

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

785017

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DO SITREPS, LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
DEC. 1944, JAN. 1945

1739
HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO UMBRIA REGION
APO 394

R/6027

9 January 1945

SUBJECT: Perugia Province

JAN 10 1945

TO : HQ, Allied Commission

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference the Acting Regional Commissioner's letter R/5982 dated 30 December 1944, it should be stated that, in an interview granted to the Executive Officer of this Region on 5 January, GOC No. 1 District was emphatic that both he and his Area Commander had always had the fullest co-operation from Col. Belser while he has been Provincial Commissioner, Perugia.

The General went on to say that he very much regretted to hear of the proposed change, but of course did not know anything of the Colonel's business as a Civil Governor.

It is requested that this note be added to the original letter from this HQ to which reference is made above.

John D. Ames
JOHN D. AMES,
Lieutenant Colonel,
Acting Regional Commissioner.

4789

DS/10/1
COS Dist. 12/1/45
Etab. Sec.

PA 21
(See *by Mat. S. KAHN*
and *APPROVED THIS*
PA *11/1/45*

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief of Staff

Tel. 735

2 January 1945

Ref. 173/9/COS.

SUBJECT: Perugia Province.

TO : Economic Section.

para. A folio 8

1-6

The attached extract of letter from LANCIO-UMBRIA Region
N/5982 of 30 Dec 44 together with enclosures are passed to you for
appropriate action.

Jan 2/1/45
JHR
P/A

Encl.

Exp. R. 1/1/45

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Chief of Staff.

IA
6/1/45
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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
LAZIO-UMBRIA REGION
APO 394

R/5982

30 December, 1944

DEC 31 1944

SUBJECT: Perugia Province

TO : HQ. Allied Commission

This Acting Regional Commissioner is perturbed about the situation in Perugia. The following matters are at the root of his feeling.

A. Pasta Ration.

As was reported in R/5839 dated 9 Dec. a pasta ration of 3000 grams has been issued in Perugia for several months. Full details of the matter up to that date are in the letter, copy of which attached.

Subsequent to that date verbal agreement was obtained from Food Sub-Commission to withhold action for a few days in the hope that the overall ration in Italy would be raised. This would mean that the reduction in Perugia would be less. On 17 December, after telephoned instructions from HQ Allied Commission had been received, Provincial Commissioner Perugia was ordered to reduce this ration to conform with the scale operating in the remainder of Italy. A full report was also requested.

Reply from the Provincial Commissioner is attached. This reply calls for little comment except that in general it suggests an inability to grasp the problem and handle it. Point 1 of paragraph 3 is difficult to understand. If it is intended to read that there is a belief that the ration would continue it at least makes sense, but is no sound reason. Point 2 is, of course, a gross over-statement. Hopes have been expressed as recently as 11 December but no statement has been made, and in any case such "hopes" should not have come to the ears of

788

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The greater part of the remainder of the letter is irrelevant.

B. Public Safety.

There are three Public Safety Officers in the Province. Major Battersby is PPSO assisted by Lt. Landesman, and Major Fowler is attached from Lombardia Region. This attachment was made without reference to this HQ and it is not known how Major Fowler is actually employed.

9/10

~~Handwritten signature~~

- 2 -

Major Battersbey's interpreter is involved in a case which is being investigated by S.I.B. It is understood that the defence will attack Major Battersbey. It cannot, of course, be alleged at this stage that Major Battersbey is in any way guilty in this affair. On the other hand he is also involved in another enquiry in Rome which will necessitate investigation.

Lt. Landesman is also involved in a somewhat unsavoury case. Here again it cannot be said that the Officer is guilty. In both these cases it is felt that a change is highly desirable regardless of the ultimate results of the investigations.

No official reports have yet reached this HQ.

C. Relations with the Military.

Personal relationship with the Military are thought to be very good on the most senior level. Unofficial reports have reached this HQ to the effect that they are less good on a lower level and that the local Area Commander has not had the fullest cooperation from AMG.

D. Personnel.

There are 24 Officers in Perugia as at 23 December.

Many of them are attached on special jobs from Sub-Commission. There are 13 Officers attached from other Regions, including 1 Colonel and 2 Lt. Colonels.

In the opinion of this Acting Regional Commissioner drastic changes should be made. It is felt that the Provincial Commissioner has operated in a manner, which with the rather weak team with which he started, has now put him in a position which is untenable.

It is further considered that very strong police support is necessary and a reduction in the Staff. It would not be fair to ask a new Provincial Commissioner to have so many senior Officers.

It is proposed therefore to act as follows.

Provincial Commissioner - Lt.Col.N.RAMSEY vice Col.BELSER-
P.S.Officers - Major GREEN vice Major BATTERSBY

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Provincial Commissioner - Lt. Col. N. RAMSEY vice Col. BELSER-

" P.S. Officers - Major GREEN vice Major BATTERSBY

" Major FOWLER vice Lt. LANDESMAN

" Finance Officer Captain STUART vice Lt. LENO

Colonel Selby and Lt. Colonel Smith to be withdrawn.

The new Provincial Commissioner would be instructed to aim at further reduction as soon as possible.

John D. Ames
JOHN D. AMES
Lt. Colonel
Acting Regional Commissioner

CO3 list 2/1/45

Entire Sec. (note: Para A has been extracted and sent to - from see for action)

See folio 9

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