

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

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ARCHIVES HISTORY
MAR. - JUNE 1946

June 2nd

History File

European History. Charles last war & specialises in military record - Allied method of Admin in Italy - makes arrangement to supply microfilm or Hoover Library on the mailing list - original copies will remain in Rome. Arrange to make copies. Preliminary view of the set up. Review what to ask for when the work systematic plan.

June 2nd 9.30 am

At a visit by Dr. DELZELL of HOOVER WAR ^{LIBRARY} MEMORIAL to AC the following were noted: —

Present

Dr. Delzell stated that the Hoover War Library was started under auspices of President Hoover after the 1st World War I. ~~that it~~ It specialises in military records altho aspects of historical, geographical & economic were ^{also included.} Since the Allied method of Administration in Italy was formed a vital link in those ~~aspects~~ ^{World} aspects during the ~~1st World War~~ War II it ~~was~~ ^{was} the wish of the H.W.L. to have access to ~~the~~ ^{relevant} ~~document~~ the AC Files.

If however this could not be released, it was requested that a microfilm copy of the Archives could be sent in due course.

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May 18, 1946

Vol. III, No. 7

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 794

POLITICAL

Furious activity on both foreign and domestic scenes characterized the political picture of the week. The revision of the Italian Armistice, practically sole fruit of the Paris conference of the Big Four Foreign Ministers (who, on Italian matters, had reached tentative and informal agreements, press reports said, on the payment of \$100,000,000 reparations to Russia, division of the Italian fleet, retention of the Alto Adige by Italy, administration of Tripolitania by Italy under the U.N., but that deadlock on Trieste and indecision on French border claims), was greeted by the Rome press as at least better than nothing and as "the first act of justice" of the Conference.

The actual signing of the revised Armistice is some time off, of course, only the preliminary documents for study having been delivered to Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi from Paris, according to *Il Messaggero*, which sums up the points of the proposed revision as follows: abolition of the Allied Commission; establishment of a military committee under AFHQ; discussions between Italy, the United States and Great Britain as to payment of occupation costs; non-prejudice of Italy's territorial position pending a final peace treaty; Italy to hand over all war criminals requested; an Italian pledge to hold free, democratic elections; immediate repatriation of all Italian POWs; recognition of Italian co-belligerency; and some further economic measures.

De Gasperi, in a statement to *Orbis* agency, stressed that Italy's contributions to the war against Germany were thus officially recognized for the first time and that the chance to discuss occupation costs would be open. He added

a subject for discussion and that it would stubbornly insist that no Italian millions of population in Istria be abandoned to Yugoslavia.

Domestically, the past days have witnessed a campaign of high-pressure lobbying whose object was to postpone the referendum and which in great measure was directed at the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, Rear Admiral Fellers W. Stone, USNR. The Admiral finally issued a statement on May 16th completely disassociating himself and the Allied Commission from the question of postponement on the grounds that the matter had not been raised with him by either the King or the Italian Government and that, further, any move by the Allied Commission in the matter would be an "unwarranted intervention in Italian internal affairs". The Leftist press naturally seized upon the statement with whoops of glee while the conservative organs printed it, for the most part, with no comment, although on the 18th (today), however, *Giornale* asserted that Allied non-interference in the present political scene was a mistake, adding that the Allies should be concerned with whatever may occur in Europe, and that "untracted by experience, they have not done the same in Japan, where they have left the old regime," allegedly profiting by "the tragic Italian example".

The campaign of republic versus monarchy burned brighter than ever, not only as a result of the postponement pressure, but as a result of the amnesty proposal which King Umberto II sent the Government on the 11th. The Council of Ministers, after two sessions on the 16th, finally accepted the suggestion but enacted revisions that would make the amnesty effective immediately, but to be published only after the King

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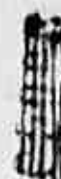
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De Gasperi, in a statement to *Ora* agency, stressed that Italy's contributions to the war against Germany were thus officially recognized for the first time and that the chance to discuss occupation costs would be a boon. He added that the revision would probably be discussed and authorized by the Council of Ministers. On the Trieste question, De Gasperi reiterated, on the occasion of a visit by Venetian Giulia representatives, that the Italian Government could not consider the French line of demarcation in Venezia Giulia (giving four fifths to the Yugoslavs) as

a subject for discussion and that it would stubbornly insist that no Italian millions of population in Istria be abandoned to Yugoslavia.

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also resulted in a major fracas at Naples where a monarchist demonstration and Communist speculators clashed to the tune of exploding bombs.

De Gasperi himself came under heavy personal attack for the first time from the Left. *Arenetti's* leader this morning calling him "two-faced" as the consequence of recent speeches by the Prime Minister (in Rome, Trento and Verona) in which De Gasperi had warned republicans not to vote for those parties, who, as in France, want a republic dominated by a single assembly that might lead to the a "Committee of Public Safety" and the dictatorship of a single party or individual. "We respect," he said, "the freedom of conscience of the elector concerning the referendum, even if he does not vote at all." *Arenetti* called the speeches among the "most alarming symptoms in the present political tension" and wondered if the reason for De Gasperi's alleged reversal of his party's position (in favor of a republic) lay in his knowledge of some plan of the monarchy which he presumably thought hopeful of success.

While parties met and speakers sounded off all through Italy, the Council of Ministers, besides taking full part in the major political decisions of the day, also disposed of other business in their two meetings of the 15th and 16th. The Council resolved to forbid open-air electoral meetings on May 31 and June 1 but left unchanged other discretionary powers of Minister of Interior *Romita*. It approved a non-political demonstration on May 24 by veterans and POWs to the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and also passed decrees reforming the Courts of Assizes, allotting 1,300 million lire for a railway line between Naples and Canosa and two billion for land reclamation, protecting the job tenure of veterans and authorizing publication of the OVRA lists, names of dead persons and public safety officials being excluded; studied the coal and food situations, on the latter approving a communique which stated that the Government hoped again to win over the new grain crisis by speeding up amassing.

NEW NAPLES SHORELINE

Col. J. A. C. Pennycook, C.I.O., Naples, reports

Most of the damage was done to the port and industrial area, east of the main railway station. Also deliberately destroyed were the large ILVA steel works at Portofino and other factories, and some historic buildings and churches.

The first step in reconstruction was to get damaged areas and roads cleared and this has been going on steadily. The clearing was at first somewhat haphazard, but a year ago AMG took a firm hand and got the Municipality to organize clearing on a proper basis. Aid was also given in getting transport, the Ministry of Public Works also helping in this matter. By this means employment has been given to a steadily increasing number of men who now number over 3,000, and a huge dump has been formed in the sea near Santa Lucia for the purpose of forming a new esplanade.

At the same time the Sindaco of Naples—Avv. *Fornariello*—appointed one of his engineers, Ing. *Isabella*, to plan a new and dignified waterfront, to replace the destroyed docks area. Naples has one of the most beautiful bays in the world, so the point was made that the destruction of war provided an opportunity for really great planning and architecture. Neapolitans remembered that past Italian architects had been world famous, design of the celebrated Taj Mahal at Agra in India being attributed to the Italian architect *Gerolamo Veronesi*.

Engineer *Isabella's* planning team of architects and artists includes over 30 persons. They have produced plans for a new circular road round the docks area, with alternative proposals for blocks of office buildings, new apartments, hotels, etc. which look good on paper. They have also produced plans for moving the freight railway station further east and lowering the level of the railway so that the passenger station could be elevated and a large and valuable area now occupied by unsightly buildings thus freed for new developments. Plans have also been prepared for improving the water supply and drainage systems, road circuits and so forth. A big plastic model of the plans has been put on view for the public. The financing of the project is expected to come from Government and Municipal loans which eventually will bring a good return from rents. Most of the materials

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Engineer Isabella's planning team of architects and artists includes over 50 persons. They have produced plans for a new circular road round the docks area, with alternative proposals for blocks of office buildings, new apartments, hotels, etc. which look good on paper. They have also produced plans for moving the freight railway station further east and lowering the level of the railway so that the passenger station could be cleared and a large and valuable area now occupied by unsightly buildings thus freed for new developments. Plans have also been prepared for improving the water supply and drainage systems, road circuits and so forth. A big plastic model of the plans has been put on view for the public. The financing of the project is expected to come from Government and Municipal loans which eventually will bring a good return from rents. Most of the materials needed are available in Italy, besides providing many jobs.

There are the inevitable pros and cons of the planning enthusiasts. The clergy noticed that no new churches had been provided for. This, of course, will be rectified though there are already a large number of churches in Naples. The

by the Prime Minister in Rome, Fronte and Verona) in which De Gasperi had warned republicans not to vote for those parties, who, as in France, want a republic dominated by a single assembly that might lead to the a "Committee of Public Safety" and the dictatorship of a single party or individual. "We respect" he said, "the freedom of conscience of the elector concerning the referendum, even if he does not vote at all." Arcadio called the speeches among the "most alarming symptoms in the present political tension" and wondered if the reason for De Gasperi's alleged reversal of his party's position in favor of a republic lay in his knowledge of some plan of the monarchy which he presumably thought hopeful of success.

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NEW NAPLES SHORELINE

Col. J. A. C. Penney, CIO, Naples, reports that the proposed town plan and reconstruction of the Naples waterfront is almost rivaling politics in interest in that always lively town. The colonel is giving the project his full support. As everyone knows, by both Allied and German bombardments and by German demolitions, Naples was severely damaged during the war.

circular road also passes through the site of the Casertina Bianchi opposite the fish market. This edifice was built by the architect Vanvitelli (who also built the Royal Palace at Caserta) and is a national monument. It was, however, hit by bombs and completely gutted so there seems to be no point in rebuilding it, though there are some anguished pleas to do so. Finally, as a long term project, the rebuilding of Naples should help bring trade and cash, not only to Naples itself, but also to Southern Italy of which Naples is the capital.

ODDS AND ENDS

Ten U. S. officers of A. C. are being redeployed on the ship that leaves Livorno this coming week... Each Section and independent sub-commission of the A. C. must appoint a Records Officer to work with the Archives Branch on preparing the old files, and now that the show is about to fold up some day soon, this becomes an operational matter... About 600 civilian internees were released from Allied (AFHQ) internment camps during April, of whom about 10 per cent were re-arrested by Italian authorities on collaboration charges, the Public Safety Sub-Commission reports... Superior Court cases in Venezia Giulia jumped from 35 in March to 135 in April while Summary Court cases went from 518 in March to 82 in April, the Legal Sub-Commission reveals...

Civilian telephone lines were opened in April between Milan, Bologna, Trieste and Vienna while new telegraph circuits were put into operation between Milan and London and Milan, Turin, Genoa, Rome and Paris... Lieut. Col. R. T. Millhouse, CIO, Rome area, reports a measles epidemic in Terni Province—511 cases, of which 423 are in the city of Terni... The Public Health Sub-Commission states that the infant mortality rate for Rome for March was 66.9, a decrease from 84.8 in February while tuberculosis in the latter month resulted in 312 deaths compared to 188 in March... ADD to romance in the Chief Commissioner's household: the butler, Piero Villani, and CC. RR. guard, Giuseppe Jacono, got married, respectively, to Miss Lilia Zini and Miss Annunziata Boccavera, the dog had four pups and the cat three kittens; what next!... The following U. S. awards have been made: *Legion of Merit*—Colonels A. N. Hancock and Harry M. Walker; *Bronze Star*—Lieut. Col. Walter P. Snodgrass, Major Daniel J. Mahoney, Captains Rosario A. Gaziano and Charles E. Perry, CWO Seaton E. Humphreys and Pfc. Albert V. Di Martino; *Soldier's Medal*—Lieut. Col. Robert A. Martino; *Army Commendation Ribbon*—Lieut. Colonel Paul S. Andrews and Howard K. Seith, Majors Richard B. Bullock, Simon R. Holmes, Norman I. Shapiro and Arthur M. McPhail, Captains Lester Bern and Ward D. Carpenter, Jr., and CWOs Humphreys and Henry Ellenbost...

March 9, 1946

RESTRICTED

ALLIED COMMISSION

WEEKLY BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH, HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION, APO 394 - VOL. II, No. 49

POLITICAL

Italian political lines in the past week began openly to melt, shift and newly coalesce as party leaders experimented with tentative battle formations for the coming elections. With the gist of the decisions on the bills on the electoral code and powers of the *Costituente* virtually decided, the hearings in the *Consulta* on the latter (which started 7 March) were a soulful board, as it were, where the various leaders reiterated their beliefs to the nation at large. In the intervals of political argument popped up again more news of the other major question facing Italy: that of her international status, which was heightened by the arrival, at long last, of the Allied Investigating Commission at Trieste and by reports from London that Prime Minister Alcide De Gasperi might soon be invited to present Italy's case in person before the Deputies of the Big Four's Foreign Ministers drafting the Italian peace treaty or an interim *modus vivendi*.

The *Consulta* sessions on the *Costituente* law were opened by Nenni, as Minister for the *Costituente*, who pointed out the historic character of the imminent national assembly, the first truly such in Italian history. Nitti followed Nenni, taking occasion to get a comprehensive list of complaints off his chest, including apprehension about public order at the elections, Italy's foreign status, the sweep of emigration. He predicted that the *Costituente* would "inevitably" consist of only three major parties—the Christian Democrats, the Communists and the *Comitato Qualunque*, which latter, he said, united all the malcontents. He proposed setting up a panel of high-ranking magistrates to control the results of the referendum. La Malfa, one of the dissenting Action

speeches. Hearings continued through the 8th and 9th, with the draft bill to be returned to the Council of Ministers on Monday, the 11th.

Line-ups.

De Gasperi himself during the week had addressed the *Consulta* sub-commission which first went over the draft. At that time he called for a declaration by all parties on the institutional question. The Rome press speculated freely on possible attitudes, *Giornale del Mattino* summing up the status quo of the moment as follows: Socialists, Communists and Action Party for the republic; Liberals, Labour Democrats and Christian Democrats not yet on record, though the first two were believed to be leaning toward monarchy while the latter seemed more republican. Indeed, reports in *Italia Nuova* of a Christian Democrat meeting in Milan had the party there in a peculiar situation, perhaps typical of its party-wide dilemma. The newspaper said that of 10,000 Christian Democrats at the meeting, 7,000 abstained from voting and that of the 3,000 who voted, 79 per cent. were for a republic; *Unità* similarly analyzed a Genoa provincial congress of the De Gasperi party and asserted 91 per cent. were for a republic.

The general political reshuffling occasioned a comprehensive review of the party line-ups also in *Monente* which stated that the Christian Democrats would enter the elections without allies. The Communists, it went on, would do so also if their proposed merger with the Socialists—for a union of the two parties in the elections, with an equal number of seats—fell through. The Monarchist forces, it was said, were grouping around the *Comitato Qualunque* Front, with prospect of another adhesion, that of the Demo-Liberal

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March 9, 1946

quadrangulo-monetarist: on the extreme right, Christian Democrats, the Liberal aggregation, the Republican Alliance of Pacciardi, Lason and Parri and the Socialist-Communist group.

Ferment.

Local political unions made news through the week as the big guns of the parties planned trips to the sticks to speak up for their adherents. (For example, Nenni spoke at Rieti and Pescara last week.) The U. Q. Front began an apparent campaign to woo all dissidents into its ranks, publishing an appeal to members of other parties to join their ranks. At Syracuse in Sicily, the *quadrangulo* and Liberals decided on a common list for the administrative elections while at Cerygnola, a bloc of Christian Democrats, Liberals, Labour-Democrats and *quadrangulo* withdrew its common list because of alleged acts of violence laid to Communists. Rumors and alarms of disorder, present and anticipated, filled the party papers of the right, an incident at Badolato, where hand grenades were supposedly used, causing editorial unease. National convocations of the political organizations were scheduled: Liberals on 1 April, Christian Democrats on 12 April, Action Party later yet in April.

De Gasperi held one of his few press conferences with foreign journalists in recent weeks and told them, notably, that he would not sign a peace treaty which ceded Trieste to Yugoslavia. He said he hoped the Allied Investigating Commission would range over the entire disputed territory and also investigate the deportations of Italians to Yugoslavia. On the Alto Adige, he said Italian policy was based on defense of the Brenner frontier and cession of the widest autonomy to the German-speaking population.

In other governmental business of the week, the *Consiglio* heard several ministers report on technical matters—industry, shipping, insurance and repatriation of prisoners (in which keen interest has been re-awakened in regard to having them vote in the elections). The Government has again asked the Allies to repatriate the POWs as soon as possible. The Council of Ministers also approved a law on the compulsory employment of an increased number of veterans in public administration.

Allied civilian personnel going to UNERA will have physically moved into their new offices, changing billets and messes at the same time. The new line-up then is as follows:

Acting Vice President—Col. Charles W. Walton (A); Deputy Vice President—Lieut. Col. R. E. L. Timmons (A); Chief Staff Officer—Major Norman R. Smith (A); and the following branches and directors (all other units having been abolished, including the Labor Staff Commission)—Industry and Utilities Branch, Col. H. M. Walker (A); Transportation and Shipping Branch, Lieut. Col. W. P. Suggins (A); Food and Agriculture Branch, Lieut. Col. V. R. A. Cowper (B); Canned Enemy Materials Branch, Lieut. Col. J. A. Campbell (B); Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, Capt. A. G. Lathorne (B); Veterans Guild and Feline Supply Operations Branch, Lieut. J. M. Aronberg (A); and Finance Branch, Col. Timmons, who is also Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner.

Thus, the two-hat period of integrated A. C. UNERA supply operations which began some two months ago comes to an end. The reorganized Section will observe economic conditions in Italy, maintain economic liaison with the Italian Government and UNERA, handle AMG supply matters, clean up miscellaneous correspondence, particularly that dealing with derequisitioning, clear trade items on the reserved commodity list, continue cooperation on power rehabilitation and distribution, rearrange the Section's voluminous files for most efficient use by the successor supply agencies and A. C. until they are turned over to archives, and discharge supply financial functions. One aim also will be to turn over as much business as possible to suitable successor agencies.

Dribbles of economic news also have come in from various sources. At Merano in Bolzano 175 tons of sugar were found in jam factories. The business is being looked into. Italian charges that lumber in large quantities was being exported abroad turned out, as usual, baseless. The facts are that 2,000 tons a month have been sent to Greece purely for British military use, a program which ends this month. The rest of the cuttings were shipped regularly to other parts of Italy.

The Air Forces Sub-

Norman R. Smith (A), and the following chiefs and directors (all other units have been abolished, including the Labor Sub-Committee—Industry and Utilities Branch, Col. H. H. Walker (A), Transportation and Shipping Branch, Lt. Col. W. E. Seeger (A), Food and Agriculture Branch, Lt. Col. A. R. A. Cooper (B), Capt. Campbell (B), Commerce (Foreign Trade) Branch, Capt. A. G. Laphorte (B), Venetian Giulia and Alpine Supply Operations Branch, Lt. Col. J. M. Arensburg (A), and Finance Branch, Col. Timmons, who is also Chief Financial Advisor to the Chief Commissioner.

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work as the big guns of the parties planned trips to the sticks to speak up for their adherents. (For example, Nenni spoke at Rieti and Pescara last week.) The U. Q. Front began an appeal campaign to woo all dissidents into its ranks, publishing an appeal to members of other parties to join their ranks. At Syracuse in Sicily, the *quadunquisti* and Liberals decided on a common list for the administrative elections while at Catanzaro, a bloc of Christian Democrats, Liberals, Labour-Democrats and *quadunquisti* withdrew its common list because of alleged acts of violence laid to Communists. Rumors and alarms of disorder, present and anticipated, filled the party papers of the right, an incident at Badolzio, where hand grenades were supposedly used, causing editorial unease. National convocations of the political organizations were scheduled: Liberals on 1 April, Christian Democrats on 12 April, Action Party later yet in April.

De Gasperi held one of his few press conferences with foreign journalists in recent weeks and told them, notably, that he would not sign a peace treaty which ceded Trieste to Yugoslavia. He said he hoped the Allied Investigating Commission would range over the entire disputed territory and also investigate the deportations of Italians to Yugoslavia. On the Alto Adige, he said Italian policy was based on defense of the Brenner frontier and cession of the widest autonomy to the German-speaking population.

In other governmental business of the week, the *Consulta* heard several ministers report on technical matters—industry, shipping, insurance and repatriation of prisoners in which keen interest has been re-awakened in regard to having them vote in the elections. The Government has again asked the Allies to repatriate the POWs as soon as possible. The Council of Ministers also approved a law on the compulsory employment of an increased number of veterans in public administration.

ECONOMIC FRONT

The Economic Section, in whose once capacious folds more than 300 officers once worked, has been reorganized completely with 50 British and American officers, 24 E.M.O.R. and 12 officers in the field. By this week-end, most of the

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and soup kitchens about 20,000 kilos of food a week. A similar run to fly fish is planned from Treviso to Milan.

VENEZIA GIULIA

Now that international interest, with the arrival of the Allied Investigating Commission, has again swung towards the problems of Venezia Giulia, or as the Yugoslavs prefer to call it, the Julian March, it will be of interest to look over some of the accomplishments of AMG in that hot spot. We will skip over the tangled diplomatic history of the days before AMG took over, on the 12-13 June 1945, the civil administration of Venezia Giulia. On 9 June agreement had been reached between the Allied and Yugoslav authorities and as a result Venezia Giulia was divided into two zones, one to be occupied by British and American forces and the other by Yugoslav troops. The Allied Military Government in the zone occupied by the Anglo-Americans was to consist of only Anglo-American personnel but 2,000 Yugoslav troops were to remain in this area under command of the Supreme Allied Commander.

As AMG took over, series of proclamations and orders were immediately issued, dealing with property control, establishment of courts, dissolution of Fascist organizations and the repeal of Fascist laws, taxes and anti-Jewish legislation. Ordinances on labor, food distribution, espionage, booting, curfew and so on were also promulgated.

In early August difficulties made themselves felt. It was decided by AMG that the administrative bodies left behind by the Yugoslavs were not representative or satisfactory. Under General Order 11, local government was established under the control of AMG. The order provided for the division of the Anglo-American zone into Areas and each Area was asked to nominate an Area President who would be responsible to AMG. The Slovenes reacted immediately and would not play. A long and intensive game of political tennis ensued during which the Slovenes used their press, strikes, meetings and demonstrations to gain their points over AMG.

own demonstration, which was also of considerable size, but lacking in the qualities of gaiety which the Italians displayed. It is of note that these demonstrations saw the first real public appearance of the Venezia Giulia Police Force and the success with which they handled numerous difficult situations gained them much prestige in the city.

Amidst alternating brickbats and bouquets, AMG setled down to its difficult task of ruling the zone and carrying out its functions as a caretaker government. That it has not been without success is adequately demonstrated by the facts and the present conditions. Although there is tension in the zone, there has been little trouble and practically no violence. Both sides have settled in and today the main political forces in the zone are represented, on the one side by the Slovene dominated *Unione Antifascista Italiano-Sloveno*, and the *Sindacati Uniti*, which is the Communist pro-Slovene trades union organization, and on the other side by the Italian *CLN* and the *Sindacati Italiani*, the Italian trades union organization. In other words, politically the situation, although not happy, is fairly healthy with both sides in the open and reasonably vital.

Now the record, which has been made under direction for the most part of Col. Alfred C. Bowman, A1, SCAG to the CG, 13 Corps, Lieut. General Sir John Harding.

Legal.

The Legal Division has had almost overwhelming difficulties. The first problem that faced it was that caused by the fact that all legislation enacted after September 3, 1943 was invalid. Further, proclamations, general orders, or orders of any kind which had been used in Italy, could not be used in Venezia Giulia without radical alteration. The Legal Division, therefore, had to set itself the task of providing new legislation for the territory, practically from scratch, and of creating the legal basis of a new military government.

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Up to date approximately 100 important documents

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By January 1946 seven proclamations had been drawn up, 41 general orders, 63 orders, 23 administrative orders, and many minor notices and appointments of officials had been published. Up to date, approximately 60 important financial economic regulations have been asked for by the Finance Division alone. The Legal Division also advises the Post Control Committee and all Divisions of Allied Military Government on legal matters.

Military and civil courts and tribunals were set up in Trieste, Gorizia and Pola under the di-

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Italians.

In any event, during this period the Italian movement began to recover courage and even strength, as the AMG administration demonstrated its impartiality. The Italians held their first large demonstration on November 3rd, the holiday of San Giusto, which was very successful. On the following day the Yugoslavs held their

vision's supervision. During the months of October, November and December last year, 861 cases were dealt with by AMG summary courts, including charges of being in possession of arms (not many) and of offenses against property and persons. Superior and general courts, dealing with more serious offenses, were also established. Expiration Commissions dealing with the suspension of leading Fascists and a Special Court of Assizes trying Fascist criminals were established.

Food.

Since the zone was taken over by AMG, foodstuffs according to the ration scale of the Allied Commission have arrived in the area continuously. Strict rationing and distribution at controlled prices have insured a fair distribution. From June to December 1945, AMG imported from Allied sources approximately 40,000 tons of food. During the same period AMG's Food Division obtained from local sources a further 6,000 tons.

The possibility of increasing the productivity of the area was not examined. One hundred and sixty horses were distributed to farmers in the Trieste area and 154 horses and mules to farmers in the Gorizia area. Another hundred horses will arrive shortly, thus making a total of over 400 working animals supplied.

Land reclamation has been carried out in the Grado-Monfalcone area by the Public Works Division and, as a result, 1,000 hectares of new land will be available for spring planting. Young pedigree bulls from Italy and Austria will be imported and, in order that local milk production should be increased, arrangements have been made to obtain high milk producing cows from Emilia.

Housing.

The question of providing housing and shelter in what is, in many parts, a war devastated area, has been attacked. A survey covering the whole area was made in order to obtain the maximum use of all accommodation available. A scheme was produced to rebuild the "Distressed Villages", many of which had been burned down by Germans as reprisals for partisan activity.

Labor and Industry.

The most important task of AMG was finding employment for the population. To do so meant, first, a close examination of the economic possibilities of the region and, second, an attempt at rehabilitation of entire industries in many cases.

Many industries have now been reactivated, with resultant jobs for many workers. A survey of factories showed that the majority were on the verge of bankruptcy and as a result of war damage, bombardment, the world shortage of raw materials and the necessity for paying unemployed compensation to thousands of unproductive workers, the problems faced were sizeable indeed.

AMG tackled the problem by first removing the drain on industry and permitting the dismissal of non-productive workers. A new unemployment benefit scheme called the *disoccupazione del dopoguerra* was introduced for the period from September to December, 1945, to compensate those dismissed. A large salvage program was instituted and in this way raw materials were obtained and real employment increased.

The next step taken by AMG was to change the type of work done by certain factories and at the same time to change the type of work done by many employees. Many jobs were made as a result of an order making industries employ their labor on public works, such as land reclamation, filling in of tank ditches, stump pulling and the like.

Soon, as coal and raw materials started to arrive and as public confidence increased, shipbuilding recommenced and contracts were placed by Allied and Italian authorities and by private companies. Coke from the gas works enabled the foundries to start work and further factories were able to commence a limited production. For example, as a result of raw cotton being obtained from the States and Sicily, the Gorizia cotton mills during December turned out 330,000 yards of finished cotton, increasing the output in January to 439,377 yards.

The port of Trieste itself was soon working to the maximum outgoing capacity of the railways, unloading military and UNRRA supplies. In fact, the port now handles its pre-war ton-

Food.

Since the zone was taken over by AMG, food-stuffs according to the ration scale of the Allied Commission have arrived in the area continuously. Strict rationing and distribution at controlled prices have insured a fair distribution. From June to December 1945, AMG imported from Allied sources approximately 10,000 tons of food. During the same period AMG's Food Division obtained from local sources a further 6,000 tons.

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The port of Trieste itself was soon working to the maximum outgoing capacity of the railways, unloading military and UNRRA supplies. In fact, the port now handles its pre-war tonnage of 6,000 tons a day and will shortly be able to handle 8,000 tons daily. During this time, the Labor Invision has initiated insurance schemes and played a large part in reconciling workers and employers, while studies of the cost of living and working conditions has assisted the SCAO in keeping a close watch on the problems of labor.

Displaced Persons.

As elsewhere, the same problems, in terms of refugees and displaced persons, were in existence in Venezia Giulia at the end of the war. Prisoners of war, civilian internees and thousands of slave laborers who had been taken to Germany streamed back to their homes. In addition to the Giulians who returned, there were also many thousands of Yugoslavs. Trieste became a clearing house for all these homeless victims of the Germans. Two refugee centers were set up in the city in June and until recently these two places handled all movement to and from the Balkans and Italy. In all, a total of 16,000 civilians and POWs have passed through the centers and have been returned to their homes.

There being no civil postal facilities from this territory to Germany and Austria, a Prisoner of War Message Service has been created and operated from AMG Headquarters. Liaison is also maintained with the various Red Cross Organizations in Europe and also with the Central Tracing Bureau for Germany. This last deals mainly with concentration camp deaths.

Considerable sums of money have been paid out to various Allied Nationals in distress as a result of the war. This is being now done on behalf of UNRRA which does not operate in the territory. Attempts have also been made by the Division to trace the relatives of local Italians deported into Yugoslavia.

Welfare.

The main job of AMG's Welfare Division has been to see that the main State and parastatal social and welfare organizations have sufficient funds to carry out their functions. Many organizations have been reorganized and put on a sound basis, while help and advice is given to private associations engaging in charitable work.

The Public Assistance Department of Trieste Commune, together with various charitable institutions throughout the city, takes care of hundreds of aged and sick persons. War orphans are looked after by the *Opera Orfani di Gorizia* and wounded and crippled war veterans can receive advice and help when they are in need.

The Welfare Division further acts as an agent

fare Division until recently was a team of American Red Cross workers. Their record included the distribution of 100,000 articles of clothing, footwear and medical supplies such as vitamins. The Italian and Slovene Red Cross organizations also work in the territory, each dealing with their own compatriots.

Public Health.

The Public Health Division was likewise faced with a major problem at the start. Orders were given and enforced that no poor person was to be refused admittance into hospitals in Zone "A" and this ruling included those people living in Zone "B" who would normally have received treatment in AMG territory. Financial assistance was given to hospitals and a special board was set up to deal with medical supplies, which were received monthly and distributed to hospitals free. There were happily few problems in terms of infectious disease. The water supply was carefully examined and sewage systems repaired, where necessary, by the military. Post sanitary services were established. Problems dealt with by the Division included the licensing of motor vehicles for medical services and an anti-rat campaign. Medical services for refugees were provided, prison conditions improved and maternity and child welfare services strengthened.

Education.

There was little or no education system in being when AMG took over. The pro-Yugoslav Liberation Councils were attempting to set up schools in the Slovene and Croat languages and were aiming at complete school autonomy. In existence were only Italian schools, although under Austrian rule there had been Slovene elementary schools in many rural districts and one Slovene high school at Gorizia. The Liberation Councils now wanted their schools again and wanted them under their own control.

The Education Division recognized the justice of the demand for Slovene and Croat schools and immediately started to establish them. As many as 105 Slovene elementary schools and eight Croat schools have to date been opened in AMG territory. It was not possible, however, to allow the Liberation Councils to control the curriculum and choice of text books, although their views were

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thousands of Yugoslavs. Trieste became a clearing house for all these homeless victims of the Germans. Two refugee centers were set up in the city in June and until recently these two places handled all movement to and from the Balkans and Italy. In all, a total of 46,000 civilians and POWs have passed through the centers and have been returned to their homes. There being no civil postal facilities from this territory to Germany and Austria, a Prisoner of War Message Service has been created and operated from AMG Headquarters. Liaison is also maintained with the various Red Cross Organizations in Europe and also with the Central Transport Bureau for Germany. This last deals mainly with concentration camp deaths.

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The Welfare Division further acts as an agent of sorts for people who wish to move household goods from Yugoslavia to Italy or vice versa. Old age pensions and similar subsidies have been increased throughout Venezia Giulia. Thousands of free meals are given away every day in the communal soup kitchens. Recently it distributed 20,000 blankets. Attached to the Wel-

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to incite nationalist feeling, Italian or Yugoslav, was withdrawn or eliminated. The appointment of teachers also caused differences of opinion between the Division and the Liberation Councils, AMG, being more concerned with the scholastic qualifications of teacher candidates, found it necessary to reject many of the nominations put forward by the Councils. The Education Division thus came under attack by the pro-Yugoslav press, a storm which AMG, of course, weathered.

Among the other tasks tackled by the Division was the confiscation of Fascist text books in all schools and libraries. Qualified teachers and professors were appointed to special commissions to draw up new educational programs for Italian and Slavic schools and completed in two months, a job which normally would have taken a complete academic year. Competent professors in the area were employed as school superintendents and inspectors and professional assistants were employed in the Education Division to handle all routine administrative work. Three new Slovene secondary schools were established in Trieste and three in Gorizia. Altogether there are now 120 Slovene schools.

School finances had to be reconstituted as well as repair and re-equipping of schools taken in hand. The Division obtained fuel to heat all the schools and a school lunch project received funds to provide lunches for 60,000 children each month. A congress of teachers from the entire region will be held shortly at which all the educational problems of Venezia Giulia will be discussed.

Police.

One of AMG's biggest problems on taking over was the fact that in an area in which it could be expected that anything might happen (although in the main it did not happen) there was no police force that compelled general recognition. The only police organization was the Yugoslav paramilitary force known as the *Jedina Popolara*. It was decided by AMG that a completely new force responsible directly to AMG was necessary, so it was agreed to disband the *Difesa Popolara*. A new police force was recruited and the methods and training were based on the

on Tribunal records to find out if he has a criminal past and finally, if he passes through this screen, he is called before a selection Board composed of Allied officers and Venezia Giulia Police officers. The successful candidate then enters a training school for a two week's course. The subjects studied include police law and procedure, foot drill and physical training.

Having passed the course, he is enrolled in the uniform division as a guard and is sent to one or other of the zones. After a period of practical experience and duty he then returns to the schools for a longer and more intensive course. Specialist courses at the school include criminal investigation and radio operating. The British Police Disciplinary Code, modified in certain cases to meet local conditions, has been adopted. The conduct of the force has been good and there have been very few serious breaches of the Code.

Since the Police Force began functioning there has been a decided lessening of crime and a definite return to law and order. In the early days, the "popular" police patrols were composed of at least six men, all fully armed with Tommy guns and hand grenades. Now the strength of a Venezia Giulia Police patrol never exceeds two men and in certain districts, such as Trieste city, Gorizia and Montebelluna, uniform patrols during daylight hours have been discontinued.

Last Add.

As we go to press, our PRO colleagues at Trieste inform us that the energetic propaganda preparations by both Italians and Slovenes greeted the Allied Investigating Commission on its arrival 7 March, with the efforts of the latter being the more elaborate. Tito supporters have been busy with brush and flags while every village in the predominantly pro-Tito hinterland has its triumphal arch of welcome to the Commission. The arches are adorned with portraits of the Yugoslav Marshal. The AMG policy on arches, posters and wall signs, as announced by Col. H. P. Robertson (R), acting SAC, is that writing on walls is not permitted on public buildings, on premises occupied by Allied troops or on private houses where the permission of the

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Today, the force consists of 2,482 officers and men and has been recruited from local sources and drawn from all sections of the community—Slovene, Croat and Italian. Every candidate is vetted closely in order to determine whether he has a Fascist background. He is then checked

are Jean Philippe Wolfram, French; M. Goria, Serbian; Rossini, C. H. M. Waldoek, British, and Philip Mosely, American.

A TALE OF BOMBE

To most of us who have struggled through the recent years with inexperienced civilian clerks, usually willing and hard working but as usually agile only in their peculiar Italian English, filing and the like have been overwhelming nuisances. But today the nuisances are coming home to roost with a vengeance on the heads of Major N. M. Harrison (B) and his gallant Anglo-American-Italian staff, for the Major is at present involved in the gigantic task of filing (in a very big way) the entire archives and records of the Allied Commission and AMG.

In the bowels of the *Corporazioni* on Via Veneto, surrounded by the symbols of his torturing task, sits Major Harrison, with his staff, Captains Rowlands and Canning, British, and Lieutenanta Taylor and Weedon, American. The main working room itself is frighteningly efficient and walled completely by hundreds of little green steel boxes. In this and two other rooms are files or original papers of the approximately 8,000,000 documents and their approximately 500,000 files, said to be half of all the Allied files in the MTO.

Included in these documents is, for those who will want it, the detailed story of the Allied Commission and AMG in Italy. It is the task of the Archives Branch to arrange these files and documents in such a manner as to ease the work of future historians who will write the story of Military Government in Italy. That the records are of keen interest to professional archivists is attested by the Keeper of the Public Records of England who has visited Italy three times to see about them while a representative of the U. S. Library of Congress also has paid a visit.

The general plan of the scheme is to insure that a complete record, easily handled, of the campaign and work of the Allied Commission is made available. Every one of the 8,000,000 documents is being examined and refiled. Most of the documents will be photo-

After the filming of necessary documents they are replaced in their respective files, card indexed for cross reference and the record arranged by functions. There are over thirty A. C. functions listed. Since half of the records received are from regions which it is not proposed to disturb, the story of any activity in a submission can be found and the relevant files extracted by consulting the card index.

The importance of the work for history is equalled only by its magnitude, and the hive of energy that is the Archives Branch today makes us hang our head in shame as we recall the filing system we ourselves kept in the field—a filing system conditioned by circumstances in which we were our own director, mentor, driver, mechanic, butman and last and worst, in view of the chaos which will undoubtedly result when one certain set of archives are discovered, our own clerk and typist. To Major Harrison and his colleagues, our admiration and deepest apologies.

ODDS AND ENDS

Col. R. C. Ross (A) succeeds Col. W. R. Jordan (redeployed to the States) as CLO in Piemonte... U. S. officers will be redeployed on schedule according to the time limits stated in their Category IV certificates, which may now no longer be extended, except to Categories 1 (indefinite) and II (June, 1947)... A score of EM promotions have been announced plus one of an officer—Harry Galkin to Captain... The T O of 2675 Regiment, which was 500 officers and men, has been cut to 450, as of 1 March, with further cuts of 50 bodies a month every month, until 1 July; the MTOUSA ruling is being protested on the grounds that A. C. functions would have to be dropped in order to comply... Duty officers at A. C. Hq. during off hours will henceforth consist of one each in the offices of the Adjutant, Economic Section and Chief Commissioner... American officers will be happy to know that U. S. Army peace-time rules of property accountability have now come into force... A special Italian military courier plane between Rome and London and Paris for official business has been approved, to be used as needed... At a ceremony in Rome attended by

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clerks, usually willing and hard working but as usually agile only in their peculiar Italian English, filing and the like have been over-present nuisances. But today the nuisances are coming home to roost with a vengeance on the heads of Major S. M. Harrison (B) and his gallant Anglo-American-Italian staff, for the Major is at present involved in the gigantic task of filing (in a very big way) the entire archives and records of the Allied Commission and AMG.

In the bowels of the *Corporation* on Via Veneto, surrounded by the symbols of his terrifying task, sits Major Harrison, with his staff, Captains Rowlands and Cannings, British, and Lieutenants Taylor and Weslen, American. The main working room itself is frighteningly efficient and walled completely by hundreds of little green steel boxes. In this and two other rooms are files or original papers of the approximately 8,000,000 documents and their approximately 200,000 files, said to be half of all the Allied files in the MTO.

Included in these documents is, for those who will want it, the detailed story of the Allied Commission and AMG in Italy. It is the task of the Archives Branch to arrange these files and documents in such a manner as to ease the work of future historians who will write the story of Military Government in Italy. That the records are of keen interest to professional archivists is attested by the Keeper of the Public Records of England who has visited Italy three times to see about them while a representative of the U.S. Library of Congress also has paid a visit.

The general plan of the scheme is to insure that a complete record, easily handled, of the campaign and work of the Allied Commission is made available. Every one of the 8,000,000 documents is being examined and refilled. Most of the relevant documents will be photographed and copies sent to those Governments and organizations directly interested while all documents are being recorded, checked and prepared for storing. This work, it is estimated, should take 30 employees several years to complete. Documents are stored, catalogued and cleared for micro-filming.

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been awarded the latter decoration but is away in Germany; Gen. Lee himself presented the same medal to Brigadier Alban Low of R.A.A.C.... Other awards include: *Order of the Knights of Malta* — Flag Lieut. Edward Behn; *Order of SS. Maurice and Lazarus* — Lieut. Joseph A. Cicala (Knight); *Order of the Crown of Italy* — Col. Hannibal M. Fiore (Grand Officer), Col. J. W. Chapman and Capt. H. St. J. Butler (Commander); Lieut. Col. James R. Regis and Capt. Anthony Gilberti (Knight Officer), and Captains Carl Fanno and L. Ciro (Knight)... With

5,311 Italian communes slated to hold administrative elections, as of the latest reports, beginning 10 March (when 432 communes will vote), the Local Government Sub-Commission is busy preparing to observe the proceedings. Maj. R. R. Temple (A), the director, inspecting the North, while Capt. J. V. Vella (B) is looking at Calabria this week; all A.C. LOs have also received a directive instructing them to keep a discreet eye on what goes...

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