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

785016

ACC

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

785016

10000/105/496

AC, VENEZIA GIULIA, CORRESPONDENCE
JULY 1945 - MAR. 1946

MINUTE ON PAPER

own fault. I do not think we
should have initiated the proposed
writing consulting the two Entertainers
in the Polaris at A.F.M.E.

J. H. Chapman

Feb 27

17

Ex-Comm.

Ref. S.C.A.O.'s v.g. letter at 24A.
And Polaris news at 7/10, 15th it
is proposed to write to v.g. as at 25A.
Have you any comments?

5/5/46

W. Lambing
S.C.A.O.

I concur. Issue. 17/2/43

4200

W. Lambing

11. Deposition
Feb 27

17

Ex-Comm.

Ref. S.C.A.O.'s v.g.'s letter at 248.
Other P.O.s sent at 27 Nov. 15th it
is proposed to write to v.g. as at 27A.
Have you any comments?

575/46 88/63 14.63 (V.P.C.A.S.)
M. Lambing

9 concu Issue 175/73

4200

minutes

To : Vice President, Civil Affairs Section

I have discussed this question with my Ambassador and he is of the opinion that AMG should not initiate any action affecting the 1926 legislation for the time being at least. He believes that the Prime Minister's position, as expressed in his letter of December 15 (Foglio 11A) is sound; that we should comply with his request and refrain from issuing the proposed order (Foglio 14). It was further felt that modification of the existing legislation regarding the assumption of family names should be left to the Italian Government, which, it would appear from the Prime Minister's letter, would take remedial action once Venezia Giulia or part of it is returned to Italian administration.

In view of the political implications, therefore, I must recommend that the order not be promulgated by AMG and that the Prime Minister's letter of December 15 be merely acknowledged with a statement that his views have been noted and given consideration. It might be well to refer specifically to the Prime Minister's expression of the attitude of the Italian Government regarding the 1926 legislation.

February 25, 1946.

J. Wesley Jones ^(AW)
J. Wesley Jones
Political Adviser (A)

16.

Wesley Jones

I am always reluctant to take issue with the man on the spot, especially when his views are expressed in such strong and clear terms. But I feel sure that politically it would be a mistake to force through this measure which would place straight with in hands of the Yugoslavs, at a time when the Yugoslav position is such a burning question. It would lead to an intense campaign, accompanied by intimidation and violence, in the hands of the Yugoslavs, to get people to decide in

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...the ... legislation for the time being at least. He believes that the Prime Minister's position, as expressed in his letter of December 13 (Foglio 11A) is sound; that we should comply with his request and refrain from issuing the proposed order (Foglio 14). It was further felt that modification of the existing legislation regarding the assumption of family names should be left to the Italian Government, which, it would appear from the Prime Minister's letter, would take remedial action once Venezia Giulia or part of it is returned to Italian administration.

In view of the political implications, therefore, I must recommend that the order not be promulgated by AMG and that the Prime Minister's letter of December 13 be merely acknowledged with a statement that his views have been noted and given consideration. It might be well to refer specifically to the Prime Minister's expression of the attitude of the Italian Government regarding the 1926 legislation.

February 25, 1946.

J. Wesley Jones (acc)
J. Wesley Jones
Political Adviser (A)

16.

minutes

I am always reluctant to take issue with anyone on the spot, especially when his views are expressed in such strong and clear terms. But I feel sure that politically it would be a mistake to force anyone into measures which would bring straight with in hands of the Yugoslavs, at a time when 20% Venezia Giulia is such a burning question. It would lead to an intense campaign, accompanied by intimidation and violence, on the part of the Yugoslavs, to get people to make unnecessary applications. But it is decided not to proceed with the proposal, I think AMG must be warned not to put their blame for the change of policy on the Prime Minister. It is also

one

- 14 -

TO: POLAD (A),
" (B).

1. XIII Corps are desirous of publishing an Order setting up a procedure whereby Italian citizens who had been compelled to Italianize their names in 1926-27 could now assume the original family name. Copy of the Order is at Folio 14.

2. The Order would have been promulgated but for the fact that the Prime Minister wrote a letter to the Chief Commissioner setting out reasons why he considered it an inopportune moment to promulgate this type of legislation. Translation of the Prime Minister's letter is given at Folio 11A.

3. The objections are mainly political. In the penultimate paragraph the Prime Minister states that it is desirable for AMG to refrain from issuing regulations which go beyond the competency of an occupying military power. There is some truth in this but it must be remembered that VENEZIA GIULIA is in a peculiar position until its future is determined and it is necessary to issue regulations and laws to enable the country to continue its civil life. Legal Sub-Commission expressed an opinion (in Minute 2) which was subsequently withdrawn (in Minute 12) after perusing SCAO's letter of 8 Feb 46 (Folio 24A).

4. This letter from XIII Corps is very full and deals with the purposes of the Order and its likely effect. It is an answer also to the Prime Ministers letter, a copy of which was sent to SCAO XIII Corps.

5. Before dealing further with the Order or writing to the Prime Minister and SCAO, on the matter, may this Headquarters have your comments on the proposed Order.

Tel. Ext. 358
18 Feb 46.

J. S. Reakes
J.S. REAKES, Major,
for VP CA Section.

Minute 2

42.5

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785016

MINUTE SHEET

- 8 -

TO: Executive Commissioner.

With reference to SC's note at minute 4. Please see action taken at 20a and 29a. I suggest that no further letter is sent to the Prime Minister until we have received the views of VI BILLY GIUMIN.

Del. Ent. 525.
4 Feb 46.

QBS
SLR

JH SLR

[Signature]
W. CARR, Esq.,
VI OL Section.

02

141

See 19a
Put them out if their miscreancy way promotes ch
has been suspended! *115/6/12*

10

C.A. Sec

Re see Ex Comm's minute 9 for action

6/2

certified by
Capt
Off. Ex. Comm.

11.

League of C.
Ref. Minute 2 folio 24a is submitted for
your consideration and reply. Please say
15 Feb. 46. *C.A. Section*

4203

CA Sec

12

- 1) In view of the extreme clear statement of the position set out in Col. Robertson's letter, this SLR will draw its attention to the publication of the order, if PM's consent is obtained.
- 2) This SLR cannot instruct SCAO Virginia (india direct and necessary) a short letter by Ex Com a VCA authorizing the

Tel. Ext. 525.
4 Feb 46.

See 190

Put them out of their misery say promulgate
has been suspended.

10

C.A. Sec

Re sec Ex Comm's minute 9 for action

6/2

EST-Phle
Captre
Off. Ex. Comm.

11.

Legal S.C.

Ref. Minute 2 folio 24a is submitted for
your consideration and reply. Reals may
15 Feb. 46. C.A. Section

4200

CA Sec

12

- 1) In view of the extreme clear statement of the position set out in Col. Robert's letter, this S/C understands its opposition to the publication of the order, if PM's comment is obtained.
- 2) This S/C cannot instruct SCAO Virginia (in line direct and suggests a short letter by Ex Com or VPCA authorizing the promulgation of the order, after referring Robert's letter to Bureau Committee for comments.

Legal S/C.

18 Feb 46.

Ex. Comm.

Please see minute 12.

18 Feb.

minutes

Reals may
C.A. Section

Submitted by Virginia
Hammond

Legal S.C.

Please see folios 11a et seq and advise this Section whether this Order should be promulgated or not.

2.

"law.
CA Sec

please, may
CA Section

I can not see how a military occupant may issue valid legislation which would affect the personal status of citizens of the occupied state, even at their own request & for their allegedly own good.

Legal S/C
17 Dec 46

G. S. Humphrey
12/16/46

3.

Ex. Comm's Office

Enclosed letter for signature by CC if he approves.
Please return to early so that further examination can

4

minutes

Chief Commissioner.

4204

Attached is submitted for your signature information

CAS

1/1
E.C. Advise CA Sec not to approve draft order. I will not sign my concurrence
12/18/46
MS/CA

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785016

4203

5
Letter at 19A despatched 27/1/46. *THU* C.A.S.

regal D.C.

Please see draft letter to V.G. and say if you approve.

23 Jan 46.

C.A.S.

7.
Draft letter to Venezuela Council

Legal.

23 Jan 46

Plamen: Waj.
C.A. Section.

Seen and approved.

Masculine
Chief Legal Advisor

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

785016

(25A)

Ref: 1/44.1/CA

CONFIDENTIAL

8 March 1946

SUBJECT: Proposed General Order "Assumption of Original Family Names".

TO : SCAG Venezia Giulia.

1. Full consideration has been given to the matter in light of your letter IS C/AMG/41/174 of 8 Feb which it is appreciated is based on full knowledge of the local situation. Both the British and American Political advisors have been consulted.

2. It is considered that AMG should not initiate any action affecting the 1926 legislation at this stage and that any modification of existing legislation regarding the assumption of names should be left to the Italian Government when Venezia Giulia or part of it is returned to Italian Administration. The Prime Minister in his letter to this Headquarters has in fact indicated that any Government of democratic Italy would hasten to issue regulations similar to those proposed in the Order when they are in a position to do so.

3. It is furthermore considered that politically it would be a mistake to put through this measure which would play straight into the hands of the Yugoslavs at a time when Venezia Giulia is such a burning question. It might lead to an intense campaign on the part of the Yugoslavs to get people to make the necessary applications. Moreover it is felt that individuals would have to consider now, a question which should be better left till a decision has been made with regard to Venezia Giulia, when individuals concerned will know what their position is.

4. This Headquarters therefore considers that no further action should be taken on the proposed General Order. Due consideration has been given to your views on the possible reaction on the state of public order.

5. In connection with this matter it is felt that in view of the political implications, the opinion of the Polads at AFHQ or of the Embassies through this HQ, should have been sought when the proposal was first under consideration. This HQ was not consulted and its attention was first drawn to the proposal by a letter from the Prime Minister.

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In view of this and of the fact that the territory is under A.M.G. it is requested that care be taken to ensure that responsibility for a change of policy in respect of this matter is not notified as being in any way due to representations made by the Italian Government.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

M. Carr

Brigadier.
V.P. Civil Affairs Section.

4201

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785016

4/44.1/CA V CA See

1-APR 1946

WCO (27A) 1A

TRANSLATION

THE PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.
65183 - 25049 - 1.6.1

Rome, March 28, 1946.

Dear Admiral,

A deputation of students from the university of Rome came yesterday to the Viminale to testify to the Government their solidarity towards the Italian population of Venezia - Giulia. They also asked me to send you, as the Chief Commissioner of the Allied Commission, the attached postcard in which, recalling the joint efforts of Italy and Allied Nations during the first world war, they hope a fair peace treaty will be granted to Italy.

In complying with this request, I have the pleasure of sending you my best greetings.

(s) De Gasperi.

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome.

(UR)



EC Dist. APR 1 1946

ACTION. - EC
INFO - CC 14200
CASECM

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

785016

(27B)

TRANSLATION

ALFRED STONE
CHIEF COMMISSIONER
ALLIED COMMISSION
ROME

The University students express the wish and the feelings of all the
the Italian people.

THEY HOPE

that the principles established by the Atlantic Charter will be truly
applied, recognizing the sovereignty of the Italian Territories of Istria and
Venetia - Giulia, the redemption of these territories cost the Italian people
who fought side by side with the Allies, 600,000 lives, 400,000 mutilated soldiers,
and 1,000,000 wounded ones.

THEY HOPE

the present situation that has already cost so many lives to the
population of Venetia - Giulia, will soon be clarified by a fair peace treaty.

THEY BEG

you to interpret the just and deep feelings of the Italian University
Youth to the Governments of the United Nations.

THE COMMITTEE

Tibaldi - Verasimcin - Micciotti - Aszanesi - Sabotta.

Rome, 27 March, 1946.



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

22/44. 1/CA ✓

26

14

Ref. : 596/275/80
SUBJECT: Veronica Giulio.
TO : GSG XIII Corps.

12 MAR 1946

I enclose a copy of a letter 5/239 dated 25 Feb 46 received from the Prime Minister forwarding a letter received from a number of citizens of Pinar.

I forward herewith nineteen copies of this letter which I recommend should be handed to the visiting Commission.

For the Chief Commissioner

C. R. BRAYBROOKE

Brigadier,
Executive Council.

C-5 AFHQ
 Chief Coun.
 Polad "A"
 " " 1930
 Cl. Sec.
 Room. Sec.

no



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

24A

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

15 FEB 1946

FILE REF:
SUBJECT

13C/AMG/w/4/174

DEL. 29/24 EX.....

DATE 28 February 1946

Proposed Order for Assumption of Family Name.

TO

Headquarters, Allied Commission, APO, 394, (For Civil
Affairs Section, attention: Brigadier L. Carr).

1. This is in reply to your letter of 24 January, 1946, your
file, 4/44.2/33, regarding the above proposed Order.

23A

2. The changes effected in family names in Venezia-Giulia
were made as a result of legislation originally applicable only
to the Province of Trento and thereafter extended to Venezia-
Giulia. Such legislation was never in force in any other part
of Italy.

3. RDL, 10 January, 1926, No. 17, and the Regulations imple-
menting it (D.M. 5 August 1926), were extended to Venezia-Giulia
by RD, 7 April, 1927, No. 494.

a. The expressed purpose of the legislation was the resto-
ration of the Italian forms of foreign family names.

b. Article 1 of RDL, 10 January, 1926, provided for the
compulsory restoration of Italian forms of all family names
which were originally Italian or Latin in form but which had
been changed or deformed in speech or in writing by foreign
forms or suffixes.

It was also provided (Article 2), that any foreign family
names could also be changed into Italian forms upon petition.

c. It is important to note that the compulsory part of
legislation applied to names originally Italian or Latin with-

418

Affairs Section, attention: Brigadier M. Carr).

1. This is in reply to your letter of 24 January, 1946, your file, 4/44.1/CA, regarding the above proposed Order.

2. The changes effected in family names in Venezia-Giulia were made as a result of legislation originally applicable only to the Province of Trento and thereafter extended to Venezia-Giulia. Such legislation was never in force in any other part of Italy.

3. RDL, 10 January, 1926, No. 17, and the Regulations implementing it (D.M. 5 August 1926), were extended to Venezia-Giulia by RD, 7 April, 1927, No. 454.

a. The expressed purpose of the legislation was the restoration of the Italian forms of foreign family names.

b. Article 1 of RDL, 10 January, 1926, provides for the compulsory restoration of Italian forms of all family names which were originally Italian or Latin in form but which had been changed or deformed in speech or in writing by foreign forms or suffixes.

It was also provided (Article 2), that any foreign family names could also be changed into Italian forms upon petition.

c. It is important to note that the compulsory part of legislation applied to names originally Italian or Latin without reference to the length of time such names had been used. This is particularly significant as regards Venezia-Giulia where, owing to its history, many foreign family names had been used for hundreds of years.

The instructions to implement the above Decree in full are:



directed the Prefects to prepare lists of all family names which were to be so changed and to issue an appropriate Decree as to every person appearing on the lists. It was provided that the Decrees would be final and conclusive except that a right of appeal was given on the sole ground of illegality to the Legal Sections of the Council of State.

4. In actual practice under the above legislation, the following occurred:

a. Thousands of family names were changed in Venezia-Giulia about 5000 in the Comune of Trieste alone under the compulsory provisions of the law. Many were undoubtedly Italian or Latin in origin and the law was therefore properly applied. However, it is clear that many were originally and basically non-Italian in nature and in form.

It is incorrect to assume that all or even the great majority of the names so changed were Slovene in origin or had been transformed into Slovene forms. From the best information available, the majority of the names changed were German or Slav in origin, about equally divided.

b. There were very few appeals from the Decrees of the Prefect because apparently few had sufficient courage to appeal. It seems to have been made clear and at least believed that an appeal might well be interpreted as political opposition to the Fascist regime.

c. Moreover, as is generally known here, many persons petitioned under this law to have foreign family names changed out of fear or at least as the result of moral duress which took many forms. This was particularly true of public employees and to a lesser extent of private employees. It was done because their superiors or

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4. In actual practice under the above legislation, the following occurred:

a. Thousands of family names were changed in Venezia-Giulia about 6000 in the Comune of Trieste alone under the compulsory provisions of the Law. Many were undoubtedly Italian or Latin in origin and the Law was therefore properly applied. However, it is clear that many were originally and basically non-Italian in nature and in form.

It is incorrect to assume that all or even the great majority of the names so changed were Slovene in origin or had been transformed into Slovene forms. From the best information available, the majority of the names changed were German or Slav in origin, about equally divided.

b. There were very few appeals from the Decree of the Prefect because apparently few had sufficient courage to appeal. It seems to have been made clear and at least believed that an appeal might well be interpreted as political opposition to the Fascist regime.

c. Moreover, as is generally known here, many persons petitioned under this Law to have foreign family names changed out of fear or at least as the result of moral pressure which took many forms. This was particularly true of public employees and to a lesser extent of private employees. It was done because their superiors or employers made it plain that it would be politic to do so. It was further made clear by them and by others that it would be regarded as particularly meritorious to have one's family name changed voluntarily.

It is for this reason that the proposed Order also permits the restoration of family names upon petition, which were changed under

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7
this law upon request since such request was seldom forthcoming in the real sense.

5. It is felt that the legislation was Fascist in theory and in practice. No such legislation had ever been introduced before the Fascists came to power. It appears to have been part of the Fascist program to intensify the nationalistic spirit in Italy by Italianizing all elements of Italian life.

It was a hollow pretext to proclaim as was done, that nothing more was intended than to restore Italian or Latin forms. The real purpose, as demonstrated in practice, was to eliminate all non-Italian family names without regard to their origin. From this standpoint, it is felt fair to characterize the law as racial legislation of a vicious type.

6. It is everywhere agreed that the right to one's original family name is a fundamental right closely associated with human liberty. It forms one of the important links of family life. Further, family names are universally the object of deep attachment and sentiment.

7. The proposed Order does no more than to permit by orderly procedure the restoration of original family names which were changed as a result of the above legislation. It is perfectly conceivable that some will prefer after so many years to continue with the changed names. The proposed Order does not affect their right to do so.

8. It is noted that the Prime Minister feels that, although the proposed Order is sound in principle, it should not be issued at this time because it might increase the uneasiness which it is ~~44~~ now exists among the Italians and might furnish further propaganda material for the Slovenes in Venezia-Giulia.

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8. It is noted that the Prime Minister feels that, although the proposed Order is sound in principle, it should not be issued at this time because it might increase the uneasiness which it is ~~41~~⁴¹ now exists among the Italians and might furnish further propaganda material for the Slovenes in Venezia-Giulia.

It is submitted, however, that such fears are groundless. Many press articles have stated that such an Order was contemplated and there has been no discernible reaction or criticism on the part of the Italian population. It is difficult to perceive on what basis the Italians would feel uneasy. The Order is simply designed to remedy an obvious injustice which the Italians themselves freely

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admit.

In this connection, it may further be pointed out that both the President of the Court of Appeal and the Procuratore Generale were consulted before the Order was prepared and both agreed that it was sound in principle. The Procuratore Generale, moreover, has approved the Order in form with some slight alterations. The Slovenes naturally are strongly in sympathy with the object of the Order. However, it is not felt that they can gain much from the standpoint of propaganda. All that they can properly say is that the Order wipes out an act of oppression against them and others committed by the Fascist regime which is substantially true.

10. It is submitted that the Order does not go beyond the legitimate power of an occupying force to enact for the following reasons:

First, the Order may reasonably be regarded as making changes in procedure and not of substantive right since the general right to a change in family name already exists as in other countries.

The applicable law in Italy is contained in Ordinnamento dello Stato Civile, PD, 9 July 1939, No. 1258, Articles 153 and seq., (hereinafter referred to as the Ordinnamento).

Those whose names were changed pursuant to the 1926 Decree could pursue the remedy provided for by the Ordinnamento if the Territory were under Italian administration. It is true that the Ordinnamento does not provide for automatic change but only if good cause is shown. However, it is fair to assume that good cause would be found from the fact alone that the names were changed either without consent or with consent induced by fear or normal compulsion.

One of the primary purposes of the proposed Order is to **4184** by the procedure set forth in the Ordinnamento and to eliminate unnecessary delay and expense.

Order in form with some slight alterations. The Slovenes naturally are strongly in sympathy with the object of the Order. However, it is not felt that they can gain much from the standpoint of propaganda. All that they can properly say is that the Order wipes out an act of oppression against them and others committed by the Fascist regime which is substantially true.

10. It is submitted that the Order does not go beyond the legitimate power of an occupying force to enact for the following reasons:

First, the Order may reasonably be regarded as making changes in procedure and not of substantive right since the general right to a change in family name already exists as in other countries.

The applicable law in Italy is contained in Ordinnamento dello Stato Civile, RD, 9 July 1938, No. 1238, Articles 153 and seq., (hereinafter referred to as the Ordinnamento).

Those whose names were changed pursuant to the 1926 Decree could pursue the remedy provided for by the Ordinnamento in the territory where under Italian administration. It is true that the Ordinnamento does not provide for automatic change but only in good cause is shown. However, it is fair to assume that good cause would be found from the fact alone that the names were changed either without consent or with consent induced by fear or normal compulsion.

One of the primary purposes of the proposed Order is to ~~eliminate~~ the procedure set forth in the Ordinnamento and to eliminate unnecessary delay and expense.

The procedure as set forth in the Ordinnamento is substantially as follows: the interested party files a petition with the Procuratore Generale addressed to the King; the Procuratore Generale causes an investigation to be made and thereafter forwards the petition to the Ministry of Grace and Justice with his opinion; the Ministry examines the petition and if there appears to be good cause for the

changes in name direct that notice of the proposed change be published in the newspapers for a period of sixty days; during this period, any interested person may file objections. If no objections are received, a Royal Decree is made providing for the change. This Decree must be registered in the Ufficio di Registro of the place of residence. If the Ministry denies the application, an appeal may be made to the Council of State.

A fair estimate of the time which necessarily elapses before the change of name is accomplished in the absence of objections or other obstacle, is at least six months from the date of the presentation of the petition to the Procureurs Generals.

The expense, even apart from the fees of attorneys, is substantial because the procedure is so long and complex. There are also various taxes to pay.

The proposed Order simplifies this procedure, materially cuts down the time and substantially reduces the expense. It is even doubtful whether the services of an attorney will be required.

Assuming, however, that the Order cannot be justified as involving changes only in procedure, it would further appear that the legislation is reasonably necessary to obviate the possibility of serious unrest and public disorder. It is therefore legally supportable on that ground as within the competence of an occupying force.

The above is no exaggeration when the consideration is given to certain factors which do not exist in other parts of Italy, among them the following: (1) the different races in Venezia-Giulia; (2) the political unrest here based in large part on racial and nationalistic grounds; and (3) the racial and sentiment basis of the strong agitation for restoration of family names compulsorily changed by what is generally regarded as Fascist legislation.

oil of state.

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The above is no exaggeration when due consideration is given to certain factors which do not exist in other parts of Italy, among them the following: (1) the different races in Venezia-Giulia; (2) the political unrest here based in large part on racial and nationalistic grounds; and (3) the racial and sentimental basis of the strong agitation for restoration of family names compulsorily changed by what is generally regarded as Fascist legislation.

11. For the above reasons, it is strongly urged that the proposed Order be approved.

12. Please advise further.

H. P. Robertson
 H. P. ROBERTSON, Colonel,
 Acting Senior Civil Affairs Officer

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

785016

4/44.1/107 ✓

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

23A

- 4 FEB 1946

LEGAL DIVISION

Date 31 January 1946

FILE REF: 13CIAMGP 4/44.1/107

SUBJECT: Proposed General Order "Assumption
of original Family name".

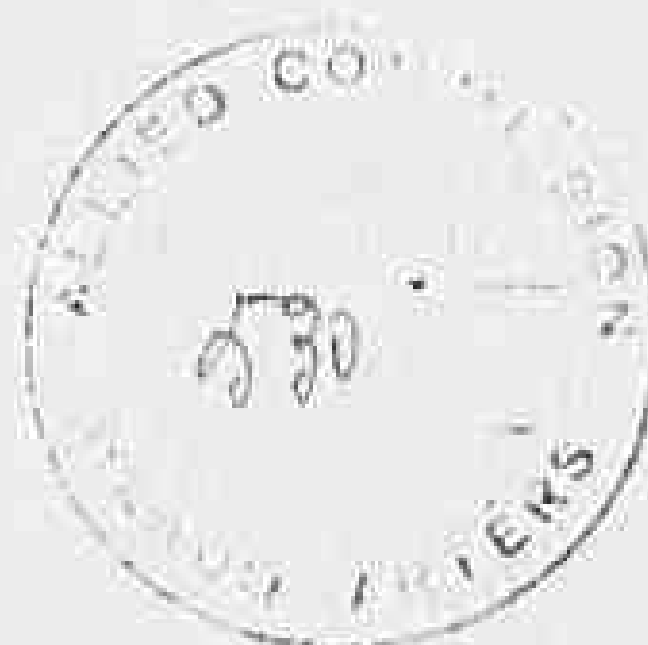
TO: HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION - APO, 394 ✓
(for Civil Affairs Section -
attention: M. Carr, Brigadier, Vice President)

- 1.- ^{20A} Reference is to your letter, dated 24 January 1946, your
file 4/44.1/CA.
- 2.- The promulgation of the proposed Order will be suspended
in accordance with paragraph 3 of the letter.
- 3.- A letter summarizing the views of this Headquarters is
being prepared and will be forwarded during the early part of next week.

For the Senior Civil Affairs Officer:

H.P.P. Robertson
GP.

H.P.P. ROBERTSON
COLONEL
DEPUTY SENIOR
CIVIL AFFAIRS OFFICER



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

785016

(21A)

ACCAS IN ALCON

29 1500

AND VERGIA CULIA

700

UNCLASSIFIED

PARA ONE TO RESPOND TO YOUR SIGNAL. EIGHT SLANT FOUR ONE SLANT FOUR SLANT ONE SIX FOUR
OF TWO SEVEN JANUARY IS
PARA TWO TO BEKEK FORWARDED BY LETTER FOUR SLANT FOUR FOUR TO ONE SLANT CHARLIE
ABLE OF TWO FOUR JANUARY

PRIORITY

CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

437

J.S. BRANES, Major

G.J. LEXTON
CWO, USA
Asst Adjutant

4191

1878

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

787301

INCOMING MESSAGE

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

Ex. Comm. 21A
28 DEC 1946

Originator's Reference: 8/41/4/154
Date/Time of Origin: JAN 2, 19000A
Message Centre No: 5/8196
Date Time Rec'd: JAN 27 1630
Precedence: IMPORTANT

FROM: HQ AMJ 13 CORPS
TO : HQ ALCOM

UNCLASSIFIED.

reference LIAISON OFFICER VENEZIA GIULIA letter
13 C/AMJ/LO ROME/125/1 dated 10 January para 2. Instructions
from you still awaited. Please accelerate as early publication of
this order considered essential.

AC DIST

ACTION ES COMM 2
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE

ACTION

31 Dec. 46 Copy of original
Brig Com. 9813
Change of name of Yugoslav...
28 JAN 1946



Liaison Off. 30
28 JAN 1946
28 JAN 1946

INCOMING MESSAGE
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

29 JAN 1950

Originator's Reference: 8/41/4/154
Date/Time of Origin JAN 2/1000A

Message Centre No: 6/8196
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ACTION ES COMM 2
INFO CHIEF COMMISSIONER
FILE

ACTION

31 Dec 46 Copy 3 original
Big Law. 9813
Change of name of Yugoslav...



Liaison Off. 16 Jan
28 JAN 1950

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

1879

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

210A

Ref: 4/41.1/CA

24 Jan 46

SUBJECT: Proposed General Order "Assumption of Original Family Names"

TO: WCAO Venezia Giulia

114A

12A

Reference is made to this HQ telegram 9813 of 31 Dec 1945 and copy of a draft of proposed Order received through the Liaison Officer AME 13 Corps at this HQ.

- 1 The matter has been discussed with Legal Sub-Commission who consider that such an Order is ultra vires and beyond the competency of an occupying military authority. They do not see how a military occupying power can issue valid legislation which would affect the personal status of citizens of the occupied State.
- 2 Moreover the Prime Minister as the result of information obtained from the Press has drawn the attention of the Chief Commissioner to this matter. The Prime Minister while in sympathy with the object of the Order, and agreeing that the free use of ones own family name is a fundamental right of the human personality and condemning those who fail to respect that right, nevertheless considers that this is not the correct time to issue this Order while the country is under the government of occupying powers. The Prime Minister further considers that in Venezia Giulia the balance between Italians and Slavs has been broken in favour of the Slavs who already behave as if the territory occupied by them were already definitely annexed to their State, whereas the Italian State cannot exercise any power. He feels that this must have a depressing effect on the Italians in the Region and that an Order such as the one in question will raise new apprehensions and alarm in Italian quarters and that Jugoslav propaganda will exploit it politically.
- 3 Please consider the matter in light of the above remarks and forward your comments. In the meantime you are requested to suspend promulgation of the proposed order pending further receipt of directions from this HQ.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

16A

M.C.

M. CARR, Brig,
VP CA Section

4189

Copy to: Liaison Officer AME 13 Corps, HQ/AC
(Ref. your 13C/AM/LG/ROME/125/1 of 10 Jan 46)

J.H.

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

785016

Ref: 4/44.1/CA.

21 January 1946.

My dear Mr. Prime Minister,

I have received your letter N. 3/2256 of 30 December 1945, written to me from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the proposed Allied Military Government Order in Venezia Giulia dealing with the changing of surnames.

On receipt of your letter I arranged for AED Venezia Giulia to suspend action in this matter in order that this Commission might give consideration to the question.

I have now received from AED Venezia Giulia a copy of the proposed Order and am having it examined. As soon as a review of the proposal has been completed by my staff I shall be sending you a further communication on this subject.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Ellery W. Stone
ELLERY W. STONE,
Rear Admiral, USN,
Chief Commissioner.

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi,
The President of the Council of Ministers,
Italian Government,
Rome.

Memo

18

By an Order AMG 13 Corps seek to remedy a fascist decree whereby certain people (mainly Yugoslavs) were compelled by law and by duress to change their family names to an Italianised form. They proposed to set up machinery whereby such names may be changed back to the original form if the people wish to do so.

The Prime Minister agrees that the Decrees should be abolished and agrees that people should be free to use their own names but feels that with the delicate position in V.G. this is not the time to pass such a decree. He points out that Yugoslavs are moving about V.G. almost as if it was predetermined that V.G. would be returned to them, and any creation of law in their favour will upset the Italian element and start rumours which while being unfounded might become widespread.

The P.M. also points out that as an occupying power the Allies must conform the normal rules of war and are in effect Trustees until a decision is taken as to what is to happen to V.G. The Allies are bound to take all necessary steps to maintain law and order and protect themselves but whether they can without knowledge of what is going to happen to V.G. create law which must become the law of the Country is doubtful.

It must be kept in mind that when the territory is handed back by AMG all law unless incorporated into the Decrees or statutes of the country occupied or special provision is made for its retention is automatically finished and terminated.

The Allies must be careful that any act done by them cannot be construed as leaning to one side or another. This Decree will affect Yugoslavs and may encourage them to take a more active part in affairs than is desired at present.

Once the future of V.G. is determined that the properly elected body will make its own laws which will no doubt deal with this question in its own way.

My own opinion is that this Order cannot be published but an Order ^{might} be prepared drawing attention to the fact that these old decrees are dead and that while no steps can be taken at present to alter or amend the Registers people who suffered under the Decrees will be ~~permitted to use~~ ^{use} their present name and if desired ⁴¹⁸ their old name in conjunction therewith ie Mrs Sarah Green or Brown, the last name being their original one.

1883

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

785016

The whole Order draws attention to the many problems which can only be solved when it has been decided on what the future of VG is to be, and AMG 13 Corps may find itself bombarded with a multitudinous amount of legislation analogous to this one to which it will not be able to say "No it is not our responsibility."

I do not know what powers have been reserved to the Allies under the Armistice terms and feel that the application of this decree is going beyond international law, or the law of occupation.

Wheeler Maj.

11th Jan 46.

On reconsideration I feel that no action should be taken and that the ~~decree~~ Order should be dropped. It may be, of course that some higher authority is interested of which we have no knowledge.

pk.

4186

1884

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

LIAISON OFFICER
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

FILE REF: 13 C/A.M.G./L.O. Rose/125/1
SUBJECT Proposed General Order for Venezia-Giulia
Reference "Assumption of Original Family
names"

Date 10 January 1946

TO Brig. M. CARR, C.B.E. M.C.
Vice-President Civil Affairs Sect.
H.Q. A.C.

1. Ref. your signal 9813 dated 31 Dec. 45.
2. Col. H.P.P. Robertson D/S.C.A.O. Venezia-Giulia A.M.G. 13 Corps has asked us to hand to you a copy of the Proposed Order.
3. Publication of this order is being held over pending instructions from you.
4. Order has been approved by "Prefettura Generale".
5. Only changing those names of which a record is now held of the original names.
6. See line 5 etc. of article 2.
7. Proposed order applies to Venezia-Giulia only.
8. Italian Decree of 10 Jan. 26 applied only to Trento, and was extended to Venezia-Giulia on 7 April 27.

G.M. Duncan
G.M. DUNCAN, Major
Liaison Officer A.M.G. 13 Corps
at HQ. A.C.

2 enclosures.

4185

1885

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

COPY

LRUL V LRUB NR 7 F
FROM LRUB 311636A
TO AMG VENEZIA GIULIA
GR 32 BT
REF NO 9813
CONFIDENTIAL PD

PARA ONE PD IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT AMG ORDER IS BEING ISSUED
CONCERNING PROCEDURE FOR CHANGING OF SURNAMES PD
PARA TWO PD REQUEST THAT THIS HEADQUARTERS BE CONSULTED PRIOR
TO ISSUE AS REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM ITALIAN
GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT PD
BT

CCN

THIS MSG SHD READ CONFIDENTIAL PD

BT

SENT NR 7 312035A JIS B2 K E
DUPSW 2 RECD NR 7 GJD 2035 AR MKK

H. E. ANDSON. MAJOR.

CIVIL AFF. SECTION.

4184

SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

ORDER No. _____

ASSUMPTION OF ORIGINAL FAMILY NAMES

Whereas it appears that during the fascist regime many persons were compelled to change their family names by R.D.L. of the 10th of January 1926, No 17 as extended by R.D. No 494 of the 7th April 1927, or by duress; and it is now appearing that many of these persons are desirous of re-assuming their original family names; and there being no reason in law or in fact why such changes should not be allowed in that part of Venezia Giulia administered by the Allied Forces (hereinafter referred to as the "Territory");

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALFRED C. BOWMAN, Colonel, J.A.G.D.,
Senior Civil Affairs Officer,

ORDER:

ARTICLE 1

ASSUMPTION OF ORIGINAL FAMILY NAMES

Any persons residing within the said Territory whose family names were changed by duress or law in accordance with R.D.L. 10th January 1926, No 17 as extended by R.D. No 494 of 7 April 1927, may, upon petition, re-assume their original family names.

ARTICLE 2

METHOD OF PETITION

The petition shall be submitted to the Area President of the respective Area in which the petitioner resides.

A petition by the head of a family shall include the names of the petitioner, his wife and/or other dependents who have not attained majority. There shall be attached to the petition a copy of the decree setting forth the family name as it was changed by decrees or by order of R.D.L. 10th January 1926 No 17 as extended etc. and also certified copy of the original birth certificate of the petitioner showing the family name prior to such change.

If the petitioner is unable to submit a certified copy of the birth certificate he shall present a statement sworn to by four witnesses (atto di notorieta) specifying his family name at birth.

ARTICLE 3

PUBLICATION OF DECREE AND ALTERATION OF RECORDS

The Area President shall issue a decree according to the terms of the said petition. He shall forward one copy to the Allied

Whereas it appears that during the fascist regime many persons were compelled to change their family names by R.D.L. of the 10th of January 1926, No 17 as extended by R.D. No 494 of the 7th April 1927, or by duress; and it is now appearing that many of these persons are desirous of re-assuming their original family names; and there being no reason in law or in fact why such changes should not be allowed in that part of Venezia Giulia administered by the Allied Forces (hereinafter referred to as the "Territory");

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The Area President shall issue a decree according to the terms of the said petition. He shall forward one copy to the Allied Military Government for publication in the Allied Military Gazette, one to the State Official (Ufficiale dello Stato Civile) in charge of records, which copy shall be recorded and filed by him, and one copy to the president of the Commune in which the petitioner resides.

The President of the Commune in which the petitioner resides shall, on receipt of the decree from the President of the Area, be responsible that:

- 1) Annotations are made on the margin of relevant certificates in the records of Vital Statistics.

.....2

(2)

- 2) Annotations are made in the birth and marriage records kept by the parish offices, if the petitioner so requests.
- 3) The decree is carried out as to all intents and purposes concerning "census", levy, electoral, fiscal, provincial and communal rolls.
- 4) Any and all corrections when ordered and decreed, are made upon all public papers and records, and if any error or omission is made upon any of these records, the error or omission is corrected without any further proceedings.
- 5) The petitioner is notified of publication of the decree by means of a registered letter with return receipt request or by personal service by Commune on "conciliazione" messengers.

ARTICLE 4

EFFECTIVE DATE OF DECREE

The decree shall be deemed effective as of the date signed by the Area President.

ARTICLE 5

TIME LIMIT FOR PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

All persons desirous of petitioning in accordance with this Order shall do so within six months of the date of the first publication of this Order.

ARTICLE 6

PREPARATION OF ROLLS

The Area President shall, when all persons in the Area desirous of so doing have changed their names, prepare and forward to the casellario giudiziale a roll of the persons whose names are changed as a result of this order, showing both the original and changed names.

ARTICLE 7

EXEMPTION FROM TAXES

Nothing herein contained shall grant any authority to any Court Officer or any other Official the right to impose any tax duty or other imposts upon any procedure or documents, it being intent of this order to restore to every individual or family, its original family name without cost to the petitioner.

ARTICLE 8

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Order shall take effect on the date that it is signed by me.

Dated Trieste,

January 1946

5) The petitioner is notified of publication of the decree by means of a registered letter with return receipt request or by personal service by Commune on "conciliazione" messengers.

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ARTICLE 8

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Order shall take effect on the date that it is signed by me. 4186

Dated Trieste, January 1946

ALFRED C. BOWMAN,
Colonel, J.A.G.D.,
Senior Civil Affairs Officer.

1890

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

785016

FILE

129

4/44-1/CF

RE ALCON GITE ACCAS

341610

AND VERONICA GIULIA

CONFIDENTIAL

9513

PARA ONE PD IT HAS BEEN REPORTED THAT AN ORDER IS BEING ISSUED CONCERNING
PROCEDURE FOR CHANGING OF SURNAMES PD
PARA TWO PD REQUEST THAT THIS HEADQUARTERS BE CONSULTED PRIOR TO ISSUING AS
REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM ITALIAN GOVERNMENT ON THIS SUBJECT

INT DIST

Exec. Commissioner

foat

4101

INTEGRITY

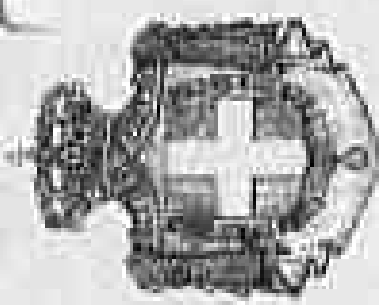
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

G.J. LEONE
CFO, USA
Asst Adjutant

H.S. ANCH, Major

1891

785016



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

N. 3/2256

30 DIC. 1945

Rome, December 15th, 1945

11/11/1945

Dear Admiral Stone,

I wish to call your attention to a communiqué the Allied Military Government of Trieste recently published in the Trieste newspapers; its text reads as follows:

"1. The public is hereby informed that the Allied Military Government is preparing an Order, which shall be issued at an early date, granting facilities in the changing of surnames.

"2. The procedure contemplates a more expeditious manner in effecting such change than it was possible under previous laws.

"3. Until the time when said order will come into effect, identity cards and other official documents will be issued under the applicant's present name."

The above mentioned Order obviously aims at facilitating the restoration of the original form of Slav surnames in the cases in which they were given an Italian sound, in the past years, in accordance with a 1936 Law.

In fact, during the past regime, on several occasions some pressure was brought on many a people in the Venezia Giulia, with a view to inducing them to "italianize" their surname.

I hardly need telling you, dear Admiral Stone, that as a Minister of democratic Italy I could raise no objection to a measure which, on and by itself, would simply mean facilitating the redress of a wrong suffered by anybody on the restoration of a right which had been infringed. The free use of one's own family name in the form in which it was handed down

Admiral Ellery W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

= ROME =

4180



1892

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

785016

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

N. 3/3355

30 DIC. 1945

Roma, December 15th, 1945

4/44.1/CS

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The above mentioned Order obviously aims at facilitating the restoration of the original form of Slav surnames in the cases in which they were given an Italian sound, in the past years, in accordance with a 1938 Law.

In fact, during the past regime, on several occasions some pressure was brought on many a people in the Venezia Giulia, with a view to inducing them to "Italianize" their surname.

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Admiral Ellery W. STONE
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

= R O M E =



4180

p.t.o.



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

From one's ancestors is certainly a fundamental right of the human personality and I could not find words harsh enough to condemn those who have failed to respect the said right. There is no doubt that should the Venezia Giulia have reverted, as soon as liberated, to full Italian administration, any Government of democratic Italy would have hastened to issue regulations similar to those announced in the communiqué previously referred to.

After these premises, I wish to outline, dear Admiral Stone, some considerations concerning the practical results which the regulation could have, due to the peculiar circumstances of time and place.

In the situation in which the Venezia Giulia has happened to find itself, the equilibrium between Italians and Slavs has undoubtedly been broken in favour of the Slavs. In fact, the greatest part of the region is under occupation by the Yugoslavs and they behave as if said territory were already definitively annexed to their State, whereas conversely in the territory of Trieste-Gorizia and of Pola, the Italian State cannot exercise any power and the Authorities administering said regions, i.e. the A.M.B., behave as a trustee who is in the dark as to which of the parties involved will ultimately see its claims recognized.

Such a situation cannot but have a depressing effect on the Italians of the region.

It is consequently probable that regulations such as the one in question will result in raising new apprehensions and alarm in Italian quarters and that the Yugoslav propaganda will amply exploit it for political speculations.

One must also bear in mind that nationality is in the Venezia Giulia mainly an act of volition: the name of the family does not by all means constitute a sure proof of the national stock of the individual, on the contrary the Christian name, if anything, is indicative thereof.

It must also be remembered that under Austro-Hungarian rule the registration of births was entrusted to Church Ministers, and that it was a constant tendency of the Slav parsons to add a Slav desinence to Italian surnames.

4142

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

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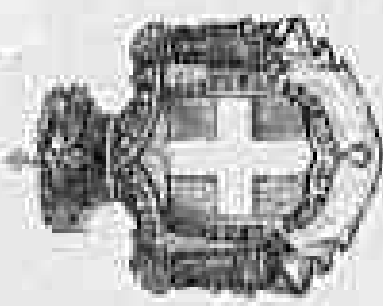
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4142



Ministero degli Affari Esteri

-3-

Lestly, it is beyond doubt that many persons have given an Italian sound to their Slav surname not under pressure but of their own free will.

Now, it is publicly rumored in the Venezia Giulia that some persons, be they soldiers or civilians, who found themselves in Yugoslavia because of events connected with the war, have suffered ill-treatment and severe hardship on the part of Tito's partisans - in some cases even the death penalty as traitors to the Slav cause, solely because of the fact that they had "Italianized" their original Slav surname.

Said rumor, enlarged and strengthened by the atmosphere of intimidation and of nightmare created by the Yugoslav "attivist" which burdens the Italians of "Zone A", could induce many persons to avail themselves of the announced regulation merely for fear of reprisals on the part of the Yugoslavs should the whole of the Venezia Giulia definitively be assigned to Yugoslavia, an event which the Yugoslav propaganda gives as unfailingly sure. It is consequently easy to imagine in which painful conscience case some inhabitants of the Venezia Giulia have found themselves at the result of the communiqué in question. On one side they feel bound by their personal dignity, on the other by the incubus of possible future acts of vengeance against themselves and their dear ones.

These considerations aim at stressing, dear Admiral Stone, how delicate and involved is the nature of the matter under consideration.

It would seem desirable that the Allied Military Government be advised to refrain from issuing regulations which go beyond the competency of an occupying Military Authority and which do not appear to be urgent for military or other compelling reasons whereas, as mentioned before, said regulations could lend themselves to political speculations and to interpretations which would render still more confused and more difficult the situation in ^{41st} ~~41st~~ ^{3rd} ~~3rd~~ ^{section}, which is already so delicate.

I trust that what I have outlined above will meet your friendly understanding and I beg to remain, dear Admiral Stone,

Very sincerely yours

Ministère de la Défense

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I trust that what I have outlined above will meet your friendly understanding and I beg to remain, dear Admiral Stone,

Very sincerely yours
(Signed) DE GASPERI

Il Ministro degli Affari Esteri

Roma, 15 DIC 1945

Caro Ammiraglio,

Attiro la Sua attenzione su un comunicato che il Governo Militare Alleato di Trieste ha fatto recentemente apparire sulla stampa locale e il cui testo riproduco qui appresso :

"1) Si porta a conoscenza del pubblico che il Governo Militare Alleato sta preparando un Ordine, che sarà in breve pubblicato, concedente facilitazioni per il cambiamento del nome.

2) La procedura farà in modo che il mutamento possa essere compiuto più speditamente di quanto non avvenisse sotto le precedenti leggi.

3) Fino all'entrata in vigore del suddetto Ordine le Carte di identità ed altri documenti ufficiali verranno rilasciati sotto l'attuale nome del richiedente."

Il premunciato provvedimento mira evidentemente ad agevolare il ripristino della forme originarie di cognomi sivi in quei casi in cui erano stati italianizzati negli anni decorsi in base a una legge del 1926.

Effettivamente, durante il passato regime, vennero fatte a varie riprese pressioni su non pochi elementi della Venezia Giulia per indurli a chiedere l'italianizzazione del proprio cognome.

Ora, occorre appena che io Le dica, caro Ammiraglio, come un ministro dell'Italia democratica nulla avrebbe da eccepire verso un provvedimento che in sé e per sé non potesse reg-

Caro Ammiraglio,

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2) La procedura farà in modo che il mutamento possa essere compiuto più speditamente di quanto non avvenisse sotto le precedenti leggi.

3) Fino all'entrata in vigore del suddetto Ordine le Carte di identità ed altri documenti ufficiali verranno rilasciati sotto l'attuale nome del richiedente."

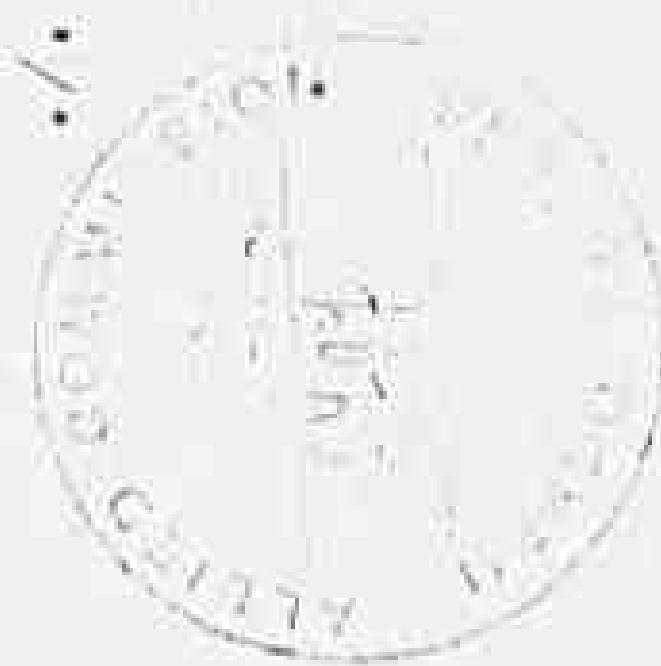
Il preannunciato provvedimento mira evidentemente ad agevolare il ripristino della forma originaria di cognomi slavi in quei casi in cui erano stati italianizzati negli anni scorsi in base a una legge del 1926.

Effettivamente, durante il passato regime, vennero fatte a varie riprese pressioni su non pochi elementi della Venezia Giulia per indurli a chiedere l'italianizzazione del proprio cognome.

Ora, occorre appena che io Le dica, caro Ammiraglio, come un ministro dell'Italia democratica nulla avrebbe da eccepire verso un provvedimento che in sé e per sé non potesse reg-

Ammiraglio Ellery W. Stone, USNR
Capo della Commissione Alleata

ROMA



785016

giungere altro effetto che quello di facilitare a favore di chiunque la riparazione di un torto subito o il ripristino di un diritto lesa: il libero uso del proprio cognome, così, come fu trasmesso dai propri avi, è certamente uno dei fondamentali diritti della personalità umana, ed io non saprei trovare parole abbastanza severe per condannare coloro che tale diritto non rispettano. E non v'è dubbio che se sin dalla liberazione la Venezia Giulia fosse tornata sotto la piena amministrazione italiana, qualsiasi Governo dell'Italia democratica si sarebbe premurato di emanare norme simili a quelle preannunciate dal comunicato in parola.

Premesso quanto sopra, desidero esporle, caro Ammiraglio, talune considerazioni circa l'effettiva portata che il provvedimento potrebbe avere, date le particolari circostanze di tempo e luogo.

Nella situazione in cui è venuta a trovarsi la Venezia Giulia, l'equilibrio fra parte italiana e parte slava è stato indubbiamente rotto a favore della parte slava. Infatti, la maggior parte della regione è occupata dagli jugoslavi, i quali vi si comportano come se detto territorio fosse stato definitivamente annesso al loro Stato, mentre per contro nel territorio di Trieste - Gorizia e di Pola, lo Stato italiano non può esercitare alcun potere e l'autorità che amministra tali regioni, cioè il G.M., vi si comporta come un fiduciario che ignora quale delle due parti vedrà riconosciuta la propria pretesa.

Una tale situazione influisce naturalmente in senso deprimente sugli italiani della regione.

E' quindi probabile che provvedimenti come quello di cui si tratta valgano a suscitare nuove apprensioni ed allarmi negli

1900

smesso dai propri avi, è certamente uno dei fondamentali diritti della personalità umana, ed io non saprei trovare parole abbastanza severe per condannare coloro che tale diritto non rispettano. E non v'è dubbio che se sin dalla liberazione la Venezia Giulia fosse tornata sotto la piena amministrazione italiana, qualsiasi Governo dell'Italia democratica si sarebbe premurato di emanare norme simili a quelle preannunciate del comunicato in parola.

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Una tale situazione influisce naturalmente in senso deprimente sugli italiani della regione.

E' quindi probabile che provvedimenti come quello di cui si tratta valgano a suscitare nuove apprensioni ed allarmi negli ambienti italiani, e che la propaganda jugoslava ne approfitti largamente per farne oggetto di speculazioni politiche.

Occorre poi tenere presente che nella Venezia Giulia la nazionalità è soprattutto un atto di elezione: il nome di famiglia non vi costituisce affatto un sicuro indice dell'appartenenza na-

Il Ministro degli Affari Esteri

zionale dell'individuo, bensì, se mai, è indicativo il nome di batte-
tesimo.

Ma pure ricordato che sotto il dominio dell'Austria-Ungheria la
registrazione delle nascite era affidata ai Ministri del Culto, ed
era costante tendenza dei parroci slavi quella di aggiungere una ce-
sinanza slava ai cognomi italiani.

Infine, è indubbio che molte persone ricussero in forme italia-
na il proprio cognome slavo non in seguito a pressione, ma per uno
spontaneo atto di elezione.

Ora, è voce generale nella Venezia Giulia che talune di queste
persone, militari o civili, venute a trovarsi in Jugoslavia per vi-
cende di guerra, abbiano subito da parte dei partigiani di Tito par-
ticolari maltrattamenti e rigori - in taluni casi addirittura la
pena capitale come traditori della causa slava - appunto per il fat-
to di aver mutato in forme italiane l'originario cognome slavo. Ta-
le voce, ingrandita ed aggravata dall'atmosfera di intimidazione e di
incubo che gli "attivist" jugoslavi fanno pesare sugli italiani del-
la zona "A", potrebbe indurre molte persone a valersi delle prean-
nunciate norme unicamente per il timore di rappresaglie da parte de-
gli jugoslavi nel caso di una definitiva assegnazione dell'intera Ve-
nezia Giulia alla Jugoslavia, evento che la propaganda jugoslava
cà come immensabilmente sicuro. Ed è pertanto facile immaginare in
quale penoso caso di coscienza sono venuti a trovarsi, in seguito al
comunicato di cui si tratta, taluni giuliani, stretti da una ⁶¹⁶ ~~petit~~
delle esigenze della dignità personale, dall'altra, dall'incubo di
possibili future vendette in danno proprio e dei propri cari.

Le considerazioni di cui sopra mirano a chiarirle, caro Ammi-

Ma pure ricordato che sotto il dominio dell'Austria-Ungheria la registrazione delle nascite era affidata ai Ministri del Culto, ed era costante tendenza dei parroci slavi quella di aggiungere una denominazione slava ai cognomi italiani.

Infine, è indubbio che molte persone ricusarono in forma italiana il proprio cognome slavo non in seguito a pressione, ma per uno spontaneo atto di elezione.

Ora, è voce generale nella Venezia Giulia che talune di queste persone, militari o civili, venute a trovarsi in Jugoslavia per vicende di guerra, abbiano subito da parte dei partigiani di Tito particolari maltrattamenti e rigori - in taluni casi addirittura la pena capitale come traditori della causa slava - appunto per il fatto di aver mutato in forma italiana l'originario cognome slavo. Tale voce, ingrandita ed aggravata dall'atmosfera di intimidazione e di incubo che gli "attivistici" jugoslavi fanno pesare sugli italiani della zona "A", potrebbe indurre molte persone a valersi delle preannunciate norme unicamente per il timore di rappresaglie da parte degli jugoslavi nel caso di una definitiva assegnazione dell'intera Venezia Giulia alla Jugoslavia, evento che la propaganda jugoslava dà come immancabilmente sicuro. Ed è pertanto facile immaginare in quale penoso caso di coscienza sono venuti a trovarsi, in seguito al comunicato di cui si tratta, taluni giuliani, stretti da una ~~forte~~ delle esigenze della dignità personale, dall'altra, dall'incubo di possibili future vendette in danno proprio e dei propri cari.

Le considerazioni di cui sopra mirano a chiarire, caro Ammiraglio, quanto delicata e complessa sia la materia di cui si tratta.

Sembrerebbe dunque opportuno che il Governo Militare Alleato

fosse consigliato a sopraspedere all'emanazione di norme che esor-
bitano dalla competenza di un'autorità militare occupante e che
nessuna necessità militare, o altra d'impellente carattere, sa-
rebbe urgente - mentre - come detto - tali norme si preste-
rebbero a speculazioni politiche e a interpretazioni che ren-
drebbero ancora più confuse e difficili la già tanto delicata si-
tuazione della regione.

Nella fiducia che quanto Le ho esposto potrà incontrare

la Sua comprensione, mi creda, caro Ammiraglio,

Reply

1904

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

4/44-1/CA

10 Oct 45

SUBJECT : Forwarding of Correspondence.

TO : SCMO Venezia Giulia.

Reference your 130/AME/97/B/39 of 3 Oct.

The enclosures which are returned do not appear resolutions of the type to which this HQ letter 4/44-1/CA of 1 Sep applies. The matter seems to be one which should be handled locally.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER :

M. CARR, Brig,
VP CA Section.

2 Encls:

- 1 ltr from Istrian Committee, of 25 Sep
- 1 ltr from Istrian Committee, of 26 Sep

4177

2419

1903

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

6620

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

Ref: 13C/AMC/97/B/39

3 October 1945

SUBJECT: Forwarding of correspondence.

-8 OCT 1945

TO: V.P., CA Section,
Hq, Allied Commission.

1. The attached letters, with translations, are forwarded
in accordance with your letter of 1 September.

For the Senior Civil Affairs Officer:

H.P.P. Robertson

H.P.P. ROBERTSON
Colonel
Deputy S.C.A.O.

2 Incls:

- 1 ltr fr Istrian Committee, dtd 25 Sept
- 1 ltr fr Istrian Committee, dtd 28 Sept

1 OCT 1945



1906

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref 4/44.1/GA

9 Oct 45

SUBJECT : Forwarding of Correspondence

TO : AFM, G-5 Section

With reference to our letter 4/44.1/GA of 3 Oct 45, a further communication from the Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union dated 1 Oct 45 is forwarded to you for such action as you may consider necessary.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

M. CAHR, Brig,
VP CA Section

NR

Copy to POLAD (A)
POLAD (B) - *extra copies for Foreign Office*

417.

1907

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

785016

COPY

GENERAL COMMITTEE OF SLOVENE - ITALIAN
ANTIFASCIST UNION

Triest, 1st October 45

COL. ALFRED C. BOWMAN, J.A.G.D. Senior
Civil Affairs Officer
TRIESTE

The General Committee of the Slovene - Italian Antifascist Union, elected at the Congress of the Slovene - Italian Antifascist Union of 12 August 45 in Triest, greets You warmly from its first sitting of 30.9.45 at Piuma, as the representative of the Allied British-American troops in the Julian March and begs You to convey to the International Commission arriving upon the injunction of the 5 Foreign Ministers' Conference in London to ascertain the ethnological conditions in the Julian March with the object of determining the borders between Italy and Jugoslavia, the categorical will of the whole of the Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union, representing the whole of the Slovene and Croatian population and the majority of the Italian population in the Julian March and Triest, that the entire Julian March shall be annexed to the Democratic Federative Jugoslavia without any further diminution. We beg to enclose the resolution, carried at the first sitting of the General Committee of the Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union, begging You to convey it to the said International Commission.

We feel sure, that You will - faithful to the principles for which American soldiers have shed so much blood - defend the fundamental principle of Democracy, the one of self-government, and assist the Commission with Your information, so that it may suitably resolve the problem of the state appartenance of the Julian March, and that in the desired and expected sense of the population of the Julian March, that has performed its duty towards the Allied democratic union in the four years' bloody struggle in the most consequent way and has on innumerable returns decidedly expressed its will for the annexation to the Democratic Federative Jugoslavia.

For the General Committee of the
Slovene - Italian Antifascist
Union
President

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417.

1908

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

C O P Y

R E S O L U T I O N

Of the sitting of the Committee of the Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union.

The general Committee of the Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union after discussing the state appartenance of the Julian March, the agenda "The Five Ministers' Conference in London" of its full sitting on 30 September 1945

establishes that the whole of the Slovene and Croatian population and the majority of the Italian population in the Julian March, including Trieste, have expressed their categorical will to unite their destinies with the ones of the peoples of the Democratic Federative Yugoslavia, during the war against the Nazi-Fascism, as well as on other occasions after the end of the war;

declares that such will, the expression of the principles of Democracy, for whose victory this population has fought in this war together with the Allies against the Nazi-Fascism, corresponds to the principle of self-government, embodied in the Atlantic Charter. Considering that the Julian March, including Trieste, form an indissoluble political and economical unit, the Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union;

proclaims itself decidedly contrary to any other line infringing this unit. Considering that the principles of Democracy and brotherliness of peoples, on which the New Democratic Federative Yugoslavia is founded, guarantees the national rights to all peoples in this state and build a real base for a fraternal collaboration among peoples, indispensable for their welfare and the maintenance of peace, peculiarly fostering the friendly relations between Italy and Yugoslavia, the Slovene - Italian Antifascist Union, as interpreter of the will of the Slovene and Croatian peoples and the majority of the Italian population;

declares itself for the union of the Julian March, including Trieste, to the Democratic Federative Yugoslavia.

Considering the peculiar conditions of the town Trieste the Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union

joins the proposal of the Yugoslav Delegation, advanced at the Conference in London, conferring the town Trieste the position of the seventh Federative state of Democratic Federative Yugoslavia.

The Slovene-Italian Antifascist Union, faithful and consequent to the principles of democracy and brotherliness of nations

invites all sincere democrats of the Julian March, to join, to the interest of the inhabitants, the movement for the annexation of our region to the Democratic Federative Yugoslavia.

General Committee of the Slovene-Italian
Antifascist Union

1909

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
✓ CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Tel: 476104.
3 Oct 45

Ref: A/HA.1/CA.

SUBJECT: Forwarding of Correspondence.

TO: AFHQ, G-5 Section.

- 1 Attached hereto for such action as you see fit, please find English, Italian and Slav copies of a telegram which has been received from the Italo-Slav Anti-Fascist Union for onward transmission to the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs in London.
- 2 This Headquarters has, at present, no information as to the size or importance of this organization.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER:

M. CASH, Brig.,
VP CA Section.

417.

2677

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

Ref: 13C/AMG/72/1/

28 September 1945

SUBJECT: Telegram.

25 OCT 1945

TO: Civil Affairs Section,
HQ, Allied Commission.

In accordance with your letter of 1 September, enclosed please find telegram which the Italo-Slav Anti-fascist Union requests be transmitted to the Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs in London.

For the Senior Civil Affairs Officer:

H.P.P. Robertson

H.P.P. ROBERTSON
Colonel
Deputy S.C.A.O.



1971

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

Ref 24/44 1/CA
3/7.2/CA

25 Sep 45

SUBJECT : Forwarding of Correspondence

TO : AFHQ, G-5 Section

The attached letter is forwarded for such action as you may deem appropriate.

FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

M. CAMP, Brig,
VP CA Section

Encl. Letter from a group of Istrians.

Copy to : 4/44/CA File.

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2532

1912

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

~~31A~~
5A

Ref 4/44/CA ✓

25 Sep 45

SUBJECT : Forwarding of Correspondence

TO : HQ AME 13 Corps

Reference your 13C/AME/97/A/199 dated 22 Sep.

The letter from Francesco VAIRO was not attached to the above
quoted letter.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER

M. CARR, Brig,
VP CA Section

417

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1913

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

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

CA SEC

22 September 1945

13C/AMG/97/A/199

SUBJECT: Forwarding of lettersf

TO : Civil Affairs Section, HQ A.C.

In accordance with your letter of 1 September the accompanying letters are forwarded.

24 SEP 1945

for H.P.P. ROBERTSON
Colonel
D/S.C.A.O.

2 Incls:

Incl. 1 letter from Istrians
Incl. 2 letter from Francesco VAIRO.



1914

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
CIVIL AFFAIRS SECTION

20A

30

1 Sep 45

✓
4/ 44-1/CA

SUBJECT : Resolutions from Local Groups in Venezia Giulia.
TO : HQ AMB 13 Corps.

19A

Reference 13C/AMC/97/96 dated 25 Aug 45.

Resolutions of the kind described should be retained by you. Only resolutions and letters of appeal or protest which are of importance should be forwarded to this Headquarters.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER :

M. CAMP, Brig,
VP CA Section.

411.

2487

1915

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

785016

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
13 CORPS

30 AUG 1945

13C/AMG/97/96

25 August 1945

SUBJECT: Resolutions from Local Groups in Venezia Giulia.

TO : Headquarters Allied Commission.

1. This headquarters receives daily many letters and resolutions of protest and appeal addressed to prominent officials in the several United Nations. As could be expected, letters received in the past few weeks have been congratulatory notes addressed to Mr. Attlee and the Labour Party.

2. The majority of these resolutions are sent from the villages in the area. They are written in either Italian or Slovene, are poorly composed and vague in their demands and accusations.

3. Do you desire all such letters and resolutions be forwarded to your headquarters for onward transmittal, or should we retain them here?

4. Naturally, it is understood by this headquarters that letters and protests of greater importance will be forwarded immediately.

For the Senior Civil Affairs Officer:

H.P.P. Robertson
Col.

H.P.P. ROBERTSON
Colonel.
D/S.C.A.O.



41



2/14/45
Ministero degli Affari Esteri

CA-
6/21/32/1967
11

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION 12 LUG 1945

Subject: Arrest by the Yugoslav Authorities of the personnel of the "A. Quesada" in Fiume.

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs desires to inform the Allied Commission that, according to reliable information recently received, the Yugoslav Military Authorities of occupation in Fiume have arrested, amongst others, all the personnel of the local "A. Quesada" and precisely:

- 2 Officials of the Italian Corps of "Pubblica Sicurezza";
- 7 employees
- 3 Ushers
- 75 agents of "Pubblica Sicurezza", 15 of whom were later released.

It seems that the agents arrested and two of the above employees, after a few days of imprisonment have been sent to a concentration camp in Croatia by the Yugoslav Military Authorities.

2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would greatly appreciate if the Allied Commission could kindly approach the competent Yugoslav Authorities in order to obtain, in accordance with art. 6 of the Morgan's Agreement on the temporary Administration of "Venezia Giulia", the release of the above mentioned personnel, and their repatriation.

Rome, July 10th. 1945

41..

Informare Cattedini
this already sent by
letter from PM 23508 of 26 June
which action is left

EC DIST - 12 July.
ACTION: CA Jec
INFO: EX COMM.

11
MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION 12 LUG 1945

Subject: Arrest by the Yugoslav Authorities of the personnel of the "R. Questura" in Fiume.

1. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs desires to inform the Allied Commission that, according to reliable information recently received, the Yugoslav Military Authorities of occupation in Fiume have arrested, amongst others, all the personnel of the local "R. Questura" and precisely:

3 Officials of the Italian Corps of "Pubblica Sicurezza";
7 employees
3 ushers
75 agents of "Pubblica Sicurezza", 15 of whom were later released.

It seems that the agents arrested and two of the above employees, after a few days of imprisonment have been sent to a concentration camp in Croatia by the Yugoslav Military Authorities.

2. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs would greatly appreciate if the Allied Commission could kindly approach the competent Yugoslav Authorities in order to obtain, in accordance with art. 6 of the Morgan's Agreement on the temporary Administration of "Venezia Giulia", the release of the above mentioned personnel, and their repatriation.

Rome, July 10th. 1945

41..

Informed Cattedani
this already sent to
letter from PH 23508 of 26 June
which action is being
taken

PH 11/7/45

EC DIST - 12 July
ACTION: CA Jee
INFO: EX COMM

(9976)

