

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

785016

ACC - Italy

10000/105/63

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

785016

10000/105/63 Reports - General
February 1944

14/2

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394
Administrative Section

28/AS.

28 Feb 44

Subject : Supplementary Report, Property Control Subcommittee
To : RC & MG Section, HQ. ACC. APO 394

Herewith please receive 50 copies of a supplementary report by the Director of Property Control Subcommittee. Para. 10 of the Property Control Report for January forwarded under this Office letter ref. 319.1/AS dated 12 Feb 44, refers.

for The Vice President, Administrative Section.
Allied Control Commission.

R.R. CRIPPS, 2589
Lt. Colonel

785016

SECRET

TO :
FROM :
SUBJECT :
REMARKS :
DATE :

Headquarters, A.C.C.
Allied Control Commission, Region 6.
Monthly report.
COMD/1/64/Reg 6.
18 Feb, 44.

1. POLITICAL.

The political situation is satisfactory. The two most important developments of the past month, have been the appointment of a High Commissioner for Sardinia and the holding of a meeting of the Concentrazione Anti-Fascists on 18 February 1944.

Generale Di Squadra Avece, Pietro FIM, himself a member of the Office of Alto Commissario. He has now completed a preliminary tour of the Island, has established his headquarters in Cagliari and is gathering the necessary staff. We are in daily and cordial contact with his office.

The Concentrazione Anti-Fascists of Sardinia met at Oristano on Sunday 13 Feb. The meeting was, in some respects, an aftermath of the Bari conference. After considerable debate, an Order of the Day was adopted (by 11 votes to 0 with one abstention) agreeing to collaboration with the High Commissioner. On the whole the work of the Concentrazione was realistic and the politics of the Island are easier for the two above quoted events.

2. FOOD

The food situation should show marked improvement. Unfortunately, delays in arrival of food supplies cause continuing anxiety. It was hoped that, by this time, the large number of Italian soldiers on the island would be subsisted on the "Chief of Staff's" ration which would be military authorities. The necessary food has not yet arrived and the Italian Army is still being fed on A.C.C. wheat and flour. The position at the time of writing this report is that Sassari and Nuoro provinces have enough flour till the end of the month, and that supplies for Cagliari Province and the Italian Army (150 tons per day) will be exhausted on the 21st. The 3.3. Andrew Moore and the James W. Riley, with adequate supplies for both A.C.C. and W.C. Quartermaster, have arrived at Cagliari today, having been at Bizerta for some days.

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in Cagliari and is gathering the necessary staff. We are in daily and cordial contact with his office.

The Concentration Level-Verdicts of Sardinia met at Oristano on Sunday 13 Feb. The meeting was, in some respects, an afternoon of the day conference. After considerable debate, an order of the day was adopted (by 11 votes to 3 with one abstention) agreeing to collaboration with the Civil Commission. On the whole the tone of the conference was realist and the politics of the island are easier for the two above quoted events.

2. FOOD

The food situation should show marked improvement. Unfortunately, delays in arrival of food ships cause continuing anxiety. It was hoped that, by this time, the large number of Italian soldiers on the island would be subsisted on the "Chief of Staff's" ration through U.S. Military Authorities. The necessary food has not yet arrived and the Italian Army is still being fed on A.C.C. wheat and flour. The position at the time of writing this report is that Sassari and Nuoro provinces have enough flour till the end of the month, and that supplies for Cagliari Province and the Italian Army (150 tons per day) will be exhausted on the 21st. The 3.3. Andrew Moore and the James W. Riley, with adequate supplies for both A.C.C. and U.S. Quartermaster, have arrived at Cagliari today, having been at Bizerte for some days.

It will be realized that such a hard to month existence is not satisfactory. As soon as adequate supplies are in hand and the responsibility for feeding the Italian Army is removed, we hope to raise the basic food ration from 150 to 200 grams.

There is still a serious shortage of olive oil and sugar.

3. INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

As from 14 Feb, the former Civil Supply Division was separated into (1) FOOD (2) INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE. This new Division, concerned with export trade, has been busy and a number of shipments of island produce are now in hand to both the mainland and U.S.

*Distribution
Administration
Economic Section*

/T.S.

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The Mining Division continues to be engaged in the export of coal and has not undertaken the export of pig Lead and Cadmium.

A comprehensive conference of Allied and Italian Authorities concerned was held on 16 Feb under Chairmanship of the Regional Commissioner to decide upon measures to be taken in connection with the re-opening of Commercial Traffic between Sardinia and Sicily and the Mainland.

4. CRIME

The situation is satisfactory. The definite acceleration in the movement of Italian Military Units to Corsica and the Continent, as well as of Soldiers for discharge to Sicily, has had a good effect on local morale.

5. TRADE

The present position is satisfactory. A U.S. Anti-Malarial Unit has arrived in the Island. The Commanding Officer of the Unit is now in Algiers discussing the supplies needed for his unit. It has therefore been considered desirable to postpone till the 29th February the proposed co-ordinating conference on Anti-Malarial Program for the Island.

Lt. Cols. Dobos and Shields from Headquarters A.S.G. have visited the Island.

Medical Supplies have arrived but their type and proportions are not exactly what are needed here. It is hoped that an early visit by Colonel Griffin will clear up certain outstanding points in connection with Medical Supplies.

6. PERSONNEL

Two further British Officers have left for the mainland and three U.S. Officers are standing by to go to TROUS.

A welcome reinforcement of three Jerps, one 15 cwt. Truck and one three ton lorry arrived yesterday.

7. PRISONERS

It is hoped to despatch today, to Naples, 201 war prisoners of war etc. One man has been left behind dangerously ill.

8. PRICE TENDENCIES

Prices for Consumer Goods are rising. Sardinia is, however, predominantly agricultural.

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8. PRICES AND PRINCIPLES

Prices for Consumer Goods are rising. Gardiner is, however, predominantly agricultural and, in the interior of the Island, commodities change hands by a system of barter.

9. GENERAL COMMENTS

(1) Rehabilitation of the City of Cagliari continued to make good progress. One local tramway line has been opened.

(2) Detailed arrangements for the opening of Foreign Postal Services are being up pending the arrival of Lieut Allen, advised in your telegram of 15 Feb.

JED/tbq.

J. E. DUNLOP.
Inspector.
General and Confidential.

HEAD HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Administrative Section

ACM/314.1/AC.

14 Feb 44

SUBJECT : Monthly Report.

TO : HC and HQ Section, HQ. ACC. APO 394

1. Reference para 3 of this office letter of even number dated 12 Feb 44.
2. Please receive herewith the monthly reports for January in triplicate, for the Museum, Signal Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives Sub-Commissions.
3. Delay is regretted.

(Sd) SHW.

R.R. CRIPPS,
Lt. Colonel,
for the Vice President, Administrative Section.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

PKBR/amp

Subcommission for Monuments Fine Arts and Archives

In reply refer to:
20340/MFAA

12 February 1944.

Subject: Submission of Monthly Report for January 1944.

To : Administrative Director.

1. In compliance with para. 3, letter D.C.C.A.O., AMG HQ, subject: Reports, ref. AMG/319.1, dated 4 Jan 44, the report of the activities of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives Subcommission during January is herewith submitted (in quadruplicate).

P.K. Baillie Reynolds

P.K. BAILLIE REYNOLDS
Major, R.A.
Director.

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File 319

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

PKR/imp

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PKR
P.K. BAILLIE REYNOLDS
Major, R.A.
Director.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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3A
NEAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

Administrative Section

ACC/319.1/AS.

12 Feb 44

SUBJECT : Monthly Reports.

TO : PC and MC; HQ. ACC.

Ref. para 2 of this office letter ACC/319.1/AS of 12 Feb.

Herewith 50 copies of the monthly report of the Property Control
Sub-Commission.

(Sgd) SHW.

R.P. CRIPPS,
Lt. Colonel,
for the Vice President, Administrative Section.

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REAR HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION
APO 394

2A

Administrative Section.

ACC/319.1111

12 Feb 44.

SUBJECT: Monthly Reports.

TO: RC and MG Section, HQ. ACC. APO 394.

1. Herewith monthly reports of the undermentioned Sub-Commissions together with two extra copies for transmission to 5th and 8th Armies.

Interior Legal Public Safety Public Health

2. The report of Property Control is held back for the production of the 50 copies requested by you over the phone to-day.

3. It is regretted that the reports of Education and Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives Sub-Commissions have been delayed owing to their change of offices but it is hoped that they will reach you to-morrow.

RRE
R. R. BRIPPS,
Lt. Colonel,
For the Vice President, Administrative Section,
Allied Control Commission.

785016

ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
ACTION SHEET

To Sect
Admin

6 Feb. 44

Date

Suspense

FROM

C.G., A.M.G.

C. of Staff

D.C. of Staff for (O&SI)

D.C. of Staff Admin.

Industrial Plan

Mil. Sec.

Pol. Sec.

Econ. Admin. Sec.

Communications Sec.

Economic Director

Administrative Dir.

Executive Off. Admin.

G-1

G-4

Adjutant General

Personnel

Publications

Miscellaneous

Supply Officer

Billeting Officer

Transportation Off.

Hq. Commandant

Camp Commandant

Message Center

Sub-Commission on:

Interior

Pub. Safety

Pub. Health

Education

For: Signature

Recommendation

Information

Approval or Disapp.

Appropriate Action

Investig. & Report

File

Return to Cont. Files

Transmission

Remarks:

CONFIDENTIAL

Admin Section

File

Attached is a report by an escaped British P/W Officer - concerning the condition of affairs in the Province of Umbria and Marche.

The route taken was from a point just East of Florence down through Gubbio leaving the district between Teramo and Terni. Examination of a map will show that this kept him very largely in mountainous country. He used mule tracks and little traveled roads and avoided large towns as much as possible. Therefore, such information as I obtained regarding conditions in urban areas reflects what he heard from country people and travelers and is not based on his personal observations.

The information is grouped under several headings.

A. Public Safety.

The status of the Carabinieri as of October and November: The informant states the Germans disarmed the Carabinieri in October, but left them at their posts. In November, however, a general round-up began. He estimates that about 60% of men escaped the round-up and still are lurking about their localities in plain clothes. This, he emphasized, is only a rough guess.

The informant was considerably impressed with the Carabinieri. He says they appeared to be conscientious and intelligent. In the country districts, their headquarters usually are in the largest community, from whence they fan out over the area on weekly or semi-weekly tours of duty, generally on horseback.

Nazi action to disorganize the Carabinieri, according to the informant, is not particularly aimed at making the job of A.M.B. more difficult, but rather to keep the populace in a state of confusion, and thus easier to control.

He reports the people orderly in the country districts and neither saw nor heard of any brigandage.

B. Agriculture.

The food situation in Region V was described as good. There were few Germans in the area in November and the seizure of cattle not prevalent. He heard, however, that confiscation of cattle and draft animals was very heavy in sections overrun by the Nazis. Some of these seizures were organized, while others were pilferage. Pilferage was winked at by the German High Command for a long while, but around November 20 a general order was issued prohibiting indiscriminate cattle rustling by German troops. This measure evidently resulted from the High Command's desire to save the seizures officially. In spite of

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The informant expects plantings of agricultural products to fall off ⁴⁵⁸² this season wherever draft animals have been taken away. Since most of the farms are located some distance from the village where the farmer lives, the mules and oxen are needed to haul implements, seed, and the farmer himself to his fields. Then, of course, they are required to till the soil. He asserts there is plenty of labor and plenty of seed and suggests that the situation could be saved through the provision of tractors or possibly jeeps to cultivate the land.

In the cities, conditions are quite different. Prices are highly inflated and black market operations are rife. Logs and cats, where available, are common items of diet in large cities, the informant says. Oil, while rationed, is not obtainable. Cheese factories have been shut down by the Germans and the machinery confiscated.

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 Asked about the prospects of getting food surpluses from country districts into the cities, the informant said it would be a difficult task. While, at the time he passed through the area, the countryside had hardly felt the hand of war at all, the peasants were fully aware of conditions in the cities. Also of the German actions in country areas further to the South. They are out to protect themselves and are hoarding farm products as fast as possible. Money itself has no value to the peasants. The informant told of several instances where he had offered to buy food. The money was refused as being worthless, although the food was freely given. He suggests barter as a solution - manufactured products (which presumably we will have to import at first) in exchange for foodstuffs.

While he did not get near either seacoast, the informant heard that fishing has been stopped completely.

C. Clothing.

"There isn't any" would be one brief way of describing the clothing situation. Rags are honorable garments almost everywhere. Such clothing as is available is of extremely poor quality. The cloth was made according to government specifications and is extremely shoddy. The people derisively call it "Mussolini cloth". The shoe situation is most desperate. Most people, especially in rural areas are wearing home-made foot gear soled with chunks of old rubber tires or wood. From the barter standpoint, the informant is firmly of the opinion that shoes and clothing would bring out concealed food stocks anywhere in the country districts.

D. Education.

Schools were closed for the Summer term in 1943 and did not reopen in the Fall. The teachers are remaining in the vicinity; idle for the most part.

E. Finance.

The Germans are possessed of generous amounts of lire, apparently confiscated. As stated before under "B. Agriculture", money has lost its value in many sections. No one is paying taxes, according to the informant. Neither are the peasants contributing wheat, etc., to the Ammassi.

F. Transportation.

Since the informant kept pretty well away from roads and railroads, he had little information on transportation. However, he did say, that such main roads as he saw were in good shape. He heard then the main railroad lines were being operated by the Germans for strictly military traffic. The Nazis have seized most private motor cars. The majority of the few that are running are powered by charcoal gas. As a sidelight, he interjected that the Germans are taking private property with no pretence of conforming to international law. He told

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G. Information.

In the districts through which the informant traveled, he found a complete apathy as regards newspapers. In addition to the normal amount of illiteracy, he found that the printed word - used as it had been by the Fascists - was in bad disrepute. The people do not believe what they read. "All lies!" sums up their attitude. In contrast, B.B.C. radio broadcasts are held in high regard and are believed implicitly.

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H. Popular Opinion.

The informant developed one interesting point regarding the general attitude of the Italian people in Central Italy. The popularity of the United States has recently declined because of bombing which destroyed non-military objectives and killed many civilians. On the other hand, the R.A.F. is given popular credit for avoiding non-military objectives. The usual psychology is present regarding the coming of the Allies. Nothing less than Utopia is looked for. In the country districts, the peasantry expect us to quickly make good their deficiencies of clothing and shoes arrival.

The clergy does not have exactly the same expectations. The informant estimated that approximately 80% of the clergy hope that the Allies come soon. Not because of the material benefits that may follow, but because they want peace. The clergy fears the Russian.

Dislike or, to put it stronger, hatred, of the Germans is everywhere apparent, but to the extent that acts of resistance and sabotage are frequent.

I. Public Health.

Health is good in the country areas. People appear to be well fed, even though miserably clothed. There are very few doctors, although they are not missed very much by peasants who never called for their services much in normal times.

Water was apparently potable, since the informant suffered no ill effects from the many drinks he had in many different localities.

J. Utilities.

A very few villages have electric power. Carbide is very widely used for lighting throughout the region. Wood is the common fuel. There is little charcoal.

K. Miscellaneous.

The informant found most of the Italians he encountered helpful and hospitable. Fascism has disappeared, although there quiescent.

L. Personalities.

Unfortunately, the informant's very comprehensive diary of his journey was seized by the Germans. For this reason he could give no names of the various persons who assisted him and who appear to be potentially valuable to A.M.G.

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He reported sympathetic and helpful Catholic priests at:

Montiguidi
Alfero
Callcaletto

Castelfranco
Loretto
Scal

2580

At Bagno, he heard that the C.R.N. chief is a Nazi sympathizer and a Fascist.

He reports a very good doctor at Altero.

In Nocera Umbria, the Bishop appeared to be quite frightened of the Germans, but possibly helpful when his fears are allayed. In this town also is an international mission, probably of the Franciscan order, where the informant found refuge and help. He spoke very highly of the monks at this place.

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1D
In the vicinity of Gubbio, according to the informant, there are many fine palazzos used as vacation spots by the wealthy of Perugia, Rome, Milan and other large cities. He suggests the examination of these as possible headquarters and billets. There are few Fascists in this area and, at the time of his visit, no Germans.

M. General.

Difficulties of terrain and paucity of lateral roads will act to prevent heavy fighting in the inland areas of Region V, in the opinion of the informant. He declares that the Germans are extremely road-minded and avoid areas where only country roads or mule tracks are available. He predicts we will find the people placid and cooperative for the most part of the country.

The informant was obviously in poor health, having undergone great privation and strain. He is obviously a highly intelligent person with good powers of observation and an excellent memory.

END OF REPORT

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

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

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ADMIN. DIRECTOR		
CHIEF STAFF O.		
STAFF O 1		
STAFF O 2		
STAFF O 3		
CLERK		

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