 66.

FOR THE RECORD

The photograph accompanying this item tells the story of Allied Commission archives problems better than most words. In a phrase, there are a hell of a lot of documents floating around and we had better tidy them, for history's sake, or we depart this scene. As for Capt. A. J. Collins (R), A. C. Archives Officer (in the center in the picture), he conservatively expects to remain on the job until at least 1964. Sgt. L. V. J. Atterby (R), his assistant, is not quite certain whether to engage for so long a term, feeling he has his nose full enough of dusty records already. The American soldier in the picture is strictly a ringier to round out the esthetic requirements of photographic art. The papers strewn around the important part of the picture—are the records from one region alone, Marche-Umbria.

With AFHQ itself showing a keen interest in

archives these days, requiring that all units appoint records officers, the Allied Commission itself, with records that will undoubtedly be gold mines for the historians of the future, will now have regional archives officers to organize the documentary residue of the regions, work on which will be given high priority on request of Brigadier Maurice S. Lush, Executive Committee member.

Material received at headquarters to date, from regions and sub-commissions, amounts to approximately 1,500 cubic feet or nearly 15 tons. No accurate estimate of the eventual volume of records that will be accumulated can be ventured, though Capt. Collins makes a guess of 6,000 cubic feet. From past experience, a region will have about 200 cubic feet. It goes without saying that the dump from headquarters will outweigh the field. (It always has, say the regions.) In any event, if the regional archives officers follow the administrative instructions and take to heart the pointers to be given by Capt. Collins in a tour of the North, the time necessary to prepare a region's records for proper interment should take only about one month.

At any rate, this is one nuisance that should come up to expectations.



Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785021

FOR THE RECORD

The photograph accompanying this item tells the story of Allied Commission archives problem better than most words. In a phrase, there are a hell of a lot of documents floating around and we had better tidy them, for history's sake, or we depart this scene. As for Capt. A. J. Collins (R), A. C. Archives Officer in the center in the picture, he conservatively expects to remain on the job until at least First Sgt. L. V. J. Atterby (L), his assistant, is not quite certain whether to engage (or so long a term, feeding he has his nose full enough of dusty records already. The American soldier in the picture is strictly a ranger to round out the esthetic requirements of photographic art. The papers shown around the important part of the picture are the records from one region alone, Marche-Emilia.

With AFHQ itself showing a keen interest in

secondary copies of the records, work on which will be given high priority on request of Brigadier Maurice S. Loebe, Executive Committee member.

Material received at headquarters in dates from regions and subregions, amounts to approximately 1,500 cubic feet or nearly 15,000 records that will be accumulated but be contained, though Capt. Collins makes a guess of 1,000 cubic feet. From past experience, a region will have about 200 cubic feet. It goes without saying that the humped men headquarters will surpass the field. (It always has, say the regions.) In any event, the regional archives officers follow the administrative method and take to heart the pointers to be given by Capt. Collins in a tour of the North, the time necessary to prepare a region's records for proper alignment should take only about one month.

At present, this is one mission that should come up to expectations.



ODDS AND ENDS

While there's life, there's hope, say the rest of us, as we learn that, promoted to First Lieutenant have been Peter F. Natale of Venezia-Giulia AMG, Joseph W. Darber, Jr. and James M. Arensberg, both of the Economic Section... Col. Floyd E. Thomas (A), former law professor at the University of Arizona, gave a lecture the other day before the faculty of the University of Bologna on "Aspects of the American Legal System"... As a result of recent transfers of prisoners from Regina Coeli Prison in Rome, only about 1,000 inmates now inhabit the famous gaol... The

Records Bureau of the Displaced Persons and Repatriation Sub-Commission is approaching 100,000 names, 95,439 of 72 nationalities being on the rolls 31 July... During the past week, 37,688 Italians were received into Italy and 8,958 were moved from Rome to the South for dispersal... Major Harold Bentley, A. C. Liaison Officer at Catania in Sicily, reports that the current grain amassing there amounts to one fifteenth of that collected for the same period in 1944, which was bad enough... Brigadier Lush is making a week's tour of the North...

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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