

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

ACC

10000/105/245

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

10000/105/245

MONTHLY REPORTS, AMG, 8TH ARMY
SEPT. 1944 - APR. 1945

2/133/04 v CIVIL AFFAIRS SECT C.A. SECT

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
EIGHTH ARMY

04/7/1.

MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL, 1945.

12 May 45.

HQ ALLIED COMMISSION

Copies to :- DA & CIG EIGHTH ARMY RC AMG VENEZIA Region
BCS Main EIGHTH ARMY RC AMG EMILIA Region
DOCAO 15 Army Group HQ AMG FIFTH ARMY

PART I

ADMINISTRATION :

1. By arrangement with EMILIA Region the Provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA will be reported on by them. This report, therefore, covers only that territory occupied during the month, that is to say, the Provinces of FERRARA, ROVIGO, PAVIA, VERCELLI, TREVISO, BELLUNO, UDINE and part of BOLOGNA. The period covered by the report is 9 Apr - 30 Apr 45.

2. No mention will be found in this Report of the Compartimento of VENEZIA GIULIA since this was not reached by 30 Apr 45.

3. All detailed matters of interest have already been reported to A.C. by means of SITREPS from both Main and Rear Army, and detailed Monthly Reports by all the specialist branches.

4. The territory occupied varies widely in nature, containing as it does, some of the richest agricultural land in EUROPE, in the PO Valley and also mountainous territory where agriculture is largely of an Alpine nature.

5. In FERRARA Province there is a devastated belt of territory along the line on which the Army was halted for the Winter extending Northwards and Westwards for some 10 miles. This territory is, at least, as badly damaged as the CASSINO Valley. Beyond this strip, however, damage is limited to the immediate vicinity of the river crossings of the PO and ADIGE - factories, which were the target of air attack, and areas surrounding railway stations.

6. It may safely be said that there is very much less damage in this area than in any part of ITALY further south, and some places, as for example, VENICE, appear to have emerged from the War completely unharmed.

PART II.

POLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION :

7. It is too early yet to give any detailed survey of the political background of the area. In almost every instance the C.I.N. have proved to be sensible and co-operative. They had, for the most part, organised working parties and co-operatives. They had, for the most part, organised working parties and co-operatives.

PART I.ADMINISTRATION :

1. By arrangement with EMILIA Region the Provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA will be reported on by them. This report, therefore, covers only that territory occupied during the month, that is to say, the Provinces of FERRARA, ROVIGO, PADUA, VENEZIA, TREVISO, BELLUNO, UDINE and part of BOLOGNA. The period covered by the report is 9 Apr - 30 Apr 45.
2. No mention will be found in this Report of the Compartimento of VENEZIA GUILLIA since this was not reached by 30 Apr 45.
3. All detailed matters of interest have already been reported to A.C. by means of SITREPS from both Main and Rear Army, and detailed Monthly Reports by all the specialist branches.
4. The territory occupied varies widely in nature, containing as it does, some of the richest agricultural land in EUROPE, in the PO Valley and also mountainous territory where agriculture is largely of an Alpine nature.
5. In FERRARA Province there is a devastated belt of territory along the line on which the Army was halted for the Winter extending Northwards and Westwards for some 10 miles. This territory is, at least, as badly damaged as the CASSINO Valley. Beyond this strip, however, damage is limited to the immediate vicinity of the river crossings of the PO and ADIGE - factories, which were the target of air attack, and areas surrounding railway stations.
6. It may safely be said that there is very much less damage in this area than in any part of ITALY further south, and some places, as for example, VENICE, appear to have emerged from the War completely unharmed.

PART II.POLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION :

7. It is too early yet to give any detailed survey of the political background of the area. In almost every instance the C.L.N. have proved to be sensible and co-operative. They had, for the most part, organised a working system of Admin prior to the occupation of the area and appointed local officials of a reasonable type.
The improvement in calibre of public officials North of the PO is marked, and considerable initiative and vigour has been encountered.

PATRIOTS :

8. The general situation in respect of Patriots has been the subject of signals to H.Q. ALCOM. Prior to the advance beyond PADOVA no serious difficulties were encountered and Partisan Units were everywhere co-operative. Disarming proceeded satisfactorily, if somewhat slowly, but all parades held were successful. In UDINE and Area claims for payment and feeding and the retention of arms have arisen.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY :

9. Except in the Province of UDINE, which is subject to unusual circumstances, there is generally a sufficient quantity of grain and flour in the area to carry over at least until the next Harvest. The allotted quantities of supplies other than flour have been distributed to the various Provinces, but stocks of various commodities, and in particular, sugar, have made it unnecessary to distribute some of the items to all the Provinces.

10. The Ration Scale prevailing in the majority of the area was 150 grams of bread per day, plus a monthly allotment of 4 Kilos of Pasta and 1 Kilo of Maize.

11. Prices, as expected, were lower than that part of ITALY already occupied, and the following are representative of the average :-

Bread	-	Lire	3.50 per Kilo
Pasta	-	"	4.00 " "
Sugar	-	"	26.00 " "
Meat	-	"	40.00 " "

The Consorzi paid 350 Lire per Qli at Consorzi for wheat, and it is thought that a heavy subsidy must be involved since prices to the Millers are as low as 200 Lire per Qli in parts.

FINANCE :

12. With the exception of the devastated area in FERRARA, Banks and Post Offices have mostly been in a condition to open within a few days of occupation, and in most places there has been a sufficiency of cash without the necessity of transferring from the stock-pile in the South.

13. Details of Wage Rates have already been submitted. As far as at present ascertained, the daily rate for unskilled labour has been approx. 85 Lire although the German Army itself usually paid a flat rate of 100 Lire per day for skilled or unskilled labour.

REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS :

14. At the beginning of the period the Refugee problem was confined to the housing and feeding of a number of inhabitants from the destroyed villages on the Winter Line. During the middle part of the month the movement of Refugees was small, for though there are in the area a large number of Refugees from Southern and Central ITALY these have been located here for a considerable time and it has been our policy to restrain them from early movement.

15. It is now becoming apparent that there will be a very considerable movement of Displaced Persons returning from GERMANY and AUSTRIA in the very near future, and at the time of writing this Report considerable numbers are already making their way down through Northern ITALY.

PUBLIC SAFETY :

16. CC.PP. have been steadily moved into each Province as captured, and no particular Public Safety problems have arisen.

Prices, as expected, were lower than that part of ITALY already occupied, and the following are representative of the average :-

Bread	-	Lire	3.50 per Kilo
Pasta	-	"	4.00 "
Sugar	-	"	26.00 "
Meat	-	"	40.00 "

The Consorzi paid 350 Lire per Qli at Consorzi for wheat, and it is thought that a heavy subsidy must be involved since prices to the Millers are as low as 200 Lire per Qli in parts.

FINANCE :

12. With the exception of the devastated area in FERRARA, Banks and Post Offices have mostly been in a condition to open within a few days of occupation, and in most places there has been a sufficiency of cash without the necessity of transferring from the stock-pile in the South.

13. Details of Wage Rates have already been submitted. As far as at present ascertained, the daily rate for unskilled labour has been approx. 85 Lire although the German Army itself usually paid a flat rate of 100 Lire per day for skilled or unskilled labour.

REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS :

14. At the beginning of the period the Refugee problem was confined to the housing and feeding of a number of inhabitants from the destroyed villages on the Winter Line. During the middle part of the month the movement of Refugees was small, for though there are in the area a large number of Refugees from Southern and Central ITALY these have been located here for a considerable time and it has been our policy to restrain them from early movement.

15. It is now becoming apparent that there will be a very considerable movement of Displaced Persons returning from GERMANY and AUSTRIA in the very near future, and at the time of writing this Report considerable numbers are already making their way down through Northern ITALY.

PUBLIC SAFETY :

16. CC.RR have been steadily moved into each Province as captured, and no particular Public Safety problems have arisen.

17. A Special Branch for the investigation and bringing to trial of some 30 Enemy Agents was set up during the month and have prepared recommendations on all cases by 30 Apr. Since the surrender of the German Armies, however, GSI(b) do not intend to proceed with any of the cases and all the Agents concerned are to be interned.

PUBLIC HEALTH :

18. The general health of the population is good and there are no indications of contagious or infectious diseases in epidemic proportion, though there is a potential danger in the area of the ARGENTI G.P.

(Signature)
Air Comodoro,
Officer Commanding.

R IX/SE/R/1/16

SECRET

SECRET

HQ AMG EIGHTH ARMY

15 April 1945

MONTHLY REPORT FOR MARCH 1945

HQ., ALLIED COMMISSION

Copies to: DA & QMG EIGHTH ARMY
BCS Main EIGHTH ARMY
DCCAO 15 Army Group

RC AMG TOSCANA Region
RC AMG VENEZIA Region
RC AMG EMILIA Region
HQ AMG FIFTH ARMY

PART I

1. The territory administered has remained unchanged and the month has been marked more by quiet progress than by any event of outstanding importance.
2. The Italian local government agencies have developed steadily and are particularly well advanced in FORLÌ.
3. Italian courts now function throughout FORLÌ Province and in the greater part of the liberated portion of RAVENNA. In FORLÌ Province, all Pretore have been authorized to deal with violations of curfew and circulation regulations, and are dealing with these cases satisfactorily.
4. Food supplies during the month were sufficient. The issue of flour was based on the 300 gram ration and was obtained entirely from local stocks. With the exception of 125 grams of sugar per head to the whole population, imported foodstuffs were distributed only to special classes.
5. All farm-land in FORLÌ Province, other than mined areas, is under cultivation, and the wheat acreage approaches the normal.
6. The standard of health remained at a satisfactory level. A program of immunization against typhoid, diphtheria and smallpox has been started and was wellunder way by the end of March.
7. Very little electric power is so far available for industrial use, but in the meantime the repair of selected factories has been pushed forward. Four factories engaged in producing hump products have been repaired and, at one of these, production of sacks and industrial belting has begun.
8. Repair of a sugar factory at GROSSENA is well advanced and sufficient sugar beet has been planted to produce approximately 6,000 tons of sugar this year.

and a great deal

PART I

1. The territory administered has remained unchanged and the month has been marked more by quiet progress than by any event of outstanding importance.
2. The Italian local government agencies have developed steadily and are particularly well advanced in FORLI.
3. Italian courts now function throughout FORLI Province and in the greater part of the liberated portion of RAVENNA. In FORLI Province, all Pretore have been authorized to deal with violations of curfew and circulation regulations, and are dealing with these cases satisfactorily.
4. Food supplies during the month were sufficient. The issue of flour was based on the 300 gram ration and was obtained entirely from local stocks. With the exception of 125 grams of sugar per head to the whole population, imported foodstuffs were distributed only to special classes.
5. All farm-land in FORLI Province, other than mined areas, is under cultivation, and the wheat acreage approaches the normal.
6. The standard of health remained at a satisfactory level. A programme of immunisation against typhoid, diphtheria and smallpox has been started and was wellunder way by the end of March.
7. Very little electric power is so far available for industrial use, but in the meantime the repair of selected factories has been pushed forward. Four factories engaged in producing hump products have been repaired and, at one of these, production of sacks and industrial belting has begun.
8. Repair of a sugar factory at CEREVA is well advanced and sufficient sugar beet has been planted to produce approximately 6,000 tons of sugar this year.
9. Farmers are being encouraged to produce raw silk and a great deal of work has been done towards reactivating silk mills. 5445
10. Four brickworks, capable of producing 4,400,000 bricks per month are ready to operate as soon as power is available.
11. In the meantime bridge building and other reconstruction projects have been slowed down for lack of materials.
12. Practically the whole of the flooded area SOUTH and EAST of RAVENNA has been drained and only 500 hectares remain under water.
13. The civilian population remains friendly and incidents have been few.

Ex RAVENNA DIST

1 - File
1 - C.A. Section
1 - E. Section
1 - R.A. Section
1 - Working Copy

SECRET

Sheet -2-

PART II.

POLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. During the month the Communist Party in RAVENNA endeavoured to make the funerals of partisans killed in action an occasion for political propaganda. In one instance a mob of about two thousand people followed the cortege carrying red banners. Steps were taken to prevent a repetition of this demonstration and BULOW the partisan leader has been most helpful in this respect.
2. There were no political manifestations in FORLI Province. In this Province, the largest and best organised Party is the Communist followed by the Christian Democrats with the Republican party which was once very strong throughout ROMAGNA, taking third place.
3. Although the Committees of Liberation now have no official standing they continue to exist in every commune and still endeavour to take an active interest in communal administration.
4. There have been further clashes between Polish troops and civilians in the FAENZA BRISIGHELLA area resulting in the death of two soldiers and four civilians. Taking the Army area as a whole however, relations between troops and civilians have been satisfactory.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - PROVINCIAL.

5. During the month Commendatore Agostino GIAZZI a former Vice Prefect of RAVENNA was transferred to PERUGIA. There have been no important changes in either Province and the Italian Administration is proceeding satisfactorily.
6. An arrangement has been made whereby the communal secretary of PALLAZUOLLO which is in FLORENCE Province, also serves as communal secretary of CASOLA VALSENIO in RAVENNA Province. Good communal secretaries are hard to find, and this arrangement appears to be working well.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

7. Food. The long promised 500 gram ration came into force 6 Mar in the shape of 200 grams of bread per day, plus 550 grams of pasta per week. As production of pasta is insufficient, the deficiency is made up by issuing flour in lieu. Judged by current standards the food situation is satisfactory, the most serious deficiencies being meat and fats. The latter was ceased to some extent by the receipt of sufficient olive oil at the end of the month to permit an issue of 1 decilitre per head. A limited programme of cattle slaughtering has been permitted in both Provinces (10% per annum in FORLI and 6% in 6 months in RAVENNA) and distribution of M & V in RAVENNA, FORLI and RIMINI was increased to 200 grams per month.
8. 18,000 hogs were slaughtered in the Province of FORLI and a smaller number in RAVENNA (The exact figure is not yet known).

by the Christian Democrats with the Republican party which was once very strong throughout ROMAGNA, taking third place.

3. Although the Committees of Liberation now have no official standing they continue to exist in every commune and still endeavour to take an active interest in communal administration.

4. There have been further clashes between Polish troops and civilians in the FAENZA BRISIGHELLA area resulting in the death of two soldiers and four civilians. Taking the Army area as a whole however, relations between troops and civilians have been satisfactory.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - PROVINCIAL.

5. During the month Commendatore Agostino GIAZZI a former Vice Prefect of RAVENNA was transferred to PERUGIA. There have been no important changes in either Province and the Italian Administration is proceeding satisfactorily.

6. An arrangement has been made whereby the communal secretary of PALLAZUOLLO which is in FIORENZE Province, also serves as communal secretary of CASOLA VALSENIO in RAVENNA Province. Good communal secretaries are hard to find, and this arrangement appears to be working well.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

7. Food. The long promised 300 gram ration came into force 6 Mar in the shape of 200 grms of bread per day, plus 550 grms of pasta per week. As production of pasta is insufficient, the deficiency is made up by issuing flour in lieu. Judged by current standards the food situation is satisfactory, the most serious deficiencies being meat and fats. The latter was eased to some extent by the receipt of sufficient olive oil at the end of the month to permit an issue of 1 decilitre per head. A limited programme of cattle slaughtering has been permitted in both Provinces (10% per annum in FORLI and 6% in 6 months in RAVENNA) and distribution of M & V in RAVENNA, FORLI and RIMINI was increased to 200 grms per month.

8. 18,000 hogs were slaughtered in the Province of FORLI and a smaller number in RAVENNA (The exact figure is not yet known).

9. The full ration of 125 grms of sugar was issued. Hospitals received a special issue of 15 tons of powdered milk which was in danger of deterioration due to broken cases. JH 4

Industry.

10. Factories. Good progress has been made with the repair of the sugar factory at CESENA. With the help of RE machinery from the factory at MEZZANO has been conveyed to CESENA and is in course of erection. The major remaining problem is the re-establishment of the rail siding at the factory to allow a heavy boiler to be brought in by rail from LITTORIA.

Sheet -3-

11. Silk Industry.
 Month towards ensuring that all the silk thread mills in FORLI Province will be able to operate in time for the silk crop in July. There are 7 thread mills in FORLI Province:-
 3 in MELDOLA.
 3 in S.SOFIA.
 1 in MODIGLIANA.
 Only those in MELDOLA were seriously damaged by the Germans. The chief damage being caused by exploding a/tk mines in the boilers. Two boilers are being repaired in ANCONA and a third is being replaced by cannibalisation.
12. Castings to repair machinery are being made in FLORENCE and various other welding repairs are being carried out by the owners with industrial gases supplied by Ordnance.
13. There is no electricity available at MODIGLIANA at present. Leather belting is required by 4 of the 7 plants and MAT 10s have been submitted.
14. Building materials.
 In addition to the three brickworks which have already been re-activated, four others with a total capacity of 4,400,000 bricks per month are ready to operate as soon as electric power is available for moulding. In the meantime all green bricks on hand have been baked and further production will not be possible until power is available.
15. 260 tons of Lime was produced during the month, and was allocated to bridge building etc.
16. Hemp.
 Rapid strides have been made in the re-activation of the hemp industry. Four factories have been repaired and are ready to go into production as soon as electric power is available. Power has just been supplied to one of these - the Saccheria Pavennate - and production of sacks, industrial belting and rubberised sheeting will begin immediately. Two machine shops have been re-started, and are working on repair of machinery at other hemp factories.
17. 40 tons of sacking material has been salvaged and 1,800 metres has been received from NAPLES. This material has all been turned over to the Saccheria Pavennate. In addition approximately 100 tons of raw materials have been salvaged in the area and half of this has been sent to TERNI for spinning.
18. 13½ tons of seed was found in the area and a further 30 tons imported from NAPLES and distributed to growers. It is estimated that something in the region of 11,000 hectares has been sown with hemp.
19. Transportation.
 A system has been evolved whereby private and public consignors now pay as much for transport by WD vehicles as they

12. Castings to repair machinery are being made in FLORENCE and various other welding repairs are being carried out by the owners with industrial gases supplied by Ordinance.
13. There is no electricity available at MODIGLIANA at present. Leather belting is required by 4 of the 7 plants and MAT 10s have been submitted.
14. Building materials. In addition to the three brickworks which have already been re-activated, four others with a total capacity of 4,400,000 bricks per month are ready to operate as soon as electric power is available for moulding. In the meantime all green bricks on hand have been baked and further production will not be possible until power is available.
15. 260 tons of Lime was produced during the month, and was allocated to bridge building etc.
16. Hemp. Rapid strides have been made in the re-activation of the hemp industry. Four factories have been repaired and are ready to go into production as soon as electric power is available. Power has just been supplied to one of these - the Saccheria Ravennate - and production of sacks, industrial belting and rubberised sheeting will begin immediately. Two machine shops have been re-started, and are working on repair of machinery at other hemp factories.
17. 40 tons of sacking material has been salvaged and 1,800 metres has been received from NAPLES. This material has all been turned over to the Saccheria Ravennate. In addition approximately 100 tons of raw materials have been salvaged in the area and half of this has been sent to TERNI for spinning.
18. 13½ tons of seed was found in the area and a further 30 tons imported from NAPLES and distributed to growers. It is estimated that something in the region of 11,000 hectares has been sown with hemp.
19. Transportation. A system has been evolved whereby private and public consignors now pay as much for transport by WD vehicles as they would do by Autotrasporti. As a result, traffic carried by Autotrasporti during March rose to approximately 8,000 tons compared with 5,000 tons in February.

Sheet 4AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.

20. Granai del Popolo. Latest figures available show the wheat collection situation in the present Army area to be as follows:-
- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| | Tons |
| Assessed before liberation | 39,448 |
| Assessed after liberation | <u>2,031</u> |
| Estimated still to be assessed | 48,479 |
| | 19,500 |
21. No estimate is available for either total production or farmer retentions. It is estimated however, that some 51,000 tons of wheat were disposed of before liberation, the greater part of this quantity having been distributed to the population.
22. Over 4534 tons of wheat have been transported from full stores in RAVENNA Province to silos in FORLÌ Province for the double purpose of placing grain at railheads and emptying stores for further amassing. Grain is coming into stores thus emptied at the rate of 240 tons per week.
23. Sugar Beet. The sugar factory at CESENA is the only factory in this area which will be re-activated this year. The target aimed at is 2,600 hectares sown to sugar beet which it is estimated will produce 6,000 tons of sugar. So far, farmers have contracted to sow 1,100 hectares and, in view of the high price for sugar beet which has just been announced by the Ministry, there will be no difficulty in reaching the target figure.
24. Seed. 230 tons of sugar beet seed have been shipped by rail to Southern ITALY.
25. Cultivation. Apart from mined areas practically all the farm land in FORLÌ is under cultivation, and the wheat acreage is not far below normal.
26. In RAVENNA wheat sowing has finished. The land recovered from the flooded areas has not yet dried out sufficiently for much cultivation to be done, but it is expected that 75% of the area will be sown with maize hemp, beans, and alfalfa by mid-May, and the remainder with other crops during the summer.
27. Livestock.
- | | |
|--------|---|
| Sheep. | 1,000 head of sheep have been released to the Army for feeding Indian troops. |
| Pigs. | Arrangements have been completed for the importation of pigs for fattening. |

22. No estimate is available for either total production or farmer retentions. It is estimated however, that some 51,000 tons of wheat were disposed of before liberation, the greater part of this quantity having been distributed to the population.
- Over 4534 tons of wheat have been transported from full stores in RAVENNA Province to silos in FORLÌ Province for the double purpose of placing grain at railheads and emptying stores for further amassing. Grain is coming into stores thus emptied at the rate of 240 tons per week.
23. Sugar Beet. The sugar factory at CESENA is the only factory in this area which will be re-activated this year. The target aimed at is 2,600 hectares sown to sugar beet which it is estimated will produce 6,000 tons of sugar. So far, farmers have contracted to sow 1,100 hectares and, in view of the high price for sugar beet which has just been announced by the Ministry, there will be no difficulty in reaching the target figure.
24. Seed. 230 tons of sugar beet seed have been shipped by rail to Southern ITALY.
25. Cultivation. Apart from mined areas practically all the farm land in FORLÌ is under cultivation, and the wheat acreage is not far below normal.
26. In RAVENNA wheat sowing has finished. The land recovered from the flooded areas has not yet dried out sufficiently for much cultivation to be done, but it is expected that 75% of the area will be sown with maize hemp, beans, and alfalfa by mid-May, and the remainder with other crops during the summer.
27. Livestock. Sheep. 1,000 head of sheep have been released to the Army for feeding Indian troops.
- Pigs. Arrangements have been completed for the importation of pigs for fattening.
28. Forestry. Since the initiation of the emergency programme last autumn, 57,456 quintals of firewood and 14,469 quintals of brushwood have been produced. Responsibility for future production is being handed over to Italian Agencies and arrangements have been completed for the re-activation of the Consorzio Combustibile. All stockpiles will be handed over to this entity.
- LABOUR.
29. Labour Organisations. Both Provincial Labour Offices are functioning well and there is good co-operation with the Civil Labour Units. The FORLÌ office has branches at RIMINI and CESENA and arrangements have been made to open another at ROCCA SAN CASCIANO. These offices cover the four main areas (circondaria) comprising ten to fifteen communes each.

Sheet 52

30. Trade Union developments and industrial relations. Although Trade Unions are not formally recognised their existence is permitted provided they refrain from demonstrations etc. They are co-operating well with the Provincial Labour Offices. Industrial relations continue excellent and there have been no strikes or stoppages of work.

31. Wages. A new wage policy statement has been agreed with DML. The principal provisions of this policy are:-

- (a) Contractors for the Army may pay the Allied Forces Basic Wage Scale rates to all workers regardless of number of dependants, and must pay all Social Security contributions.
- (b) After wage freeze at liberation and later application of Italian wage law, further adjustments of private wages may be made, with approval of AME, to an amount within 5% of Army rate (for average size family).

This formula has been applied in wage meetings held with the Camere del Lavoro and Unione dell'Industria at both FORLI and RAVENNA and the first formal wage agreement has been approved.

PUBLIC WORKS.

32. Roads and Bridges. Six bridges were repaired or reconstructed during the month, making the total to date 14. 28 other bridges are under construction. Plans, estimates and specifications have been prepared for 38 other bridges, but owing to shortage of materials, work on these has not yet started.

33. Housing. The housing decrees, recently initiated by the Italian Ministry, have been implemented in FORLI Province, and are working fairly well. Work so far undertaken under the decree totals 700,000 lire and will take care of about 130 persons. An emergency project in RIMINI to re-house about 390 homeless people is 50% complete.

34. Flooded Areas. Out of a flooded area of 18,350 hectares SOUTH and EAST of RAVENNA only 500 hectares are still under water. One additional pumping station has been put into operation.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

35. Police. The present strength of the various Police Agencies is shown below:-

CC.RR.	Officers	Other Ranks
Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza	15	896
Guardia di Finanza	13	186
Guardia Municipali	5	196
Corpo Forestale	5	182
	2	69

dependants, and must pay all Social Security contributions.

- (b) After wage freeze at liberation and later application of Italian wage law, further adjustments of private wages may be made, with approval of AMG, to an amount within 5% of Army rate (for average size family).

This formula has been applied in wage meetings held with the Camere del Lavoro and Unione dell'Industria at both FORLI and RAVENNA and the first formal wage agreement has been approved.

PUBLIC WORKS.

32. Roads and Bridges. Six bridges were repaired or reconstructed during the month, making the total to date 14. 28 other bridges are under construction. Plans, estimates and specifications have been prepared for 38 other bridges, but owing to shortage of materials, work on these has not yet started.

33. Housing. The housing decrees, recently initiated by the Italian Ministry, have been implemented in FORLI Province, and are working fairly well. Work so far undertaken under the decree totals 700,000 lire and will take care of about 130 persons. An emergency project in RIMINI to re-house about 390 homeless people is 50% complete.

34. Flooded Areas. Out of a flooded area of 18,350 hectares SOUTH and EAST of RAVENNA only 500 hectares are still under water. One additional pumping station has been put into operation.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

35. Police. The present strength of the various Police Agencies is shown below:-

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Other Ranks</u>
CC.RR.	15	896
Agenti di Pubblica Sicurezza.	13	186
Guardia de Finanza	5	196
Guardia Municipali	5	182
Corpo Forestale	2	69

These figures do NOT include 212 spearhead CC.RR permanently attached to EIGHTH Army nor the 250 CC.RR destined for VENEZIA who are on temporary duty in forward areas.

36. Except in the case of the spearhead detachment, the lack of uniform for CC.RR is deplorable. No supplies were received during the month, and the original indents submitted last Oct are still largely unfilled. This lack of uniform is a serious handicap in restoring efficiency and morale.

37. The new Questore of FORLI has made progress in re-organising his department, but progress with the CC.RR in this Province is less satisfactory. This is largely due to the personality of the Acting Commandante, who is not a strong character. In RAVENNA there is a serious shortage of officers.

Sheet -6-

38.

Crime.

No serious cases of purely civilian crime have been detected during the month. Six counterfeit notes (Allied Military currency) have been found in circulation. In the opinion of SIB, these notes are circulated by Italian and Allied soldiers who buy them from Italians while in ROME or FLORENCE.

39.

AMC Courts.

Four cases of espionage were tried by General Military Court and disposed of as follows:-

Condemned to death	1
Sentenced to 10 years imprisonment (4 girl of 17 years old)	1
Not guilty of espionage, but sentenced to 10 years for possession of wire- less transmitter	1
Not Guilty	1

The number of cases coming before Superior and Summary Courts continues to be small.

40.

Italian Courts.

Tribunale is functioning in both Provinces. In FORLI Province, all Pretore have now been authorized to deal with violations of circulation and curfew regulations. They are dealing with cases promptly, and in general the sentences imposed are adequate. The Pretore of RAVENNA and FAENZA continue to function satisfactorily and arrangements have been made for the Pretore of FAENZA to resume jurisdiction in the mandamenti distaccati of MODIGLIANA and CASOLA VALSENIO.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

41.

Health.

In general the health of the people has been satisfactory. Although there is no epidemic, sporadic cases of typhoid, paratyphoid or diphtheria continue to occur. The regular spring immunisations against diphtheria and smallpox have been reinstituted in both Provinces and TAB inoculations have also been started.

42.

Hospitals have made steady progress and sufficient glass and cellophane has been obtained to provide adequate protection from weather. The hospital ration situation has improved and generally speaking, institutions are now securing their full entitlement. The biggest difficulty at the moment is the provision of linen.

43.

Ambulance Service is adequate at present as considerable assistance is being received from military vehicles, but this will not be the case when the Army moves forward. Out of 13 civilian ambulances available 9 are now functioning.

44.

Medical Supplies.

It was found early in the month that Medici Provinciali were not indenting regularly on the Italian Ministry for their supplies. Emergency indents were therefore submitted to the Ministry through AG, and in the meantime urgent needs are being met.

Sentenced to 10 years imprisonment
(A girl of 17 years old) 1
Not guilty of espionage, but sentenced
to 10 years for possession of wire-
less transmitter 1
Not Guilty 1

The number of cases coming before
Superior and Summary Courts continues to be small.

40.

Italian Courts. Tribunale is functioning in both
Provinces. In FORLI Province, all Pretore have now been authorised to
deal with violations of circulation and curfew regulations. They are
dealing with cases promptly, and in general the sentences imposed are
adequate. The Pretore of RAVENNA and FAENZA continue to function satis-
factorily and arrangements have been made for the Pretore of FAENZA to
resume jurisdiction in the mandamenti distaccati of MODIGLIANA and
GASOLA VALENIO.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

41.

Health. In general the health of the people
has been satisfactory. Although there is no epidemic, sporadic cases
of typhoid, paratyphoid or diphtheria continue to occur. The regular
spring immunisations against diphtheria and smallpox have been reinstit-
uted in both Provinces and TAB inoculations have also been started.

42.

Hospitals have made steady progress and sufficient glass and
collophane has been obtained to provide adequate protection from weather.
The hospital ration situation has improved and generally speaking, insti-
tutions are now securing their full entitlement. The biggest difficulty
at the moment is the provision of linen.

43.

Ambulance Service is adequate at present as considerable assis-
tance is being received from military vehicles, but this will not be the
case when the Army moves forward. Out of 13 civilian ambulances avail-
able 9 are now functioning.

44.

Medical Supplies. It was found early in the month that
Medici Provinciali were not indenting regularly on the Italian Ministry
for their supplies. Emergency indents were therefore submitted to the
Ministry through AG, and in the meantime urgent needs are being met
from EIGHTH Army medical supply depot.

EDUCATION.

45.

Schools. The policy of re-opening schools to
the maximum extent possible has been continued. In most cases this has
been done by organising classes in the homes of teachers in default of
school buildings which have either been destroyed or occupied by troops.
This has proved of great value in keeping children off the streets. The
position in FORLI is tabulated below:-

5442

Sheet -7-

	Asili	Elementary Schools	Secondary Schools	Private and Church Schools
Total No. Schools Number open	87 42	470 438	47 44	10 10
Normal enrolment Pupils enrolled	5503 1806	49396 16181	8576 2448	468 -

The figures for pupils enrolled are up to 26 Feb and do NOT include enrollments during March.

46. In RAVENNA Province, the whole of which is forward of Corps rear boundary, schools have been opened in the South-eastern part of the Province. Schools in RAVENNA city have been authorised to re-open during April. 11 Asili, 37 Elementary, 3 Secondary and one private school were opened during March.

47. Officials. So far 120 school officials in FORLÌ Province have been screened, 28 have been suspended, and 92 confirmed. In RAVENNA Province 83 officials have been screened, 6 have been suspended and 77 confirmed.

REFUGEES.

48. No 1 AMG Evacuation Camp has been moved to M.375135 six kilometres SOUTH of FORLÌ on Highway 67. Evacuation of refugees has been light. The total number dealt with is shown below:-

In camp 27 Feb 45	667
Arrivals	1352
	2026
Evac to rear or AMG evacuation centres	230
	1107
Dispersed locally	1337
Leaving in Camp 27 Mar 45	689

The total evacuated out of Army area was 625.

During the month funds were received from the Vatican to provide Easter Sunday dinners for refugees.

FINANCE.

49. All banks in liberated portion of RAVENNA Province are now open except those at BRISIGHELLA and CASOLA VALSENIO. Currency needs in FORLÌ were met by a shipment of 60,000,000 Lire from FLORENCE. All financial departments in both Provinces are now functioning.

PROPERTY CONTROL.

50. All bank accounts of Allied Nationals have been unblocked. Three American and two Greek armed properties were inspected and reported on.

46. In RAVENNA Province, the whole of which is forward of Corps rear boundary, schools have been opened in the South-eastern part of the Province. Schools in RAVENNA city have been authorised to re-open during April. 11 Asili, 37 Elementary, 3 Secondary and one private school were opened during March.

47. Officials. So far 120 school officials in FORLI Province have been screened, 28 have been suspended, and 92 confirmed. In RAVENNA Province 83 officials have been screened, 6 have been suspended and 77 confirmed.

REFUGEES.

48. No 1 AMG Evacuation Camp has been moved to M.375135 six kilometres SOUTH of FORLI on Highway 67. Evacuation of refugees has been light. The total number dealt with is shown below:-

In camp 27 Feb 45	667
Arrivals	<u>1352</u>
	2026
Dispersed locally	230
Evac to rear or AMG evacuation centres	1107
	<u>1337</u>
Leaving in Camp 27 Mar 45	<u>689</u>

The total evacuated out of Army area was 625.

During the month funds were received from the Vatican to provide Easter Sunday dinners for refugees.

FINANCE.

49. All banks in liberated portion of RAVENNA Province are now open except those at BRISIGHELLA and CASOLA VALSENIO. Currency needs in FORLI were met by a shipment of 60,000,000 lire from FLORENCE. All financial departments in both Provinces are now functioning.

PROPERTY CONTROL.

50. All bank accounts of Allied Nationals have been unblocked. Three American and two Greek owned properties were inspected and reported on during the month.

MINE CLEARANCE.

51. Additional mine clearance squads were trained during the month. By the end of the month 19 squads totalling 72 men were employed. 6713 mines were lifted during Mar bringing the total to date up to 7217 mines. There were unfortunately four casualties three of which proved fatal. The work of mine clearance is severely handicapped by lack of sufficient officers to supervise squads working in the field and application has been made to HQAC to send up 6 Italian officers as quickly as possible for this duty.

J. H. S. Hantley
for Air Commodore
Officer Commanding
AMG EIGHTH ARMY

SECRET

9 March 1945

MONTHLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1945

16 MAR 1945

HQ. ALLIED COMMISSION

Copies to: DA & 9th EIGHTH ARMY
DCS Main EIGHTH ARMY
DCCAO 15 ARMY Group

RC ARE TOSCANA Region
RC ARE VENEZIA Region
RC ARE EMILIA Region
HQ ARE EIGHTH ARMY

PART I

ADMINISTRATION.

1. The area administered remains unchanged with the whole of FORLÌ and the greater part of RAVENNA under the control of this HQ.
2. In conjunction with the staff of EMILIA Region good progress has been made with rehabilitation which has progressed a great deal further than is usually possible in an Army area. Italian Provincial administration is well established in FORLÌ with all the normal local government agencies in operation. In the liberated portion of RAVENNA, local government is also well advanced.
3. Italian courts are functioning in both Provinces and their jurisdiction over violations of travel and curfew restrictions has been extended to include CEMET. The policy of re-opening schools has been carried well forward into Corps areas and although in many cases buildings are lacking, classes are being held in private houses.

ATTITUDE OF CIVILIANS.

4. Although there is considerable activity going on beneath the surface, there have been no significant developments during the month. There were two demonstrations, one at FORLÌ and the other at CEMET, during which young men paraded the streets carrying placards, affirming their desire to join the Italian forces, and to fight with the Allies against the common enemy. There was no disturbance. In general the attitude of the people towards the Allies is satisfactory.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

5. The weather improved during the latter part of the month, and the effects of the acute shortage of fuel were less severely felt. Although food is far from plentiful, and diet is deficient of important items such as fats, there is no starvation and few signs of undernourishment. On the whole the standard of health is satisfactory.
6. The large number of dwellings damaged or destroyed and the large

PAGE IADMINISTRATION.

1. The area administered remains unchanged with the whole of FORLII and the greater part of RAVENNA under the control of this HQ.
2. In conjunction with the staff of EMILIA Region good progress has been made with rehabilitation which has progressed a great deal further than is usually possible in an Army area. Italian Provincial Administration is well established in FORLII with all the normal local government agencies in operation. In the liberated portion of RAVENNA, local government is also well advanced.
3. Italian courts are functioning in both Provinces and their jurisdiction over violations of travel and curfew restrictions has been extended to include CESTRA. The policy of re-opening schools has been carried well forward into Corps areas and although in many cases buildings are lacking, classes are being held in private houses.

ATTITUDE OF CIVILIANS.

4. Although there is considerable activity going on beneath the surface, there have been no significant developments during the month. There were two demonstrations, one at FORLII and the other at CESTRA, during which young men paraded the streets carrying placards, affirming their desire to join the Italian forces, and to fight with the Allies against the common enemy. There was no disturbance. In general the attitude of the people towards the Allies is satisfactory.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

5. The weather improved during the latter part of the month, and the effects of the acute shortage of fuel were less severely felt. Although food is far from plentiful, and diet is deficient of important items such as fats, there is no starvation and few signs of undernourishment. On the whole the standard of health is satisfactory.
6. The large number of dwellings damaged or destroyed and the large number of troops requiring winter quarters has caused a great deal of overcrowding and hardship.

RECONSTRUCTION.

7. Good progress has been made in reclaiming flooded areas. Five pumping stations have been repaired and re-activated and a total of 14,350 acres have been drained. This land is drying out well, and it is hoped to sow most of it in time for this years harvest. Military units have co-operated in repairing breaches in river and canal banks, and in clearing obstructions, and the danger of re-flooding has been averted.
8. In RAVENNA, further progress has been made in effecting first aid repairs to houses, in clearing the streets of debris, and demolishing dangerous buildings.

5441
39603

Sheet -2-

9. Some 700 bridges in this area have been destroyed, and before Bailey bridges are removed a minimum of 100 bridges must be repaired or rebuilt, to maintain essential civilian communications. So far 8 have been completed, 11 are under construction, and plans have been prepared for 30 others and await financial sanction. Progress is slow owing to shortage of bridges and timber.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

10. Crime remains at a surprisingly low level. C.O.P.R. and other police agencies are giving good service but efficiency is hampered by lack of uniforms and equipment.

TRANSPORT.

11. The Antioquienses of both Provinces are now getting into their stride, and are operating 294 trucks with a total load carrying capacity of 5999 quintals.

AGRICULTURE.

12. Cultivation is well advanced and crop prospects for the coming season are good.

MINE CLEARANCE.

13. A mine clearance school was started during Jan at which civilians are trained in mine lifting. The first squad began work 5 Feb and on 19 Feb this was increased to 5 squads of five to seven men each. By the end of the month 504 mines had been lifted. Several more squads will be at work during March, and the number of mines lifted is expected to increase considerably.
- 13*
13
13

Sheet -3-

PART IIPOLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. Although there has been a further increase in political activity nothing very definite has so far come to the surface. In RAVENNA co-operatives and other entities have shown a great desire to organize. At first glance their activities would appear to be wholly innocent but as food is rationed and there is no immediate prospect of a revival in industry and commerce, it is thought that this passion for the formation of associations of one sort or another may be a cloak for political manoeuvring.
2. On 17 Feb, Crown Prince UMBERTO visited Italian Troops in RAVENNA. He received a friendly reception from the public with no hostile demonstrations.
3. There have been no demonstrations of a party nature, but at TORLÌ and GEMELLI, many of the younger men paraded through the streets to show their desire to join the Italian Army to fight with the Allies against the Nazis. The demonstrations were orderly and no trouble was encountered.
4. The attitude of the people towards the Allies is considered satisfactory, and the conduct of troops in relation to the civil population has been good except in the ALBA and BRISIGNELLA area where there have been several reports of theft of livestock and other property. Some friction was also caused at GENOVA where it became necessary to evacuate the Maritime area to provide accommodation for the DAF.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

5. Food. The general situation remains fairly good with little change from previous months, the most serious deficiency being olive oil and fats. As this is the hog slaughtering season the country people are not at the moment badly off in this respect, but the shortage of fats is being severely felt in the towns. Olive oil is practically non-existent but 100 grs of lard was issued during the month to residents in RAVENNA, ALBA, TORLÌ, GEMELLI and RIVOLI. The full ration of 125 grs of sugar was issued to the total population. Meat is in very short supply but has been eased to some extent by a limited amount of cattle slaughtering, which has been permitted in TORLÌ Province. 100 grs of preserved meat or M & V was issued to the townspeople of TORLÌ, RIVOLI and RAVENNA. The ration of 30 grs of dried milk per day for 2½% of the population was increased to 50 grs for 5½% of the people. Local production of flour is more than sufficient for the prevailing ration and provides a substantial surplus for stockpiling or export.

6. P O L
There were substantial increases in allotment of P O L. These are accounted for by the larger number of vehicles employed by Autotrasporti, operation of pumping stations in the flooded areas, and the use of tractors for spring ploughing. Total allocations for the month were:-

2. On 17 Feb, Crown Prince UMBERTO visited Italian Troops in RAVENNA. He received a friendly reception from the public with no hostile demonstrations.
3. There have been no demonstrations of a party nature, but at FORLÌ and CERVIA, many of the younger men paraded through the streets to show their desire to join the Italian Army to fight with the Allies against the Nazis. The demonstrations were orderly and no trouble was encountered.
4. The attitude of the people towards the Allies is considered satisfactory, and the conduct of troops in relation to the civil population has been good except in the FARENZA and BRISCELLE area where there have been several reports of theft of livestock and other property. Some friction was also caused at CERVIA where it became necessary to evacuate the Milano Marittima area to provide accommodation for the DAF.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

5. Food. The general situation remains fairly good with little change from previous months, the most serious deficiency being olive oil and fats. As this is the hog slaughtering season the country people are not at the moment badly off in this respect, but the shortage of fats is being severely felt in the towns. Olive oil is practically non-existent but 100 grs of lard was issued during the month to residents in RAVENNA, FARENZA, FORLÌ, GROSSETO and RICCIONE. The full ration of 125 grs of sugar was issued to the total population. Meat is in very short supply but has been eased to some extent by a limited amount of cattle slaughtering, which has been permitted in FORLÌ Province. 100 grs of preserved meat or M & V was issued to the townspeople of FORLÌ, RICCIONE and RAVENNA. The ration of 30 grs of dried milk per day for 25% of the population was increased to 50 grs for 5% of the people. Local production of flour is more than sufficient for the prevailing ration and provides a substantial surplus for stockpiling or export.

P O L

6. P O L. These are accounted for by the larger number of vehicles employed by Autotrasporti, operation of pumping stations in the flooded areas, and the use of tractors for spring ploughing. Total allocations for the month were:-

	RAVENNA	FORLÌ	TOTAL
	----- Barrels-----		
ME 80	228	252	480
DEAF	796	280	1076
ZERO	527	144	671
	1551	676	2227

5440

7. Industry. Owing to the lack of power, activity is largely confined to making a survey of the condition of the factories in the area, and to doing as much as possible towards putting these factories into a condition where they can be restarted as soon as motive power becomes available. So far reports on 115 industrial concerns have been prepared and forwarded.

Sheet-4-

8. Preparatory work on the re-conditioning of the sugar factory at CASSIMA has been continued.
9. Production of re-activated brick and lime works during Feb amounted to 1,75,000 bricks, 31,000 tiles and 180 tons of lime. The whole of this production is being absorbed in bridge building and other urgent re-construction work.
10. Silk
This industry is of importance to the Allies for manufacturing parachutes and is also a means whereby ITALY can obtain foreign credit. There are three factories at RAVENNA which have been severely damaged and two at S. SOFIA. These latter could be in operation by mid July and provided 3 tons of coal per week can be supplied, these factories could produce approx 1000 kgs of thread per month. The farmers have agreed to produce cocoons at a provisional price of 115 lire per kilo. If the factories are unable to take the cocoons arrangements will be made to export them to factories in the SOUTH of ITALY.
11. Hemp
It is estimated that there are stocks of approx 500 quintals of green hemp fibre and 200 quintals of canapa in barchetta in the area. Due to lack of seed and fertiliser, the area under cultivation declined from 300 hectares in 1943 to 50 hectares in 1944 and hemp growing land has been neglected. Application has been made to HQ. AC for 80 tons of seed and 300 tons of fertiliser and provided this can be obtained by mid March it is estimated about 600 hectares could be sown this year.
12. Of the five factories in the area which were engaged in the production of hemp products, four are occupied by troops. Machinery had been systematically wrecked but only in a few cases were explosives used and for the most part repairs could be made in machine shops on the premises. Salvage work has begun at each of these factories but, although the troops in occupation have been most co-operative, progress has necessarily been slow. It is estimated however that subject to power being available most of these factories could be operated within a reasonably short time after vacation by troops and that all of them could be working within 90 days.
13. Transportation
In FORLI Province 422 load carrying vehicles have been registered by RACI but 469 of these are of less than 10 quintals capacity. These small vehicles are very uneconomical to run and it is not proposed to operate any of them if it can be avoided. Of the remaining 253 trucks 187 are now being operated by Autotrasporti. These have a total carrying capacity of 4,086 quintals. The balance of 66 trucks is being examined, and as many as possible will be reconditioned.
14. In RAVENNA 219 vehicles have been registered. Many of these are of less than 10 quintals capacity but the exact figure is not at present known. 107 trucks with a total capacity of 1853 quintals are now being operated by Autotrasporti. Future reports will show the total tonnages moved each week.

11. Hemp. It is estimated that there are stocks of approx 500 quintals of green hemp fibre and 200 quintals of canapa in boscetta in the area. Due to lack of seed and fertiliser, the area under cultivation declined from 300 hectares in 1943 to 50 hectares in 1944 and hemp growing land has been neglected. Application has been made to I.R.A.C. for 80 tons of seed and 300 tons of fertiliser and provided this can be obtained by mid March it is estimated about 600 hectares could be sown this year.
12. Of the five factories in the area which were engaged in the production of hemp products, four are occupied by troops. Machinery had been systematically wrecked but only in a few cases were explosives used and for the most part repairs could be made in machine shops on the premises. Salvage work has begun at each of these factories but, although the troops in occupation have been most co-operative, progress has necessarily been slow. It is estimated however that subject to power being available most of these factories could be operated within a reasonably short time after vacation by troops and that all of them could be working within 90 days.
13. Transportation. In FORLI Province 422 load carrying vehicles have been registered by R.I.C.I. but 169 of these are of less than 10 quintals capacity. These small vehicles are very unsuited to run and it is not proposed to operate any of them if it can be avoided. Of the remaining 253 trucks 187 are now being operated by Autotrasporti. These have a total carrying capacity of 4086 quintals. The balance of 66 trucks is being examined, and as many as possible will be reconditioned.
14. In RAVENNA 249 vehicles have been registered. Many of these are of less than 10 quintals capacity but the exact figure is not at present known. 107 trucks with a total capacity of 1853 quintals are now being operated by Autotrasporti. Future reports will show the total tonnages moved each week.
15. Italian Organisation. In FORLI the Provincial Committee of Agriculture has been getting down to serious work and through its various sub-committees has provided valuable information and advice on such subjects as prices, markets, and slaughtering of livestock. In RAVENNA however, the Committee although formed is not yet functioning. The Consorzio in this Province is improving, but in FORLI it is not working as smoothly as it should.
16. Grain Del Porolo The new Ministerial Decree on this subject was received during the month, and arrangements are being made to put this into effect in this area. Every effort is being made to move the maximum amount of grain from the farms to central storage. During the month approx 5,500 tons of grain was lifted by RT to FORLI, CESTIA and RIMINI, thus freeing an equivalent amount of space in the country stores. Returns from

Sheet -5-

the Consorzio Agrario of RAVENNA have been consistently obsolete. A new survey up to forward areas is in course of preparation and should be available by the 15 March. This should show the grain in Consorzio Agrario stores in liberated areas, but must of necessity be an estimate of grain in "Megazzini Filucari" in areas where travel restriction prevents a farm to farm survey.

17. Spring sowing is making good progress in very favourable weather but has been impeded to some extent by the existence of nine fields. Land recovered from the flooded areas is drying out well, and if the weather holds, a large average should be ready for harrowing in the near future. It is expected that spring wheat and barley will do well on this land.
18. To avoid the possibility of land which has been deserted by its owners or occupiers being left uncultivated, Provincial Commissioners have been advised to appoint a Commissario to run farms which lack a director and to charge Communal Committees with the responsibility of cultivating any small farms which have been abandoned, if such steps are necessary.
19. Under the Mezzadria system the rotation of stocks is laid down by the proprietor but this year, owing to restriction of travel, it seems probable that many of the contadini will be left to decide on their own crop plan. Dissemination of the crop plan advocated by this HQ has not been easy. Farmers meetings have been held at which the plan was explained and P.M.S. have promised to help by publishing a weekly farmers bulletin in the press.
20. Seeds. Vegetable and wheat seed has been exported to TUSCANY Region. Test of dried peas showed 94% of germination and 40 tons have been released for seed. All seed available above local requirements will be signaled on 9 March to HQ.AG and to Regions.
21. Over 200 tons sugar beet seed has been cleaned and prepared for export. It was extremely unfortunate that bids for this seed were received from HQ.AG so late.
22. Livestock. A prefect's Decree has been issued in FORLI permitting the slaughter of 10% of cattle. Work stock, bulls used for breeding, and milk cows have been excluded.
23. Forestry. As was the case in Jan the production of sufficient fuel continued to be an urgent problem. During the first half of the month production was limited to the Pineta di Classe supplemented by controlled cutting of the timber which is available in varying amounts in most of the conures. Total production from the Pineta to-date amounts to 35,000 quintals and has been divided equally between the Army and civilian consumers. During the latter part of Feb, better weather permitted resumption of production in the mountain areas and 1,500 quintals were cut in the MORGANTINO-PERMANELLI area and, as road conditions improve, other areas will be accessible.

- land,
18. To avoid the possibility of land which has been deserted by its owners or occupiers being left uncultivated, Provincial Commissioners have been advised to appoint a Commissario to run farms which lack a director and to charge Communal Committees with the responsibility of cultivating any small farms which have been abandoned, if such steps are necessary.
 19. Under the Mezzadria system the rotation of stocks is laid down by the proprietor but this year, owing to restriction of travel, it seems probable that many of the contadini will be left to decide on their own crop plan. Dissemination of the crop plan advocated by this HQ has not been easy. Farmers meetings have been held at which the plan was explained and F.W.B. have promised to help by publishing a weekly farmers bulletin in the press.
 20. Seeds. Vegetable and wheat seed has been exported to TUSCANY Region. Test of dried peas showed 94% of germination and 40 tons have been released for seed. All seed available above local requirements will be signaled on 9 March to HQ.AC and to Regions.
 21. Over 200 tons sugar beet seed has been cleaned and prepared for export. It was extremely unfortunate that bids for this seed were received from HQ.AC so late.
 22. Livestock. A prefect's Decree has been issued in FORLI permitting the slaughter of 10% of cattle. Work stock, bulls used for breeding, and milk cows have been excluded.
 23. Forestry. As was the case in Jan the production of sufficient fuel continued to be an urgent problem. During the first half of the month production was limited to the Pineta di Classe supplemented by controlled cutting of the timber which is available in varying amounts in most of the communes. Total production from the Pineta to date amounts to 35,000 quintals and has been divided equally between the Army and civilian consumers. During the latter part of Feb, better weather permitted resumption of production in the mountain areas and 1,300 quintals were cut in the MERCATINO-PENABILLI area and, as road conditions improve, other areas will be accessible.
 24. The increasing demand for timber for military purposes make it impossible to allocate to AMG any constructional timber from the RAVENNA pine forests and alternative sources of supply are being sought. 18/4/39
 25. An inspection of forest areas has shown that trees are being felled at least twice as fast as they can be reproduced by natural means and, from a long term standpoint, re-afforestation is a matter of major importance. The total production of seedlings from Provincial nurseries is reported to be approx 1,500,000 trees per annum. Part of these are being allocated to the replenishment of the RAVENNA Pinete, and the remainder are being made available for private planting. Applications from for 450 landowners have already been received for over 287,000 seedlings.

Sheet -6-

26. Fisheries. Naval regulations have now been amended to permit fishing in daylight up to 800 yards from the shore, between ANCONA and CATOLICA, but no considerable quantity of fish can be expected until May when the warmer temperature will attract the fish into shallow coastal waters.

LABOUR.

27. Labour Organisations. Good progress continues to be made in the activation of Italian agencies. Provincial Orders setting out the purposes and powers of the new Labour Offices have been published in RAVENNA and FORLI and Offices have been established in both cities. Branch offices have also been opened at CUSMA and RIMINI. The social security agencies, Previdenza, Infermi and Malattia are fully operative in the Provincial Capitals and although travel and communications with the communes is impossible, arrangements are being made for their services to be extended throughout each Province through the media of banks, hospitals and local government organisations.

28. Trade union developments and industrial relations. There have been no stoppages of work or threats of strikes. There has been no change in trade union policy or organisation during the month and the Camere del Lavoro have so far fulfilled their promise of co-operation. While the Camere fully understand the need for a public office to deal with labour relations, information and statistics, they remain dubious of the labour offices' functions in connection with "Collocamento" and social security assistance.

29. Wages. Full cost of living bonus was brought into effect for all Allied Force employees as from 1 Feb. Wages of public and private employees have been brought into line with those in other areas by the publication of Provincial Orders which give effect to five Italian wage laws (N. 18/13 and 253 and D.L. 303, 307 and 328). These have been made retrospective to the dates on which the Provincial Capitals were liberated (FORLI 9 Nov 44 and RAVENNA 5 Dec 44).

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

30. Roads and Bridges. It is estimated that in FORLI and the liberated portion of RAVENNA, some 700 bridges have been destroyed. In anticipation of the time when Bailey bridges will be removed, a plan has been prepared to provide the road network, which will be needed for essential civilian needs. This network involves the repair or reconstruction of over 100 bridges. Progress on construction let out to contract has been slow, due to bad weather and shortage of bricks and timber. Progress to-date is shown below:-

Completed	8
Under construction	11
Plans completed and awaiting financial sanction	33
Plans in course of preparation	50

purpose and powers of the new Labour Offices have been established in both cities. Branch RAVENNA and FORLÌ and Offices have been established in both cities. The social security offices have also been opened at GUSNÀ and RIMINI. The social security in the agencies, Previdenza, Infortuni and Malattia are fully operative in the Provincial Capitals and although travel and communications with the communes is impossible, arrangements are being made for their services to be extended throughout each Province through the media of banks, hospitals and local government organisations.

28. Trade union developments and industrial relations. There have been no stoppages of work or threats of strikes. There has been no change in trade union policy or organisation during the month and the Camere del Lavoro have so far fulfilled their promises of co-operation. While the Camere fully understand the need for a public office to deal with labour relations, information and statistics, they remain dubious of the labour offices' functions in connection with "Collocamento" and social security assistance.

29. Wages. Full cost of living bonus was brought into effect for all Allied Force employees as from 1 Feb. Wages of public and private employees have been brought into line with those in other areas by the publication of Provincial Orders which give effect to five Italian wage laws (DM 18/43 and 253 and DM 303, 307 and 528). These have been made retrospective to the dates on which the Provincial Capitals were liberated (FORLÌ 9 Nov 44 and RAVENNA 5 Dec 44).

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

30. Roads and Bridges. It is estimated that in FORLÌ and the liberated portion of RAVENNA, some 700 bridges have been destroyed. In anticipation of the time when Bailey bridges will be removed, a plan has been prepared to provide the road network, which will be needed for essential civilian needs. This network involves the repair or reconstruction of over 100 bridges. Progress on construction let out to contract has been slow, due to bad weather and shortage of bricks and timber. Progress to-date is shown below:-

Completed	8
Under construction	11
Plans completed and awaiting financial sanction	38
Plans in course of preparation	50
Total	107

31. Housing. As stated in the Jan report a special programme of house repair has been initiated at RIMINI. The housing committees which were formed are functioning smoothly but a new Italian decree issued late in Feb, has necessitated a revision of plans made for rehousing 20,000 homeless people. This is being done as rapidly as possible. It is estimated that first aid repair work will cost approx 6,000 lire per head of those to be rehoused. Good progress has been made in cleaning up the town and 60% of the streets are now clear of debris.

32. Electricity. Since this is an Army area the production and allocation of electricity is controlled by the RE and almost all the very limited supply is needed either for military users or for projects of direct benefit to the Army such as pumping stations. Apart from civil hospitals, practically no electricity can be spared for civilian use.

Sheet -7-

33. Flooded areas. Very good progress has been made during the month in draining the flooded areas SOUTH and EAST of RAVENNA. Five pumping stations are now working, and have dried out 14,350 hectares of the 18,350 hectares which were flooded in this neighbourhood. Considerable help has been received from Army units in repairing river and canal banks, and in clearing obstructions which impede the flow of water.

PUBLIC SECURITY.

34. Police. (a) CC.PP. Lack of clothing and equipment continues to be the principal hindrance to restoration of efficiency, particularly in the case of recuperated personnel, many of whom present a sorry spectacle in remnants of their uniform. The officer strength is still well below establishment, and the deficiency is particularly acute in RAVENNA Province. Despite these serious handicaps however, there are welcome signs of increasing interest and effort and while much remains to be done, the general level of efficiency is improving.

(b) Other Police Agencies. The remarks under CC.PP. apply also to other police agencies. In the case of the Public Security Agents, the arrival of a new Quastore for both RAVENNA and FOLLI, will help considerably in the reorganization of this service.

35. Crimes. Apart from two cases of armed robbery by a gang of five young men, and two cases of suspected kidnapping, there have been few instances of serious crime. The two persons believed to have been kidnapped were both men who were in popular disfavour on account of their former Fascist activities.

36. Security. Control of civilian movement by the Civil Police in conjunction with PSS and CMP has resulted in the arrest of a number of suspected spies. Nine cases of illegal possession of arms were detected during the month, the most serious being one in which three civilians were found in possession of 1 machine gun, 2 automatic rifles, and 25 rifles all of German origin, together with several thousand rounds of ammunition. The principal offender was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment. With the exception of one case of cutting signal wire no cases of sabotage have been reported, and in general, the security situation may be considered good.

37. ANC Courts. The number of cases coming before the courts continues to be exceptionally small, and are mainly cases of illegal travel and possession of ND property.

38. Italian Courts. Tribunale continue to function regularly in both Provinces. In FORLI there are 513 penal cases pending of which 275 are ready for hearing. In RAVENNA the court disposed of 54 cases during the month compared with 37 during Jan.

39. All Preture Courts in FORLI are now

Police. (a) CC, PR Lack of clothing and equipment
uses to be the principal hindrance to restoration of efficiency, particularly in the case of recuperated personnel, many of whom present a sorry spectacle in remnants of their uniform. The officer strength is still well below establishment, and the deficiency is particularly acute in RAVENNA Province. Despite these serious handicaps however, there are welcome signs of increasing interest and effort and while much remains to be done, the general level of efficiency is improving.

(b) Other Police Agencies. The remarks under CC, PR apply also to other police agencies. In the case of the Public Security Agents, the arrival of a new Quastore for both RAVENNA and FOELI, will help considerably in the reorganization of this service.

35. Crime. Apart from two cases of armed robbery by a gang of five young men, and two cases of suspected kidnapping, there have been few instances of serious crime. The two persons believed to have been kidnapped were both men who were in popular disfavor on account of their former Fascist activities.

36. Security. Control of civilian movement by the Civil Police in conjunction with FSS and CMP has resulted in the arrest of a number of suspected spies. Nine cases of illegal possession of arms were detected during the month, the most serious being one in which three civilians were found in possession of 1 machine gun, 2 automatic rifles, and 23 rifles all of German origin, together with several thousand rounds of ammunition. The principal offender was sentenced to 5 years imprisonment. With the exception of one case of cutting signal wire no cases of sabotage have been reported, and in general, the security situation may be considered good.

37. Mag Courts. The number of cases coming before the courts continues to be exceptionally small, and are mainly cases of illegal travel and possession of WD property.

38. Italian Courts. Tribunale continue to function regularly in both Provinces. In FOELI there are 543 penal cases pending of which 275 are ready for hearing. In RAVENNA the court disposed of 54 cases during the month compared with 37 during Jan.

39. All Preture Courts in FOELI are now operating and have been authorized to deal with violation of curfew and requisition regulations as far forward as possible. The tendency to impose adequate sentences in these cases has been checked.

40. In the Province of RAVENNA the Pretore of RAVENNA and FAENZA disposed of 36 cases compared with 31 during the previous month.

41. The Provinces of FOELI and RAVENNA have been included in the jurisdiction of the Tribunale Militare at MACERATA, and permission has been given for sessions to be held in both Provinces.

42. Prisons. There are 197 prisoners in the jails, of whom 116 are undergoing sentence, the remainder being prisoners awaiting trial or detained by FSS. The prison population at date of report, is low. Accommodation for convicted prisoners at RAVENNA remains sufficient

Sheet -8-

Put the improvised gaols for prisoners on short sentences or awaiting trial at FORLI and RAVENNA have not proved satisfactory, and improvement accommodation is being sought for the former, and repair work started on the latter. Four prisoners succeeded in escaping from FORLI prison, but two have been recaptured. There was also an attempted escape by two prisoners at RAVENNA which was prevented by the prison guards.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The mild weather during Feb has helped to maintain the general health of the people at a satisfactory level and has lessened the effect of the general shortage of fuel and fats.

The prevalence of typhoid and paratyphoid infections has diminished. There is now no epidemic and the emphasis is more on prophylaxis rather than on the management of cases.

There have been no cases of typhus but inspection of the gaols indicates that between 40% and 50% of the prisoners are lousy, short term offenders being the ones most liable to infestation. Steps have been taken to correct this and prisoners are now regularly dusted with insecticide.

With the passage of time sanitary conditions in the towns are being progressively improved and water supplies are becoming more plentiful.

Good progress has been made with repairs, and hospitals are now in moderately good condition, and provide adequate accommodation. There is however, considerable room for improvement in hospital diet. The defects are principally due to the inexperience of hospital administrators, but the difficult financial position of the hospitals and lack of sufficient transport are contributory factors.

The number of military ambulances in use has been increased from 6 to 12. These have been of great assistance in evacuating civilian sick and wounded from the forward areas, but more civilian ambulances will be badly needed when the army moves forward, and military vehicles are no longer available.

There has been some improvement during the month but disinfection by EMBLITA cannot yet be said to be working satisfactorily and constant supervision is still required. With regard to drug prices a confused situation exists and HQ.43 has been asked to clarify the Italian decree on this subject.

A number of additional ECA soup kitchens were opened during the month. These are now operating in 16 communes in FORLI and in three of the six liberated communes of RAVENNA. Shortage of supplies prevented ECA from serving all those in need of assistance, but this should be remedied by the special ration scale for collective feeding which has just been authorized by HQ.43.

44. The prevalence of typhoid and paratyphoid infections has diminished. There is now no epidemic and the emphasis is more on prophylaxis rather than on the management of cases.
45. There have been no cases of typhus but inspection of the gaols indicates that between 40% and 50% of the prisoners are lousy, short turn offenders being the ones most liable to infestation. Stores have been taken to correct this and prisoners are now regularly dusted with insecticide.
46. With the passage of time sanitary conditions in the towns are being progressively improved and water supplies are becoming more plentiful.
47. Hospitals. Good progress has been made with repairs, and hospitals are now in moderately good condition, and provide adequate accommodation. There is however, considerable room for improvement in hospital diet. The defects are principally due to the ineptitude of hospital administrators, but the difficult financial position of the hospitals and lack of sufficient transport are contributory factors.
48. Ambulance Service. The number of military ambulances in use has been increased from 6 to 12. There have been of great assistance in evacuating civilian sick and wounded from the forward areas, but more civilian ambulances will be badly needed when the Army moves forward, and military vehicles are no longer available.
49. Medical Supplies. There has been some improvement during the month but distribution by MEDUSA cannot yet be said to be working satisfactorily and constant supervision is still required. With regard to Army prices a confused situation exists and HQ.40 has been asked to clarify the Italian decree on this subject.
50. Welfare. A number of additional ICA soup kitchens were opened during the month. These are now operating in 16 communes in FORLÌ and in three of the six liberated communes of RAVENNA. Shortage of supplies prevented ICA from serving all those in need of assistance, but this should be remedied by the special ration scale for collective feeding which has just been authorized by HQ.40.
51. Education. Officers of the Red Cross are very active in visiting Communes and have recently done much work in supplying badly needed clothing etc and are a great factor in boosting civilian morale.
52. Schools. The re-opening of schools which had formerly been limited to the area in rear of Corps boundaries has now been extended to several places within Corps area. In the majority of cases, school buildings are either damaged or occupied by troops, and classes are being held either in the homes of the teachers or in improvised accommodation. Excellent progress has been made in FORLÌ where

Sheet -9-

schools have been opened in 44 of the 47 communes in the Province. Comparative figures are given below:-

	Total No of Schools	Schools now open
Asili	86	41
Elementary	459	429
Secondary	46	43
Private and Church Schools	9	7

Due to lack of accommodation the number of pupils enrolled does not compare as favourably with the normal figure as the figures above would suggest. A considerable number of pupils were enrolled during the month, but accurate figures are not yet available.

53. In RAVENNA Province re-opening of schools has been authorised in CERVIA and in the SCUDERIA part of RAVENNA commune.

54. Textbooks. 30,000 textbooks and 10,000 copybooks have been distributed and 75,500 textbooks are ready for collection from the printers in FLORENCE.

55. Officials. Vetting of school personnel is well underway. So far, 11 officials have been suspended under authority granted by HQ.40.

REFUGEES.

56. The location of the camps remains unchanged. The principal task during the month was the dispersal within Army area of persons evacuated from specified areas. The total number of refugees dealt with is given below:-

In camp 30 Jan	435
Arrivals	<u>2028</u>
	2463

Dispersed locally 591

Evacuated to rear or to AM
evacuation centres 1205

1756

Leaving in camp 27 Feb 667

The total evacuated out of Army area was 665

FINANCE.

enrolled does not compare as favourably with the normal figure as the figures above would suggest. A considerable number of pupils were enrolled during the month, but accurate figures are not yet available.

53. In RAVENNA Province re-opening of schools has been authorised in CERVIA and in the SCANDURA part of RAVENNA comune.

54. Textbooks. 30,000 textbooks and 10,000 copybooks have been distributed and 75,500 textbooks are ready for collection from the printers in FLORENCE.

55. Officials. Vetting of school personnel is well underway. So far, 11 officials have been suspended under authority granted by HQ.AG.

REFUGEES.

56. The location of the camps remains unchanged. The principal task during the month was the dispersal within Army area of persons evacuated from specified areas. The total number of refugees dealt with is given below:-

In camp 30 Jan	435
Arrivals	<u>2028</u>

2463

Dispersed locally 591

Evacuated to rear or to AM
evacuation centres 1205

1796

667

Leaving in camp 27 Feb

The total evacuated out of Army area was 665

FINANCE.

57. Banks in PARMA were re-opened on 1 Feb after being closed for five months. In RAVENNA the normal regular outflow of currency has been adjusted by the recent increase in wages, and by the hoarding of currency.

58. Provincial and Communal Finance. LCB and SB forms are in use in FORLI and have greatly simplified financing of provincial, communal and parastatal agencies. These forms were also introduced into RAVENNA Province on 1 Mar.

PROPERTY CONTROL

59. A search of the records of Decrees in the Prefects Office at FORLI has so far disclosed nine properties which were sequestered by the Italian Government. Seven of these are American, and the other two are Greek owned. So far, a total of 15 Allied properties have been checked and reported on, in FORLI and RAVENNA Provinces.

Sheet -10-

PATRIOTS.

60. Patriots in forward areas are giving very little trouble from the political angle. Their relations with the Italian "Gruppo" have been excellent from the start and the Bulow band has recently been placed under command of the Gruppo CHERKIA.
61. The Italian Agency engaged in recruiting patriots for the Italian Army has performed useful work. In collaboration with MIA and GS1 (CL) it has been possible to organise recruits for the Italian forces now in the line with EIGHTH Army, but unfortunately the number of recruits offering themselves is larger than the demand.
62. A new Patriot centre was opened at RAVENNA 4 Feb and can accommodate 400-500 Patriots. Movement of patriots through this centre was as follows:-

In	Dispersed	Remaining at the centre
598	168	230

The Under Secretary of State for Occupied Italy visited this centre during the month and expressed satisfaction with what he saw. The majority of Patriots in this area are still operational and it is not expected that they will be demobilised for some time yet. At FAENZA the patriots have been dispersed and the centre is operating merely as a transit camp.

MINE CLEARANCE.

63. A mine clearance school was established at FORLI during Jan at which Patriots and others are trained in mine lifting. This school is run by IAF and is not part of the Italian Ministry's mine clearance zone scheme. So far 48 students have graduated, but it is anticipated that in future the school will be able to train 20 men per week. The mine clearance parties are organised in squads of five to seven men in each, and the first squad began work on 5 Feb and on 19 Feb this was increased to five squads. By the end of the month 504 mines of various types had been lifted.
64. Unfortunately Magg. RASILE, a Patriot representative who volunteered to take charge of the mine clearance scheme, was wounded by the explosion of a mine, which he was lifting, and lost his right arm. A member of the squad was also slightly injured. One man in another squad was wounded in a similar accident and lost one of his legs.

Lucas D. Frank
 for Group Captain.
 Officer Commanding.
 AME EIGHTH Army.

Ex (unclassified)

62. A new Patriot centre was opened at RAVENNA 4 Feb and can accommodate 400-500 Patriots. Movement of patriots through this centre was as follows:-

<u>In</u>	<u>Dispersed</u>	<u>Remaining at the centre</u>
398	163	230

The Under Secretary of State for Occupied Italy visited this centre during the month and expressed satisfaction with what he saw. The majority of Patriots in this area are still operational and it is not expected that they will be demobilised for some time yet. At FAENZA the patriots have been dispersed and the centre is operating merely as a transit camp.

MINE CLEARANCE.

63. A mine clearance school was established at FORLI during Jan at which Patriots and others are trained in mine lifting. This school is run by AMG and is not part of the Italian Ministry's mine clearance zone scheme. So far 48 students have graduated, but it is anticipated that in future the school will be able to train 20 men per week. The mine clearance parties are organised in squads of five to seven men in each, and the first squad began work on 5 Feb and on 19 Feb this was increased to five squads. By the end of the month 504 mines of various types had been lifted.

64. Unfortunately Mgg. BASILE, a Patriot representative who volunteered to take charge of the mine clearance scheme, was wounded by the explosion of a mine, which he was lifting, and lost his right arm. A member of the squad was also slightly injured. One man in another squad was wounded in a similar accident and lost one of his legs.

John D. Trull
John Group Captain.
 Officer Commanding.
 AMF EIGHTH ARMY.

Ex Comm Dist

1 - File Copy

1 - W. S. S. H. H.

1 - Economic Section

1 - Photo-circ to East Sect

1 - Capt Mander

SECRET

SECRET

17 FEB 1945

10 February 1945

HQ ALB EIGHTH ARMY

MONTHLY REPORT FOR JANUARY 1945

17 FEB 1945

HQ., Allied Commission

Copies to: DA & QMG EIGHTH ARMY
 DCS Main EIGHTH ARMY
 DCMO 15 Army Group

EO ALB TOSCANA Region
 EO ALB VENETIA Region
 EO ALB EMILIA Region
 EO ALB FIFTH ARMY

PART IADMINISTRATION.

1.

Advantage has been taken of the lull in operations to embark, to a greater extent than is usually possible in Army area, on longer term projects. As instances of this may be cited the re-opening of schools as far forward as Corps rear boundaries, the re-activation of Italian courts and the delegation to them of the power to try minor violations of AIF orders, and the organization of civilian transport pools. The progress made in the re-organization of labour may also be mentioned in this connection. In addition to the institution of Provincial Labour Offices which will eventually be taken over by the Italian Ministry, the state social insurance offices have all been re-activated.

2.

The "unification" of the staffs of ALB EIGHTH ARMY and EMILIA Region continues to operate smoothly, and has made a material contribution towards the progress achieved during the month.

3.

Good progress has been made in setting up the machinery of Italian Provincial Government.

4.

ATTITUDE OF CIVILIANS.

In this part of ITALY the people are more politically conscious than was the case further SOUTH and, as a large part of the area has been liberated for some months, political activity is on the increase. This has not so far been accompanied by demonstrations and has mainly taken the form of clandestine distribution of party propaganda and preparation for future action. As usual the communist party is by far the best organized but it is difficult to judge the extent of their hold on the mass of the people. It is however noteworthy that landowners have stated that tenants who formerly treated them as friends, now grant them with off-handedness and sullenness. Thus they attribute to communist propaganda. In general the attitude of the civilians towards the Allies is satisfactory.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

... of the population, and

PAGE I

ADMINISTRATION.

1. Advantage has been taken of the 12% in operations to embark, to a greater extent than is usually possible in Army area, on longer term projects. As instances of this may be cited the re-opening of schools as far forward as Corps rear boundaries, the re-activation of Italian courts and the delegation to them of the power to try minor violations of AEF orders, and the organization of civilian transport pools. The progress made in the re-organization of labour may also be mentioned in this connection. In addition to the institution of Provincial Labour Offices which will eventually be taken over by the Italian Ministry, the state social insurance offices have all been re-activated.
2. The "unification" of the staffs of AEF EIGHTH ARMY and EIGHTH REGION continues to operate smoothly, and has made a material contribution towards the progress achieved during the month.
3. Good progress has been made in setting up the machinery of Italian Provincial Government.
4. ATTITUDE OF CIVILIANS.
In this part of ITALY the people are more politically conscious than was the case further SOUTH and, as a large part of the area has been liberated for some months, political activity is on the increase. This has not so far been accompanied by demonstrations and has mainly taken the form of clandestine distribution of party propaganda and preparation for future action. As usual the communist party is by far the best organized but it is difficult to judge the extent of their hold on the mass of the people. It is however noteworthy that Italianers have stated that terrorists who formerly treated them as friends, now greet them with off-handedness and sullenness. This they attribute to communist propaganda. In general the attitude of the civilians towards the allies is satisfactory.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

5. Severe weather has added to the hardships of the population, and provision of fuel has been a major problem. This was partially solved by a controlled programme of tree cutting. Very limited supplies of coal are now being brought by rail to provide the minimum needs of hospitals, schools and bakeries. In the towns there is a considerable amount of over-crowding and owing to war damage and the large number of billets needed for troops this is unavoidable. In TORIN a proposal to evacuate some of the people from their homes to provide room for troops led to a demonstration by some 200 women and children. On the whole however overcrowding due to billeting is accepted as a necessary evil.
6. Stabilisation of the line made it necessary to evacuate a large number of civilians from the most forward areas. This was accomplished without incident. Wherever possible, livestock and such personal effects as could be moved were also evacuated. In many cases however circumstances prevented this. Every effort is being made to safeguard the property.

SECRET

1431

Sheet -2-

7. The typhoid epidemic in the RIMINI-SAN MARINO area is now at an end, and the general standard of health is good.
 8. There are ample stocks of grain, but the surplus must be regarded as a stockpile for regions as yet unliberated.
 9. Meat has been very scarce but as a livestock census in FORLI shows the position to be very much better than was anticipated, a decree is being prepared which, subject to certain restrictions, will permit resumption of slaughtering. Compared with 1941 the position in FORLI is as follows:- Cattle are down by 20%, horses by 24%, and pigs by 9%. Sheep however are up by 7%.
 10. As regards fats, local production of olive oil is very small and will not be of much assistance, but a certain amount of lard will be available in the country districts now that hog slaughtering has begun. With the present ration scales it cannot be said that the people of the towns are well fed, but there is no starvation, and so far no definite signs of undernourishment. The country people have sufficient.
- RECONSTRUCTION.
11. The drainage of flooded areas continues, and much work has been done on the repair of river and canal banks. The level of flood water has been considerably reduced, and much remains to be done.
 12. In RIMINI a special programme of house repair has been initiated. This town was very severely damaged during the fighting.
- TRANSPORT.
13. Civilian transport pools have been organised in the Provinces of FORLI and RAVENNA. Owing to the depredations of the enemy, the number of vehicles available is small. Unless considerably more vehicles are brought to light, there will be insufficient to cope with transportation needs when the Army moves forward and military transport is no longer available.
- PUBLIC SAFETY.
14. The CC, RA and other police agencies are giving loyal service, and their morale is good. Their efficiency however varies in proportion to the time they have been under Allied control. There is still an urgent need for clothing, blankets and equipment.
- PATRIOTS.
15. In the neighbourhood of RAVENNA, patriots gave valuable assistance

the position to be very much better than was anticipated, a decree is being prepared which, subject to certain restrictions, will permit resumption of slaughtering. Compared with 1941 the position in POLI is as follows:- Cattle are down by 23%, horses by 24%, and pigs by 9%. Sheep however are up by 7%.

10. As regards fats, local production of olive oil is very small and will not be of much assistance, but a certain amount of lard will be available in the country districts now that hog slaughtering has begun. With the present ration scales it cannot be said that the people of the towns are well fed, but there is no starvation, and so far no definite signs of undernourishment. The country people have sufficient.

RECONSTRUCTION.

11. The drainage of flooded areas continues, and much work has been done on the repair of river and canal banks. The level of flood water has been considerably reduced, and much remains to be done.
12. In RIVINI a special programme of house repair has been initiated. This town was very severely damaged during the fighting.

TRANSPORT.

13. Civilian transport pools have been organised in the Provinces of POLI and RAVENNA. Owing to the depredations of the enemy, the number of vehicles available is small. Unless considerably more vehicles are brought to light, there will be insufficient to cope with transportation needs when the Army moves forward and military transport is no longer available.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

14. The CC.RR and other police agencies are giving loyal service, and their morale is good. Their efficiency however varies in proportion to the time they have been under Allied control. There is still an urgent need for clothing, blankets and equipment.

PATRIOTS.

15. In the neighbourhood of RAVENNA, patriots gave valuable assistance in evacuating civilians and their livestock from the forward areas. In this sector 500 patriots are still being used in an operational role. In FAENZA however, where patriots have been disbanded, they have been very reluctant to part with their arms, and the number of weapons hoarded in is small.

Sheet -3-

PART IIPOLITICAL REACTIONS AND POPULAR OPINION.

1. Under static conditions such as the present when a large part of the Army area has been liberated for several months, an increase in political activity is to be expected.
2. In FORLI, political activity is increasing, but so far there have been no demonstrations. There is a growing tendency for the various parties to attempt to produce their own news sheets. A considerable amount of political propaganda is being smuggled into both FORLI and RAVENNA, and there is reason to believe that some of this party activity in both Provinces is prompted by party headquarters in ROME. The Communist party is becoming increasingly well organized and there is no doubt that as soon as FORLI ceases to be in Army area this party will be very much to the fore.
3. In RAVENNA, although the CN is co-operative and helpful, it is still necessary to curb a tendency to take the law into its own hands.
4. Many landowners have expressed the opinion that there has been a change in their relationships with their tenants, and where they were formerly greeted as friends, they now meet with offhandness and sul-
lousness. This they ascribe to the activity of the communists.

5. On New Years Day at FORLI, a crowd of 200 women and children demon-
strated against a threat of compulsory evacuation from their homes to pro-
vide billets for troops, but the requirements were reduced and the crowd
dispersed without incident. In general, the overcrowding caused by heavy
billeting of troops is being accepted as a necessary evil, and on the
whole the attitude of the people towards the Allies may be considered
satisfactory.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

6. Food. The food situation remains relatively good, the prin-
cipal shortages in order of importance being olive oil and fats, meat and
milk.
7. As always the lack of food is more acute in the towns
and, as the olive oil received from Food Sub-Commission was insufficient
for a general ration, its distribution was confined to hospitals and to the
inhabitants of large towns. FORLI, CESTRA and FORLI received 4 decilitres
of olive oil per head and RAVENNA and FORLI received 100 grms of lard per
head. Some of the olive oil producing communes were given a ration of 100
grms per head per month from local production but the total production of
the two Provinces is very small.
8. The shortage of meat was partially met from AMG
stocks and a ration of 200 grms of canned meat (or 400 grms of M & V in
lieu) was made available for the towns mentioned above.

to attempt to produce their own news sheets. A considerable amount of political propaganda is being smuggled into both FORLI and RAVENNA, and there is reason to believe that some of this party activity in both Provinces is prompted by party headquarters in ROME. The Communist Party is becoming increasingly well organized and there is no doubt that as soon as FORLI ceases to be in Army area this party will be very much to the fore.

3. In RAVENNA, although the GIN is co-operative and helpful, it is still necessary to curb a tendency to take the law into its own hands.
4. Many landowners have expressed the opinion that there has been a change in their relationships with their tenants, and where they were formerly greeted as friends, they now meet with offhandness and sullenness. This they ascribe to the activity of the communists.
5. On New Years Day at FORLI, a crowd of 200 women and children demonstrated against a threat of compulsory evacuation from their homes to provide billets for troops, but the requirements were reduced and the crowd dispersed without incident. In general, the overcrowding caused by heavy billeting of troops is being accepted as a necessary evil, and on the whole the attitude of the people towards the Allies may be considered satisfactory.

ECONOMIC RESOURCES AND SUPPLY.

6. Food. The food situation remains relatively good, the principal shortages in order of importance being olive oil and fats, meat and milk.
7. As always the lack of food is more acute in the towns and, as the olive oil received from Food Sub-Commission was insufficient for a general ration, its distribution was confined to hospitals and to the inhabitants of large towns. RICCINI, CESTINA and FORLI received 1 decilitre of olive oil per head and RAVENNA and FORLI received 100 grms of lard per head. Some of the olive oil producing communes were given a ration of 100 grms per head per month from local production but the total production of the two Provinces is very small.
8. The shortage of meat was partially met from ALE stocks and a ration of 200 grms of canned meat (or 400 grms of M & V in lieu) was made available for the towns mentioned above.
9. 30 grms of dried milk per day was allocated to 2 1/2% of the population to care for the needs of infants, mothers and hospital patients. Sufficient supplies have now been received to increase this allocation to 50 grms for 5% of the population in February.
10. For those who have not received a bulk issue of grain, the broad ration is 200 grms plus 500 grms of pasta per ~~5435~~ ⁵⁴³⁵at.
11. There is a surplus of some 27,000 tons of grain of which approximately 375 tons were moved to FLORENCE by a military convoy, which would otherwise have gone back empty. 600 tons of old stocks of ALE flour were sent to ROME by rail and will be replaced with freshly milled flour. Food prices have been well controlled and generally speaking are well below those prevailing in other areas.

Sheet 44

12. Fuel Due principally to distribution difficulties there has been a serious shortage of fuel. The steps taken to remedy this are described under "Forestry".
13. Industry. A thorough survey is being made of the factories in the area. Many of these factories are either badly damaged or have been stripped of essential materials and others are occupied by troops. In most cases the plant is driven by electricity and little can be done to reactivate industry until power is restored. Brick, lime and cement works have been restarted on a limited scale and are producing material urgently required for bridge building and similar projects.
14. Transportation. The Autotrasporti di Forlì is now operating. So far, 350 vehicles have been registered by P.A.S.I. and it is hoped that a further 100 trucks will be obtained. No accurate figures can yet be given of the number which are roadworthy, but it is expected that this will be in the neighborhood of 30%. Only 44 vehicles are of 5-ton capacity or over, the remainder being small trucks with a capacity of 1 ton or less. A large garage and workshop has been obtained at FORLÌ and good progress is being made in rendering vehicles fit for the road. Branch offices are also being established at CERRA, RIMINI and GATTOLICA.
15. In RAVENNA the Autotrasporti began working on 22 January with 16 vehicles on the road. So far 55 other vehicles have been declared. The garage has been repaired and machinery has been installed.
- AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.
16. Italian organisations in FORLÌ are beginning to function with renewed authority and grasp of the situation but are handicapped by poor communications. Because of its difficulties in connection with the "accortamenti", UFFER is an unpopular Service and is having difficulty in re-organising. The Provincial Committee of Agriculture appears keen and capable and sub-committees have been formed to give advice on such questions as price fixing. All communal committees in this Province are now operating.
17. In RAVENNA the Consorzio Agrario is slowly coming to life but cannot as yet be considered an efficient organisation. The Provincial Committee of Agriculture has not yet met owing to a delay in nominating the labourers' representative.
18. Grain del Populo. Owing to restrictions on movement, the prohibition of animal transport on many roads and shortage of storage, it has not been possible to collect anything like the total quantity of grain which is available. For small farmers, local holding centres are being opened and grain will be collected from these centres by motor transport. Total quantities collected by all methods so far amount to:-

FORLÌ	4,400 tons
RAVENNA	12,500 tons

urgently required for bridge building and similar projects.

14. Transportation. The Autotrasporti di Forlì is now operating. So far, 350 vehicles have been registered by R.A.O.I. and it is hoped that a further 100 trucks will be obtained. No accurate figures can yet be given of the number which are roadworthy, but it is expected that this will be in the neighborhood of 80%. Only 44 vehicles are of 5-ton capacity or over, the remainder being small trucks with a capacity of 1 ton or less. A large garage and workshop has been obtained at FORLÌ and good progress is being made in rendering vehicles fit for the road. Branch offices are also being established at CESTNA, RIMINI and CARPIGNA.

15. In RAVENNA the Autotrasporti began working on 22 January with 16 vehicles on the road. So far 55 other vehicles have been declared. The garage has been repaired and machinery has been installed.

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES.

16. Italian organisations in FORLÌ are beginning to function with renewed authority and grasp of the situation but are handicapped by poor communications. Because of its difficulties in connection with the "accertamenti", UPSEA is an unpopular Service and is having difficulty in re-organising. The Provincial Committee of Agriculture appears keen and capable and sub-committees have been formed to give advice on such questions as price fixing. All communal committees in this Province are now operating.

17. In RAVENNA the Consorzio Agrario is slowly coming to life but cannot as yet be considered an efficient organisation. The Provincial Committee of Agriculture has not yet met owing to a delay in nominating the labourers' representative.

18. Grain del Popolo. Owing to restrictions on movement, the prohibition of animal transport on many roads and shortage of storage, it has not been possible to collect anything like the total quantity of grain which is available. For small farmers, local holding centres are being opened and grain will be collected from these centres by motor transport. Total quantities collected by all methods so far amount to:-

FORLÌ	4,400 tons
RAVENNA	12,500 tons

There is therefore a large quantity lying on the farms which has not been tied up by contract. Owing to the abundance of grain and difficulty of movement this has not so far resulted in any serious leakage of grain, but if the Army moves forward and travel restrictions are relaxed the position might rapidly become dangerous. The long promised Ministerial Decree on this subject is still awaited but in the meantime no serious distress on account of the farmers' inability to sell their grain has been reported.

19. The authority given for feeding spoilt grain to animals unfortunately came too late to be of more than partial value as by the time it arrived a great deal of the wet grain had become useless even for stock.

Sheet 5

20. Olive Oil. The "accertamento" has been completed. The progress made in the collection of the oil is shown below.

	Quintals
Collected and distributed	63.71
Collected and NOT yet distributed	11.53
Still to be collected	50.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>125.24</u>

Totals for previous years were:-

	Quintals
1941/42	270
1942/43	573
1943/44	45

The figures for 1942/43 are high because large quantities of olives were imported from ABRUZZI-MARONE.

21. Sugar Beet. Destruction of factories made it impossible to process last years crop. As it has been decided to re-activate the factory at GEMMA plans have been made to plant 2,600 hectares for this year. This is of course very much less than in previous years when several factories were available.

22. Livestock. A livestock census of FORLÌ Province was completed during the month and as anticipated disclosed a very much better position than was at one time thought possible, and with care FORLÌ can soon be built up to a position where it will be possible to export livestock to more needy areas. The census figures are:-

	Head of Stock	Comparison with 1941
Cattle	81,106	- 2%
Swine	42,265	- 3%
Horses	6,585	- 24%
Sheep	40,752	+ 7%

Figures for RAVENNA are NOT yet available.

23. Spring Cultivation. Cultivation for spring sowing is well advanced. In FORLÌ Province a "help your neighbour" policy has been instituted to overcome the shortage of work stock and tractors. In RAVENNA there is no lack of tractors. In this Province considerable areas were flooded by the enemy but it is believed that a grain crop can be grown on the silt if these are drained in time. On the whole the crop prospects for the coming year are hopeful.

24. Forestry. During January all efforts were concentrated on the provision of wood for fuel, and timber for constructional purposes. The normal sources of supply are in the mountains and are largely inaccessible. The problem has

Totals for previous years were:-

Quintals
270
573
45

1941/42
1942/43
1943/44

The figures for 1942/43 are high because large quantities of olives were imported from ABRUZZI-MOLISE.

21. Sugar Beet.

Destruction of factories made it impossible to process last years crop. As it has been decided to re-activate the factory at GENNA plans have been made to plant 2,600 hectares for this year. This is of course very much less than in previous years when several factories were available.

22. Livestock.

A livestock census of FORLI Province was completed during the month and as anticipated disclosed a very much better position than was at one time thought possible, and with care FORLI can soon be built up to a position where it will be possible to export livestock to more needy areas. The census figures are:-

	Head of Stock	Comparison with 1941
Cattle	51,106	- 23%
Swine	45,265	- 9%
Horses	5,505	- 24%
Sheep	40,752	+ 7%

Figures for RAVENNA are NOT yet available.

23. Spring Cultivation. Cultivation for spring sowing is well advanced. In FORLI Province a "help your neighbour" policy has been instituted to overcome the shortage of work stock and tractors. In RAVENNA there is no lack of tractors. In this Province considerable areas were flooded by the enemy but it is believed that a grain crop can be grown on the silt if these are drained in time. On the whole the crop prospects for the coming year are hopeful.

24. Forestry. During January all efforts were concentrated on the provision of wood for fuel, and timber for constructional purposes. The normal sources of supply are in the mountains and are largely inaccessible due either to blown bridges or winter conditions. The problem has therefore been one of finding alternative sources of supply.

25. In most communes there exists parks or scattered woodlands and each commune has been made responsible for obtaining as much fuel as possible from its own resources. In the commune of FORLI for example, thirty parks and woodlands have been thinned ^{of} ~~34~~ ³⁴ this way and have produced 7360 quintals of fuel. To prevent indiscriminate destruction, trees to be felled are selected and marked by the Guardia Forestale, and the Sindaco is responsible for obtaining the owners consent; requisitioning has so far been avoided. Communes which are unable to obtain sufficient fuel for their needs are receiving supplies from the Pineta di Classe and other pine woods in RAVENNA.

Sheet -6-

26. HQ. AD has been asked to supply saws, axes and files. Files are urgently needed for sharpening saws, but none has so far been received. It is understood that this is due to the fact that selling prices and distribution procedure have not yet been fixed.
27. Fisheries.
Resumption of fishing is closely bound up with considerations of military and naval security. As an experimental measure the Royal Navy has granted permission for fishing to be resumed at CATOLICA, 400 metres from the shore during daylight.
- LABOUR.
28. Italian Organizations. Shortly before the arrival of the Allies, Fascist Labour offices ceased to function either of their own volition or as a consequence of action by the GIM, and during the month were formally declared illegal by the vesting of an AF Order. Provincial Labour Offices have been organized, but owing to difficulty in finding suitable Directors these offices are so far operating only as communal employment bureau.
29. A high degree of co-ordination has been achieved between AF civilian labour programme and the DDL FIGHTER ARMY and the Civil Labour Units.
30. Previdenza Sociale, Infortuni and Malattia have all been reactivated. They are adequately supplied with funds and in spite of a lack of records are functioning fully in both provinces.
31. Trade Union Developments. While the formation of trade unions in Army Area is not formally authorized, their existence is not forbidden provided they refrain from demonstrations, and manifestos, etc. In RAVENNA, the Camera del Lavoro and the Federation of Cooperatives both actively opposed the opening of a Provincial Labour Office on the grounds that it interfered with Syndical functions, but withdrew their opposition after the purpose of the Labour Office had been explained to them. All the Camera in this area are organized as part of the GIM. They do not appear to be either unduly political or dominated by any one party, and although they are still suspicious of the new Labour offices, they have, on the whole, proved helpful and co-operative in recruitment of labour for the Army. They have however been guilty of breaches of security regulations in distributing union materials and directives.
32. Wages.
As from 1 February all wages in Army Area will be placed on the same footing as elsewhere, and the full "bonus" will be paid to employees of the Allied Forces. Salaries of public servants will be increased retrospectively from the approximate date of liberation of the Provincial capital.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

33. Buildings.
It is estimated that a total of 350 buildings were destroyed in the Province of ROME, in RAVENNA reliable

LABOUR.

28. Italian Organisations. Shortly before the arrival of the Allies, Fascist Labour offices ceased to function either of their own volition or as a consequence of action by the GIN, and during the month were formally declared illegal by the posting of an AIF Order. Provincial Labour Offices have been organised, but owing to difficulty in finding suitable Directors these offices are so far operating only as casual employment bureau.

29. A high degree of co-ordination has been achieved between AIF civilian labour programme and the DDL, DIOETH Army and the Civil Labour Units.

30. Previdenza Sociale, Infortuni and Malattia have all been reactivated. They are adequately supplied with funds and in spite of a lack of records are functioning fully in both Provinces.

31. Trade Union Developments. While the formation of trade unions in Army Area is not formally authorised, their existence is not forbidden provided they refrain from demonstrations, and manifestos, etc. In RAVENNA, the Camera del Lavoro and the Federazione of Cooperatives both actively opposed the opening of a Provincial Labour Office on the grounds that it interfered with Syndical functions, but withdrew their opposition after the purpose of the Labour Office had been explained to them. All the Camere in this area are organized as part of the GIN. They do not appear to be either wholly political or dominated by any one party, and although they are still suspicious of the new Labour offices, they have, on the whole, proved helpful and co-operative in recruitment of labour for the Army. They have however been guilty of breaches of security regulations in distributing union materials and directives.

32. Wages. As from 1 February all wages in Army Area will be placed on the same footing as elsewhere, and the full "bonus" will be paid to employees of the Allied Forces. Salaries of public servants will be increased retrospectively from the approximate date of liberation of the Provincial capital.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES.

33. Bridges. It is estimated that a total of 350 bridges were destroyed in the Province of FORLÌ. In RAVENNA reliable figures are not yet available. In many cases the communes have shown initiative and have made temporary repairs to a number of the smaller bridges. In CESTRA, for example, 65 bridges were destroyed, of which about 30 have been temporarily repaired for light traffic. Of the bridges which are being rebuilt or repaired by AIF troops, completed during the month. Work on eight other bridges is proceeding, but adverse weather and difficulty in obtaining bricks and other materials has hampered progress. Plans and estimates for nine other bridges have been approved.

Sheet -7-

34. Housing. A special programme of house repair has been initiated at RIVOLI to cope with the very extensive damage which this town suffered from bombardment. Of the present population of 55,000 it is estimated that 5,000 are now forced to live in improvised huts and shacks on the outskirts of the town, while another 15,000 are existing in very badly damaged houses, many of which are beyond repair. A group of Italian architects, engineers and builders have developed an ambitious long range plan for the construction of a new RIVOLI after the war and this plan has been approved by the Italian Ministry. In the meantime debris is being cleared from the streets and repair work is being pressed forward with material salvaged from the rubble.
35. Water Supplies. Repairs to the water and sewage distribution systems at RIVOLI are being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The water pipeline to SANTEA is being repaired by Army engineers. Since pipeline of the proper size is not available, broken sections are being replaced by smaller pipe and it is estimated that when completed it will supply 25% of the quantity formerly delivered by this pipeline. In RIVOLI the situation is becoming serious owing to the shortage of water, and the consequent lack of efficient flushing of drains and sewers. The presence of a very large number of troops in addition to the civilian population accentuates the difficulties. The continued absence of electric power for driving the water pumps is the main cause, and efforts are being made to obtain a supply of electric current for this purpose.
36. Flood Control. During the month good progress has been made in draining flooded areas. In addition to the pumping stations restarted during December, the pumping station at FOSSA GELIA (M 6552) has been repaired and one of its pumps has begun to operate. Arrangements have been made to move two of the pumps from this station to a station four miles SOUTH of GELIA where the pumps have been completely destroyed. Owing to the risk of reflooding in the spring, the Army is anxious that cycles on the FONCO, MONTE, UMBRI, SEVING and SAVIO rivers should be repaired by 15 March, and arrangements have been made for this work to be carried out by civilian agencies assisted by Royal Engineers.
- PUBLIC SAFETY.
37. Police. (a) CO. RE. Although some supplies of clothing have been received for CO. RE the shortage of uniforms, blankets and boots remains acute. Due to this and the severe weather there has been a good deal of sickness but in spite of these handicaps, morale on the whole is good.
- (b) Other Police Agencies. Pubblica Sicurezza, Guardia Municipale, Guardia di Finanza and Corpo Forestale have all been reactivated and are beginning to function satisfactorily. The remnants under CO. RE apply equally to these Agencies.
38. Security. A large quantity of civilian mail is being smuggled into and out of Army Area, and there is little doubt that a great deal of this is carried by persons who have been given permission to enter the area. While there is no evidence that these letters contain anything subversive, these illicit communications do constitute a

35. Water Supplies. Repairs to the water and sewage distribution systems at RIVERA are being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The water pipeline to RIVERA is being repaired by Army engineers. Since pipeline of the proper size is not available, broken sections are being replaced by smaller pipe and it is estimated that when completed it will supply 25% of the quantity formerly delivered by this pipeline. In RIVERA the situation is becoming serious owing to the shortage of water, and the consequent lack of efficient flushing of drains and sewers. The presence of a very large number of troops in addition to the civilian population accentuates the difficulties. The continued absence of electric power for driving the water pumps is the main cause, and efforts are being made to obtain a supply of electric current for this purpose.

36. Flood Control. During the month good progress has been made in draining flooded areas. In addition to the pumping stations restarted during December, the pumping station at POSEA CHIAIA (M 6352) has been repaired and one of its pumps has begun to operate. Arrangements have been made to move two of the pumps from this station to a station four miles SOUTH of CERRIA where the pumps have been completely destroyed. Owing to the risk of reflooding in the spring, the Army is anxious that dykes on the PONCO, MONTONE, UMBEL, SEVANO and SAVIO rivers should be repaired by 15 March, and arrangements have been made for this work to be carried out by civilian agencies assisted by Royal Engineers.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

37. Police. (a) CC.RR. Although some supplies of clothing have been received for CC.RR the shortage of uniforms, blankets and boots remains acute. Due to this and the severe weather there has been a good deal of sickness but in spite of these handicaps, morale on the whole is good.

(b) Other Police Agencies. Pubblica Sicurezza, Guardia Municipali, Guardia di Finanza and Corpo Forestale have all been reactivated and are beginning to function satisfactorily. The remnants under CC.RR apply equally to these agencies.

38. Security. A large quantity of civilian mail is being smuggled into and out of Army Area, and there is little doubt that a great deal of this is carried by persons who have been given permission to enter the area. While there is no evidence that these letters contain anything subversive, these illicit communications do constitute a threat to security. Apart from this the security situation is satisfactory.

39. ME Courts. Summary Courts are being held regularly and offenders are being dealt with promptly. Superior Courts are being held as and when necessary. There has been a big reduction in the number of cases of illegal travel and the number of cases of all crimes coming before the Courts is surprisingly low; few are of a serious nature.

40. Court during the month. In one case the defendant was sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for possession of arms. The other defendant was sentenced to one year for possession of arms and to 6 years on each of two charges of assaulting Allied soldiers. All sentences to be current.

Sheet -8-

41. Italian Courts. The Tribunale in RAVENNA reopened 3 Jan (29 days after occupation) and the Tribunale in FORLÌ is also functioning. In FORLÌ all Preture Courts are operating with the exception of GALLARA, FOCCA S GASCIANO and LAGRO DI ROMANA. In the Southern portion of the Province the Preture have been authorized to try curfew and travel cases. These have been disposed of promptly but sentences tend to be inadequate.

42. Prisons. Although some prisons were destroyed and others are being used as Military Detention Barracks there is sufficient accommodation at present for civilian prisoners under sentence, but there is a shortage of accommodation for persons detained for trial.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

43. Health. On the whole, the health of the people remains good and, considering the lack of fuel and clothing, is standing up well to the rigours of winter. Typhoid, Paratyphoid and Diphtheria are the main problems. The two former are diminishing and the epidemic in the RIMINI-SAN MARINO area can be considered at an end. In general, it can be said that there is now no undue prevalence of communicable diseases. It is difficult to assess the standard of nutrition, but at present the effects of undernourishment appear to be more potential than actual. The present ration scale, however, if continued for many months, will undoubtedly have an adverse effect, particularly in the case of adolescents.

44. Hospitals. Limited supplies of blankets, coal and window glass are being obtained and will ease to some extent the difficulties experienced in re-equipping and repairing hospitals. More hospital accommodation is needed for chronic cases and aged persons. Arrangements are being made to supply separate accommodation for these classes in order to make room for the increased number of wounded and acutely sick, which is to be expected when the Army advances. While hospital accommodation is sufficient, the hospitals are inadequately heated and lack sufficient blankets. As regards food, the complete supplementary ration has not been forthcoming and in some cases Italian hospital authorities are not showing sufficient initiative in obtaining basic foodstuffs locally.

45. Ambulance Service. A few communes have their own ambulance or improvised vehicles, but more ambulances are badly needed, together with tires to put immobilized vehicles back on the road. Regular evacuation of patients is at present dependent upon Army vehicles and six Army ambulances are now being employed on this work.

46. Welfare Agencies. During the month further advances of cash have been made to the Ente Comunale Assistenza for relief work. Communal budgets for the period - January/March have been called for. In RIMINI the EMA has established four soup kitchens and is providing a hot soup meal for 1,200 persons per day.

47. An allocation of clothing has been received for FORLÌ Province and is being distributed through committees set up by

PUBLIC HEALTH.

43. Health. On the whole, the health of the people remains good and, considering the lack of fuel and clothing, is standing up well to the rigours of winter. Typhoid, Paratyphoid and Diphtheria are the main problems. The two former are diminishing and the epidemic in the RIMINI-SAN MARINO area can be considered at an end. In general, it can be said that there is now no undue prevalence of communicable diseases. It is difficult to assess the standard of nutrition, but at present the effects of undernourishment appear to be more potential than actual. The present ration scale, however, if continued for many months, will undoubtedly have an adverse effect, particularly in the case of adolescents.

44. Hospitals. Limited supplies of blankets, coal and window glass are being obtained and will ease to some extent the difficulties experienced in re-equipping and repairing hospitals. More hospital accommodation is needed for chronic cases and aged persons. Arrangements are being made to supply separate accommodation for these classes in order to make room for the increased number of wounded and acutely sick, which is to be expected when the Army advances. While hospital accommodation is sufficient, the hospitals are inadequately heated and lack sufficient blankets. As regards food, the complete supplementary ration has not been forthcoming and in some cases Italian hospital authorities are not showing sufficient initiative in obtaining basic foodstuffs locally.

45. Ambulance Service. A few communes have their own ambulance or improvised vehicles, but more ambulances are badly needed, together with tires to put immobilized vehicles back on the road. Regular evacuation of patients is at present dependent upon Army vehicles and six Army ambulances are now being employed on this work.

46. Welfare Agencies. During the month further advances of cash have been made to the Ente Comunale Assistenza for relief work. Communal budgets for the period - January/March have been called for. In RIMINI the ECA has established four soup kitchens and is providing a hot soup meal for 1,200 persons per day.

47. An allocation of clothing has been received for FORLÌ Province and is being distributed through committees set up by the Red Cross in the communes.

48. It has proved difficult to find a competent person who is able to take on the full time, unpaid position of Provincial Commissioner of ONMI.

EDUCATION.

49. In FORLÌ Province the programme of re-opening as many schools as possible in rear of Corps boundaries has been continued. Where school buildings are available, two, three and sometimes four sessions are held daily, in order to accommodate the maximum number of pupils. In cases where buildings are either destroyed or occupied by troops, the children are being taught in the homes of the teachers. Including Asili,

Sheet -9-

a total of 244 schools of various types are now open, with 18,770 children. 16,000 textbooks have been distributed and another 90,000 are being prepared for shipment from FLORENCE.

50. The whole of RAVENNA Province is forward of Gerys rear boundary, but permission has now been given for some schools to be re-opened in this area during the coming month.

51. Authority has been received to suspend Provveditori, inspectors, and school directors whose past records reveal strong Fascist sympathies. School Personnel have been completed by 74 officials, but suspensions have been deferred until General Order No 67 has been revised to permit this procedure.

52. Arrangements are being made to introduce school lunches for children attending Asili and Scuole Medie.

REFUGEES.

53. A considerable amount of work has been involved in the evacuation and dispersal of people cleared from forward areas. Total of refugees dealt with is shown below:

In camp, 27 December 1944		434
Arrivals		<u>6153</u>
Total		<u>6697</u>
Dispersed locally		1103
Evacuated to rear or to AIF		
evacuation centres	<u>5062</u>	<u>6172</u>
Leaving in camp 30 January 1945		435

The total number evacuated out of Army area was 5369.

54. A large number of persons were rehoused locally without passing through the camps. Special arrangements were made to safeguard property in houses and for the custody of livestock etc, evacuated from the forward zone. Excellent co-operation was given by all the units concerned.

55. The location of the camps remained unchanged throughout the month. The shortage of bedding has been eased by the receipt of 1000 blankets, together with 2000 socks, which have been converted into galliasses. All camps are now being supplied with necessary medical stores and with a reasonable amount of soap.

56. Special dinners were given, either on Christmas Day or shortly afterwards, to 1500 children under 12 years of age who lived in areas where they were not provided for by Army units or other organisations.

ios. Schiede Personnel have been exulted by 74 officials, but suspensions have been deferred until General Order No 67 has been revised to permit this procedure.

52. Arrangements are being made to introduce school lunches for children attending Asili and Scuole Medie.

REFUGEES.

53. A considerable amount of work has been involved in the evacuation and dispersal of people cleared from forward areas. Total of refugees dealt with is shown below:

In camp, 27 December 1944	434
Arrivals	<u>6152</u>
Total	<u>6586</u>
Dispersed locally	1103
Evacuated to rear or to AF evacuation centres	<u>5069</u>
Leaving in camp 30 January 1945	435

The total number evacuated out of Army area was 5369.

54. A large number of persons were rehoused locally without passing through the camps. Special arrangements were made to safeguard property in houses and for the custody of livestock etc, evacuated from the forward zone. Excellent co-operation was given by all the units concerned.

55. The location of the camps remained unchanged throughout the month. The shortage of bedding has been eased by the receipt of 1000 blankets, together with 2000 sacks, which have been converted into palliasses. All camps are now being supplied with necessary medical stores and with a reasonable amount of soap.

56. Special dinners were given, either on Christmas Day or shortly afterwards, to 1500 children under 12 years of age who lived in areas where they were not provided for by Army units or other organizations.

FINANCE.

57. Provincial and Communal Finance. In FORLÌ Province the LGB and SB Forms are now in use and all advances are being made through these media. The same system will be put into force in RAVENNA as soon as the Italian officials have been instructed in the use of these forms.

58. Banks. Reports from FORLÌ indicate a stronger cash position with slightly lower deposits. In RAVENNA the currency position has been strengthened by the transfer of a total of L. 9,000,000 from the Bank of Italy in RIMINI and URSINA. Despite shortages of personnel and occasional enemy shelling, the banks in LEGNOCIAVALLO and NUZZI have been re-opened and are functioning satisfactorily.

5432

Sheet -10-

59. Property Control. No records of sequestrations have yet been received from the Intendente di Firenze at FORLI. All records were destroyed and new ones are being obtained by making a search of the records of decrees in the Prefect's office. Records of three sequestrations have been received from the Intendente di Firenze at RAVENNA.

PATRIOTS.

60. During the month a ceremony was held at FIRENZA for the distribution of certificates. A small quantity of arms has been collected, but the patriots in this district are very reluctant to hand in their arms, and strong action may be necessary. After considerable difficulty in finding accommodation a Patriot Centre has been opened in this town. In the RAVENNA area patriots are still employed in an operational role.
61. An Italian Recruiting Agency has now arrived and has established its headquarters at FORLI, but has not been in operation long enough for a report to be made on its activities.
62. The mine clearance school has completed its first course and 15 patriots from FORLI Province have graduated. A course for patriots and others from RAVENNA will begin early in February.

H. H. S. Hartley ^{1st Col}
for Group Captain,
Officer Commanding,
4th BATTAL ARMY.

E.C. Dow

1 file copy C.S.O. E.C. C.C.
1 C.A.
1 Econ.
1 Capt Thorden
1 P.R.B. to circulate to
L. H. S. C.

strong action may be necessary. After considerable difficulty in finding accommodation, a Patriot Centre has been opened in this town. In the RAVENNA area patriots are still employed in an operational role.

61. An Italian Recruiting Agency has now arrived and has established its headquarters at FORLI, but has not been in operation long enough for a report to be made on its activities.

62. The mine clearance school has completed its first course and 15 patriots from FORLI Province have graduated. A course for patriots and others from RAVENNA will begin early in February.

H. H. S. Hartley ^{1st Col}
for Group Captain
Officer Commanding.
AND BRIGHT ARMY.

E.C. Dist

1 file copy C.S.O. E.C. C.E.
1 C.A.
1 Econ
1 Capt Thorden
1 P.R.B. to circulate to
Est 4 Pol

1813

SECRET

HQ AIR BURNING ARMY

10 January 1945

NO FINAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1945

11 1945

HQ Allied Commission

Copies to: DA & GUS IGHM ARMY
DGS Main BURNING ARMY
DGS 15 ARMY Group

RG AIR TOSCANIA Region
RG AIR VENEZIA Region
RG AIR TRIESTE Region
RG AIR FRIULI ARMY.

Part I

17 GEN 1945

NEW TERRITORY

1. Additional territory was liberated in the province of RAVENNA, and the capital of the province was captured on 5 December.

REMARKS.

2. Patriots in ROMAN Province have now either returned to their normal occupations or are doing work with the Army as Labour squads. In RAVENNA Province, some 300 Patriots are employed in an operational role. The majority are reported to be first class men doing fine work.

ATTITUDE OF THE CIVILIANS.

3. (a) The attitude of the civilians towards the Allies may be considered satisfactory. Anti-fascist groups, established by the Army in RAVENNA, ROMAN and TRIESTE, have proved effective, and a noticeable improvement in the attitude of the people has resulted.

(b) There was a stronger undercurrent of political feeling in the area than has been encountered hitherto. It came to the surface soon after a speech by BOCCI, which was interpreted by the Committees of National Liberation to mean that they were the representatives of the Italian Government in liberated, as well as occupied Italy. It was necessary to explain to them, very firmly, that this was not the case and that the only government permissible in an Army area must necessarily be Military Government. This position appears to have been accepted, and repressive measures were not required. Action taken against the Committees of National Liberation is a matter of some delicacy, as it is liable to be construed as action against the Communist Party, because, although the Committees are composed of all six parties, it is the Communist Party which is best organized, most active and most vocal.

(c) Though there has been little or no crime, there has been considerable unauthorized movement of civilians. The problem is requiring attention.

CONDITION OF THE CIVILIANS.

4. The area is almost entirely agricultural and as usual the countryman is in a far better position than the townsman as far as basic necessities are concerned. There is no shortage of grain, and in the whole, despite an acute shortage of oils and fats, the food situation is not unsatisfactory. A serious shortage of fuel, however, particularly in the winter, is the cause of concern. The coal used is mainly wood ob-

REMARKS.

2. Patriots in COMA Province have now either returned to their normal occupations or are doing work with the Army as labour squads. In RAVIA Province, some 300 Patriots are employed in an operational role. The majority are reported to be first class men doing fine work.

ATTITUDE OF THE CIVILIANS.

3. (a) The attitude of the civilians towards the Allies may be considered satisfactory. Anti-looting patrols, established by the Army in RAVIA, COMA and RAVIA, have proved effective, and a noticeable improvement in the attitude of the people has resulted.
- (b) There runs a stronger undercurrent of political feeling in the area than has been encountered hitherto. It came to the surface soon after a speech by ROLOH, which was interpreted by the Committees of National Liberation to mean that they were the representatives of the Italian Government in liberated, as well as occupied Italy. It was necessary to explain to them, very firmly, that this was not the case and that the only government permissible in an Army area must necessarily be Military Government. This position appears to have been accepted, and repressive measures were not required. Action taken against the Committees of National Liberation is a matter of some delicacy, as it is liable to be construed as action against the Communist Party, because, although the Committees are composed of all six parties, it is the Communist Party which is best organised, most active and most vocal.
- (c) Though there has been little or no crime, there has been considerable unauthorised movement of civilians. The problem is receiving attention.

CONDITION OF THE CIVILIAN.

4. The area is almost entirely agricultural and as usual the countryside is in a far better position than the terrain as far as basic necessities are concerned. There is no shortage of grain, and on the whole, despite an acute shortage of oils and fats, the food situation is not unsatisfactory. A serious shortage of fuel, however, particularly in the towns, is the cause of concern. The fuel used is mainly wood obtained from the mountainous areas, which owing to the destruction of bridges and lack of suitable transport, are now largely inaccessible. Sufficient wood is being obtained from local sources in the plain to keep the batteries going, but supplies for the Italian Army are very scarce. Generally speaking, the health of the people has so far been good, apart from an epidemic of typhoid, which is now falling. Of the larger towns, RAVIA is the most heavily damaged, and the housing problem there is acute. In the forward areas there has been no critical evacuation problem, but with the coming of winter the Army's need of quarters is expected to increase and plans to deal with this are in hand.

SECRET

189

sheet 2.

So far these floods have been met without too drastic a disturbance of the inhabitants. Evacuation of refugees has, however, been necessary.

WORK OF RECONSTRUCTION.

5. (a) In the province of RAVENNA, where large areas were flooded by enemy action, work has begun on repairs to branches in river and canal banks and on the restoration of pumping stations. The flooded areas are already considerably reduced. In the province of FERRARA the reconstruction of bridges along the major roads has begun and plans have been laid for dealing with minor roads.
- (b) Throughout the area civilian motor transport is almost non-existent, and some military is being used to reconstruction such vehicles as were captured by the Germans. While the most essential tasks are being met with U.D. transport, the lack of vehicles is inevitably impeding progress in many directions.
- (c) Factories have been badly damaged. Those which it is hoped to restart, await the arrival of electric power. Reactivation is therefore largely confined to brick, cement and lime works.

Part II

GENERAL.

1. Territory liberated during Dec was all in the Province of RAVENNA and the capital of the Province was captured 5 Dec. With the possible exceptions of FERRARA and FERRARA this town is richer in art treasures than any other city in Italy, and although RAVENNA was both bombed and shelled the damage to historic monuments is considerably less than anticipated. It is pleasing to record that there has been no vandalism on the part of the troops and in the words of an officer, "the presence of British Army in RAVENNA has been one of the brightest chapters in my experience".
2. FERRARA was captured during Dec after heavy and prolonged fighting during which it suffered considerable damage. Other places occupied during the month include MARZANO (12217) and CAVALLI (5439) and RUSSI (14336).
3. The 72nd R. team was moved forward to RAV. on 24 Dec ready to take over that Province as and when it is liberated.
4. Responsibility for matters concerning SALIZADA was turned over to Italian Region on 18 Dec. With this exception no additional territory has been handed over to Regional control and the area administered by the...

(b) Throughout the area civilian motor transport is almost non-existent, but every car or truck is being used to recondition such vehicles as remain unused by the Germans. While the most essential work is being done with V.D. equipment, the lack of vehicles is inevitably slowing progress in many directions.

(c) Factories have been badly damaged. Those which it is hoped to restart, await the arrival of electric power. Reactivation is therefore largely confined to brick, cement and lime works.

Part II

General.

1. Territory liberated during Dec was all in the Province of RAVENNA and the capital of the Province was captured 5 Dec. With the possible exceptions of RAVENNA and FERRARA this town is richer in art treasures than any other city in Italy, and although RAVENNA has both bombed and shelled the damage to historic monuments is considerably less than anticipated. It is pleasing to record that there has been no vandalism on the part of the troops and in the words of the officer, "the presence of the German Army in RAVENNA has been one of the brightest chapters in my experience".

2. Ferrara was captured during Dec after heavy and prolonged fighting during which it suffered considerable damage. Other places occupied during the month include BRIGLIANA (12217) and OZZINO (13439) and RUSSI (14336).

3. The Ferrara team was moved forward to RAVENNA 24 Dec ready to take over that Province as and when it is liberated.

4. Responsibility for matters concerning Ferrara was turned over to Emilia Region on 18 Dec. With this exception no additional territory has been handed over to Regional control and the area administered by this HQ covers the greater part of Ferrara, and the whole of Reggio, less a small corner of the Province which comes under Fifth Army.

5. To accelerate the rehabilitation of the area administered by this HQ, a special administrative HQ has been set up composed of staff officers of Emilia Region working under General SLOTT. While both staffs retain their separate identity, they are in effect working as one team. Officers of this HQ are acting mainly in a liaison capacity with other branches of the Army staff while Emilia Region officers are charged with the administration of the civilian population. By this means full use can be made of several specialist officers not normally present at this HQ. In earlier staff orders to be in permanent rehabilitation and few, if any, reinforcements will be necessary when the territory passes to Regional control. This "amalgamation" took effect from 2359 hrs 9 Dec 44. Judging by results so far, this experiment should prove successful.

Sheet 3.

POLITICAL.

6. The bribe to political parties to refrain from all activity appears on the surface to be meeting with compliance. There is however the usual underground which is far stronger here than has been the case elsewhere. A broadcast report of a speech by BOLLI in which he said that the CL were the representatives of the Italian Government in occupied Italy (the last two words were omitted from the report) was interpreted by the CL as a mandate to take over local administration. It was necessary to explain to them very firmly that this was not the case and the only government permissible in an Army area must necessarily be Military Government. Outrilly at least this position has now been accepted by the CL without repressive measures being required. Although the CL are composed of all six parties the communist party is invariably best organized and most active. This raises a delicate situation as action against the CL is in practice action against the communist party and gives the appearance of discrimination against that party. In fact a communist appears to be based on a traditional position to the hierarchy which has existed for many years. It was noted however that when Prince Umberto paid a short visit to the town his reception in the streets was not uniformly. Another situation calling for firm but careful handling is the rough justice meted out by partisans to Fascists during and shortly after the arrival of our troops. In Livorno for example 7 Fascists were killed.

7. Before the arrival of the Allies the CL in Livorno was very active. On the whole it has been a help rather than a hindrance. In 1941 however the CL were more inclined to interfere with the nomination of Provincial officials. These difficulties appear to have been smoothed over for the time being at least. On the whole, the attitude of the people of both Provinces towards the Allies is considered satisfactory.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

8. LIVORNO. Provincial HQ was established at the Prefettura 9 Dec. The Prefect, a career official from SARDIGNIA, moved in with the Provincial Town and appears to be functioning satisfactorily so far. In the three weeks which have since elapsed, the principal offices of the Prefettura have been put into operation - in most cases under temporary chiefs. Sindaco have been installed at LIVORNO, BELLUNO, RUSTI, RACINE, ARNICO, BRISIGNELLA, FERRARA and GROSSE. A Giunta comunale have been set up in ARNICO and RUSTI with a Giunta Ponderale in the Provinces.
9. FORLI. Good progress continues to be made in Provincial administration. Lack of communications is one of the principal difficulties, and every effort is being made to assist the Italian officials in this respect as far as considerations of security will permit. In this connection it has been noted that correspondence from Italian Government Departments and official organizations continues to be sent by clandestine means to Provincial officials. This constitutes a serious potential threat to military security which cannot be tolerated.

Government. Out early at least this position has not been accepted by the CL without representative measures being required. Although the CL are composed of all six parties the Communist Party is invariably best organized and most active. This makes a delicate situation as action against the CL is in practice action against the Communist Party and gives the appearance of discrimination against that party. In RAVENNA the Communists are to be based on a traditional position to the Monarchy which has existed for many years. It was noted however that when Prince Umberto paid a short visit to the town his reception in the streets was not unfriendly. Another situation calling for firm but careful handling is the rough justice meted out by partisans to fascists during and shortly after the arrival of our troops. In Ferrara for example 7 fascists were killed.

7. Before the arrival of the Allies the CL in RAVENNA was very active. On the whole it has been a help rather than a hindrance. In FORLI however the CL were more inclined to interfere with the nomination of Provincial officials. These difficulties appear to have been smoothed over for the time being at least. On the whole, the attitude of the people of both Provinces towards the Allies is considered satisfactory.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

8. RAVENNA. Provincial HQ was established at the Prefettura 9 Dec. The Prefect, a career official from SARDINIA, moved in with the Provincial Team and appears to be functioning satisfactorily so far. In the three weeks which have since elapsed, the principal offices of the Prefettura have been put into operation - in most cases under temporary chiefs. Giudizi have been installed at CIVITA, RAVENNA, RUSSI, RACINE, AVILLO, BRISGHILLIA, FERRARA and ABOLA. A Giunta Comunale have been set up in CIVITA and RAVENNA with a Giunta Popolare in the fractions.

9. FORLI. Good progress continues to be made in Provincial administration. Lack of communications in view of the principal difficulties, and every effort is being made to assist the Italian officials in this respect as far as considerations of security will permit. In this connection it has been noted that correspondence from Italian Government Departments and official organisations continue to be sent by clandestine means to Provincial officials. This constitutes a serious potential threat to military security which cannot be tolerated.

SUPPLIES.

10. Despite the acute shortage of certain important items the food situation may be described in general terms as satisfactory. **5436** month if imported supplies were made available for special classes to the fullest extent. Sugar has been distributed to all civilians but the ration had to be reduced owing to shortage of stock at Ravenna. Soap also was insufficient to make a general distribution.

11. In mid-Dec it became known that several Railway bridges would be removed before Christmas thus isolating the area between RAVENNA and R.C. DI ROMAGNOL, and sufficient supplies for four months had to be sent in at short notice. Supplies for three months have also been delivered to 14 mountain companies which are in danger of becoming snowbound.

Sheet 4.

12. Corn. There is no shortage of corn. It is estimated that 70% of the population received an average of 150 to 200 kilos prior to our arrival. In R.V. the harvest was gathered before military operations began and the problem of feeding which was experienced in part of DOMI was not repeated in R.V. In this Province there is an exportable surplus of at least 27,000 tons of corn grain. Most of this is still on the farms and its collection presents a difficult problem as transport is lacking and civilian traffic is prohibited on many of the roads.
13. Permit has been given to the 100th Army to take 2,000 tons of wheat from the ADICOLA area (DOMI Province) for use in FICHA 10.
14. Meat is very scarce in both Provinces and distribution of preserved meat or tinned meat to all classes has been necessary in R.V. and DOMI.
15. Vegetables are in fairly good supply and considerable quantities have been released to B.F. To equalize distribution, arrangements have been made for setting up wholesale markets at central points.
16. Olive Oil is conspicuous by its absence and owing to the heavy ration in the big population there is little oil available in its stead. This is not an olive growing district and in any case there are no facilities for processing the relatively small quantity of olives which has been produced. Holdings must therefore be placed on imports from the DOMI. During Dec civilian trucks were sent to R.V. to collect an allocation of 300 quintals. A portion of this has been allotted to hospitals and a distribution scheme for the remainder is being worked out.
17. Fish. This valuable supplement to civilian diet is undeniably as security regulations and the presence of Fascist's makes fishing impossible.
18. Wine. Small to moderate supplies are available in R.V. Province, but in DOMI the grape harvest was ruined by operations and imports of wine are urgently needed. Wine is an important item of Italian diet and is particularly necessary now when sugar in other forms is largely lacking.
19. Fuel. There is a serious shortage of fuel in the coastal areas due to lack of transport. Civilian transport is quite unequal to the task of bringing in wood from the producing areas in the mountains. Coal is badly needed for hospitals and for industrial purposes. A long term requisition programme is being prepared.
20. Prices. Maximum prices have been fixed for foodstuffs and services. The price of food remains low with the exception of commodities such as olive oil, fats, and meat, which are very scarce.
21. Surpluses. Apart from the grain mentioned above there is little surplus food available for export. Imports are 3,000 tons of molasses over 1,000 tons of fruit pulp, and very large quantities of sugar beet,

14. Meat is very scarce in both Provinces and distribution of preserved meat or tinned to all classes has been necessary in 1947-48, 48-49, 49-50, and 50-51.
15. Vegetables are in fairly good supply and considerable quantities have been released to S.C.T. To equalize distribution, arrangements have been made for setting up wholesale markets at central points.
16. Olive Oil is conspicuous by its absence and owing to the heavy reduction in the pig population there is little animal fat available in its stead. This is not an olive growing district and in any case there are no facilities for processing the relatively small quantity of olives which has been produced. Reliance must therefore be placed on imports from the SOGOM. During Dec civilian trucks were sent to Bari to collect an allocation of 300 quintals. A portion of this has been allotted to hospitals and a distribution scheme for the remainder is being worked out.
17. Fish. This valuable supplement to civilian diet is unobtainable as security regulations and the presence of minefields makes fishing impossible.
18. Wine. Small to moderate supplies are available in Basilicata Province, but in 1948 the grape harvest was ruined by operations and imports of wine are urgently needed. Wine is an important item of Italian diet and is particularly necessary now when sugar in other forms is largely lacking.
19. Fuel. There is a serious shortage of fuel in the coastal areas due to lack of transport. Civilian transport is quite unequal to the task of bringing in wood from the producing areas in the mountains. Coal is badly needed for hospitals and for industrial purposes. A long term requisition program is being prepared.
20. Prices. Maximum prices have been fixed for foodstuffs and services. The price of food remains low with the exception of commodities such as olive oil, fats, and meat, which are very scarce.
21. Surpluses. Apart from the grain mentioned above there is little surplus food available for export. Exports are 5,600 tons of olives over 1,000 tons of fruit pulp, and very large quantities of sugar beet, which cannot be used owing to destruction of the sugar factories. Provided its keeping qualities prove satisfactory it may be possible to make a fairly valuable sale by drying the fruit pulp with boiled sugar beet and adding molasses.
22. Provincial Organizations. In Potenza, Ugento, and Commercial Agrario have been functioning in both Provinces. Offices have been approved by S.S. and Public Safety, and there will be no objection proceedings. All the local committees have been formed in 1948 and nominations have been made for the Provincial Committee. In Basilicata the Provincial Committee has been nominated but some reorganization of the Council conditions may be required.

APPENDIX

Sheet 5.

23. Grandi del Popolo. An involved and complicated position was encountered. In some corners the "Genuzia" had been done by the Republican Fascists and later by UPR, and in others it had not been done at all. In some parts grain was either completely ruined or too wet for storage while in other areas grain was in good condition with quantities of the 1945 crop in the granaries. Prior to occupation a ration of 1 1/2 quintals per head had been made and inadequate records kept. The situation was further complicated by the fact that in Southern Italy the stores were overflowing, 10,000 tons were in Sicily and on the farms and another 10,000 tons still unharvested. Furthermore many roads are closed to farm transport and 3 kilometre limits are in force. Under the regulations the Government had no option but to consign wet grain directly to the mills. There was however no demand for flour. In these circumstances it became a matter of extreme urgency to notify the Grandi del Popolo leaders. A new 111 Order has necessarily been prepared but has been held up as it is understood the Minister proposes to embody its provisions in a Ministerial Decree.

24. Cultivation. Autumn cultivation was better than could have been hoped for, and in spite of a lack of work animals, approx 80% of the wheat land has been sown. Fortunately there is no lack of farm implements and in the NW area, a heavily wooded area, the tractors were neither removed nor destroyed.

25. Seed. While quantities of "Antena" wheat are available for spring sowing and some can be exported to other areas provided they can move it. Balance of 1,000 tons for 1946 has been approved. 1,000 tons of surplus sugar beet seed is also available. There is also sufficient seed for other crops and there will be no difficulties in this respect.

26. Fertiliser. Practically no stocks were found and 1,000 tons are being imported early in Jan. Antiparasitic sprays are also lacking.

27. Livestock. The usual ideal picture of work animal deficiency was encountered but the new familiar phrase "i toteschi hanno patate via tutti" has proved an exaggeration and in 1946 it is estimated 40% still remain. Milk cows have never been numerous and it is estimated that these have been reduced by 50%. Pigs have suffered severely and only 40% are left in 1946 and in 1945, only 20%. This is very serious as the people depend almost entirely onlard for fat. It is estimated that about 10% of the 1945 stock is in progress and should be complete by 15 Jan.

FLOOD CONTROL

28. Approx 15,000 hectares of the flooded area is dependent on mechanical drainage. Two pumping stations controlling 1,500 hectares have been restarted, and flood water has been considerably diminished. Work has begun on a third station which will drain a further 6,000 hectares, and of the four pumps at this station one should be working shortly and two more by the end of Jan. Five temporary tide control gates have been installed and all 2,000 ft. in river and canal banks have been

24. Individuation. Autumn cultivation was better than could have been hoped for and an absence of ideas and lack of work animals, approx 80% of the wheat land has been sown. Unfortunately there is no lack of farm implements and in Ray, a heavily mechanized area, the tractors were neither removed nor destroyed.
25. Seed. ample quantities of "hardened" wheat are available for spring sowing and some can be exported to other areas provided they can save it. Release of 1,000 tons for 1954-55 has been approved. 1,000 tons of surplus sugar beet seed is also available. There is also sufficient seed for other crops and there will be no difficulties in this respect.
26. Fertilizer. Practically no stocks were found and 1,000 tons are being imported early in Jan. Antiviralistic sprays are also lacking.
27. Livestock. The usual ideal picture of work animal deficiency was encountered but the new German phrase "i toloschi" having potatoes via tutti has proved an exaggeration and in POPM it is estimated 40% still remain. Milk cows have never been numerous and it is estimated that there have been reduced by 50%. Eggs have suffered severely and only 40% are left in Ray, only 20%. This is very serious as the people depend almost entirely on laid for fat. It is estimated that there are some 34. A livestock census is in progress and should be complete by 15 Jan.
28. BLOOD CONTROL
29. Approx 15,000 hectares of the flooded area is dependent on artificial drainage. The pumping stations controlling 1,500 hectares have been restarted, and flood water has been appreciably reduced. Work has begun on a third station which will drain a further 5,000 hectares, and of the four pumps at this station one should be working shortly and two more by the end of Jan. Five temporary tide control gates have been installed and all are open in river and canal banks have been temporarily filled in. Permanent repairs have just started. All obstructions have been removed from the outlets of the water. It is estimated to permit the maximum natural drainage. It is estimated that 1,000 hectares were damaged in Ray. The Province on these are partially blocking the channels and retarding the flow. If heavy rain occurs the water will fill the streams with melted snow from the mountains, there is danger of flooding and work is being pressed forward as vigorously as limited transport and shortage of materials will permit.

Sheet 6.

FORESTRY.

29. At the present time forestry in this area is mainly concerned with production of fuel urgently required for cooking and heating and supplying constructional timber for military and civilian needs. Formal civil-ian requirements of wood have increased 750,000 quintals per annum, and were obtained from forests in the mountainous regions. Due to shortage of transport and the isolation of some areas by destruction of bridges, only a fraction of this quantity can now be obtained. To cope with this emergency each command is being urged to make full use of local supplies and local ordinances have been issued compelling all landowners who have standing timber available to produce for local consumption up to 4 quintals of firewood per hectare of land. In addition cutting has begun in the three famous pinewoods of Pineta di Classe, Pineta di San Vitale and Pineta di Savio. The first two of these date back to the fifth century and until the war cutting was prohibited. These woods will furnish 5,000 tons of firewood and 2,000 tons of constructional timber. All these quantities will be turned over to the army. Cutting has been so arranged that no irreparable harm will be done to the Pineta.

LABOUR.

30. The supply of labour for military units in Albania and is recruited through Civil Labour Units. The Allied Forces Basic Wage Scale came into force on 1 Dec. No "bonus" or "high cost of living indemnity" has so far been granted. Prewar civil labour Organisation will be established early in Jan and will register all labour and co-operate with Civil Labour Units in providing labour for the army.

WATER, POWER AND UTILITIES.

31. The most pressing task has been the reconstruction of bridges to replace Bailey bridges which are being withdrawn. Eight are now being re-built on Route 74 and three on Route 72. Bridges and culverts are in short supply and wherever possible timber is being used. Plans are estimated are in hand for a number of bridges on other roads which must be kept open for civilian needs. Through the co-operation of the RN, water supplies have been provided for ELINI, KOSHI, and KOSHI, and work is proceeding on the pipeline supplying R. KOSHI. Work has been begun on the water and sewer distribution systems in ELINI. Electricity has been restored on a much reduced scale to DUTROVA, KOSHI, GAVI, KOSHI, KOSHI and KOSHI.

INDUSTRY.

32. The majority of factories are either badly damaged or have been stripped of vital machinery. Of the few which are intact, most rely upon electric power which is not yet available. For the present therefore, restoration is largely confined to production of bricks, cement and lime, which are urgently needed for bridge building and similar purposes.

ETHNIC MATTER.

33. Three Polish civilians are alleged to have been murdered by civilians

since various prisoners of Poles in places, Poles in San Vito and Poles in service. In about two of these days back to the fifth company and until the war ending was prohibited. These weeks will furnish 5,000 tons of timber, 100 tons of constructional timber. Half those quantities will be turned over to the army. Nothing has been so arranged that no irreparable harm will be done to the Poles.

LABOR.

30. The supply of labor for military units is adequate and is recruited through Civil Labor Units. The Italian Forces Basic Wage Scale came into force on 1 Dec. The "bonus" or "high cost of living indemnity" has so far been granted. Provincial Labor Offices will be established early in Jan and will register all labor and co-operate with Civil Labor Units in providing labor for the army.

RAIL, ROAD AND UTILITIES.

31. The most pressing task has been the reconstruction of bridges to replace Bailey bridges which are being withdrawn. Eight are now being rebuilt on Route 71 and three on Route 72. Bridges and caissons are in short supply and wherever possible timber is being used. Plans are estimates are in hand for a number of bridges on other roads which must be kept open for civilian needs. Through the co-operation of the US, water supplies have been provided for the Poles, the Poles, and the Poles is proceeding on the pipeline supplying Rome. Work has been begun on the water and sewer distribution systems in Rome. Electricity has been restored on a much reduced scale to Rome, Milan, Genoa, Bologna, Florence and Rome.

INDUSTRY.

32. The majority of factories are either badly damaged or have been stripped of vital machinery. Of the few which are intact, most rely upon electric power which is not yet available. For the present therefore, production is largely confined to production of bridges, cement and lime, which are urgently needed for bridge building and similar purposes.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

33. These Polish soldiers are alleged to have been murdered by civilians and these cases are under investigation. Apart from isolated incidents however, serious crime has been slight and the majority of cases brought before the courts have been for minor offenses. Prostitution, which in other areas has sometimes proved a serious problem, is so far not acute in this area. During the month two Italian girls were sentenced to death by a General Court for espionage. Apart from this no sentences were imposed in excess of one year's imprisonment. No Italian courts were open in Dec but will begin to function during Jan. The majority of the judicial personnel of both provinces are available but premises are in most cases either damaged or occupied by troops.

34. The Poles are reasonably efficient and are giving loyal service. While their morale is good considering the circumstances in which they are serving only time and encouragement can restore it to its pre-war level. Lack of clothing and equipment still remains a major problem. Personnel of other Police agencies are required for service in their numbers and after vetting by the Poles are being returned to duty. As in the case of the G.P.M. uniforms are badly needed.

Sheet 7.

35. While some of the prisoners have been destroyed and others are required to military activities, the price protection is low and up to the military price protection in the past. The efficiency of the prison service is lower than in the past, and is becoming deteriorated.

36. In general, the prison service is more important than elsewhere. On the whole, the prison service is not as good as in the past, and the prison service during the recent months is not as good.

TUBERCULOSIS

37. The health of the people will be increasingly tested by the rigors of winter. Diseases of the lungs, including tuberculosis and high fever, are common with a serious lack of fuel and a supplementary diet, and all tend to have an adverse effect.

38. The problem of tuberculosis and other diseases is acute. Building materials, especially glass, are very scarce. Fuel and blankets are inadequate and hospital care is almost impossible to obtain. All these problems are being tested every day but in the meantime it cannot be said that civilians are receiving adequate hospital care. Despite the somewhat gloomy picture presented above the general state of health has so far been fairly good.

39. The typhoid epidemic is not over but is definitely ending, admissions to hospital are averaging two a day. Few cases are almost all secondary cases occurring in families in which one or more members had previously been ill. Between 23 Aug and 22 Dec there were 410 cases of which 73 proved fatal.

40. Distribution of medical supplies, including those provided by the Italian Red Cross, has been poor, but this organization has not yet got into full swing. Some dissatisfaction has been expressed at the high price of Italian drugs.

EDUCATION

41. During the month progress has been made in the re-education of the educational organization of both Provinces. As far as conditions permit schools are being re-opened as far as possible in the rear boundary. This can of course only be done on a much reduced scale as many schools have been destroyed and others are occupied by troops. In the re-opening of schools has been authorized in 25 of the 49 communes and 19 elementary schools and 10 secondary schools are functioning in this Province. No schools are open in the Province.

REFUGEE

42. There has been no official evacuation problem during the month and the number of refugees passing through the camps has considerably less than last month. On 20 Dec there were 723 refugees in the camps. Arrivals included 4445, 1073 new arrivals, mostly from the rear, were evacuated to the rear. On 20 Dec 2820 were evacuated out of the rear. The transport from the rear camps has presented no difficulty and the

Sheet 5.

PARTISANS.

43. During Dec the Patriot Centre in FORMER dealt with some 200 partisans. Since all the partisans in this area have now either returned to their normal occupations or accepted work with the Army as labour squads, this centre will be closed and another opened at FUMIA, where approximately 300 Patriots have been found.

44. In the FUMIA area there are some 500 partisans. These are still being employed in an operational role and are being looked after by Army units. The majority are reported to be first class men doing a fine job but there are as usual a number of others who do little more than wear an arm band. A Patriot Centre is ready to receive them as soon as they cease to be operational.

W. H. S. Harkley
for Lt Col
Group Captain.
Officer Commanding.
AFC Litchfield Army.

Report for Month ending 30 September

HQ Allied Control Commission,
Executive Commissioner's Branch (5 copies)

Copies to: M. & CMC Eighth Army
RC M&C Region VIII
RC M&C Region XII
RC M&C Region IX
RC M&C Region IV
RC M&C Region V

Part I.

1. The month of September has seen little change in the area administered by the Eighth Army. The Province of Perugia was handed over to Region IV and proposals for the handing over of Arezzo to Region VIII in the near future have been put forward.

2. The new territory occupied all came into perli province with the exception of the northern tip of Arezzo and the extreme south of Ravenna. The mountain regions present no unusual administrative problems but the coastal belt has suffered very badly in the fighting for the vicinity of the Gothic line and as a result is more difficult to handle. The destruction in parts is as great as that in the Liri valley and the approach of winter will cause considerable hardship on the population who remain in this area.

3. The liberation of the republic of San Marino presented a novel feature and has been reported on separately during the month.

Part II.

Political.

4. (a) In nearly all cases in towns liberated during the month committees of liberation have been formed which have rendered great assistance to us in re-forming administration. The committees have been representative of nearly all parties and have not appeared to be particularly interested in the existing Italian government but more in re-establishing local administration on a non-political basis.

(b) The situation in San Marino has been fully covered in my detailed reports. There is nothing further to add and the relationship between the authorities and the P.I.C. is good. Steps are steadily progressing to alleviate the difficulties complained of - in particular billeting - and 5 days have been particularly helpful in this respect.

Local Government.

5. All provinces now have prefects. These in Arezzo and Posen are satisfactory while those in Arezzo and Posen are as yet untried but give every indication of doing well. For the first time the experiment of taking

5427

Part I.

1. The month of September has seen little change in the area administered by the Eighth Army. The Province of Perugia was handed over to Region IV and preparations for the handing over of Arezzo to Region VIII in the near future have been put forward.

2. The new territory occupied all came into Perugia Province with the exception of the northern tip of Arezzo and the extreme south of Ravenna. The mountain regions present no unusual administration problems but the coastal belt has suffered very badly in the fighting for the vicinity of the Gothic line and as a result it is more difficult to handle. The destruction in parts is as great as that in the Liri valley and the approach of winter will cause considerable hardship on the population who remain in this area.

3. The liberation of the Republic of San Marino presented a novel feature and has been reported on separately during the month.

Part II.Political.

4. (a) In nearly all cases in towns liberated during the month committees of liberation have been formed which have rendered great assistance to us in reforming administration. The committees have been representative of nearly all parties and have not appeared to be particularly interested in the existing Italian Government but more in restoring local administration on a non-political basis.

(b) The situation in San Marino has been fully covered in my detailed reports. There is nothing further to add and the relationship between the authorities and the P.I.C. is good. Steps are steadily progressing to alleviate the difficulties complained of in particular bulletins and 5 Corps have been particularly helpful in this respect.

Local Government.

5. All provinces now have prefects. Those in Arezzo and Varese satisfactory while those in Ancona and Perugia are as yet untried but give every indication of doing out well. For the first time the experiment of taking a prefect into the province as soon as the provincial town enters has been tried (in Perugia) and first results are satisfactory. By this method a selected man joins a part of the local team and can start the reconstruction of provincial administration as well as control from the earliest possible moment.

Economic Resources and Supply.

6. A fairly substantial (1700 tons) stock pile of flour has been built up from local grain milled in the area. Use of electric current is still a limiting factor in the milling but recent rains will allow water mills to operate more freely from now on.

7. The lack of warehouse accommodation owing to destruction is a great handicap in the unloading programme. Harvest in the more northerly areas was held

(2)

by operations and good deal of grain was not lost until it was thoroughly wet with rain. It is possible that much will be lost unless it can be properly looked after in dry warehouses which unfortunately are few and far between.

It was previously due partly to this factor that the administration during German occupation distributed grain for the whole of the coming year to consumers who will be able to turn, dry and store the individual allotments. Varying amounts were allocated; the present indications in Forli Province are that grain was distributed to a considerable portion of the population to last till next August in a basic ration of approx. 400 grams of grain per day with approx 250 grams for workers.

6. All provinces report the chief shortage to be salt and olive oil. Salt is of course particularly important in the pig feeding areas who cure their bacon in NOV/DEC.

Agriculture.

9. The immediate agricultural problem in the forward areas is unfortunately insoluble. It is the inability of the farmer to get onto his land at all due to its being either in an area of operations or olive orchard.

It is quite remarkable that the peasant does achieve but considerable areas will be ploughed late this year and some not at all.

10. Short supply of carbon bisulphide may result in some loss of grain in warehouses in those districts where the grain was either stored damp or in locking warehouses.

Labour.

11. Unemployment is considerable in the manufacturing areas of Ancona Province and will not be solved until power is available in the factories.

Public Safety.

12. Curfew has been abolished in those parts of the Fifth Army area which lie within the 100 km. railway control line and the 10 kilometre movement restriction. It is thought that these relaxations will result in speeding up the return to normal life.

Refugees.

13. Refugees during the month have not presented serious problems. There are of course large numbers of civilians in the coastal belt from Pesaro North, who are not in their own houses, but distributed somewhere in the countryside. With the slowing down of the advance at the end of the month and the breaking of the weather these displaced civilians may cause a considerable problem. As usual at this time of year the refugee problem is entirely dependent on the speed of advance and the ability of the army to find sufficient billets without disturbing local inhabitants. If we stay in this area for any long period there will be a problem of considerable magnitude.

Communications.

Agriculture.

9. The Argentine agricultural problem in the frontier areas is unfortunately insoluble. It is the inability of the farmer to get onto his land at all due to his being either in an area of operations or else hired.

It is quite remarkable that the peasant does achieve but considerable income will be picked up this year and some not at all.

10. Short supply of carbon bimulphate may result in some loss of grain in warehouses in these districts where the grain was either stored dry or in leaking warehouses.

Labour.

11. Unemployment is considerable in the manufacturing areas of Mendoza province and will not be solved until power is available in the factories.

Public Safety.

12. Curfew has been abolished in those parts of the eighth city area which lie behind the River any control line as has the 10 kilometre movement restriction. It is thought that both these relaxations will result in speeding up the return to normal life.

Refugees.

13. Refugees during the month have not presented serious problems. There are of course large numbers of civilians in the coastal belt from Peseiro North, who are not in their own houses, but distributed somewhere in the countryside. With the slowing down of the advance at the end of the month and the breaking of the weather these displaced civilians may cause a considerable problem. As usual at this time of year the refugee problem is entirely dependent on the speed of advance and the ability of army to find sufficient billets without disturbing local inhabitants. To stay in this area for any long period there will be a problem maybe of considerable magnitude.

Communications.

14. Very considerable destruction of bridges and roads has occurred throughout the area and if large areas are not to be isolated this winter when military bridges are withdrawn, construction programmes will be heavy. Regional Public Works officers are assisting in getting reconstruction schemes going.

Prisoners.

15. Very few prisoners have been met and none who can be described as organised tanks. There has been local difficulty in disarming some of these particularly in the coastal belt. This has been got over. In the coastal belt the prisoner representatives are working satisfactorily. This cannot be said

SUBJECT: Public Health and Welfare in AMG Eighth Army Areas
for Month of September 1944.

REAR AMG EIGHTH ARMY

OA/17/1

4 October 1944

1930/1944

S.C.A.O.

A.M.S. Eighth Army

HQ. Allied Control Commission
Executive Commissioner's Branch

Administrative Section (2) ✓

HQ. Region V

HQ. Region VIII

HQ. Region IX

HQ. Region XII

D.D.M.S Eighth Army

D.D.M.S 10 Corps

D.D.M.S 5 Corps

D.D.M.S Can. Corps

D.D.M.S Pol. Corps

E.E.C.S. Supervisor 2th Army

1. PERSONNEL

Col. C.J. Farinacci, A.C. 17 S.F.H.O.

Capt. Ballew, Sp. Res. - Welfare

Major Creed, RMC - P.H.O. 5 Corps and Can Corps

Capt. Jones, RMC - P.H.O. 10 Corps

Capt. Light (OM) RMC - Medical Supply Officer

S/Sgt. Chiaravallotti - Medical Supply Clerk. (returned to AGC)

2. HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE. The area captured during the past month had been, in a large part, completely evacuated weeks and months before. For example the coast towns of Rimini and Pesaro, the villages and farms in the vicinity of the Gothic line had been evacuated weeks and months before the offensive started. So that, although severe damage was suffered by the buildings, there were during the initial stages of the battle comparatively few casualties. However, with the return of the inhabitants, there has been a great number of war injuries and a slight increase in the number of Enteric Diseases.

The health of the people has continued good despite

Copy
for: C.A.S.

1930/1944

gk

1
 Allied Control Commission
 Executive Commissioner's Branch

Administrative Section (2) ✓

HQ. Region V
 HQ. Region VIII
 HQ. Region IX
 HQ. Region XII
 D.D.M.S Eighth Army
 D.D.M.S 10 Corps
 D.D.M.S 5 Corps
 D.A.M.S Can. Corps
 D.D.M.S Pol. Corps
 P.E.C.S. Supervisor 8th Army

1. PERSONNEL:

Col. C.J. Farinacci, J.C., S.F.H.O.
 Capt. Ballew, Sp.Res. - Welfare
 Major Creed, RANC - P.H.O. 5 Corps and Can Corps
 Capt. Jones, RANC - P.H.O. 10 Corps
 Capt. Lighth (QM) RANC - Medical Supply Officer
 S/Sgt. Chiaravallotti - Medical Supply Clerk. (returned to AOC)

2. HEALTH OF THE PEOPLE: The area captured during the past month had been, in a large part, completely evacuated weeks and months before. For example the coast towns of Rimini and Pesaro, the villages and farms in the vicinity of the Gothic line had been evacuated weeks and months before the offensive started. So that, although severe damage was suffered by the buildings, there were during the initial stages of the battle comparatively few casualties. However, with the return of the inhabitants, there has been a great number of war injuries and a slight increase in the number of Enteric Diseases.

In general, the health of the people has continued good despite the privations suffered by them incident to war conditions. But with the onset of autumnal rains, it is expected that Respiratory Diseases will assume greater importance.

(a) Typhoid - Paratyphoid Diseases: still occur endemically throughout all Provinces. Anzono Province reports a local outbreak of typhoid fever in Anzono Comune during September. These cases occurred in a district of the town where water was obtained from contaminated wells. It is believed that the outbreak is now under control. Some authorities suggest

2359

- 2 -

that these cases are not Typhoid Fever because of the low death rate (1 - 2%). Further, the clinical diagnosis has not yet been corroborated by the laboratory. The Army Medical Services are cooperating in the study of this outbreak.

In Arezzo Province 171 cases were reported during September, of which 64 were reported from Arezzo Comune.

(b) Diphtheria: Reports of Diphtheria in the Provinces of Arezzo, Forlì, Pesaro and Ancona have been received. The cases are well scattered and thus far have been well controlled by the prompt issuance of the Antitoxin, both for treatment and for prophylaxis of the immediate contacts. In Viareggio (Forlì Province) 20 cases of laryngeal Diphtheria have been reported with one (1) death. Arezzo Province reported 29 cases.

(c) Malaria: The occasional sporadic case is encountered throughout the Provinces. Malaria has not been a serious problem during these summer months.

3. VETERINARY REPORT: The Ancona and Arezzo Provincial Veterinarians report that large numbers of the cattle, horses and mules have been removed by the Germans. Infective Angina of Fowls is ever present. No statistics are available except for Ancona Province. Ancona Province reports the following for August 1944:

Infectious Laryngo-Tracheitis	fowl	2 cases
Swine Pest	pigs	5 cases

4. HOSPITALS AND AMBULATORIES: The overcrowding of the civilian hospitals is ever present but steps taken during the latter part of August and continued during September (see August 1944) Public Health and Welfare Report, 04/17/1, dated 4 September 1944) have helped considerably. The Convalescent Homes established in the vicinity of the larger civil hospitals have been invaluable. Ambulatories have been established (bed capacity 10 - 20 beds) in small villages. These Aid Dressing Stations have done admirable work in caring for slightly wounded civilians thereby decreasing the load of the already overburdened hospitals.

The attempts to establish temporary civil hospitals and to expand existing institutions have been seriously hampered by lack of beds, blankets, pillows, sheets, mattresses and pillow cases.

It is suggested that R.P.H.Cs have on hand in their Regional warehouses such items which can be supplied to the S.P.H.C. These items of equipment are to be left

cases are well scattered and thus far have been well controlled by the prompt issuance of the Antitoxin, both for treatment and for prophylaxis of the immediate contacts. In Viareggio (Pavia Province) 20 cases of laryngeal diphtheria have been reported with one (1) death. Ancona Province reported 29 cases.

(c) Malaria: The occasional sporadic case is encountered throughout the Provinces. Malaria has not been a serious problem during these summer months.

3. VETERINARY REPORT: The Ancona and Ancona Provincial Veterinarians report that large numbers of the cattle, horses and mules have been removed by the Germans. Infective Angina of Fowls is ever present. No statistics are available except for Ancona Province. Ancona Province reports the following for August 1944:

Infectious Laryngo-Tracheitis	Fowl	2 cases
Swine Pest	pigs	5 cases

4. HOSPITALS AND AMBULATORIES: The overcrowding of the civilian hospitals is ever present but steps taken during the latter part of August and continued during September (see August 1944 Public Health and Welfare Report, 08/17/44, dated 4 September 1944) have helped considerably. The Convalescent Homes established in the vicinity of the larger civil hospitals have been invaluable. Ambulatories have been established (bed capacity 10 - 30 beds) in small villages. These Aid Dressing Stations have done admirable work in caring for slightly wounded civilians thereby decreasing the load of the already overburdened hospitals.

The attempts to establish temporary civil hospitals and to expand existing institutions have been seriously hampered by lack of beds, blankets, pillows, sheets, mattresses and pillow cases.

It is suggested that R.P.H.O.s have on hand in their Regional Warehouses such items which can be supplied to the S.P.V.O. Army upon request. These items of equipment are to be left behind in that same Region when the Army AMG relinquishes control.

The following is a list of civil hospitals encountered during the month in the Eighth Army area:

Ancona Province:

ANCONA - Civil Hospital, 500 beds. Nearly full.

FALCONARA ALTA - Convalescent Home, 80 beds.

JESI - Civil Hospital, 200 beds.

SENIGALLIA - Civil Hospital. The present bed capacity is

130. As soon as the roof is repaired (15 Oct.)

70 additional beds will be available.

5424

Pesaro Province:

PESARO - Civil Hospital, 230 beds. In addition an Ambulatorio annex to the Civil Hospital is being prepared with a bed capacity of 50 for Infectious Diseases.

FANO - Civil Hospital, bed capacity 200. The available bed space has been increased by use of litter's supplied by 14th and 19th CCSS. 325 patients are being cared for.

CAGLI - Civil Hospital, 30 beds. Old hospital in poor condition.

SALTARA - 25 beds.

URBINO - Civil Hospital, 100 beds.

URBANIA - Civil Hospital, 40 beds.

MORCINO - Ambulatory, 14 beds, expanded to 24 beds.

SERRUNGARINA - Ambulatory, 15 beds.

Perli Province:

RIMINI - The Civil Hospital had been severely damaged by Aerial Bombs. Parts of it can be utilized only following long term repairs. In the meantime the Home for the Aged has been converted into a Civil Hospital with a capacity of 100 beds. It is planned to expand this unit by annexing the Orphanage which will supply an additional 100 beds.

VISERBA - Casa di Cura, 140 beds. Due to blast damage present capacity is 70 beds of which 30 are Tuberculosis patients. With repairs which are being completed the capacity can be increased to 155 beds. Ambulatorio, 25 beds capacity.

CATTOLICA - Civil Hospital, 35 beds.

RICCIONE - Civil Hospital, 100 beds. Ambulatorio, 65 beds.

MONTESUDO - Civil Hospital, 30 beds.

Republic of S. Marino:

S. MARINO - Civil Hospital, 60 beds.

Arezzo Province:

BIBBIENA - capacity 60 beds. This hospital has been put up temporarily in the Convent S. Maria, 1 Km. outside the town.

ANGHIARI - Civil Hospital 40 beds.

S. N. SEPOLCRO - Civil Hospital 100 beds.

POPPI - capacity 16 beds.

URBINO - Civil Hospital, 100 beds
 URBANIA - Civil Hospital, 40 beds.
 MORGIANO - Ambulatory, 14 beds, expanded to 24 beds.
 SERRUNGARINA - Ambulatory, 15 beds.

Forli Province:

RIMINI - The Civil Hospital had been severely damaged by Aerial Bombs. Parts of it can be utilized only following long term repairs. In the meantime the Home for the Aged has been converted into a Civil Hospital with a capacity of 100 beds. It is planned to expand this unit by annexing the Orphanage which will supply an additional 100 beds.

VISERBA - Casa di Cura, 140 beds. Due to blast damage present capacity is 70 beds of which 30 are Tuberculosis patients. With repairs which are being completed the capacity can be increased to 165 beds.
 Ambulatorio, 25 beds capacity.

CATTOLICA - Civil Hospital, 35 beds.
 RICCIONE - Civil Hospital, 100 beds. Ambulatorio, 65 beds.
 MONTESCUDO - Civil Hospital, 30 beds.

Republic of S.Marino:

S.MARINO - Civil Hospital, 60 beds.

Arezzo Province:

BIBBIENA - capacity 60 beds. This hospital has been put up temporarily in the Convent S.Maria, 1 Km. outside the town.

ANCHIARI - Civil Hospital 40 beds.
 SAN SEPOLCRO - Civil Hospital 100 beds.
 POPPI - capacity 18 beds.

It is planned to transfer the 92nd Italian Army Field Hospital from its present location to the Rimini Area. This move depends upon the possibility to find transportation and a suitable building for the accommodation of this 100 bed hospital, which will serve as an Evacuation Center.

A large building in Pesaro (Lunatic Asylum) is being partly taken over by the Army Medical Authorities. In that part which is left free it is intended to set up a convalescent hospital for civilian wounded with a capacity between 200 and 400, this number depending on the space left to AMG by the Army, and bedding equipment available.

5423

- 4 -

5. AMBULANCE SERVICE: Other than one Italian Red Cross ambulance located in Castiglione Fiorentino (Arezzo Province) and one in Urbino (Pesaro Province) there are no civilian ambulances in the Army Forward Areas. The two Italian Red Cross ambulances attached to the 92nd Italian Army Field Hospital despite their handicap of poor tyres have been a great help in Arezzo. The bulk of the Ambulance Service has been provided by the Army Medical Units.

6. MEDICAL SUPPLIES: Most hospitals have a fair amount of useful medical supplies hidden away. Looting of Pharmacies and Hospitals by troops have been reported but these are not as common now as compared to the fall of 1943. The items needed are gauze, morphine, tetanus and diphtheria antitoxins. Thus far all demands have been met but the amount issued to each agency has been small. The AMG 6th Army Medical Supply Depot has continued to supply its Spearhead Medical Kits and specially prepared Hospital Kits throughout Army and Corps areas, including the Republic of S. Marino.

7. BRITISH RED CROSS WAR RELIEF: The British Red Cross Society War Relief completed its plans for operation in the 8th Army Area and performed its functions for the first time in September. The general plan for operation in this area is as follows:
(a) one or more "Spearhead" workers are attached to each Corps under the general direction of the AMG Corps Liaison Officer for health and welfare matters.

(b) closely following the "Spearhead" Red Cross workers other Field Representatives consolidate their work.
(c) and finally, Red Cross workers from the Regions are invited to operate under the direction of the Army "Follow Up" workers until such time as the Region takes over the area.

The duties performed by the Spearhead Red Cross workers with the Corps has largely been of an emergency nature. They have organised Refugee Committees, made provisions for the feeding and housing of the homeless, reopened civil hospitals, saved hospitals and welfare institutions from looting, delivered emergency medical supplies and clothing and reported on their findings and requirements to AMG. The "Follow Up" Field Representatives have carried out projects started by the Spearhead workers and have performed other valuable services such as increasing the bed capacity of civil hospitals and organising Convalescent Homes for persons who cannot be sent back home from the hospitals. They have in many cases throughout the area provided valuable assistance to the CAOs in re-establishing the services of such civilian welfare organisations as Italian Red Cross, Catholic Community Assistance and Opera Nazionale Maternità ed Infanzia. Regional Red Cross and Opera Nazionale Maternità ed Infanzia have continued the

compared to the fall of 1943. The items needed are gauze, morphine, tetanus and diphtheria antitoxins. Thus far all demands have been met but the amount issued to each agency has been small. The AMG 8th Army Medical Supply Depot has continued to supply its Spearhead Medical Kits and specially prepared Hospital Kits throughout Army and Corps area, including the Republic of S. Marino.

7. BRITISH RED CROSS WAR EFFORT: The British Red Cross Society War Relief completed its plans for operation in the 8th Army Area and performed its functions for the first time in September. The general plan for operation in this area is as follows:

(a) one or more "Spearhead" workers are attached to each Corps under the general direction of the AMG Corps Liaison Officer for health and welfare matters.

(b) closely following the "Spearhead" Red Cross workers other Field Representatives consolidate their work.

(c) and finally, Red Cross workers from the Regions are invited to operate under the direction of the Army "Follow Up" workers until such time as the Region takes over the area.

The duties performed by the Spearhead Red Cross workers with the Corps has largely been of an emergency nature. They have organized Refugee Committees, made provisions for the feeding and housing of the homeless, reopened civil hospitals, saved hospitals and welfare institutions from looting, delivered emergency medical supplies and clothing and reported on their findings and requirements to AMG. The "Follow Up" Field Representatives have

carried out projects started by the Spearhead workers and have performed other valuable services such as increasing the bed capacity of civil hospitals and organizing Convalescent Homes for persons who cannot be sent back home from the hospitals. They have in many cases throughout the area provided valuable assistance to the GAOs in re-establishing the services of such civilian welfare organizations as Italian Red Cross, Nato Commune Assistenza and Opera Nazionale Maternita ed Infanzia. Regional Red Cross workers have entered the area as requested and have continued the service given by the Army Follow Up Field Representatives.

In summary, the Supervisor of the 8th Army Red Cross and his entire staff have been most helpful to the Public Health and Welfare Department of AMG Eighth Army. Their operational plan has fitted in well with our methods of operation, and the Red Cross staff has been most co-operative, willing and unselfish in its services and time. The Red Cross workers reports on health and welfare conditions in the Communes have been promptly submitted and have been found reliable and of great value.

8. CIVILIAN WELFARE SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONS: There has been little change in the operation of Italian Civilian Welfare Agencies since the August monthly report. Ente Comunale Assistenza (ECA) continues to provide relief to distressed persons throughout the army area where there are no employable members in the household. They organize and administer hostels for refugees and provide good services as far as possible under the present circumstances to persons from destroyed areas placed in their Commune. The Italian Red Cross (IRC) has given valuable assistance, notably in Ancona, Fano, Jesi and many other Communes. They have reopened hospitals and made their buildings and staffs available for convalescent homes. Italian Red Cross Nurses have volunteered their services to British Red Cross and AMG to work in civil hospitals and Refugee Centres in areas still under fire. The Opera Nazionale Maternità ed Infanzia functions in the larger Communes. It provides food, medical service and care, particularly to children under trying conditions.

Orphanages, Old Folks Homes and other Welfare Institutions have frequently moved because of the war and have continued their services in temporary buildings without adequate facilities. These Welfare Institutions have been serviced and re-established as rapidly as operations permit. Although no statistics are available it is known that the number of children in Orphanages has increased because of casualties or war separation from parents. The physical condition of these children is not good as they are frequently suffering from privation. For example the Orphanage in Sanigallia reports that ten children died in their institution as a result of malnutrition suffered before admission. This is an indication of what may be expected this coming winter if food, fuel, housing and clothing are not adequately provided.

9. APPRECIATION: The excellent collaboration given by the Red Cross Supervisor and his staff in the 8th Army area has been mentioned, but their services cannot be praised too highly.

The Supervisor has given his time untiringly and was one of the first of the 8th Army AMG staff to enter S. Marino. The Spearhead Red Cross workers have frequently, without regard to personal danger, entered front areas with Spearhead CAO's to help with the first phases of civil administration. Regional Red Cross staffs have also cooperated with the 8th Army Red Cross workers and this department. Workers from Region VIII and Region IX are working according to plan in the areas in which they will eventually administer. Region XII have already voluntarily provided three Red Cross Field Representatives to work under the direction of the 8th Army Red Cross Supervisor.

National Public Health Officers have been most cooperative

for convalescent homes. Italian Red Cross Nurses have volunteered their services to British Red Cross and AMG to work in civil hospitals and Refugee Centres in areas still under fire. The Opera Nazionale Maternità ed Infanzia functions in the larger Communes. It provides food, medical service and care, particularly to children under trying conditions.

Orphanages, Old Folks Homes and other Welfare Institutions have frequently moved because of the war and have continued their services in temporary buildings without adequate facilities. These Welfare Institutions have been serviced and re-established as rapidly as operations permit. Although no statistics are available it is known that the number of children in Orphanages has increased because of casualties of these children is not good as they are frequently suffering from privation. For example the Orphanage in Sanigellia reports that ten children died in their institution as a result of malnutrition suffered before admission. This is an indication of what may be expected this coming winter if food, fuel, housing and clothing are not adequately provided.

9. APPRECIATION: The excellent collaboration given by the Red Cross Supervisor and his staff in the 8th Army area has been mentioned, but their services cannot be praised too highly.

The Supervisor has given his time untiringly and was one of the first of the 8th Army AMG staff to enter S. Marino. The Spearhead Red Cross workers have frequently, without regard to personal danger, entered front areas with Spearhead CACs to help with the first phases of civil administration. Regional Red Cross staffs have also cooperated with the 8th Army Red Cross workers and this department. Workers from Region VIII and Region IX are working according to plan in the areas in which they will eventually administer. Region XII have already voluntarily provided three Red Cross Field Representatives to work under the direction of the 8th Army Red Cross Supervisor.

Regional Public Health Officers have been most cooperative in volunteering both their own services and the services of their staff.

The Medical Sections of 8th Army and the Corps continue to give the Public Health Department of AMG Eighth Army their full support. They have provided emergency care to civilian wounded in their CCSs and Dressing Stations, and, recognising our limitations have continued to provide ambulance service to wounded and sick civilians, and have assisted in evacuation from civilian hospitals wherever their services have been requested. The consultation and advice of the D.D.M.S. and his staff have been fully appreciated by this Department.

C. J. Farinacci

C. J. Farinacci, Col., M.C.
S.P.H.O. AMG Eighth Army

