

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

ACC

10000/109/87

DO
JU

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

10000/109/87

TO SITREPS, LIAISON OFFICER, BARI
JUNE 1945 - JUNE 1946

785017

51

51

Do you wish

to distribute among

members K. 449

48

52 5.19

52

No - Covered by
my personal letter to you

52

56

See. Please see folios 56-58 - do let for CUC B2018

for 56.

Ex Comm;

60.

By 56-58 there is nothing of
special interest in this report

27/10/60 27/10/60

No - Covered by
my general letter to HQ

59

26
Sir. Please see Solos 86-58 - do let for CIO Rite 18

4%

Ex Comm;

60.

Ref 86-58 there is nothing of
special interest in this report

27/10 27/10 27/10

CSO MS 57 62

→ Ex 86 B. - seen Kail 6h

To see. I shall be in

action at the moment.

Livano is much the same

63
— Ex. Com says no further
action in 61. 4/7.

27/10 4/7

Gen. Com.

P 33 for - f -

Miss.

C.P.O.

25

10/1/83

NOTED. These messages are sending
I have sent extraction re. O'Brien to Super-90
There is a continuation of para 4 on file 31
which has not been marked for extraction

19/3

Send also

p 321022

McLamb

copy

letter at 34 submitted
35 refers.

to signature,
4/24/3.

A/C.

DO report from Bar re also at 140

7/5/64

new by
10/1/83

1/1/84

P.A.

Will direct reply to 44

10/1/83

5617

49

785017

17/3 send doc
p. 21022
Mandir

Letter of 36 submitted
35 refers.

A/c.

Do report from Base at one at 140

775/814

seen by

4/16

9/14

4/16

~~P.A.~~ Will do. m. fly to 44
H.S. 30/4

26
 In Please see folio 48 You have not yet
 taken action in your turn. etc
 c. 200 4/10 the no. 50
 - or more they report. 178/2012 Sunday 24/5
 24/5

27

Exec. Comm. is in view.

(23)

23-23

(1) Considered that paragraphs 6 and 7 of Bari report should be referred to AFHQ for G-2. (22)

(2) Paragraph 7 deals with what is mainly an internal security matter. It is known that the Jewish Hospital in Bari was closed some months ago on the orders of AFHQ and that repeated requests for permission to open similar establishments have been refused.

(3) The questions raised in paragraph 8 have already been dealt with on a high level at AFHQ, but it is considered that the subject matter would still be of interest there.

B. L. Cox, Capt

26/2/46 5016

(28)

26/2/46

Send in D.O. form to CR staff Co AFHQ.

27/2/46

(29)

Issue. Copy to Br Embassy 27/2/46 - Frontal Control Office.

Done on File 2224/CC

C.S.O.

I don't much like the C.S.O. being in the Prefecture.

He ~~she~~ will either be considered part of the administration
 & do too much or else his position will be regarded
 as inferior. What are your recommendations?

G.B. to comment - Lt. Levee provided & to note
 the usual grown about cars & reaching down
 13/2

17.

Note: Copy of p.12 given to Ex O (B) by CSO 15 Feb. 46.

24.

En. Cam
 Please see folio 23. further to report for Ravi. 15/2/45

25.

P.A.

Major Simmonds (Travel Contd) 15 Feb 1946

G.B to comment on Lt Lewis' promotion. He notes
the usual growth about ears & reaching down
13/2

27

17.

Note: Copy of p.12 given to Ex O (B) by CSO 15 Feb. 46.

24.

Ex. 100
Please see folios 23, further to report for Davis. *45045*

25.

PA

Major Simmons (Travel Control) is see folios 21 & 22.

173/20/2

26.

Public Supply, etc.
Attn: Major Simmons (Travel Control).

Please see folios 21 & 22 this file for
information & any comments you may wish to make.

173/20/2

785017

Ex Com.

At see 1. Do we want
all this? It is very easy if
we encourage this to develop
Control.

19/6

2

Director,
Agriculture Sub-Commission.

19th June 1945.

I am directed by the Executive Commissioner to ask if you
will supply comparative figures from last year's harvest, with the
table opposite.

P. Russell

PA to Executive Commissioner.

For next VPs meeting 28/6

6

Notes - B/C 3/July

4/7 Reported at vt meeting this date. 2

5514

Ex Com.

Please see 11 - 1st para sent to P/O as directed. Any
further action please? MP 28/8

Ask P.O. what he is doing 28/8
(FORWARD ACTION ON FILE 9252/85)

HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

REF : LE/55/A

28 June 1946

JUL 5 1946

Dear Bongadine Duch,

Reference your letter 183/55/EC of 25 June 46.

1.

With regard to this Office being moved to TARANTO from BARI.

54 Area which was situated in EARI have disbanded and 52 Sub Area which was in TARANTO took over Bari Area on the 1st June, so that now there is no Allied Military in TARANTO.

This Office is therefore situated at the nearest Military formation.

2.

I have considered carefully the question of the necessity of this Group.

With the elections finished, work has of course dropped considerably, and unless information is still required under the headings contained in the Monthly Report - I do not see that we can serve much useful purpose in remaining on here.

We do a certain amount of Liaison work with 52 Sub Area, but I see no difficulty in passing this on to some other formation, say the Town Major, or B.L.U. or letting the Military deal direct with the different Italian Departments.

Both Lewis and I think we could tackle more work than we are finding to do here.

If it is decided to close this Group down, I would be grateful if as much notice as is given, as there are a certain amount of things to be tied up - and

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Both Lewis and I think we could tackle more work than we are finding to do here.

If it is decided to close this Group down, I would be grateful if as much notice as is given, as there are a certain amount of things to be tied up - and as regards me personally - a Villa to pack up and articles to be sorted out and returned to Ordnance, RE Stores, Welfare etc.

Finally, if there is a hope, I should be so glad to go up North again. Lewis would also very much like to stick to me and I would equally like to have him with me in any job.

LEV/CE

Yours Sincerely
D. S. Lewis
PA/1
1762-3

183
CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

REF

: DE/SS-A

22 June 1946

D / O

JUN 24 1946

Don Bugadine Luch

1.

POLITICAL

(a) After the referendum, a few pro-monarchy demonstrations took place without any outstanding incidents except at TARANTO where on the 12 June there was a demonstration staged by the Communist Party as a protest against an attack made on the Communist HQ, by Italian Marines of the San Marco Regiment.

During this attack some 36 persons were injured by hand-grenades.

The Communist Party induced a number of shops to close in sympathy with the protest.

A meeting was held next day at the Prefettura TARANTO at which the following persons attended :-

The Prefect

The Admiral Commanding Italian

Navy, TARANTO.

All leaders of political parties

Representatives of Trade Unions

A request has been made for the San Marco Rgt, who have been responsible for previous trouble, to be moved away from TARANTO.

The Italian Admiral has dismissed the Chief

of the Rgt, and has been saluted down upon after-

POLITICAL

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Navy, TARANTO.

All leaders of political parties

Representatives of Trade Unions

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The Italian Admiral has dismissed the Chief of the Naval Police. Matters calmed down soon afterwards.

(b) Public order has been good. There have been a few demonstrations, but of a peaceful nature, by Veterans at FARI, demanding work.

There is nothing novel about these particular demonstrations, as returning P.O.W. expected to get immediate work and preferential treatment, and are bitterly disappointed at not being given employment.

The Prefect has done his best to find employment for as many of these men as possible, and he readily gives interviews to delegates and explains to them the difficulty in finding employment for all who return to Italy from countries where they have been P.O.W.s.

CONFIDENTIAL

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

I feel that there is an unnatural calm after the referendum and the attitude of the people is to wait and see - as they have been unable to grasp as to what exactly is happening with regard to the Republican party taking over the Government of the Country.

The Italian Military personnel, CRR and Civil Police generally speaking, are not happy at the thought of serving under a Republican Government and there is talk of resignation by Senior personnel, but again it is a case of wait and see as their minds are confused and it is not clear to them what the Republican Government stand for - but I think it is clear that if it is going to smack too obviously of a Communist Regime and all it means, then the older members of the forces who are Monarchistally inclined will leave the services if they can do so.

At present the morale is good but with the uncertainty of the future sitting heavily on them, this morale is likely to deteriorate.

2.

FOOD

The position as regards grain has worsened.

Pasta Ration has not yet been distributed. There is plenty of fresh fruit in the markets at low prices and a fair quantity of vegetables.

Crops are very good - potatoes, tomatoes, can be seen growing in a flourishing condition.

Hoarding on the part of farmers continues and there is not the organisation available to force stuff to the markets.

Private buying and selling is the order of the day rather than selling to and buying from Public markets.

3.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Public order is astonishing good; considering recent political events, there may easily have been trouble in many places.

The CRR and Civil Police have matters well under control and there is a strong tendency of political parties to curry favour with them.

These services is meeting with

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PUBLIC SAFETY

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The CCRR and Civil Police have matters well under control and there is a strong tendency of political parties to carry favour with them.

Recruiting for these services is meeting with success and numbers of recruits can daily be seen being put through their paces.

4.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Satisfactory. Only 13 cases of small-pox have been reported in PARI Province for the period 1st to 20th June. This is an improvement.

General health of the public can be said to be good.

5.

AGRICULTURE

Fertilizer is still scarce - but in spite of this the condition of the crops is most satisfactory.

Only a small quantity of wheat has been amassed.

who are Monarchistially inclined will leave the services if they can do so.

At present the morale is good but with the uncertainty of the future sitting heavily on them, this morale is likely to deteriorate.

Almonds, peaches, plums, -gs, are plentiful and unless anything unforeseen happens grapes are going to be plentiful and a good variety of Vino is expected.

GENERAL

(a) Signor ALCIDE DE GASPERI's speech at BARI on 27 MAY passed off without incident. There was a large crowd in the square all good tempered and pro-monarchy.

I met DE GASPERI, and unexpectedly found he spoke English, as I was told his knowledge of Foreign languages was only French.

Our conversation avoided anything of a political nature.

(b) 52 Area took over on the 1st JUNE, and I several times met, lunch and dined with Col. PURVIS, the Area Commander, and his Officers who are all very nice and helpful.

James Swirey
D.S. Vining

5010

(b) 92 Area took over on the 1st JUNE, and I several times met, lunch and dined with Col. PURVIS, the Area Commander, and his Officers who are all very nice and helpful.

Yours sincerely
D.S. Vining

5010

CONFIDENTIAL

Ref: 183/55/66.

26 June 1946.

54

I have answered your DO Special of 27th May in my general letter to CIO's. But I want to say how glad I am that Clark was able to write such an appreciative letter to you. I should like to know from you whether you consider your office should continue in BARI or whether it should now move to TARANTO to be with the HQ of the Sub-Area. My idea in having Liaison Officers scattered about has been to locate them with the nearest military formation. This is without prejudice, of course, to the general question I asked you the other day as to whether you can conscientiously say that the retention of your Group is really necessary at all.

M. G. LUSH

Lt. Col. L. E. Vining,
Allied Commission
Chief Liaison Officer,
BARI.

MSL/JG.

5009

PA 25
176

See 7-61

1324
HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

CONFIDENTIAL

54

Dutch-

LB / 65 / A

D/O
Special

27 May 1946

JUN 3 1946

Star Bangadiv, Dutch,

1.

POLITICAL

(a) Signor PALMIRO Togliatti, the Minister for Justice and leader of the Communist Party came down to this Area and commenced his tour by making a speech at TARANTO on the 21st May.
The speech was interrupted by Italian Sailors who are strong for the Monarchy, and Signor Togliatti was hissed and booed and his visit to TARANTO was a dismal failure.

His next engagement was a speech at BARI, but he got wind that there were notices circulated offering Lire 100,000 to any one who would do him in, any way, whether Signor Togliatti felt he was warned off making a speech at BARI or not, he hurriedly left for ROME on the grounds that King Umberto II having refused to sign an order in connection with the amnesty, a crisis in the Cabinet was a possibility and therefore his presence in ROME was essential.

(b) The Monarchy is gaining wide popularity in these parts, the number of the Monarchist Party having increased in a matter of days from 7,000 to 70,000.

Old BARI which was in the past a hot bed of the Communist Party is now almost entirely Monarchist.

(c) A meeting was held at the 25th inst. at the Pretoria at which the undernoted persons were present,

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Old BARI which was in the past a hot bed of the Communist Party is now almost entirely Monarchist.

(c) A meeting was held at the 25th inst. at the Prefettura at which the undernoted persons were present, in connection with the forthcoming National Elections to be held on June 2nd, and to discuss what steps were necessary to maintain public order :-

The Prefects of BARI
TARANTO
LECCE
BRINDISI
FOGGIA
MATERA
POTENZA
CANTONASSO

Officer Commanding the Italian
troops in APULIA.

(d) More signs are in evidence in the Towns in this

- 2 -

Area favouring a Monarchy, and the Communist Party are losing ground, with the result that the prospects of trouble in Towns returning a Monarchist Party are decreasing, at the same time precautions are not being relaxed, at danger spots, to maintain public order.

(e) Signor ALCEDE DE GASPERI, the Italian Premier is delivering a speech from the balcony of the Prefettura this evening at 1900hrs.

The Prefect has invited me to meet the Premier in the Prefect's private apartment at the Prefettura at 1815hrs this evening.

I shall hear the speech with my interpreter but will of course remain in the back ground.

I will report further in this connection in due course.

GENERAL

I gave a tea party, at which I invited the O.C. Carabiniere and his adjutant and others, including the Prefect and his wife, a very charming lady.

The Prefect has been ill in bed and at his invitation I saw him in his bed room and had a short chat with him. He is now up and about again.

I was very pleased indeed to get a letter from Brigadier CLARK, Commanding 54 Area written in his own hand writing which I re-produce :

My dear Vining

As you probably know, my HQ is to disband on 1st June and to hand over Command to 52 Sub Area (TARANTO).

Before I go I want to thank you for the very real and very ready co-operation which I personally and all of us have had from you and AQ here in EARI. It has been a great help to all of us.

Yours very sincerely
G.P. CLARK

Sincerely for his letter

2.

I will report further in this connection in due course.

GENERAL

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Yours very sincerely

G.F. CLARK

I replied thanking him sincerely for his letter of appreciation and saying that my work in matters concerning 54 Area had been made easy due to the friendly relations established between all branches of 54 Area and A.C. and the ready co-operation I had all along received from the Brigadier and all his staff.

A report on other headings will be submitted in due course.

Yours sincerely
G.F. Clark

183
HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION
CONFIDENTIAL
48

REP : LB/65-A

D/O

15th May 1946

MAY 18 1946

Dear Brigadier General,

1. POLITICAL

I have been concentrating on finding out the reaction of the people in regard to the abdication of King Victor Emanuele.

I think definitely, the leaning is toward a Monarchy rather than toward a Republican Government.

I noticed whilst passing through Towns and Villages, newly painted "REX" on walls of buildings and the hammer and sickle had been daubed over with fresh paint.

The Leftist Parties, and in particular the Communist are losing ground. There also have been demonstrations supporting Umberto II and the people in BARI itself demonstrated in favour of a Monarchy. Another feature, is the increasing popularity of the UOMO QUALUNQUE - who had not been in very much evidence of late.

I have a feeling that the Monarchists are going to be a very strong party as recent events have given them the incentive they have been waiting for.

2. The universal strike of the P.O.L. on the 9th caused some anxiety to the Area Commander as there was a grave risk of planes being grounded and military vehicles off the road.

I interviewed the Prefect and pointed out that in the event of a strike, it would be a disaster to the Allied interests

POLITICAL

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The universal strike of the P.O.L. on the 9th caused some anxiety to the Area Commander as there was a grave risk of planes being grounded and military vehicles off the road.

I interviewed the Prefect and pointed out that in the past when such a strike took place Allied interests were not involved. The Prefect had meetings with local leaders and telephonic conversation took place with ROMEA and the result was that supply to Allied Military and UNRRA was not effected and the following day the entire strike was called off.

3.

FOOD SITUATION

There is no change. Vegetable markets are full of fresh vegetables. The crops are in excellent condition and a bumper harvest is expected.

Swarms of locust were reported in the small towns in the BARI Area, at Lamalunga, Guardiosa, Tre Carri Malabacca. Steps were immediately taken by the local Authorities who put down poisoned stuff and got the

locusts under control.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Normal. A good type of person appears to have been recruited for the CCRR and Civil Police and public opinion of them is favourable which is a change from past history.

The OC, CCRR, is satisfied he can cope with any eventuality.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Satisfactory. Four new cases of small pox have been reported in this area.

PRICES

Prices of clothes and household commodities are on the decrease though there is no change in the prices for food. Shops appear to flourish everywhere and more and more articles of a new variety appear in the windows and also on the stalls in country towns on market days.

All classes of people appear to have money to spend as the stalls are always surrounded by the inhabitants of the towns themselves, and country folk as well and one notices country carts loaded with articles for sale or what has been purchased.

Horses and cattle too appear to be in better condition indicating that fodder is not so scarce as it was - all I think indicating in a general drop in prices.

GENERAL

(a) There was a bit of a firm from in connection with the Albanian Mission departing from ERINDISI, on the 9th of this month.

54 Area phoned me up and said that the Italian Authorities demanded that the Mission must go through the customs, which the Mission refused to do, and asked me to get in touch with the Prefect of ERINDISI.

Whilst making it clear that this was a matter for high level I said I was prepared to speak with the

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Whilst making it clear that this was a matter for high level I said I was prepared to speak with the Prefect, which I did.

He informed me that he had received instructions from the Ministry of the Interior that the Albanian Mission must go through the customs.

I passed this information back to 54 Area who then through District 3 got in touch with A.F.H.Q. with the result that the Mission were exempted from going through the customs and boarded the ship at 1800hrs the Prefect of BRINDISI informing me he had received instructions from the Ministry of the Interior to let the Mission embark without customs examination.

(b) There was a large demonstration in BARI last night protesting against the Sindaco of Bari, a professed democristiano, but with strong Republican leanings.

I will bring up the subject, the next time I see the Prefect, in the ordinary course of conversation.

46
(c) Yesterday afternoon some 2,000 persons supporting the "UCMO QUALUNQUE" held a meeting in the Piazza Gramsci, old BARI, which is the hot bed of the Communist Party, and where all Communist meetings are held. The demonstration was peaceful and no incidents occurred.

The Communist Party in BARI appear to be subdued and are not much in evidence and the demonstration was a smack at them.

(d) It is interesting to note that when the Albanian Mission were in BARI they were accommodated and had their Offices in the building of the Communist HQ.

54 Area are moving out at the end of this month and 52 Sub Area from TARANTO are moving in.

I am looking forward to meeting Col. PURVIS the Sub Area Commander ; everyone I have met who knows him say he is extremely nice and very popular.

(e) There was a detachment of Poles at TORRE A MARE 10 Km from BARI on the BRINDISI road. They have left for NAPLES.

The weather is now warming up here and people are unpacking their summer clothing and bathing dresses.

James Dineen
D. Dineen

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James Dineen
Lt. Vining

5004

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

REF : LE/65-A

D/O

24 April 1946

APR 27 1946

De-r Rongadine Luth,

1.

POLITICAL

The elections all finished on Sunday 7th April. Throughout the 5 weeks commencing Sunday 10th March, the elections held each Sunday passed off everywhere without incidents or demonstrations, and in this Area the Christian Democrats were in the majority.

2.

The returning Italian Prisoners of War were led to expect immediate employment on their arrival in this country, and on finding that employment was not forthcoming staged demonstrations as a protest against the high cost of living, scarcity of food stuffs and lack of employment.

In BARI itself these veterans made a demonstration outside the Prefettura - a crowd of 500 - 600 assembled and attempted to force an entry to the building but the gates were closed on them.

The Veterans themselves were not violent but rowdies who always seize on such occasions to do damage and indulge in looting - set fire to the Tax Office and attempted to loot some shops with the result that all shops were hurriedly closed.

It was most noticeable that the people who made all the noise and were armed with short sticks were youths ranging from 12 to 16 years of age and it is this part of a crowd who do the damage and are a menace.

The Prefect summoned up sufficient CC.RR. and Civil Police to control the crowd which hung about during most of the day out side the Prefettura. No one was molested and Allied personnel passed

2.

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It was most noticeable that the people who made all the noise and were armed with short sticks were youths ranging from 13 to 16 years of age and it is this part of a crowd who do the damage and are a menace.

The Prefect summoned up sufficient CC.RR. and Civil Police to control the crowd which hung about during most of the day out side the Prefettura.

No one was molested and Allied personnel passed freely where ever they wished to, in the normal way.

The Prefect interviewed a delegation of the veterans and promised to find immediate employment for 500 of them.

The Prefect told me that these people insisted on only taking up jobs to their liking and were not prepared to take jobs which did not suit them.

There has been no repetition of the demonstration. The Prefect made arrests of obvious paid and professional agitators who were haranguing the crowd and leading groups from one place to another.

Women were much in evidence during the demonstration. I had a letter from the Prefect of CAMPOBASSO informing me that all the elections in his Communes had passed off without incidents and everything there was quiet.

That area had been giving trouble, chiefly directed against Black Market activities, as the people

See to 45

(EC)

see 1151-32

CONFIDENTIAL

(2)

felt, that the food stuff which should come to them was being diverted to the black market.

FOOD

There is sufficient stock of wheat to cover the period up to 5 May. No ships are due to arrive within the next 10 days.

500 Grams of Pasta and 200 Grams of Olive Oil were distributed this month, but no sugar ration up to date.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The DC Carabinieri for Bari Province, Col. TUCCARI has been transferred and his successor Col. FURELO, called to see me. Col. TUCCARI has done a lot to improve the efficiency of the CC.RR and his successor impressed me as being a man of resource and energy and would carry on the good work. I must say that even during the short time I have been here I have noticed a vast improvement in the turn out and smart bearing of the Carabinieri in this Area - and their morale has greatly improved, and this is I think due to the fact that they are gaining the confidence and respect of the public as they have on all occasion quickly got control of any trouble which has broken out.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public health is satisfactory - though there have been eight further cases of small pox in BARI during the past 20 days.

PRICES

Prices of commodities, other than food stuff, are still on the decrease and the shops not only in BARI itself, but elsewhere are producing more and more varieties of things.

Small towns and villages also display a large variety of goods on market days and the country people can be seen streaming into the Towns with things for sale or barter, and going back with their purchases.

The much hoped for rain during April arrived and have had a useful downpour on two or three days - the

5/6/52

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The much hoped for rain during April arrived and we have had a useful downpour on two or three days - the crops are in very good condition and the farmers have had a busy time in the fields.

Rain is still hanging about and it is hoped a lot more will fall.

GENERAL

The SS. MAURITANIA docked at TARANTO on the 23 Inst bringing some 3000 Italian prisoners of War from the U.K.

I observed the landing at the docks. The P.O.W. looked well nourished - and were cleanly and adequately clothed.

The Italian Authorities had made excellent arrangements for the reception of the ex prisoners - the Italian Red Cross being on the spot to hand the men tins of bully beef and bread, and lorries and other means

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CONFIDENTIAL

was available

of transport to take them from the docks, which were about 6 Km distance out of the Town, to the reception Camp.

The P.O.W. were taken off the ship in lighters and on landing were marshalled into fours and filed past the awaiting Red Cross workers to receive their food. More wives of British Personnel have arrived in Bari including mine.

Mr. Vaughan the British Consul is leaving us and Mr. Bertilli who was Provincial Commissioner of VERCELLI Province and whom I knew when I was in Piemonte Region, is his successor.

Both called at my office and I introduced them to the Prefect.

Both Mr. Vaughan and Mr. Bertilli talk fluent Italian.

52 Acres at TARANTO have pulled out, leaving a Sub-Area in its place.

*Yours Sincerely
D. D. Manning*

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

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

Subsincerely
D. D. Manning

5001

CONFIDENTIAL

BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

183

REF : LB/65/A

2 April 1946

D / O

APR 8 1946

Dear Bugajski,

1.

Nothing out of the ordinary has happened in this Area since my D/O of 21st March 46.

2.

Every Sunday since 10th March 46 I have toured the Towns where elections have been held.

The Elections have been conducted in a well organized manner and there have been no disturbances of any kind up to the time of writing nor any outward signs of friction.

I have submitted my reports after each Tour to AG Local Government, Civil Affairs Branch.

Major TEMPLE along with the Italian Inspector General in charge of the elections, visited BARI on Friday and are touring Southern Italy.

I had a discussion with them and the reports I have submitted are on the lines of what is wanted.

3.

POLITICAL

From what I can gather, the reaction of the Poles to the letter, from our Home Government written to them laying down the conditions under which they can be repatriated to Poland has, so to speak, been created with a shrug of the shoulders - they are not impressed by the letter.

They so mistrust the present Warsaw Government that no assurances from them, or promises, carry any weight.

Though a percentage of the Poles will return to Poland, the majority are convinced they would only

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They so mistrust the present Warsaw Government that no assurances from them, or promises, carry any weight.

Though a percentage of the Poles will return to Poland, the majority are convinced they would only go to Poland enroute to Russia.

4. POLITICAL, Generally

Down in the LECCE and BRINDISI Areas the majority of the population favour the Christian Democratic, Republican and Veterans, and there is a fair smattering supporting the Monarchistic Party.

Communists are in the very minority specially LECCE area, where most of the population are agriculturists and are well off. LECCE itself as you know being known as the "Florence" of Apulia.

5. FOOD

Pasta ration for March has been distributed and the Pasta ration for April will be distributed in the next few days.

There is sufficient grain in reserve until the 19th April 46.

(12)

1/10/46

see M.H.

10/10/46

(2)

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6. HEALTH

Ten further cases of small pox have been reported in BARI, otherwise the health of the general public is good. I have always considered that one can get a very good idea of how the population in a town or village is being nourished by observing the condition of the children in the streets.

7. PUBLIC SAFETY

Public Safety in general is good.

On the 31st March 46 (Sunday election day) at BOVINO in the PUGLIA Province, some 300 Socialists and Communists proceeded to the Headquarters of the Uomo Qualunque and wrecked it.

The Commanding Officer of the CC.M. and ten of the men were disarmed in the process 4 Carabinieri were wounded.

The Carabinieri retaliated by using hand grenades and the demonstrators went away.

Police reinforcements arrived and public order restored. Fifteen arrests were made.

PUGLIA Province will require watching.

8. S.P.A.C.

Brigadier CLARK has followed the example set by the NAPLES Area Commander in reviving the Italian S.P.A.C. in BARI Province.

He made it clear that the British were in no way taking an active part in the matter but were anxious to start the Society before leaving and from the background would give all the assistance required.

A meeting of about 60 persons met in the Prefect's Office and the Prefect who showed a keenness in the matter took the chair.

Half the gathering consisted of ladies. ^{donations}

The Brigadier had asked units for ~~tenants~~ and he presented the President of the S.P.C.A. with over Lire 100,000 and the Society has got going.

9. CURFEW

There is a Curfew in BARI, 2400 hours for Adults, and 1930 hours for Juveniles.

The Curfew was imposed by the Prefect at the request of the Brigadier.

The Prefect made a few days ago expressing his

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The Prefect wrote a few days ago expressing his intention of abolishing the Curfew on 4 and from April 8th.

I forwarded the letter to the Brigadier with the recommendation that the Prefect should be replied that he should do as he thinks fit in the matter.

The Brigadier replied in the terms recommended but suggested that the Curfew so far as Juveniles were concerned should remain, with which the Prefect thoroughly concurred and I think this is wise, as BARI suffers from bands of youthful hoodlums who are a pest to the general public and a menace to all unattended property.

The Prefect is increasing his police patrols and they will give their special attention to these undisciplined youths.

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GENERAL

197 Transit Camp near SAN SPIRITO is being handed over to the Poles on the 7th April 46.

The British Officers in Transit are now so few that the retention of the Camp can no longer be justified.

There was a mission from ALBANIA acting as "observers" with U.N.H.R.A.

The Mission has been returned to ALBANIA.

I met the Consul to be for ALBANIA who had come to BARI enroute for ALBANIA. He has returned to ROME.

I am expecting my wife out over a month ago. She received instructions to get vaccinated, inoculated etc. These operations ended on the 26 of last month.

No further news as to when she is sailing or has sailed.

Many wives have appeared in this Area now - and as there are about 15 to 20 British children here - an English school is being opened.

I look forward to seeing you when you visit BARI this month.

Yours sincerely
D.R. Fleming

cb/

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there are about 15 to 20 British children here - an English school is being opened.
I look forward to seeing you when you visit BARI this month.

Yours sincerely
L.R. Young

cb/

4997

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref. : 183/36/40 ✓

22 March 1946.

SUBJECT: Displaced persons, Bari.

TO : CA Section (for D.P. @ R. 3/0)

1. The attached extracts from a recent report by the Chief Liaison Officer Bari are passed to you for your information:

A)
Lt. Col. KERR, LECHE informed me that the Jewish Displaced Persons in the villages comprising the 4 camps in the LECHE Area are causing a lot of trouble.

These people are housed in requisitioned villas and are indulging in wanton destruction and the owners of the villas are very much concerned about it.

There is also grave tension between these displaced persons and the civil population. There appears to be no control over the Jewish displaced persons and there is a large number of real bad hats amongst them.

Naturally the civil police can do nothing in the matter and the USRA camp Officials are at a loss to know what to do and look to Lt. Col. KERR to put matters right.

He has passed this information on to me.

One suggestion I can offer is that these disturbers of the peace, and flouters of all authority, might be clearly told that they either behave themselves and obey instructions given them by the displaced persons camp authorities, or they will be removed to a properly controlled camp somewhere in the North.

The persons who are selected as Camp Police are apparently quite useless and exercise no authority over the persons living in the villas.

Something must be done in the matter otherwise retaliation by the Italian civil population who are interfered with will result."

B)
I again visited the local displaced persons camp. The conditions in the camp leaves little to be desired. The food produced is of first rate quality, and lots of it. Displaced persons in the camp are required to obtain a pass to leave the camp - but if any wish to leave the camp for good - it is the easiest matter in the world for them to do so "over the garden wall" so to speak. Persons do leave

Further action on file 2224/EC

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

the camp, and if they do not turn again, their names are just struck off the registry and that's all there's to it. So it comes to this - those who wish to remain in the camp may do so - those who do not want to just leave - and are free to wander and go where ever they wish to - but I have reason to believe that with regard to the latter - they do not make a move to leave the camp until and unless they have laid something on.

In this connection there is a matter which has greatly intrigued me, and I have consulted No. 38 P.S.S. and the Town Major in this connection. The first indication I got that something new was being started, was from a letter which came to my notice addressed to the G.R.C. 54 Area BARI from a Mr. Lustig. The heading of the letter - "Jewish Chaplain Welfare 54 Area" and signed by Mr. Lustig as "Director of Education Board". The contents of the letter was a request for certain repairs and supply of material to 4 villas which were being utilized by some 200 Jewish displaced persons. The request was refused by the G.R.C. and 54 Area informed me that no such branch as the Jewish Chaplain Welfare existed. I enquired from the Town Major particulars about the villas in question. He informed me that the villas had been requisitioned some time ago for Allied requirements and that the personnel concerned had left BMD, and these 4 villas along with 3 others were standing empty.

He had been approached in a letter with the heading "Re Allied Commission" and signed by a Mr. Levine, American United Distribution Committee, requesting that 4 villas be made available for his organization. At this the Town Major gave the necessary authority for the A.U.D.C. to occupy them. This request was followed by another, for 3 more villas to be handed over to the A.U.D.C. but at the present this request has not been replied with.

The reason given for the necessity for the villas was to house Jewish displaced persons in shoe making - carpentry and other such industrial pursuits. I say how recent that such forms of trade are conducted in the Displaced Persons camp, and as I am under the impression that our policy is to direct all displaced persons to authorized camps, where some form of work can be kept on them. I was at a loss to understand the reason for Mr. Levine and Mr. Lustig starting a Jewish colony on the TARANTO road. There are roughly 200 of these people in the 4 Villages and accommodation is sought for another 300.

Major Good of the Displaced camp to whom I had referred the matter informed me that he had been requested a few days ago by Mr. Lustig to release 20 persons from the Displaced persons camp to go to the villas for training - but had replied that he would first have to refer the matter to BMD. P.S.S. were asked whether they knew anything about the scheme or about Mr. Lustig and they said they did not, but as P.S.S. were interested in the matter they would take steps to make a reference to AHC.

The question that arises is, whether this move to have a Jewish colony or whatever it is, is to be encouraged or not - and whether the persons organizing and fostering it, are properly authorized persons

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

2/08

to do so, and who should receive help. As there is no one here who can give us an answer (but are endeavouring to obtain one for us - confidentially) I would appreciate any directive in the matter.

I have neither met Mr. Levine or Mr. Lustig as yet, and have not brought myself into the picture, save to make personal enquiries from P.S.S. the displaced persons camp Commandant, and the Town Major.

The British Consul BASH and HAYLES are interested in the question of Jewish farms, but there are none in this Area - I am seeing the British Consul BASH this evening and will ask him what he knows of the organisation in connection with the TARANTO road villas and its occupants. Up to this no one appears to have been aware of this project - which has not attracted lime light or been given publicity."

For the Chief Commissioner

Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Copy to 2224/EC.

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HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

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REF : LB/65-A

11 March 1946

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1.

In continuation of my D/C of 9th March reference the trouble at ANDRIA I again visited that town yesterday (Sunday 10th March) on my way up to CERIGNOLA in connection with the elections.

All was quiet in ANDRIA and under full control of the Italian Authorities.

I had a chat with the Vice Questore, the Carabinieri and Civil Police. The total casualties during the disturbances were as follows :

3	Carabinieri killed
6	Carabinieri wounded
6	Civilians killed
15	Civilian wounded

It is presumed more civilians were wounded but for obvious reasons did not report to hospital.

The force in ANDRIA at present is :

200	Carabinieri
40	Civil Police
300	Soldiers
4	Tanks

It is not known how long these forces will be kept there but it is thought they will be there until after the elections which will take place on 7 April.

Two Ministers who are down this way from Rome visited ANDRIA and made it known to the citizens that monetary help would be forthcoming to assist the unemployed.

The Communist Party in ANDRIA are very active. Though the population is 70,000 there are over 3000 Communists and

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The Communist Party in ANDRIA are very active. Though the population is 70,000 there are over 3000 Communists and these appear determined to rule the roost there - and are undoubtedly out to intimidate other political parties in the town - and this I think was the reason for the disturbances.

The adjoining towns such as TRANI, BARIETRA etc. are not Communistically strong - and the Christian Democrats and the Uomo Qualunque more than hold their own.

Elections

I received a directive on the subject of observation of Elections of Communal Councils from the Civil Affairs Section.

I was specially asked to observe the elections at CERICIGNOLA in the FOGGIA Province. This election was held on 10th Sunday. There are some 25,000 Electors and there were 25 polls.

Everything in the town was normal and quiet. I kept well away from the polling stations but I sent my civilian interpreter to chat with the people and obtain information.

There were about 10 Carabinieri and 5 Civil Police to maintain order at each place where polling was taking place.

In the main street the placards represented the Communist, Democristiano and the Uomo Qualunque parties - but in the side streets Communist placards only were in evidence.

No electioneering was taking place at the polling centres themselves but at two Centres there were Communist placards :

"Vote for the Communist Party for the benefit of your town"

The active political parties were :

- (1) Agriculture workers supporting the Communist Party,
- (2) Farmers, students, professional men and priests supporting the Democristiano and Uomo Qualunque Party.
- (3) Women of the town supporting the Democristiano.

There were no clashes or fiction of any description, each party appearing to keep away from each other. Of course there was no transport to bring electors to the polls and the women appeared to grudge the time they had to wait to have their votes recorded.

Whilst I went North, Lieut. LEWIS went to the LECCE Area and visited the following places :

(a) CASSIMASSIMA (Bari)

Conditions as on any normal Sunday. In the main square some 300 people. The Communist Party once more showing the greatest activity though the Democristiano were in evidence - and again the women were supporting this party. The election organisation was good and the people good humoured.

(b) CARLIANO, ARNESANO (Lecce)

Same conditions prevailed at both these places, only one party seemed to be in undisputed popularity, the Democristiano. Not much campaigning by this party appeared to have been done, slogans on the walls - but that possibly this is due to the fact that the towns are only for the one party. Organisation was good and there were no incidents.

Each Sunday from now to the 7th April will be elections day in the different Communes and I shall together with Lieut. LEWIS ~~be~~ as much ground as possible when the elections are being held - taking care to avoid any possible impression that Allied representatives are interfering in, or supervising the elections, and making ourselves as inconspicuous as possible and well away from any polling station or any place where votes are being counted.

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There is also grave tension between these displaced persons and the civil population. There appears to be no control over the Jewish displaced persons and there is a large number of real bad hats amongst them.

Naturally the civil police can do nothing in the matter and the UNRRA camp Officials are at a loss to know what to do and look to Lt. Col. KERR to put matters right.

He has passed this information on to me.

Ext read
for info
action

B.

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The persons who are selected as Camp Police are apparently quite useless and exercise no authority over the persons living in the villas.

Something must be done in the matter otherwise retaliation by the Italian civil population who are being interfered with will result.

Public Health

General state of health among the population is satisfactory. Four further cases of small-pox have been reported. Three in BARI and one in ANDRIA.

Food Supply

Due to late arrival of the SS Gambrelli - grain had to be borrowed from army sources and I passed a message from Doctor DE PASCALE in charge of food supply, to AC Food Sub Commission Rome. The Pasta ration for February and March has not yet been distributed to the civil population.

The Director of the SUD EST Railway invited me to take a tour with him in his special Diesel Coach, and to invite any one I wished to.

I asked several people whether they would like to come on the trip and out of those who were able to come was Mr. VAUGHAN the British Consul and members of the British Red Cross.

Parts of the country on the way to GALLIPOLI can only be seen from the SUD EST Railway as the roads run through different country.

We all voted the trip was a very great success and the Director and the SUD EST Officials entertained the party to a magnificent lunch.

The Prefects at TARANTO and FOGGIA have been changed. The new Prefects at the former place is Signor MINNA and at the latter Ave. TRANCHIDA.

Both of the above Prefects on taking up Office sent me telegrams and letters hoping to "pay their respects to me in the near future". I replied thanking them for their courtesy and saying I hoped to call upon them when I visited their areas and looked forward to meeting them.

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There are no flies on the Prefect of BARI, he is a hard worker, intelligent and I see a lot of him - he keeps me in close touch with events and I have definitely taken a strong liking to him.

The public appears to have easy access to him and every one has a good word to say for him and respect him, and he knows what he wants and gets things done.

8.

Public Safety

Normal. No incidents to report. Adequate additional Police and Carabinieri are sent to Towns on election days.

Brigadier M. LUSH
Executive Commissioner
AC HQ ROME

Yours Sincerely
D. H. Vaughan

CONFIDENTIAL

30

Ref: 103/30/31.

18th March 1946.

23.
Thank you for your letters including the one of 21st February and also the later letter referring to the disturbances regarding ANDREA which I have passed to Public Safety Sub-Com.

I think when you have particular subjects such as displaced persons and illicit travel, paras 7 and 8 of your letter of 21st February, I should prefer you to make them the subject of an official letter. I want your DO letters merely to give the general picture of what is going on.

I am going North for a week or ten days and very much hope to come across to see you some time in April.

I am getting my Chief Staff Officer to sign this letter as I am leaving for my tour right after dictation.

(Sgn) *L. M. McLeary*

Lt. Col. L. E. Vining,
Allied Commission
Chief Liaison Officer,
BARI.

MSE/JG.

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

(23)

REF

: LB / 65-A

21 February 1946

1/0

Dear Brigadier Lusk,

1. Nothing outstanding has happened since writing my 1/0 of the 9th Feb. 1946.
2. I have not been able to get far away from BARI due to the fact that the car allotted to me has turned out to be a non-runner and is unfit even to go round BARI and the PU is also being overhauled. In response to a signal to ROME, a car is being sent as a replacement and is expected here at any moment now - as I sent a driver up 6 days ago.
3. I visited the Polish Camp at BARLETTA, and really, seldom have I come across any camp so efficiently run. Although the Camp is of course a civilian one - there is a distinct smack of smart military discipline all round, and the youthful Poles in the Camp have been formed into Companies and are receiving Military training such as signallers and non-combatant duties. The men were all smartly turned out in Battle dress and the whole Camp spotlessly clean - kitchens, work shops, dress making, shoe making, all very impressive. With regard to shoe making - it sounds a small matter - but really is important to the personnel of the Camp and that is soles for the shoes. At present rope is used, but if any kind of tyres which are too far gone for retreading for vehicles could be made available to these Poles - it would be greatly appreciated - as then very serviceable shoes would be produced and the acute problem of providing foot-scar would be overcome.
4. Relations between civil Italian and Military Police is good. The Carabinieri have nothing to report as there have been no gathering meetings or demonstrations.

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4. Relations between civil Italian and Military Police is good. The Carabinieri have nothing to report as there have been no gathering meetings or demonstrations.
5. Public Health
The Medico Provinciale reports only one case of small-pox within the last 10 days. The health of the population is good.
6. Food Supply
500 grams of pasta are being distributed in the BARI Province as the ration for February. There is a shortage of foodstuffs - in spite of which there are indications that prices are coming down. People continue to protest against the lack of pasta - but continue to obtain pasta from hidden sources - but these sources are drying up.
This matter of a shortage of pasta however must be regarded as serious and a close watch is being maintained.

See him 24 25 26 27 28 29.
Also 30

Displaced Persons

7.

I again visited the local displaced persons camp. The conditions in the camp leaves little to be desired. The food produced is of first rate quality, and lots of it. Displaced persons in the camp are required to obtain a pass to leave the camp - but if any wish to leave the camp for good - it is the easiest matter in the world for them to do so "over the garden wall" so to speak. Persons do leave the camp, and if they do not turn up again, their names are just struck off the registry and that's all there's to it. So it comes to this - those who wish to remain in the camp may do so - those who do not want to - just leave - and are free to wander and go where ever they wish to - but I have reason to believe that with regard to the latter - they do not make a move to leave the camp until and unless they have laid something on.

In this connection there is a matter which has greatly intrigued me, and I have consulted No. 38 P.S.S. and the Town Major in this connection. The first inciting I got that something new was being started, was from a letter which came to my notice addressed to the C.R.E. 54 Area BARI from a Mr. Lustig. The heading of the letter - "Jewish Chaplain Welfare 54 Area" and signed by Mr. Lustig as "Director of Education Board". The contents of the letter was a request for certain repairs and supply of material to 4 villas which were being utilized by some 200 Jewish displaced persons. The request was refused by the C.R.E. and 54 area informed me that no such branch as the Jewish Chaplain Welfare existed. I enquired from the Town Major particulars about the villas in question. He informed me that the villas had been requisitioned some time ago for Allied requirements and that the personnel concerned had left BARI, and these 4 villas along with 5 others were standing empty.

He had been approached in a letter with the heading "HQ Allied Commission" and signed by a Mr. Levine, American Joint Distribution Committee, requesting that 4 villas be made available for his organization. On this the Town Major gave the necessary authority for the A.J.D.C. to occupy them. This request was followed by another, for 5 more villas to be handed over to the A.J.D.C. but at the moment this request has not been complied with.

The reason given for the necessity for the villas was to train Jewish displaced persons in shoe mending - carpentry and other such industrial permits. I may here remark that such forms of trade one conducted in the Displaced Persons camp, and as I am under the impression that our policy is

4588

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The reason given for the necessity for the villas was to train Jewish displaced persons in shoe mending - carpentry and other such industrial pursuits. I may here remark that such forms of trade one conducted in the Displaced Persons camp, and as I am under the impression that our policy is to direct all displaced persons to authorized camps, where some form of check can be kept on them. I was at a loss to understand the reason for Mr. Levine and Mr. Lustig starting a Jewish colony on the TALANTO road. There are roughly 200 of these people in the 4 villas and accommodation is sought for another 300.

Major Good of the Displaced camp to whom I had referred the matter informed me that he had been requested a few days ago by Mr. Lustig to release 20 persons from the Displaced persons camp to go to the villas for training - but had replied that he would first have to refer the matter to ROME. P.S.S. were asked whether they knew anything about the scheme or about Mr. Lustig and they said they didn't, but as P.S.S. were interested in the matter they would take steps to make a reference to AFHQ.

The question that arises is, whether this move to have a Jewish colony or whatever it is, is to be encouraged or not - and whether the persons organizing and fostering it, are

properly authorized persons to do so, and who should receive help. As there is no one here who can give me an answer (but are endeavouring to obtain one for me - confidentially) I would appreciate any directive in the matter.

I have neither met Mr. Levine or Mr. Lustig ^{46 years} and have not brought myself into the picture, save to make personal enquiries from P.S.S. the displaced persons camp Commandant, and the Town Major.

The British Consul BARI and NAPLES are interested in the question of Jewish farms, but there are none in this Area - I am seeing the British Consul BARI this evening and will ask him what he knows of the organisation in connection with the TARANTO road villas and its occupants. Up this no one appears to have been aware of this project - which has not attracted lime light or publicity.

Illicit travelling

8.

I realize there must be a good reason why Jewish Displaced persons should be sent to camps situated in the toe of Italy where they are all so close to the sea. Situated as they are, the opportunities for illicit exit from Italy are unbounded. Now that camps well up in North Italy have been closed - for instance DEMODOSSOLA - would it not be possible to retain these people in such camps?

Orders could be issued that Jewish displaced persons must not proceed to South Italy - and any being found down this way would be directed to return North Italy. No provision would be made to house, clothe or feed them here.

As it is - they get cloths - collect necessary provisions and other necessities right on the coast and are on the spot and can plan and arrange for a sea trip.

At the larger ports, ships are controlled and checked but I have noticed at small ports such as MOLFETTA, TRANI etc that there are a large number of auxiliary schooners and fishing boats over which there is no check.

When I was P.C. here, orders were issued by the Italian Naval Authorities that no fishing boat was to leave harbour between sun set and sun rise and moreover that each boat must be in possession of a license showing the name of the owner, who was held responsible for seeing that his craft only carried the authorized crew and no passengers. Similarly, auxiliary schooners had to be licensed to carry only a signed on crew and no passengers. All these craft were subject to be checked by patrol boats.

It would make things much more difficult for unauthorized persons to leave Italy, if such passengers were subject to a

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It would make things much more difficult for unauthorized persons to leave Italy, if such passengers were subject to a check, and skippers would not be so ready to take on passengers if they ran a risk of incurring severe penalties for doing so.

I re-iterate as matters stand at present it is all too easy for displaced persons to leave Italy.

(a) They are housed and fed and authorized to be on the spot most convenient for a passage.

(b) Every opportunity is afforded to make local arrangements for a passage - over which there is no check.

(c) Can at their leisure collect what they are likely to require for their journey at the end of a sea trip.

It would be a very different proposition for them if they were no displaced persons camps for Jewish persons in the South

- 4 -

20

of Italy nor any organisation whatsoever down this way to help them.

9.

Political

No change.

10.

Agriculture

Prospect of a satisfactory harvest depends on rainfall in MAY.

11.

Personnel

Major Reveley proceeds on release to MILAN on Sunday 24 Inst.

12.

Your D/O letter dated 12 Feb 1946 regarding material for the "Bulletin" was received and I will attempt to provide material weekly.

*Yours sincerely
D. R. Reveley*

TO : Brigadier M. LUSH MC
Executive Commissioner
HQ. AC. ROME

18.

P.S. 183/18/EC in re: int received.
Your D.O. of 19. re: int received.
Para 2. My office is in a remote wing of the
Prigolunara - which is in the centre of the Town, close to Area
The Town major + F.S.S also have offices
in this building.
(Italians)

TO : Brigadier M. LUSH
Executive Commissioner
HQ. AC. RMS

18.

P.S. 183/18/EC in
Your D.O. of 17.12.64 is received.
Para 2. My Office is in a remote wing of the
Prefettura - which is in the centre of the town, close to Area
4.5.86
The Town major & F.S.S. also have offices
in this building.

Actually I don't think any one (Italians)
connects me with the Prefect more than with
any one else and I am quite sure that with
regard to the Prefect himself he neither
considers himself in any way under my
order or supervision.

However if you feel it would be better to
find accommodation elsewhere - this can
be arranged without much trouble. J.S.M.

Yours sincerely
J.S.M.

SECRET & PERSONAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

19 February 1946

I have to thank most of you for some interesting letters in reply to my 10 letter of 31st January. I hope that those of you that have written will repeat the performance regularly and those who have not will reply to this letter.

Since I wrote we have received approval (subject to War Office concurrence) on the new British War Establishment which has been divided into four parts, 1. G., 1. G., Liaison Groups, 1. G. and 1. G. The figures in British officers work out as follows:

HQs.....	63
Liaison Groups.....	43
1. G. AMG.....	17
1. G. AMG.....	63

This, of course, is all subject to any drastic changes that may be made at governmental level and on this subject we are still awaiting reply to a telegram which was despatched to the Combined Chiefs of Staff before Christmas. It is difficult to say what the reply will be but I do not think you need worry about security of tenure for several months.

I am very concerned about the food situation. The truth is that we are living from hand to mouth on wheat and flour and that reserve stocks are down to about a week's supply for the country. This, mind you, on a ration of 200 grams with 500 grams of pasta monthly. For your own information, and not for publication, HQ. 1. G. in Washington are extremely gloomy about the March loadings for which they have not even obtained any assurances whatever, and in future arrivals after that. I hope there won't have to be a further cut in the ration but I very much doubt if 1. G. will be able to provide pasta at all after 1st March. They describe the March situation as catastrophic.

I want you all to realise that on the British side transport is extremely short. Our WE figures have been cut drastically and we shall get no new vehicles. In fact I doubt if we shall get any

4585

Since I wrote we have received approval (subject to War Office concurrence) on the new British War Establishment which has been divided into four parts, i.e., HQ, Liaison Groups, UDINE AMG and VERBIA CIULLA AMG. The figures in British officers work out as follows:

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I want you all to realize that on the British side transport is extremely short. Our WE figures have been cut drastically and we shall get no new vehicles. In fact I doubt if we shall get any replacements at all. So it goes believe you, firstly to accept the allocation which I have just approved and which will be coming to you shortly; secondly, to ensure that British cars, and for that matter American cars, are maintained in the best possible manner.

Admiral Stone who has been in London all this week returns today. Colonel Monfort is also visiting Rome, I believe, in connection with the Cardinals. We shall all be glad to see him.

(Sgx) *h. S. Lusk*

10: AM 12203

4585

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

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

18

Ref: 183/18/EC.

19 February 1946.

14

Thank you for your letter of 9th February. This is exactly what I want. I am glad you are settled in well and finding such a good welcome from the Allied and Italian authorities.

I do not much like your offices remaining in the Prefettura. This may have been a long established custom and I realise that there never has been AMG in Bari and that therefore the situation is not quite as in other Provinces. But I would like you to consider a move. Do not take any action until you have let me know your views on the subject.

The incident at Barietta camp was most unfortunate and I am most anxious that the camp commandant brings to justice any of the assailants of the Polish representative who can be identified. If you are visiting I should be glad if you could raise that point with him.

M. S. LUSH

Lt. Col. L. Vining,
Allied Commission
Chief Liaison Officer,
BARI.

4884

MEL/JG.

See 20

A/S

0798

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

16

Ref: 5819/20.

15 February 1946.

SUBJECT: Transport - BARI.

TO : G-4 (B).

13

The Executive Commissioner directs me to draw your attention to the following extract from a DO report received from AC CLO BARI.

"I have not been lucky with the car given me in ROME. I had to abandon it on my way from ROME to BARI in a ROME workshop and only yesterday did it come out of the local shop here - after crawling its way into BARI. The other vehicle, a PV, is a runner but neither vehicle had a fifth wheel or tyre. I have rectified this defect as regards both cars and am only now in a position to sally forth."

(Sgt) Maj. David Smith

Chief Staff Officer,
To the Executive Commissioner.

4883

Copy to: file 183/20.

HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

EXP : LB/65-A

9 February 1946

Dear Brigadier Lush, BA

I am in receipt of your personal and confidential DO letter dated 31 January 1946.

1. I arrived in Bari Thursday evening 31 January 1946 and took over charge here on 1st inst. Major Reveley has been carrying on since Hartley left on 6 January. The Office of the Liaison Group is situated in the Prefettura which is a convenience and is where I had my Office as P.C. 2 years ago. In addition to Reveley I have Lieut. Lewis - a separate note about whom is attached.

2. On the 4th inst, the four Italian Officers Commanding the 4 Units of the Carabinieri called upon me and we had a long and interesting talk. They were smartly and cleanly turned out, and each appeared to know what was happening in his own area. During the talk the Questore, Sign. Di Salvia Francesco called upon me and joined in the talk. He was Questore here when I was in BARI before and I remember he held the respect of the people. I will however be in a better position to say more about him in due course, he appears to be anxious to be helpful and was able to answer the questions I put to him and these I will deal with later on in this letter.

3. The Prefect Doct. Broise Guido also came to call me in the afternoon of the 4th inst. My first impression of him after the interview was distinctly favourable. He was at some pains to impress upon me the large number of English friends he had, and how he corresponded regularly with them in England and else where. He left saying that he would be only too pleased to be of help in any shape or form - an affable chap and I should imagine - all there. However more about him in due course, if necessary.

4. I called on Brigadier Clark 54 Area Commander BARI. We had quite a long talk and he said he would be very pleased to see me at any time without the formality of an appointment or going through any channels of his Office and said he would appreciate it if I come see him at least twice a month. You will be pleased to know that Brigadier Clark has the highest opinion of my predecessor Col. Hartley who he considers was an ideal selection for this post, and would be a very difficult officer to

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5. POLITICAL
Of the political parties, the Communist, Socialist, are the most energetic. There is a party known as the UOMO QUALUNQUE (which is a new one on me). It is I gather an association but I will find out how they fit in, in the Political picture. The first two parties mentioned above, are engaged in work in connection with the coming election and have addressed meetings. These meetings although held at the same place and time have passed off without incidents. I will keep in a close touch as possible with the political situation.

FOOD
At the moment the food situation does not appear to cause much concern, this may be due to the fact that the tendency so often displayed by local authorities of sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. To my queries with regard to the effect the removal of the pasta ration has had, the answers, have been that those who could afford it have obtained their

See item 15 17
Feb. 16. 18

13
requirements from the Black Market and those who could not, are living on the stuff they have hidden. When the hidden stores are exhausted it is feared there will be disturbances. Farmers dug their toes in, and just did not deliver up their quotas and they have been selling flour to the population in areas round about the respective farms. The present price of pasta flour is Lire 200 a kilo. It will be appreciated that I have not had much time to move properly into this but I realize the importance of the food situation both at the present and future and will visit out places and find out what is going on.

AGRICULTURE

The prospects are satisfactory, if it rains in the month of May, things will be all right, but a lack of rain specially in May will cause a failure of the crops.

HEALTH

Small pox epidemic in BARI and district - but the present situation is well in hand and the cases of small pox have been isolated. I called upon the ADMS of SA Area, the health of the population generally is good.

LABOUR

The labour position in BARI itself is good but in surrounding districts there is a grave amount of unemployment. The Public Works employ as many people as they can and the Italian Government gives money to an organisation known as E.C.A. (Ente Comunale Assistenza) which is set up in every town and they distribute funds to the poorer classes who are unemployed, workers however are also assisted by this organisation in cases of large families who cannot exist on the earnings of the bread winner.

GENERAL

I have contacted Capt. White, FSS, and we have discussed illicit travelling and other matters. I have also had a visit from Mr. Vaughan, British Consul BARI and Mr. Manley, British Consul of Naples who is at present visiting Bari and Taranto. Mr. Manley is specially interested in illicit travelling. I shall make a special report on this matter in due course. I visited the local displaced persons Camp and had dinner with Major Good, the Commandant of the Camp. Col. Findley from Rome was at dinner. He brought a Polish delegate with him and they along with others visited the Polish Camp North of Bari. The Polish delegate received a thin times and had to be escorted out of the Camp. Col. Findley was cheered and tossed up in a blanket. I have not got details of the incident which I heard about but doubtless Col. Findley can give you the whole story when he returns to Rome. He left early the following morning so I did not see him again. I intend getting south early next week, to Lecce, Taranto, Brindisi and then north and will go inland and see some of the smaller places. I have not been lucky with the car given me in Rome. I had to abandon it on my way from Bari in a Rome workshop and only yesterday did it come out of the local shop here. The other vehicle a PU is a runner but neither

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Telegraphic

Yours Sincerely
L. J. Manley

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 304

Office of the Executive Commissioner

13A
PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL.

31 January 1946.

Those of you who have been Regional Commissioners know that I have always been glad to receive IC letters from you from time to time on matters of general and particular interest. The monthly report is generally too late for anything but historical interest, while on the other hand it is difficult perhaps to put down in official reports some of the things which we should like to have here at Headquarters.

I would therefore ask you to let me have a rather gossipy letter two or three times a month, particularly at the outset of your liaison work, telling me how things are working out and some of your official or personal views on the general situation.

I for my part will try to keep you unofficially informed on all matters of general interest with regard to the Commission.

I have just returned from a short visit to England but I could glean little news about the future of the Commission with the exception that both the War Office and the Foreign Office have the idea that a split between the functions of the Allied Commission and the Chief Civil Affairs Officer at this time was desirable. I tried to point out to them that such a split would involve redundancy in work and extravagance in officers. We still have no news from the Combined Chiefs of Staff on the general lay-out. At Headquarters, the turnover in the Economic Section from the Allied Commission to UNRRA and the Embassy is progressing smoothly. I am not quite so happy about the turnover of Displaced Persons for in this respect UNRRA does not seem to be ready to run the camps or to tackle the hundred-and-one problems of Displaced Persons. In these turnovers, we are, of course, losing a number of officers to UNRRA.

We are all very concerned about the food situation for it looks as if we shall be nearly 100,000 tons a month short from the February arrivals. I do not think we can lay it at anybody's door for it is due to the general world shortage but the fact remains that Italy is now the worst fed country in Europe (on paper at any rate). I should be interested to learn from you whether the removal of the

I would therefore ask you to let me have a rather gossipy letter two or three times a month, particularly at the outset of your liaison work, telling me how things are working out and some of your official or personal views on the general situation.

I for my part will try to keep you unofficially informed on all matters of general interest with regard to the Commission.

I have just returned from a short visit to England but I could glean little news about the future of the Commission with the exception that both the War Office and the Foreign Office have the idea that a split between the functions of the Allied Commission and the Chief Civil Affairs Officer at this time was desirable. I tried to point out to them that such a split would involve redundancy in work and extravagance in officers. We still have no news from the Combined Chiefs of Staff on the general lay-out. At Headquarters, the turnover in the Economic Section from the Allied Commission to UNRRA and the Embassy is progressing smoothly. I am not quite so happy about the turnover of Displaced Persons for in this respect UNRRA does not seem to be ready to run the camps or to tackle the hundred-and-one problems of Displaced Persons. In these turnovers, we are, of course, losing a number of officers to UNRRA.

We are all very concerned about the food situation for it looks as if we shall be nearly 100,000 tons a month short from the February arrivals. I do not think we can lay it at anybody's door for it is due to the general world shortage but the fact remains that Italy is now the worst fed country in Europe (on paper at any rate). I should be interested to learn from you whether the removal of the pasta ration has had any serious local effect because my own impression is that "hidden" food reserves will see them through, even amongst the poor in the cities.

Admiral Stone hopes to go to London on February 9th, amongst other things to receive his K.B.E. We have lost Colonel Denmore this week, a real loss to the Commission in which he was a tremendous standby.

I am sending a copy of this letter to all Chief Liaison Officers.

(Sgt) M. S. Lush

To : Ann Andrews

C O N F I D E N T I A L

12

HEADQUARTERS
BARI LIAISON GROUP
ALLIED COMMISSION

9 February 1946

(N O T E)

Lieut. R.F. LEWIS (263361), R.F.

This officer was first Commissioned in Feb 1943 - his age is 37 years. Upto August 1945 has been Military Liaison Officer in Greece since when he has been in Bari and Brindisi as Port Liaison Officer, Transportation Sub-Commission, A.C. This work was handed over to the Italian Authorities with effect 31 Jan 46 - and Lt. Lewis was assigned to the Bari Liaison Group.

My predecessor Col. Hartley left a note for me stating he had recommended Lt. Lewis for his captaincy.

Lt. Lewis is a good type of officer (Wellington educated) and now that he has to take the place of Major Reveley (going on release) as my executive officer and in view of the fact ~~that~~ of the contacts Lt. Lewis will have to make and the importance of the duties he will have to undertake I request, please, that he be given his captaincy with immediate effect.

L.E. Vining
L.E. VINING, Lt.Col.,
Chief Liaison Officer
Bari Liaison Group,
Allied Commission.

LEV/rh

C O N F I D E N T I A L

1839
PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Colo. S. W. MILLER,
LIAISON OFFICER,
ALLIED COMMISSION,
C.M.F.

22nd August, 1945

Dear Brigadier Lual.

AUG 21 1945

1. This extract from last Sunday's "Manifesto" proves the freedom of the Press. I think you will agree it is unlikely to create a friendly atmosphere amongst the Jugo Slavs. *Further Action on 11.8.45*

2. The Garibaldi Regiment is leaving this area for the North.

3. I hear, (but cannot yet verify), that Vincenzo Di GAYTANO, the Communist leader at ANDELA, has decamped with all the funds. He hasn't been seen for days and his Party are as close as oysters about his whereabouts.

4. On Sunday a number of farms at LATENZA (TARANTO) were peacefully occupied by the unemployed. The verbal reaction of the Prefect to this move was "I am glad they did it without bloodshed".

5. Captain JONES leaves for the dispersal centre tomorrow.

6. I have asked G-1 (B) to do something to expedite Major REVELLEY's release.

7. My flat was burgled on night 14th August while I was in ROME. Only a silver cigarette case stolen. The leather wallet the 3 burglars searched so carefully contained only fishing casts which they left strewn on the table.

There is a prevalence of billet thefts here but doubly so in TARANTO. They had a key to fit the lock of the flat. 878

I am getting better rapidly and am nearly fit again.

Yours sincerely,

2. The Garibaldi Regiment is leaving this area for the North.

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There is a prevalence of billet thefts here but doubly so in TARANTO. They had a key to fit the lock of the flat. 6878

I am getting better rapidly and am nearly fit again.

Yours sincerely,

St. John

Brigadier M.S. LUSH, C.B., M.C.,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ, ALLIED COMMISSION,
C.M.F.

P.S. I would ask you help in providing 2 good jumpers. But ask N.C.O.s to help me here. One for the mess and one for general duties. I have already sent 3 from here without relief and feel their need.

(5/10/68)

From "THE MANIFESTO" of Sunday, 19th August, 1941.

JOSEIP BROZ, named TITO

In the Spring 1941 an attack was launched against Yugoslavia and Greece by the Nazis as a precaution in view of the projected assault against RUSSIA, which took place on June, 22nd, 1941. The Fascist Government who already sent our soldiers to the disastrous campaign of Greece was obliged to start a war against Yugoslavia, in accordance with the German Ally's wishes, a war without shooting, which in few days led the Italian Army to LUBLIN and ZAGABRIA.

The Fascism cheered the victory, though there was no victory, and appointed Ante PAVLIC, leader of the Ustascia Party, Premier of the new Great Government.

He and his wild party made awful reprisals against people who were not their followers. Italians tried to modify their feelings, to prevent murders and violence where and when possible, to save as many human lives as they could, because Italians don't mind to save human beings, be they Yugoslavs, Croats or Africans. And unless they were attacked, Italians did not fight against Yugoslavs. These are facts, and not the reports of people like Ciano or Grandi, they are true facts and Joseip BROZ, named Marshall TITO should know them. On the contrary he knows nothing about it or pretends not to know. He said recently that GERMANY had ITALY must pay to his country 61,000,000,000 dollars.

But all his country is not worth the sum, the demand is a foolish one and if one considers that women in ITALY are begging the Allied authorities to find their husbands and sons and brothers, who have been arrested by TITO's bands and sent to the Yugoslav concentration camps where to take out the prisoners' eyes is like to caress their heads and the worst is far worse than that, whilst the Yugoslav prisoners in ITALY were dressed and fed and respected, it is the Italian Government who should ask at least 12,000,000,000 dollars to TITO.

And if the Italian Government will not ask this (what are the "Roman Clubs" and the Foreign Minister doing in Rome?) we, Italians will ask for it, and will value all the damages in ITALY TITO is authorising now, laughing at us.

And we don't know how can he laugh, if he knows in ITALY there is plenty of minerals from which it is possible to produce the uranium.

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Tel. 478209

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 384
AGRICULTURE SUB-COMMISSION

LP/ol

4

AGR/183

22 June 1945

JUN 24 1945

SUBJECT: 1944 Production of Wheat, Oats,
Barley, Broad Beans and Dried
Green Peas in Puglia

TO : Executive Commissioner,
Brigadier M. S. Lush

1. As per your inquiry of 13 June 1945, for
figures from last year's harvest to compare with current
estimate submitted by the AC Liaison Office, Bari, the
following data are submitted:

	Wheat Quintals	Oats Quintals	Barley Quintals	Broad Beans	Dried Green Peas
Bari	524,810	418,340	82,500	50,200	4,480
Foggia	2,504,900	473,680	142,200	400,000	15,000
Lecce	125,720	72,400	68,340	12,800	23,550
Brindisi	187,150	90,480	17,110	75,850	4,050
Taranto	321,880	200,710	32,800	57,460	8,010

J. M. Merritt
JAMES M. MERRITT
Director

4376

Distribution:
Economic Section

(Gm/MS 650)
PA

See H 3

Noted

REF : LB/76.

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4
LIAISON OFFICE, BARL.

13th June, 1945.

Dear Brigadier Lind:

JUN 15 1945

Thank you for your letter of 8th June. I read in the Weekly Bulletin of your visit to the North which must have been full of interest. *of 7 June*
I am sure you will be good enough to tell me if my reports lack the substance you require, when I will endeavour to make up its deficiency.

I have found during visits to the Provinces that questions are stored up and help asked in cases where Italian Officials have done little to help themselves. I am only too willing to discuss their problems with the various controllers and to meet their wishes, provided I am carrying out your policy by taking it on. For example:-

- (a) Cement -- Permits lapse because it has not been collected before the "expiry" date.
- (b) Soap -- None issued in certain Provinces since last December, yet no effort made to contact Distributors.

There are many other similar instances.

In the above cases I have interviewed the controllers concerned and obtained either satisfaction or an explanation as to why entitlements have not been met, and will continue to do so provided you agree.

Owing to drought the harvest will be poor this year and the following forecast may be of interest:-

	GRAIN QUINTALS	OATS QUINTALS	BARLEY QUINTALS	BROAD BEANS	GRAIN PEAS
BAGI	220.000	137.000	42.000	13.000	1.000
FOXGIA	1.320.000	300.000	88.000	240.000	5.000
LEONE	60.000	50.000	20.000	6.000	13.000
BEINDISI	100.000	63.000	10.000	38.000	2.000
TARAJTO	150.000	90.000	10.000	17.000	1.200
					4870

Vines, almond trees and olives are doing well.

There is a general shortage of insecticide and I have written to Brig. PARKINSON regarding an outstanding one hundred gallons for BEINDISI.

The Commandant of the Carabinieri is good to work with but has recently received five hundred men back from concentration camps whose condition is deplorable. He has asked our help for underclothing, shoes and other necessities which I have forwarded to Col. DEBENTY in case something can be done. I explained to the Commandant however that heavy demands were made on our slender resources but he would be helped if possible.

Very truly yours,
[Signature]

- (a) Current - permits lapse because it has not been collected before the "expiry" date.
 (b) Soap - None issued in certain provinces since last December, yet no effort made to contact Distributors.

There are many other similar instances.

In the above cases I have interviewed the controllers concerned and obtained either satisfaction or an explanation as to why entitlements have not been met, and will continue to do so provided you agree.

Owing to drought the harvest will be poor this year and the following forecast may be of interest:-

	GRAIN	OATS	BARLEY	WHEAT	GREEN
	QUINTALS	QUINTALS	QUINTALS	SEKES	SEKES
RAH	220.000	137.000	42.000	13.000	1.000
FOGGLA	1.320.000	500.000	89.000	240.000	5.000
LEOZE	60.000	50.000	20.000	6.000	13.000
REINDISI	100.000	63.000	10.000	28.000	2.000
TABATO	150.000	90.000	10.000	17.000	1.300

Vines, almond trees and olives are doing well.

There is a general shortage of insecticide and I have written to Brig. PALLINSON regarding an outstanding one hundred gallons for REINDISI.

The Commandant of the Carabinieri is good to work with but has recently received five hundred men back from concentration camps whose condition is deplorable. He has asked our help for underclothing, shoes and other necessities which I have forwarded to Col. DENTY in case something can be done. I explained to the Commandant however that heavy demands were made on our slender resources but he would be helped if possible.

INRA is doing excellent work in this area, not only in repatriating refugees but feeding, clothing and setting up workshops for necessities.

Lastly you will be aware that the majority of the 15th U.S. Air Force has left this area. The conduct of their personnel during the period of enforced inactivity was beyond reproach.

I am getting the fullest co-operation ^{from} all officials in this area. With apologies for the length of this letter and assuring you that if you have time to visit us we shall all be glad to see you.

Yours sincerely,

S. M. Khan

Brigadier M. S. LUSH, C.B., M.C.,
 Executive Commissioner,
 H.Q., ALLIED COMMISSION,
 C.M.F.

(CSO)

(1 SPARE COPY)

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