

1528

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

785016

ACC

10000/105/402

PR BRANCH,
FEB. - JUNE 1

1529

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

785016

10000/105/402

PR BRANCH, ACTIVITIES OF P.W.B.
FEB. - JUNE 1945

4/16/44 V

23 GIU. 1945

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

CSB/new

9/PRB

22 June 1945.

SUBJECT : Cessation of P.W.B. News Distribution in Northern Italy

TO : Associated Press
United Press
International News Service
Reuters
Ansa
Orbis
Si
Sidi
Agence France-Presse

1. This is to inform you that AFHQ has approved the hand over of responsibility for the distribution of press and radio news in Northern Italy (with the exception of Venezia-Giulia) from P.W.B. to private news agencies effective July 15, 1945.

2. This approval is still subject to the satisfactory solution of several minor technical problems. Unless these problems prove impossible of solution before that date please accept this as notice that private news agencies can begin to distribute news in northern Italy (except Venezia-Giulia) as of 0001 hours 15 July.

3. A system for the rationing of wordage which can be filed to the north is being worked out and a meeting will be held as soon as it is ready for discussion.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Communications Sub-Commission
Political Advisors - British and American

G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

1000

SUBJECT : Cessation of P.W.B. News Distribution in Northern Italy

TO : Associated Press
United Press
International News Service
Reuters
Ansa
Orbis
Si
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G. Stewart Brown

G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

1000

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Communications Sub-Commission
Political Advisors - British and American
Major Anderson, American Embassy
Mr. Michael Stewart, British Embassy
Major F. Weidman, G-5 Section, AFHQ
Mr. George Toman, P.W.B., Milan
Mr. Radford, P.W.B., Rome
Mr. G. Bancroft, P.W.B., Rome
Miss Vining, P.W.B., Rome
Mr. J. Linen, PWB, Rome

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

PRB/9

18 June 1945

18 JUL 1945

SUBJECT: Cessation of P.W.B. Activities in Northern Italy

TO : Chief of Staff
AFHQ

1. Reference our PRB/9 of 13 June 45.

2. Enclosed herewith are the draft amendments to AFHQ Administrative Memorandum No. 50 of 25 November 1944, which through error we neglected to enclose in our above mentioned memorandum to you.

/s/ Ellery W. Stone

ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Encl. (1)

DISTRIBUTION:

Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Political Advisors - American and British
P.W.B. - Mr. J. Linen, Rome
 Mr. G. Edman, Milan
 Mr. R. Barnes, Naples
 Mr. Radford, Rome
Maj. F. Weidman, G-5, AFHQ
Information & Censorship Sec, Att: Col. Hobson
PRB Files

999

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DRAFT

AMENDMENTS TO AFHQ ADMINISTRATIVE MEMORANDUM
NO. 50, of 25th November, 1944, the
AMENDMENTS TO TAKE EFFECT ON THE CESSATION
OF PWB ACTIVITIES IN NORTH ITALY.

1. Paragraph 1 is rescinded and the following substituted:
 - a. The Allied Publications Board comprised of representative of the following has been created:
 - (1) Psychological Warfare Branch, AFHQ (Chairman)
 - (2) Censorship Branch, IMC
 - (3) G-2 Section
 - (4) Allied Commission
 - (5) OWI and M of I.
 - b. Allied Commission will be represented by the following:
 - (1) Representatives of the political advisors.
 - (2) Representatives of the Economic Section.
 - (3) The Director of Public Relations.
 - c. Psychological Warfare Branch will be represented by the following:
 - (1) Head of PWB Italy (Chairman)
 - (2) The Chief Press Officer (Executive Secretary)
 - (3) Representative of the Director, PWB AFHQ
2. Paragraph 3A is rescinded and the following substituted:

The Communes of Naples, Ancona and Livorno will be regarded for Allied Publications Board purposes as territory under Italian Government jurisdiction but copies of all applications for license to publish newspapers and magazines in these areas will be forwarded to the AFHQ Regional Commissioner by the Italian Press Commission.
3. Paragraph 3C is rescinded.
4. The following sub-para is added to paragraph 4: **998**
 - a. Provide for the direction and control of the Italian Press and radio in Italian territory under AMG in accordance with the instructions the Chief of Staff AFHQ and directives approved by him.

1a. The Allied Publications Board comprised of representative of the following has been created:

- (1) Psychological Warfare Branch, APHQ (Chairman)
- (2) Censorship Branch, ING
- (3) G-2 Section
- (4) Allied Commission
- (5) OWI and H of I.

b. Allied Commission will be represented by the following:

- (1) Representatives of the political advisors.
- (2) Representatives of the Economic Section.
- (3) The Director of Public Relations.

c. Psychological Warfare Branch will be represented by the following:

- (1) Head of PWB Italy (Chairman)
- (2) The Chief Press Officer (Executive Secretary)
- (3) Representative of the Director, PWB APHQ

2. Paragraph 3A is rescinded and the following substituted:

The Communes of Naples, Ancona and Livorno will be regarded for Allied Publications Board purposes as territory under Italian Government jurisdiction but copies of all applications for license to publish newspapers and magazines in these areas will be forwarded to the AMG Regional Commissioner by the Italian Press Commission.

3. Paragraph 3C is rescinded.

4. The following sub-para is added to paragraph 4: **993**

a. Provide for the direction and control of the Italian Press and radio in Italian territory under AMG in accordance with the instructions the Chief of Staff APHQ and directives approved by him.

8116

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSD/new

9/PRB

16 June 1945

16 JUN 1945

SUBJECT: News Distribution in Northern Italy

TO : Chief Commissioner

1. A meeting was held today with the Italian and American news agencies to seek their views on the date on which they could begin distribution of news in northern Italy, thus permitting P.W.B. to cease its distribution.

2. The agencies were unanimous in their belief that for administrative reasons they could not be prepared to take over news distribution in northern Italy before July 15. It was their recommendation that AFHQ set the date for July 15 rather than July 1.

3. In view of the wordage requirements of the eight agencies, it was decided that Col. Seudder's Technical Sub-Committee should, in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Communications and Italian Press Ministry, work out a system of rationing of the wordage of all agencies, especially at peak periods.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

Distribution:

Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Political Advisors - American and British
P.W.B. - Mr. J. Linn, Rome
 Mr. G. Edman, Milan
 Mr. R. Barnes, Naples
 Mr. Radford, Rome
Maj. Floyd Weidman, G-5, AFHQ
Col. Hobson, Info. & Censorship, AFHQ
PRB Files

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14 JUL 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

AFQ 394

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

20a/PRB

13 June 1945.

SUBJECT : Entry of Private News Agencies into AMG Controlled Territory in Northern Italy.

TO : P.W.B. (Att: Mr. James Linen
Mr. Griffin Bancroft
Mr. I.N. King)

Associated Press
United Press
International News Service
Reuters
Ansa
SI
Orbis
Sidi
Communications Sub-Commission

1. As you know P.W.B. is anxious to cease its distribution of news in AMG controlled territory in Northern Italy as soon as possible and to turn over further responsibility for news distribution in that territory to private news agencies.

2. You are invited to send a representative to a meeting to discuss this matter at 1100 hours on Saturday, June 16th in the Conference Room of the AC headquarters building on the third floor near the Office of the Chief Commissioner.

Copy for info:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Political Advisors
Major Anderson, American Embassy
Maj. F. Weidman, G-5 Section, AFHQ
Mr. Geo. Edman, P.W.B., Milan
Mr. Radford, P.W.B., Rome
Miss Vining, P.W.B., Rome.

STEWART BROWN

Director,
Public Relations Branch.

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785016

Territory in Northern Italy.

TO : P.W.B. (Att: Mr. James Linen
Mr. Griffin Bancroft
Mr. I.N. King)

Associated Press
United Press
International News Service
Reuters
Ansa
SI
Orbis
Sidi
Communications Sub-Commission

1. As you know P.W.B. is anxious to cease its distribution of news in AMG controlled territory in Northern Italy as soon as possible and to turn over further responsibility for news distribution in that territory to private news agencies.

2. You are invited to send a representative to a meeting to discuss this matter at 1100 hours on Saturday, June 16th in the Conference Room of the AC headquarters building on the third floor near the Office of the Chief Commissioner.

Stewart Brown

STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

Copy for info:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Political Advisors
Major Anderson, American Embassy
Maj. F. Weidman, G-5 Section, ARHQ
Mr. Geo. Egan, P.W.B., Milan
Mr. Radford, P.W.B., Rome
Miss Vining, P.W.B., Rome.

99c

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Office of the Chief Commissioner

APO 394

14 JUN. 1945

11a

PRB/9

13 June 1945

SUBJECT: Cessation of P.W.B. Activities in Northern Italy

TO : Chief of Staff
AFHQ

1. On 29 May the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) directed the Allied Commission to set up a Technical Sub-Committee to recommend a date for the transfer of responsibility for the collection and dissemination of news from P.W.B. to private news agencies, Allied and Italian.

2. The report of this Sub-Committee is attached herewith as "Tab A". It should be noted that communications facilities will be available to private news agencies on July 1. If this is the date on which AFHQ desires that P.W.B. shall cease its distribution of news in northern Italy and to turn over the responsibility to private agencies, the approval by AFHQ should be forthcoming at an early date in order to allow the private news agencies sufficient time to make their plans.

3. There is also attached as "Tab B" the proposal recommended by the Allied Publications Board for the control of press and radio in AMG territory after the dissolution of P.W.B. as directed under II 2 of SAC(P)28. This proposal is submitted for approval by AFHQ.

4. There is also attached as "Tab C" the directive under which the press officers would operate. This is also submitted for AFHQ approval.

ELIHU W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

99r

Encl. Tab A
Tab B
Tab C

DISTRIBUTION:

Executive Commissioner (2)
Civil Affairs Section
Communications S/C
Political Advisors - American and British
P.W.B. - Mr. J. Linen
Mr. G. Edman
Mr. R. Barnes
Mr. Redford

Maj. F. Weidman, G-5 Sec.
PRB Files
Information & Censorship
Section, Att: Col. Hanson

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

785016

Tab A
118

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APC 394

Communications Sub-Commission

HHS/epc

G.253. .CS

13th June, 1945

SUBJECT: Distribution of News by Private News Agencies
in North Italy (excluding Venezia Giulia)

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission

1. The Technical Sub-Committee appointed by you to study communication facilities available to private news agencies for distribution of news in North Italy is satisfied that as of July 1st, 1945 facilities will be available to permit adequate coverage of North Italy by private news agencies provided that:

a. radio frequencies now used by P.W.B. for news distribution be allocated to the Italian Government for use by Italcable. Request for such allocation is being made to A.F.H.Q.

/S/

H.H. SCUDDER
Lt. Colonel, Sig. C.
Director.

99'

C O P Y

OFFICE OF THE
ALLIED PUBLICATIONS BOARD
62 Via Veneto, Rome
Telephone 489171 Extension 178

CONFIDENTIAL

12th June, 1945

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission,
Copies to Director, PWB AFHQ

FROM : Chairman, Allied Publications Board.

SUBJECT : Direction and Control of Italian Press and Radio.

1. A detailed scheme for the control of Italian Press and Radio in North Italy after the cessation of PWB activities is submitted, herewith. The scheme provides for direction and control through press officers and a directive to govern the work of these officers is annexed thereto.
2. The scheme and directive have been adopted by APB, in accordance with recommendation 2 of the annexure to SAC(P) (45) 28, after discussion with representatives of the AMG Regional Commissioners in North Italy and of OWI and NOI.
3. The scheme does not apply to Venezia Giulia or to that part of Italian territory lying east of the security control line.
4. The scheme does not provide for the control of Southern Italian transmitters, such as Rome II, which are audible in North Italy. This question was fully considered both in consultation with representatives of the Regional Commissioners in Milan and by APB. Though, from the point of view of AMG, the desirability of such control was fully appreciated, APB considers that any attempt to reimpose political censorship over stations such as Rome II and Bari I would be out of place at the present time, when the tendency is towards a relaxation rather than a tightening of Allied control. It was further of the opinion that the reimposition of such control would require a use of Allied personnel and would arouse Italian opposition out of all proportion to the advantages to be gained. In reaching this conclusion APB was influenced by the consideration that such control to be effective would have to be extended to British and American transmissions in Italian, a measure beyond its terms of reference. APB was therefore of the opinion that all reference to the control of Italian transmitters situated outside the area under AMG should be deleted from the scheme and recommended that no control, other than military censorship, should be exercised over these radio stations.

all 992

12th June, 1945

TO : Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission,
Copies to Director, FWD AFHQ

FROM : Chairman, Allied Publications Board.

SUBJECT : Direction and Control of Italian Press and Radio.

1. A detailed scheme for the control of Italian Press and Radio in North Italy after the cessation of FWD activities is submitted herewith. The scheme provides for direction and control through press officers and a directive to govern the work of these officers is annexed thereto.
2. The scheme and directive have been adopted by APB, in accordance with recommendation 2 of the annexure to SAC(P) (45) 28, after discussion with representatives of the AMG Regional Commissioners in North Italy and of OWI and MOI.
3. The scheme does not apply to Venezia Giulia or to that part of Italian territory lying east of the security control line.
4. The scheme does not provide for the control of Southern Italian transmitters, such as Rome II, which are audible in North Italy. This question was fully considered both in consultation with representatives of the Regional Commissioners in Milan and by APB. Though, from the point of view of AMG, the desirability of such control was fully appreciated, APB considers that any attempt to reimpose political censorship over stations such as Rome II and Bari I would be out of place at the present time, when the tendency is towards a relaxation rather than a tightening of Allied control. It was further of the opinion that the reimposition of such control would require a use of Allied personnel and would arouse Italian opposition out of all proportion to the advantages to be gained. In reaching this conclusion APB was influenced by the consideration that such control to be effective would have to be extended to British and American transmissions in Italian, a measure beyond its terms of reference. APB was therefore of the opinion that all reference to the control of Italian transmitters situated outside the area under AMG should be deleted from the scheme and recommended that no control, other than military censorship, should be exercised over these radio stations.
5. The annexed scheme calls for the amendment of the AFHQ Administrative Memorandum defining the powers of constitution of APB. A draft of the required amendments is attached.

CONFIDENTIAL

12th June, 1945.

ALLIED PUBLICATIONS BOARD

PROPOSAL FOR THE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF
ITALIAN PRESS AND RADIO ON CESSATION OF
PWB ACTIVITIES IN NORTHERN ITALY.

1. Italian Press and Radio in North Italy will be free to use any news and information available from official sources and private agencies subject to the requirements of military censorship.
2. The elimination of material likely to inflame public opinion and the objective presentation of contentious issues to the Italian population resident in areas under Allied Military Government will be secured through Allied Press Officers whose functions and status are defined below:
3. APB, which will continue to meet at Rome, will appoint from among the civilian and military personnel at present employed by PWB, Allied Press Officers. These will be stationed in areas in which there is a Regional Commissioner, with whom they will act in close cooperation.
4. The Press Officers will act in accordance with directives prepared by APB concurred by AC/AMG and approved by the Chief of Staff, AFHQ. In case of emergency when public safety is endangered the Press Officer will act on the instructions of the Regional Commissioner: in the event of these instructions being at variance with the directives of APB, the matter will be referred back to higher authority for decision.
5. The Press Officers will be under the command of the Chief Press Officer, who is directly responsible to the Chairman of APB. The Chief Press Officer will be a member of APB and will act as Deputy to the Chairman as required.
6. The direction and control of the Italian Press and Radio, vested in APB, will be additional to that exercised by military censorship: it will normally be carried out by means of post publication scrutiny. In cases likely to inflame public opinion, and in controversial issues, which will be the subject of directives from AFHQ, Press Officers ^{99?} have the right to demand from the non-political information newspapers, which will be authorised in each region, the pre-publication submission of editorial articles and comment and will be entitled to delete from such articles matter liable to inflame public opinion. Press Officers will also be entitled to require these non-political information papers to publish, in full or in part, official Allied statements and orders.
7. The Press Officer will have the power to exercise similar control over Radio scripts in any circumstances when he may consider this necessary.
8. Licensing of the press, including weekly and monthly

1. Italian Press and Radio in North Italy will be free to use any news and information available from official sources and private agencies subject to the requirements of military censorship.
2. The elimination of material likely to inflame public opinion and the objective presentation of contentious issues to the Italian population resident in areas under Allied Military Government will be secured through Allied Press Officers whose functions and status are defined below:
3. APB, which will continue to meet at Rome, will appoint from among the civilian and military personnel at present employed by PWB, Allied Press Officers. These will be stationed in areas in which there is a Regional Commissioner, with whom they will act in close cooperation.
4. The Press Officers will act in accordance with directives prepared by APB concurred by AC/AMG and approved by the Chief of Staff, AFHQ. In case of emergency when public safety is endangered the Press Officer will act on the instructions of the Regional Commissioner; in the event of these instructions being at variance with the directives of APB, the matter will be referred back to higher authority for decision.
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7. The Press Officer will have the power to exercise similar control over Radio scripts in any circumstances when he may consider this necessary.
8. Licensing of the press, including weekly and monthly magazines,

contd.

CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECTIVE FOR A.P.B.

12th June, 1945.

I. AIMS

1. To secure a fair and objective presentation of world and domestic news to Italian public opinion.
2. To secure the elimination from the Italian Press and Radio of all irresponsible material likely to inflame public opinion, or in any other way hinder the work of the Allied authorities.
3. To assist AC/AMG in the administration and rehabilitation of territory under Military Government.
4. To assist the reconstruction and re-education of the Italian Press in Democratic methods.

II. DIRECTIVE

1. We encourage the Italian Press and Radio to present a fair and objective picture of contentious issues, and to restrict their comment to a straightforward presentation of their own case, avoiding unnecessary misrepresentation.
2. We encourage Italian writers to avoid violent comments and the reporting of unconfirmed rumours in cases where this is likely to cause public unrest and public disorder.
3. We endeavour, by the supply of long-term material and features not otherwise available to the Italian Press and Radio, to provide them with the means of presenting a balanced picture of world events and of events in other countries.
4. We endeavour, by means of personal influence, to ensure that work necessary for the reconstruction and the efficient administration of the country is given proper publicity over the Italian Press and Radio.
5. We exercise particularly close supervision over the treatment in Press and Radio of the following issues, which are likely to have a disturbing effect on Italian public opinion:

1. All frontier problems affecting Italy.
2. The institutional question.
3. The disposal of the Italian colonies, the Italian fleet and other similar points arising out of the Armistice terms.
4. Local or general industrial unrest or strikes.
5. Epuration trials of high ranking Fascists.

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSR/maw

41a/PHB

7 June 45

- 8 JUL 1945

5/24

SUBJECT: Conference in Milan on Press Problems in North Italy

TO : Chief Commissioner

1. A conference was called by P.W.B. in Milan on Tuesday, June 5 to discuss press problems in north Italy. The chief problems were 1) plans for supervision and control of Italian press and radio in the north when P.W.B. disbands under orders from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, and 2) problems connected with the reappearance of pre-Fascist independent newspapers in Milan, Turin, Genoa, Bologna and Venice as called for under paragraph 7 of the Press Plan for the North.

2. Present from the Commission were Mr. Henry Hopkinson, Mr. L. White, Commerce Sub-Commission, and Mr. C. Stewart Brown, PRB. All AMB regions sent representatives, and IV Corps was represented by Col. Walker. P.W.B. was represented by its northern director, its press officers and commanding officers of all P.W.B. regional offices in the north. The British Embassy was represented by Mr. Michael Stewart and the American Embassy by Mr. James Linn.

3. The conference had before it a draft of a proposal for the supervision and control of the Italian press and radio after P.W.B. will have ceased its distribution of controlled news in the north and have turned over this responsibility to private news agencies. A draft of the proposal is attached as roughly amended in the discussion, subject to more careful redrafting by P.W.B. for submission to a meeting of the Allied Publications Board on Monday, June 11. If approved by APB it will be submitted to ASHQ through the AC for 1991 approval.

4. There is great doubt as to the wisdom of instituting the control provided in paragraph 4 of the proposal. This control does not exist at the present time and there might be strong protests

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from the Italian government if an attempt were made to place a control over the Rome and Bari radio stations. No such control exists at the present time. P.W.B. suggested the views of the Chief Commissioner be ascertained before a decision is taken by the APB on June 11. It would be appreciated if your views could be had before June 11. I concur with P.W.B. that this paragraph should be eliminated.

5. Your views on the entire proposal would be welcomed before Monday, June 11. For your information paragraph 7 is being redrafted to make it clearer that the control to be exercised by the Press Officers is supplementary to the normal military censorship which has considerable latitude in stopping the publication of stories or editorials which might endanger public safety and military security.

6. The second item on the agenda concerned the difficulties in getting the pre-Fascist papers started again. Each city reported and following is a summary of the individual situations and the views of the conference:

A) MILAN: The Corriere d'Informazioni is appearing regularly and without further incident. In Milan it is popularly known simply as "Il Corriere". Its editions are exhausted on the newsstands before those of the party newspapers, thus attesting to its popularity;

B) TURIN: Commissioners are being appointed for the newspapers "La Stampa" and "Gazzetta del Popolo" and after expiration they will start publication in two or three weeks. They will appear under their old names and will have a circulation of 125,000 each. There are five party papers in Turin with a circulation of 75,000 each.

C) GENOA: This is the most troublesome city at present. Because the Perrone brothers are owners of "Il Secolo" there is great opposition to its reappearance both by the C.N.L. and the population. This fact was verified by both AMG and P.W.B. They reported there would be serious trouble if the paper reappeared under its old or even under a new name because of its ownership and past history. There have been negotiations between the C.N.L., AMG and P.W.B. for the organization of an independent nonparty newspaper to replace the P.W.B. paper when it ceases publication. The proposal is for the parties to buy half of the stock, equally divided between them, and to sell the other half to the public. The paper would be governed by a public committee representing civic interests, the church and the university. This proposal has been supported by the AMG Regional and Provincial commissioners and the P.W.B. Press Officer in Genoa. As a result of this situation they have asked P.W.B. to recommend to APB that Genoa be exempted from application of para 7 of the Press Plan which would call for the reappearance of "Il Secolo".

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- 3 -

P.W.B. is submitting such a recommendation to the APB at its meeting on June 11 and if approved it will be submitted to AFHQ for concurrence. Your views on this question would be appreciated before the meeting. I recommend that AC concur in the recommendation because I am convinced, knowing the Ferrones personally, that there will be trouble if we insist on the reappearance of their paper. Our main objective of having an independent nonparty paper in Genoa will be achieved by the proposal outlined earlier.

D) BOLOGNA: There is no great demand for the reappearance of "Il Resto del Carlino" but there would be no trouble if it did reappear providing there was sufficient newsprint for all the papers. The lack of newsprint has delayed the reappearance of "Il Resto del Carlino". There is some demand for the reappearance of the "Avvenire d'Italia", a pre-Fascist Catholic paper with national circulation. At the present time Bologna has one C.N.L. paper representing all parties and therefore fairly independent, and the P.W.B. paper.

E) VENICE: The public is in favor of the reappearance of the "Gazzettino di Venezia" but its publication has been delayed because of the lack of newsprint and the fact that the newspaper's offices are presently occupied by P.W.B. These difficulties will be solved shortly and the Gazzettino will reappear shortly before or simultaneously with the disappearance of the P.W.B. paper.

G. STERNAUT BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

Copy for info: Executive Commissioner
Political Advisers
Civil Affairs Section
Commerce S/C, Mr. L. White

1548

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

785016

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

7 JUL 1945

20a/PRB

7 June 1944

SUBJECT : Entry of Private News Agencies into the Provinces of
Leghorn, Pisa, Florence and Pistoia.

TO : Associated Press
United Press
International News Service
Reuters
Ansa
SI
Orbis
Sidi

1. Reference is to our 20/PRB of 4 June on the above subject.

2. Subsequent to this notice AFHQ altered the turn-over date to 0001 hours, June 19th. You are therefor advised that the date your agency can begin distributing news in the provinces of Leghorn, Pisa, Florence and Pistoia is June 19th instead of June 18th.

G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

Copy for info:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Communications Sub-Commission
Political Advisors - British and American
Major Anderson, American Embassy
Mr. M. Stewart, British Embassy
Major F. Weidman, G-5 Section, AFHQ
Mr. George Edman, P.W.B., Milan
Mr. Radford, P.W.B., Rome
Mr. G. Bancroft, P.W.B. Rome
Miss Vining, P.W.B. Rome.

937

7336

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

GSB/eb

PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

20a/PRE

4 June 45

SUBJECT: Entry of Private News Agencies into the Provinces of
Leghorn, Pisa, Florence and Pistoia.

TO : Associated Press
United Press
International News Service
Reuters
Ansa
SI
Orbis
Sidi

Telephoned begin
Begin. He will take up with G.S.B. on his return
from assignment in G.S.B. on his return
from assignment in G.S.B. on his return

1. On May 25 a meeting was held with the above listed agencies and IWB to discuss the date on which P.W.B. would cease the distribution of news in the provinces of Leghorn, Pisa, Florence and Pistoia and the private news agencies, Allied and Italian, would begin distribution of news in these provinces.

2. At that time the date for the return of these provinces to the jurisdiction of the Italian Government had not been definitely set. The date for the transfer has now been established for 0001 hours, June 18th. In accordance with our agreement June 18 will be the date on which P.W.B. will turn over to private agencies the responsibility for future distribution of news in these provinces. Private agencies can therefore begin servicing papers in these provinces as of the above date. In order to prevent any confusion or interruption in the service P.W.B. has agreed to continue its service for two days after the transfer or until June 20th.

3. This is to be considered an official notification that your agency can start distributing news in the above provinces on June 18th. The information contained in this letter must be considered confidential until it is announced by the Allied Commission.

Copy for info:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section

Stewart Brown
G. STEWART BROWN,
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

985

SUBJECT : Entry of Private News Agencies into the Provinces of
Leghorn, Pisa, Florence and Pistoia.

TO : Associated Press
United Press
International News Service
Reuters
Ansa
SI
Orbis
Sidi

*Telephoned by
Begin. He will take up with
S.S.B. on his return
for a meeting with
Stewart.*

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Copy for info:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Section
Communications Sub-Commission
Political Advisors - British and American
Major Anderson, American Embassy
Mr. M. Stewart, British Embassy
Major F. Weidman, G-5 Section, AFHQ
Mr. George Edman, P.W.B., Milan
Mr. Radford, P.W.B. Rome
Mr. G. Bancroft, P.W.B. Rome
Miss Vining, P.W.B. Rome

Stewart Brown
G. STEWART BROWN, 986
Director,
Public Relations Branch.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH

GSR/mew

9/PRB

31 May 45

-1 GIU. 1945

SUBJECT: Dissolution of P.W.B. in Italy

TO : Chief Commissioner
(Through Executive Commissioner)

1. Reference is to the attached note from the Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat and the annexed paper from the Psychological Warfare Subcommittee.

2. PRB recommends that the Chief Commissioner ask the Communications Sub-Commission to set up the Technical Sub-Committee referred to in Recommendation 1 of the paper and instruct it to submit a report and recommendations to the Political Conference.

G. STEWART BROWN
Director,
Public Relations Branch

Copy for info to: Executive Commissioner
Civil Affairs Sec.
Political Advisors
Communications S/C

Encl.

CONFIDENTIAL

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat

K 183

SAC (P)(45)28
29th May 1945

CONFIDENTIAL
COPY No. 38

SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER'S CONFERENCE
(POLITICAL)

DISSOLUTION OF PWB IN ITALY

Note by Secretary

1. At Annexure 1 is a paper which, after discussion at the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee was submitted to the Chief of Staff by the Chairman of that Sub-Committee.
2. The Chief of Staff has approved the recommendations of this paper and accordingly directs that the Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission, and Director PWB should take action to implement them.
3. On receipt of the report of the Technical Sub-Committee to be set up in accordance with Recommendation 1 of the paper, the subject will be brought before the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political) for final approval of the transfer of responsibility from PWB.
4. Meanwhile, the attached paper and the above note of decisions taken in regard to its recommendations are circulated for the information of members of the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference (Political).

(Sgd)

J.G. SWEETMAN,
LIEUTENANT COLONEL,
SECRETARY.

DISTRIBUTION

Supreme Allied Commander
Deputy Supreme Allied Commander
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean
Air Commander-in-Chief, MAAF
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Northwest
African Waters
Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief, MAAF
Commanding General, 15th Army Group
Chief of Staff
Chief Administrative Officer
Deputy Chief of Staff

COPY No.

1
2
3-4
5
6
7
8
9
10-11
12

98

(POLITICAL)

DISSOLUTION OF PWB IN ITALY

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(Sgd)

J.G. SWETMAN,
LIEUTENANT COLONEL,
SECRETARY.

DISTRIBUTION

Supreme Allied Commander	1
Deputy Supreme Allied Commander	2
Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean	3-4
Air Commander-in-Chief, MAAF	5
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Northwest African Waters	6
Deputy Air Commander-in-Chief, MAAF	7
Commanding General, 15th Army Group	8
Chief of Staff	9
Chief Administrative Officer	10-11
Deputy Chief of Staff	12
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2	13-14
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3	15-16
Chairman, Mediterranean Joint Planning Staff	17
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-5	18-19
Assistant Chief of Staff (Br)	20
Chief, Liaison Section	21
Director of Operations and Intelligence, HQ MAAF	22-26
U.S. Political Adviser	27-29
British Resident Minister	30-33
Director, PWB	34
INC	35
Chief Commissioner, Allied Commission	36-38
Supreme Allied Commander's Secretariat	39-41
Spafes	42-44

98/

692

CONFIDENTIAL

EXHIBIT 1

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

K 183

26 May 1945

SUBJECT: PWB Functions in North ITALY.

TO : Chief of Staff.

I. DISCUSSION

1. The Combined Chiefs of Staff have directed in FAN 538 that information activities in liberated ITALY should be separated on national lines when integration ceases to serve in direct support of military operations and that public information facilities should be released to civilian agencies as soon after liberation as military conditions allow.

2. It is the opinion of the Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee that the unconditional surrender of the German forces has brought about conditions in ITALY in which Allied control of the informational services could largely be relaxed with a view to restoring progressively and as speedily as possible the freedom of press and freedom of expression to which the United Nations are pledged. The timing of this restoration is partly dependent on political developments and partly on the restoration of communications facilities. While the former factor cannot be exactly forecast, the latter is under our own control, and the restoration to civilian agencies must be largely dependent on this purely technical problem. On the political side, the immediate restoration to civilian agencies may be open to objection, but it would appear to PWB that a considerable relaxation of control is desirable as soon as the solution of the technical communications problems allow and that provision for consultation and coordination with the Italian Government and Italian agencies should be provided for from the outset.

3. News

The first step in the release of public informational facilities is the admission of the private news agencies. On a previous occasion, the agencies requested one month's notice of intention to transfer responsibility in a given area. It is thought that this would be sufficient. An equally essential pre-requisite to transfer is the restoration of civilian communications. A technical problem which can be most easily studied by a technical sub-committee similar to that appointed to arrange the detailed transfer of facilities in ROME and Southern ITALY.

4. Radio and Press

In Southern ITALY, the admission of the private news

1555

I. DISCUSSION

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4. Radio and Press

a. In Southern ITALY, the admission of the private news agencies was accompanied by the return of the radio network to Italian control, and the transfer of PWB controlled newspapers to private Italian companies. The return of the whole radio network would place in the hands of the R.A.I. and so indirectly of the Italian Government a powerful propaganda organ and the relinquishment of all Allied control over this organ and over the press might place Allied Military Government at a serious disadvantage should any tension develop. In such circumstances even the restoration of the pre-Fascist newspaper as non-political information papers would be insufficient to guarantee that the Allied point of view were properly presented to the North Italian public, and that inflammatory material were avoided.

b. But to secure such control, as is required, a more flexible system than that hitherto employed by PWB might well be set up, and discussions with the AC suggest that the most suitable organ for this purpose is Allied Publications Board. Working under an over-all directive drawn up by Allied Publications Board, on which AC, MOI and PWB are all represented, it would be possible to exercise control by means of regional press officers acting in close cooperation with the regional commissioners. Should events develop smoothly, the function of these officers would be to afford to the Italian press and radio advice and assistance, more particularly to furnish the Italian agencies with material from Allied sources which would not otherwise be at their disposal. But should the development of events render this desirable in the view of AC or of the Regional Commissioners, these officers would be able to exert considerable pressure on the Italian Press and radio in North ITALY by means of licensing, allotments of paper and other forms of economic pressure.

5. Venezia Giulia, N.W. Italy, and Austria

a. Venezia Giulia is excluded from the scope of the present paper in view of the special circumstances prevailing in that region. The scheme proposed can also be postponed if the situation in N.W. Italy develops so as to make such delay essential.

b. PWB commitments to Austria will also necessitate the retention of certain facilities in Italy and these are considered elsewhere.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That AC be instructed to set up a technical sub-committee to examine the problems involved in the admission of the private news agencies to North ITALY, and to recommend a date as soon as possible after July 1st for the transfer of responsibility for the collection and dissemination of news from PWB to the private news agencies, Allied and Italian.
2. That Allied Publications Board be instructed to prepare and recommend a detailed scheme for the control of the Italian press and radio in North ITALY, and of such Italian-controlled stations as are audible in North ITALY, (including Rome II) through press officers working in close cooperation with the Regional Commissioners, and that it prepare and recommend a directive to govern the work of these press officers. 98
3. That PWB be instructed to provide the Allied Publications Board with all necessary facilities, including the provision of the necessary staff, to make the foregoing project effective.
4. That press officers, attached to Allied Publications

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b. PWB commitments to Austria will also necessitate the retention of certain facilities in Italy and these are considered elsewhere.

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1. That AC be instructed to set up a technical sub-committee to examine the problems involved in the admission of the private news agencies to North ITALY, and to recommend a date as soon as possible after July 1st for the transfer of responsibility for the collection and dissemination of news from PWB to the private news agencies, Allied and Italian.

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3. That PWB be instructed to provide the Allied Publications Board with all necessary facilities, including the provision of the necessary staff, to make the foregoing project effective.

4. That press officers, attached to Allied Publications Board act as agents for the distribution of OWI and MOI publications in North ITALY.

5. That, upon approval of the recommendations of the sub-committee to be set up under para 1 above, PWB should, at a date so determined, cease all activities other than those required for VENEZIA GIULIA and AUSTRIA, except for film distribution and activities required by para 3 above.

(intd) A J. MCC.

Chairman, Psychological Warfare Sub-Committee

1558

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

785016

4/16/11/1A ✓

31 MAG 1945

CAR (Signature)

REIL/018.15 (G)
MAY 29 1000

E/3061
MAY 31 1000
ROUTINE

HQ VENEZIE REGION
ALCOM

(Signature)

IN CLEAR.

Subject is Premio Di Liberazione. Notice has appeared in local PWB paper emanating from PWB sources ROME saying premium of lire 3000 will be given to all employees from 18 to 65, lire 2500 from 16 to 18, lire 2000 from 14 to 16. Have discussed this with LUSH CRAFTS-SMITH and HOPKINSON here present who are surprised at appearance this definite pronouncement. May full information be telegraphed please.

DIST

ACTION - EGOR SMC
INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER
EX COMMISSIONER
FINANCE S/C
LABOR S/C
FILE 2
FLOAT
CASEC
PRBR.

981

HEADQUARTERS
31 MAY 1945
A C

6888

1559

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

785016

DRAFT

HEADING

Ref:

April 45.

SUBJECT: Provisions for Patriots
in North Italy.

TO : P.W.B.

1. In the P.W.B. Bulletin of 21 April 45 section S-15 contains inaccurate accounts of what is reported to be Allied policy in the treatment of Patriots. It is regretted that P.W.B. should have published any news items about Patriot activities without the approval of the Allied Commission.
2. You will find attached a copy of the Directive on Patriot policy which should serve as a guide for checking future opinions which may be expressed.
3. Mr. Scoccimarro will be interviewed by this HQ and reminded of his responsibilities and limitations in making public any announcements regarding Patriot activities.
4. However it would be much appreciated if before making any public announcements P.W.B. would consult with this HQ about such publicity in future.

Brigadier
Executive Commissioner

980

1580

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

785016

4A

24/4.

CRSec. Are we able to get PWD
not to run any patriot
stories without our prior
approval? If not let me know
and we take up with AFHQ

2

Ch. Eaker

1561

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

Col. F. J. J. (4B)
PWB should
run nothing
without our
approval

GW
LL

444
April 21, 1945

S-12 ALLIED FORCES SWEEP THROUGH BOLOGNA TO THE NORTHEAST

ADVANCE AFHQ, ITALY (PWB-PRO) -- Fifth Army troops, sweeping through liberated Bologna, have pressed more than 11 miles northwest of the city in pursuit of enemy forces falling back to the River Po.

An announcement from Fifteenth Army Group late Saturday night stated that swift-moving Fifth Army forces have captured the town of San Giovanni, located, according to military maps, more than 11 miles from the outskirts of the former enemy fortress city of Bologna.

Troops of Allied Fifth and Eighth Armies entered Bologna Saturday morning in converging columns, and were "poised to destroy the German Armies" in Italy, ^{the} Fifteenth Army Group announcement said Saturday afternoon.

The liberation of the Po Valley city, hub of German defenses from the Adriatic to the Ligurian coasts, came on the sixth day of the Fifth Army's massive drive through the mountain defenses south of Bologna, and within little over 12 hours after American tank columns had swept into the Po Plain to cut the Milan road northwest of the city.

S-15 PROVISIONS FOR PATRIOTS IN NORTH ITALY

ROME, (PTF ANSA) -- As Allied armies advance in North Italy, Patriots in the liberated provinces will be grouped immediately into camps where they will receive shelter, food and medical attention, the Minister for Occupied Italy, Mauro Scoccimarro announced Saturday.

This plan has been formulated in collaboration with the Allied authorities and has the following objects in view:

Transformation of Patriot groups ^{the} most effectively and most rapidly into regular fighting units of Italian army.

Employment of Patriots partly as military police and partly for mopping up in places where the enemy is still at large. 979

Transfer of the sick and wounded to hospital.

Formation of labor groups from among Patriots for special war

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Employment of Patriots partly as military police and partly for mopping up in places where the enemy is still at large. 979

Transfer of the sick and wounded to hospital.

Formation of labor groups from among Patriots for special war services and demobilization of others according to their choice.

1945

S - 11

EDEN AND STETTINIUS CONFER

WASHINGTON (PWB=OMI) - After a lengthy conference Saturday with U.S. Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., Anthony Eden, British Foreign Secretary, said: "As usual we were in complete agreement about everything."

He told reporters that he did not know when Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs Vyacheslav Molotov was likely to reach the U.S. nor when he expected to leave for San Francisco.

=====

S - 13

LUBLIN GOVERNMENT SIGNS TREATY OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE WITH RUSSIA

LONDON (PWB=REUTER) - Lublin radio, which is controlled by the Lublin Provisional Government, announced that the provisional government had signed a treaty of friendship and mutual assistance with Russia in Moscow Saturday.

=====

S - 14

TARCHIANI THANKS U.S. FOR AID TO ITALY

NEW YORK (PWB=OMI) - Alberto Tarchiani, Italian ambassador to the United States expressed appreciation for the aid given his country by American citizens, and complete satisfaction with the cooperation being given by the Allied authorities in Italy.

Tarchiani spoke at his press conference Saturday and described German destruction and looting in Italy to correspondents.

He expressed his admiration for the able men who run American Relief For Italy which is sending "food, clothing, medical supplies where the need is greatest."

=====

S/M

1563

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

✓
4/16 1/CA

17 APR 1945

3A

HEADQUARTERS, ALLIED COMMISSION
Navy Sub-Commission APO 394

17 APR 1945

NSC/2160
17 April 1945.

From: Navy Sub-Commission, Hq. Allied Commission.
To : Executive Commissioner, Hq. AC.

Subject: P.W.B. Reports.

Reference: (a) Navy Sub-Com ltr NSC/1888 of 21 March 1945.

1. In accordance with paragraph 2 of reference (a), it is requested that the Navy Sub-Commission, AC, be furnished with a copy of the manifesto referred to therein which was distributed to Italian Navy personnel, or furnished with the reference number and date of any P.W.B. publication which the manifesto was published.

WILLIAM J. BUTLER,
Captain, U. S. Navy,
REAR ADMIRAL
CHIEF, NAVY SUB-COMMISSION, AC.

Copy to:
Lt. Col S. H. White,
Civil Affairs Section.

977
978

4042

1566

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

785016

IDEAL ARTISTS ALLIED COMMISSION
AND 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

(2a)

Ref. 4/16.1/CA

17 Mar 45

SUBJECT : FWD Reports - Defascism

TO : FWD Italian Theatre HQ
CMF

- 1 The Civil Affairs Section of this HQ is charged with the responsibility for supervising the carrying out of those of the Armistice Terms which relate to Defascism. As its head I have perused with interest Appx I (Exposition) of the FWD Consolidated Report on conditions in Italy.
- 2 I think it is a pity that such reports should be issued without any consultation with this Section. Your reports are regarded as authoritative but the material is obtained solely from sources which are interested in presenting them in a certain light and the impression given is not always quite literally true. Reference to this Section might have avoided passing on these impressions and perhaps also broadened and increased the value of the report.

G.R. URJOHN Brig
VP CA Section

AR/or

977

977

523

1567

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

785016

4/16/45/CA ✓
the info
enc

SECRET

Al Gripps

Ask for the report

PRH (1a)

Ref: 32X1/207/12.

11 March 1945.

for
B. 6-16 MAR

12 MAR 1945

My dear Rayner:

Thank you for your letter of 2nd March, which I only received on 9th March, with the news about Major Gavronsky.

The first thing that strikes me is that it is somewhat extraordinary that an officer should be sent to Switzerland to make a report on the political conditions in Northern Italy without consultation or the knowledge of the Chief Commissioner, and secondly, that he should produce a report on 14th February which is sent to the Allied Commission, not as a matter of course, but incidentally, attached to a DO letter from you.

As you know, it is vital that the Allied Commission should receive prompt information about all matters affecting the political situation in Northern Italy. If officers of PWB are being sent to that area or to neighbouring countries, I would ask that the Commission be consulted with regard to any special information which we may wish to acquire and be given information on general and particular subjects as soon as it is available to PWB.

I will comment on Major Gavronsky's report in due course.

I am sending copy of this correspondence to AHC.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Maurice Lush.

Mr. John Rayner,
Head, P.W.D.,
15th Army Group,
APO 512, US Army.

976

Copy to: G-5 Sec, AFHQ
Pol Adv.
CA Sec
PR Branch

With copy of previous
correspondence

MBL/JG.

2447

1568

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

785016

COPY.COPY.COPY.

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
 PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE BRANCH, PWB
 Unit No. 14 - APO 512.

18

2nd March, 1945.

Dear Brigadier:

Your letter of the 23rd of February about Major Gavronsky:

The position is this. He is a member of the PWB Combat team which is headquartered at Rice with an outpost at Cremona. This team is known as PWB "F" Force, the code name being FILTER, and is under the command of Lt. Colonel MacFarlane who was our staff officer at AAI.

The "F" Force combat team is operating on the same principle as our combat teams with the 5th and 8th Armies with the difference that dissemination of leaflets by air and artillery is very much less, and the gathering of intelligence and the infiltration of material is very much more.

Gavronsky was sent on a mission for the purpose of gathering intelligence material and he returned with a report which I think it will interest you to read and of which I attach a copy. I would be glad to know if you have any comments to make on this report. The question of his going back again for the same purpose is under consideration, but no decision has been made, though I think you will agree from looking at the report that there are opportunities for useful work by an officer with a full knowledge of political background and directives.

Gavronsky is a newcomer to PWB and I do not suppose that he has seen the directive you refer to. I will see to it that he does. MacFarlane of course has it.

I can set your mind at rest that he will not go back to the Committees "and tell them things".

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) John Rayner.

Brigadier Lush,
 Allied Commission,
 Rome.

975

2447

COPY.

COPY.

COPY.

1e

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 3210/188/30.

23 February 1945.

My dear Rayner:

Mr. Gavronski lunched with me today and told me that he had been travelling on the outskirts of Northern Italy making contact with CLM's, presumably from a distance, and that he was returning thither on the same mission, that is to say, putting across to the Italians in Northern Italy Allied policy and propaganda, etc.

He spoke as if he had not seen the directive which was issued for the use of FWD officers and ELO's working with the Northern groups and as if he did not know any of the policy with regard to our future treatment of partisans. He ~~ask~~ also asked me if he could "go back and tell the Committees of National Liberation that the Allies would make us of them, etc. etc."

What is his position and what direction has he been given, and does that direction tally with the policy of the Commission and AMHQ? It struck me that he was groping a little bit in the dark with regard to policy, although extremely earnest to find out what that policy was and to transmit it to the people in the North.

(Signed) Maurice Lash.

Mr. John Rayner,
Head, P.W.B.,
15th Army Group,
APO 512, US Army.

97
JHK7

