

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/88

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

785017

10000/109/88

DO REPORTS, UDINE PROVINCE
JAN. - OCT. 1946

785017

5052

5

Off 493 north adrift reef at 5:00
22. 20. 06. 1961

27. 2006

TO: Ex Comm.
thru V.P., C.A.S.

29 Aug 1946

Reference 443 and 441.

The actual strength of the Carabinieri is now 63,109 nearly 2000 short of the 65,000 establishment.

I have nothing to add to my remarks at 9A beyond the fact that it would be hopeless and unreasonable to ask for the transfer of CC.MR. to Udine at this juncture.

Tel.ext. 686

/S/ E.J. STE, Colonel
Acting Director P.S. S/C

Ex Comm.

I agree with Minute 443. 440 uses the full strength of 75,000 as a basis for calculating and at present the CC.MR. are 12,000 under that strength.

31/8/46

/S/ M. Carr Brig.
A/V.P. C.A.S.

CSO. *Ex Comm.*

47

*Ref paras. Please see mins 44 & 45. /
Have drafted reply to be signed at 46. 5051
Your previous letter referred to in para 2 is
flagged in attached file.*

Ref 2/9

W.H. 3/9

W.H.

45 ~~II~~
Ex. Comm.

46 41

I agree with Minute 46. 47C uses the full strength of 75,000 as a basis for calculating and at present the OC.RR. are 12,000 under that strength.

31/3/46

1/3/ M. Carr Brig.
A.V.P. C.A.S.

47
ESO. Reference

Ref folio 23. Please see mins 44 & 45. /
Have drafted reply to be brought at 48. 5051
Your previous letter referred to in para 2 is
played in attached file.

REF 2/9

22/6/51/9

15/3/5

49.

Ex O.(B).

E.C. writes you to put up reply to 48 for his signature. Answer is, of course, "NO", but E.C. feels that there may be points about para 2 and 4 of Bright's letter which you can answer.

H.S. 22/10

785017

33.

Ex Comm. Ref m 32.

The question of keeping us in up to WE strength has always been a "priority" with G-1(1), as for Virginia Gidlin. The question of Public Safety Officer has been denied with, and Col By will confirm that this is now under control. Certain PS officers in us are being "Dove" and Mij WAY, P.S.O. in Bologna is being transferred to us as soon as Bologna L.O. closes. Capt Archer, who is the "Executive" officer for us is now being considered for a regular commission instead of being sent a release, so that Lt. Col BRIGHT with a strength of 15 officers out of a WE of 17 is probably better off than any other branch of AMC/AC. In any case Lt. Col BRIGHT is coming to Rome on 30 July, when the personnel question can, if necessary, be discussed further.

R.O. L. S. M. J. 51511

Ref m 32
24/7

23/7. J. L. 24/7

20

Expenditure up to 30,000 offhand

MS/26/10

21

21 refers

Ex 6/1/13 deal with A

Done KLS etc.

{ x shown in replies
x draft replies for me.

PRO deal with B

MS/26/10

21

EG Uline is related to this week's Bulletin
Open 16/6

MS/6/6

21

5049

be

Sir please see DO LA at 26 for

Col. Binger.

MS. 2/7

28

MS/27

V.P. CTS to see.

MS 5/7

MS. 8/7

PIA.

118/207

24

EC/ Uline is started for this week. Production
Open 16/6

MS/6/6

27

5049

EC/ See plane see Do la at 26 pm Col. Bingle.
H. 2/7

28

VP CTS 63cc. MS/47
MS/5/7 P/A

31

Ex Comm.

See 20 at 1 30. No doubt
all this will be discussed with Brig.
Start on his visit to Uline this week

MS/23/7

32

Ex Offh (B)

To see 30. Presumably we are taking
all possible steps to keep ATMLG. Uline up to
W.F. M(Can Buy Act Ex Comm 23/7

66
Please see DO Ltr at 15 from P.C. Urdine

22

Ex 67/13

17

Please discuss 18/22/4

18

CFO

With P.C. Urdine financial assistance for
housing to Prefect agreed in principle with estimated
expenditure for approval.

17/2/4

A.

Ex 67/13

I have spoken to P.C. Urdine by phone.
He anticipates the cost of this party to
be about 50,000 Lira. The B.G.S. 13 Caps
which will be a very

5048

Exo

Win P.C. Union financial assistance for
party to Prefect agreed in principle with estimated
expenditure for approval.

173 (20/12)

A.

5048

Exo. Ex. Com.

1 have spoken to P.C. Union by phone.
We anticipate the cost of this party to
be about 50,000 lire. The B.G.S. 13 Caps
agrees that the party would be a very
good thing on this particular date (19/12)
As stated, the party is to launch the
new Prefect and invite all the heads
of the var. political parties under one
neutral roof on the eve of the election.
If the Ex. Com. will agree this figure
I will combine this with in the wine of union 18/12/51

Ex 8/13 to see comment.

8/12

5.

I regret that I am unable to comment in sober language on the mean insinuation of Mr. Cole Bright. In any case I imagine this is not the sort of letter you hoped to receive in response to yours.

8/12

Ex 8/13 to see A.

12/2 (25/12)

Cop

Read B to see B.

9

Ex Com.

I sympathize with Mr. Bright - but he still has nerves. I have already sent cables (as agreed) with 7 a day before yesterday) calling kindly down here for human and duty.

Chickadee

27. 11. 1946.

10

Ex Com.

to contact Mr. B.

Sept. 15. I should like a copy of the contact Mr. B.

When Mr. Bright was seen I could not find the opinion in

9

Ex Com.

I sympathize with Col. Dripot - but he still has aches. I have already sent a cable (as agreed) with 70 day before yesterday) calling him down here for human and duty.

27. 11. 1946.

Chickatona

Ex Com.

10

Sept. 15. I should like a copy of the cabinet meeting B.

When Col. Dripot was here I asked him to send an appreciation on their state of opinion in the disputed areas of Venezuela Guinean Province i.e. in the parts claimed by (a) Tito and (b) Tito and the Americans. This can easily be considered adequate for the purpose of a report to the F.O. and their Dept., and I think we might be asked to send something more formal. But it is now very late.

Seen by Ex Com
P.A.
H.B. 51

MS. 28/2

Pled (A)

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

51
QUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

A.P.O. 794

Office of the Executive Commissioner

Ref: 184/ED

2 October 1946.

With reference to your letter PC/103 dated 15 October 1946, I am always desirous of helping those in lower formations but I am afraid you are asking too much of me in requesting me to release Kniseley.

As you are probably aware we are down to rock bottom as regards staff here. Kniseley has gained a lot of experience in the work of my office and it would be quite impossible to find a suitable replacement for him.

I appreciate that you have your personnel problems but in existing circumstances I fear many of us spend much of our time dealing with work which would normally be handled by our subordinates.

I understand that 13 Corps are now responsible for your personnel and perhaps they might be able to assist you.

Many thanks for your congratulations. I should very much like to go north and visit your part of Italy but at the moment I can see little prospect of leaving my office at all.

ML
5847
Lt Colonel H.R. Bright, MBE.
Provincial Commissioner,
A.M.G. UMBRIA PROVINCE.

PA 25
10
AK

48

184 9

HEADQUARTERS
ALL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

OCT 22 1946

15 Oct. 1946

TO THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

PC/103

Dear *Signor*

I wonder if you can help me by releasing ALAN KNISELY to resume his former appointment here as Executive Officer.

When he was ordered to Rome, I was left with no suitable Officer available to relieve him and for the past few months have had to spend much of my time in doing the work of a junior staff officer.

Apart from this, being an American citizen in the British Army, Knisely was exceptionally tactful in his dealings with both American and British Officers, so much so that many have asked me if he could return to the Province.

Out of a total of 32 Officers authorized for the Province, I have now only twenty with only one Allied Clerk.

This has resulted in ever increasing work, much of which I have to do myself.

If therefore you could see your way to allowing him to return I would be most grateful!

With my warmest congratulations on your recent appointment.

Yours *Sincerely*
Alan Knisely

5046

TO : BRIG. M. CARR, C.B.E., MC.

Dear

Bignardin

I wonder if you can help me by releasing ALAN KNISELY to resume his former appointment here as Executive Officer.

When he was ordered to Rome, I was left with no suitable Officer available to relieve him and for the past few months have had to spend much of my time in doing the work of a junior staff officer.

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This has resulted in ever increasing work, much of which I have to do myself.

If therefore you could see your way to allowing him to return I would be most grateful!

With my warmest congratulations on your recent appointment.

Yours

*Sincerely
H. Bignardin*

TO : Brig. M. CARR, C.B.E., MC.
Executive Commissioner
H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION
R O M E

See folios 13 & 14

See M 29, 50, 51

FROM : Lt. Col. H.N. BRIGHT, MBE.
Provincial Commissioner.
A.M.G. ULINE PROVINCE.

*PA 25
MR*

(c.s.o.)

5046

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

785017

46

File

Ref. : 184/20

4 September 1946.

43

Many thanks for your D/O Letter No. P.C./105 dated 22nd Aug 46.

On the subject of O.C.R. in your province, I have again looked into the matter and report that there is nothing that I can add to my letter No. 15011/24/18 dated 14 Aug on this subject.

Until such time as recruits become available in numbers large enough to cover normal wastage and to build up the Force to their new ceiling I am afraid that you will have to make do with those that you have.

The Chief Commissioner has taken up with the Prime Minister the matter of Soodiswarro's report published as a result of his trip to Udine and a full investigation has been ordered within 5 Territorial Command.

(Sgt) W. S. LUSH
Brigadier

5045

Lt. Col. J. Bright, MBE,
Provincial Commissioner,
Allied Military Government,
UDINE PROVINCE

Copy to: file 3624.

PA 11 2/9

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

To: No 1516 - M. G. U. S. P. 1

PC/103

22nd August 1946

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL.

AUG 31 1946

Dear *Brigadier*

I am so sorry not to have replied earlier to your letter in which you very kindly authorised an increase in the Entertainment Allowance and amended the total of expenditure which I am authorised to approve, to Lire 100,000.

I am most grateful to you for both these concessions, the latter of which will accelerate the settlement by the Finance Officer of local accounts.

On the subject of Carabinieri, I attach a State showing exactly the number of men available for station duty throughout the Province, i.e., 172 Companies with 65 Casermas.

From those available, a small reserve must always be kept in hand for emergency, including patrols against armed robberies etc.

I should also mention that I have now dispensed with the British Military Guard, and have reduced the Italian Military Guard on the Udine Gaol by 50%.

This Gaol contains the Schio murderers and a few other notorious types, whom a certain element of the population considers should be released, on account of their gallantry with the Partisans. This may at any time demand the direct intervention of the Carabinieri.

The Eastern Boundary, particularly the Mandamento of Cividale and the Trevise District, and frequently the Aquileia district require more policing than is possible with our present strength.

In addition, we have, as you know, the problem of hidden arms and the rival clandestine ex-Partisan movements, whose activities require a deal of attention.

The latest incident in this connection occurred during Scovisaro's visit last Saturday and Sunday. After reading the Police Reports yesterday, I sent them down to Treviso by special D.L., so as to catch this morning's plane, and be in your office today.

5044

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL.

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The latest incident in this connection occurred during Scorsimaro's visit last Saturday and Sunday. After reading the Police Reports yesterday, I sent them down to Treviso by special D.R., so as to catch this morning's plane, and be in your office today.

I am afraid that from the evidence available, certain officers of the 5 Italian Territorial Division commanded by Gen. Armellini appear to be implicated. Previous to the Prestento Case I asked Gen. Armellini if he was aware of any such movement as the ex-Gaspo, and he assured me he had no knowledge of it. In the Reports leading up to the Prestento Case, Col. Oliviero and a Lt. Spacogni were mentioned. The first named again features in this Case, and I am inclined to think he is the moving spirit in this Province for ex-Gaspo activities. It is possible that others may be behind him, but I doubt if Gen. Armellini is one.

HEADQUARTERS
ALL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

14. No.
K. M. G. U. S. E. 1.3
14. No.

- 2 -

The Garibaldi (Left Wing) Partisans are by no means unorganised, nor are they without means of arming themselves, but at present are considerably more cunning than their rivals, both in their activities and in the concealment of their arms.

I believe these two rival factions to exist over much of Northern Italy, and I estimate the strength of the Right Wing (Osoppo) at approximately 100,000. It might not be far out to place the Left Wing element at slightly more than this number with probably more hidden arms than the ex-Osoppans.

I have written a separate letter regarding the behaviour of Scoccimarro on his recent visit, and would be very glad of your co-operation in asking him to adopt the normal course when visiting this Province.

I do not feel that this is too much to ask when he and other Ministers have formally been entertained here, and have been given every facility to contact their supporters.

Incidentally I attach a translation of his speech to his supporters here in the Fucini Theatre on Saturday, 17th August 1946. As neither I nor the Prefect nor the Capo di Genio Civile have ever discussed the question of Public Works with Scoccimarro, nor are we aware of any personal intervention on his part (under heading "Prisoners Unemployed Shall Have Work") to relieve unemployment, you will be able to estimate the degree of reliability to be attached to this interview.

TO : Brigadier M. S. LUSH, CB. CBE. MC.,
Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters, ALLIED COMMISSION.

FROM : Lt. Col. H. N. BRIGHT, MBE.,
Provincial Commissioner,
A.M.G., UDINE PROVINCE.

7 ansu sin centy
14. N. Bright
5043

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TO : Brigadier M. S. LUSA, CB. CB3. MC.,
Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters, ALLIED COMMISSION.

FROM : Lt. Col. H. N. BRIGHT, MBE.,
Provincial Commissioner,
A.M.S., UDINE PROVINCE.

ENC. 2.

7 ansu sin centy
5043
H. N. Bright

CARABINIERI - UDINE GROUP

On the basis of 75.000

Establishment and effective strength as on August 22, 1946.

Authorised Establishment	-	726	all ranks
Effective strength	-	617	all ranks (includes 25 attached from other Groups of the Legion of PADOVA)
Sick, leave, etc.	-	70	all ranks
Specially employed (Clerks, drivers, etc.) (Cooks, DRs, sentries)	-	93	all ranks
Actual strength available for ordinary duty	-	454	all ranks

an average of about 6 - 7 men
for station (total 65 stations)

23.8.946

/S/ Andrew G. MAY, Major

40

Published in "El Estero" dated 18 of August 1961

EL ESTERO
L. A. V. B. L. A. T. O. T.

Laureo Socochimarro speaks of political problems and of labor problems

in Trujillo.

(Our special interview with the Director of Labor?)

Yesterday there arrived in Trujillo the famous minister, Laureo Socochimarro, who conducted the Prefecture. He speaks and speaks to us the truth. In the afternoon, around the 12 o'clock hour, he is the director of the Government. There arrived several directors and members of the Government, with whom Socochimarro spoke to at length, especially explaining the situation of the Party in Trujillo and in our province, in particular regard to the problem of work, on the speedy solution of which depend the conditions of life of the working masses.

Authentic recording

5041

We too went to the HQs of the Communist Party in Via Victoria Tenorio, and, anxious to hear the opinion of a man of the political position and experience of Laureo Socochimarro on particular conditions which have recently arisen in Trujillo, we asked to be allowed to put a few questions to our fellow citizen.

As is the custom of the famous minister, he was received with the greatest cordiality, and he obtained that which we were looking for: some frank opinions on one of our particular problems, the political situation in Trujillo and on the effective possibilities of solving the said and worrying problem of unemployment.

We know that you find the time to keep constantly under your eye

in Triuli.

(Our special interview with the finance minister.)

Yesterday there arrived in Milan the finance minister, Don Scudimone, who, contacted the Prefect, the Mayor and other town authorities. In the afternoon, through the illustrious member of the Democratic Government, there gathered directors and members of the Communist party. With whom Scudimone spoke to at length, accurately examining the situation of the Party in Milan and in our Province, with particular regard to the problem of work, on the speedy solution of which depend the conditions of life of the working masses.

Authentic Lesson

5044

We too went to the HQs of the Communist Party in Via Vittorio Veneto, and, anxious to hear the opinion of a man of the political position and experience of Mauro Scudimone on particular problems which have recently arisen in Triuli, we asked to be allowed to put a few questions to our fellow citizen.

As is the custom of the finance minister, he was received with the greatest cordiality and we obtained that which we were looking for: some frank opinions on two of our particular problems: on the political situation in Triuli and on the effective possibilities of solving the sad and worrying problem of unemployment.

"We know that you find the time to keep constantly under your eye that which happens here. Would you tell us what your impression is on certain phenomena of Triulan political life."

785017

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Socialismo did not hesitate one moment and soon showed himself - as we thought - fully cognizant not only of the bigger questions but of those also which apparently present themselves as secondary, of little relevant importance. "Well," he said, "returning to Uffine, he it only after a short time, I have had the bitter surprise of finding many things changed, some actually overturned. I had a walk through the city and my attention was attracted by certain persons which you probably know of....." "Yes, we do know something."

Now, that which these posters say and, more over, the fact that they are still, after 10 days, hanging on to the walls of the city without anybody thinking of cleaning up, gives me the impression that in Uffine to-day one can practice, calmly and openly, fascism, fascism of the best or if you like worse quality. There are laws which strike fascism which should be sufficient to impede, I do not say the imminent fascist propaganda, but also propaganda carried out in a minor tone, more veiled, more prudent. Now is it - I ask myself - that the city authorities show so little political sensibility as not to apply them with all the rigour imposed by the gravity, by the danger which the fact assumes particularly here in our Province? And how is it that the Communist Administration at the head of whom there is a socialist Sindaco, has not provided for the immediate washing of such filth from the walls?

I ask myself - how is it that the Uffine partisans did not at once react tearing down that filth and how the democratic antifascist parties did not immediately insist for the immediate removal of these posters.

5019

What are they doing at?

But besides this incident of the posters there is something else much bigger which is arising itself more or less in the shade and of which I heard in our Province coming to Uffine, while in Rome. And are circumstances, coming from certain collection centres and which passing through certain deposits and up use does not know quite where. There have even been open demonstrations; a sort of ceremony in Castelcorone very numerous and with the intervention of a score of armed individuals. And nobody as far as is known said anything. In a village, Brinacco, in the absence of Communists, Socialists were beaten and the Socialists were beaten simply because they were Socialists; the newspaper "Lavoratore Triestino" spoke about it.

be is only after a short time, I have had the bitter surprise of finding many things changed, some actually overturned. I had a walk through the city and my attention was attracted by certain posters which you probably know of...." "Yes, we do know something."

"Now, that which those posters say and, more over, the fact that they are still, after 10 days, hanging on to the walls of the city without anybody thinking of cleaning up, gives me the impression that in China to-day one can practice calmly and openly, fascism, socialism or the best or if you like worse quality. There are laws which strike fascism which should be sufficient to impede, I do not say the impudent fascist propaganda, but also propaganda carried out in a minor tone, more veiled, more prudent. Now is it - I ask myself - that the city authorities show so little political sensibility as not to apply them with all the rigour imposed by the gravity, by the danger which the fact assumes particularly here in our Province? And how is it that the Communist Administration at the head of whom there is a socialist Biddess, has not provided for the immediate rushing of such filth from the walls?"

I ask myself - how is it that the Ulisse partisans did not at once react tearing down that filth and how the democratic anti-fascist parties did not immediately insist for the immediate removal of these posters.

What are they aiming at?

But besides this incident of the posters there is something else much bigger which is exciting itself more or less in the whole and of which I heard rumors before coming to Ulisse, while in Rome. Arms are circulating, coming from certain collection centres and which passing through certain depositories and up one does not know quite where. There have even been open demonstrations; a sort of ceremony in Castelquinto very numerous and with the intervention of a score of armed individuals. And nobody as far as is known said anything. In a village, Trimmacco, in the absence of Communists, Socialists were beaten and the Socialists were beaten simply because they were Socialists; the newspaper "Lavoratore Trimmacco" spoke about it.

All this goes under the name of patriotic demonstrations in order to make

- 3 -

guard and defend the "italianità" of Venezia Giulia. But, say I, how does one pretend to work for Italian interests in Venezia Giulia when, in Italian posters are exhibited in which there is printed that destruction in Yugoslavia are not imputable to the occupying armies, Italian also - alas - but only to the civil strife of those populations? If such a poster were to reach the desks of the Luxembourgs would it not give the impression that to-day in Italy one is trying to defend that which was done under Mussolini and that therefore to-day in Italy, fascism still exists?

And raising this impression in those to whom we have solemnly promised to stamp out fascism, how can one think, however ingenuous one may be, to not in the interests of our Country in general and of those of Venezia Giulia in particular?

"Antefascia" atmosphere

I have said, and not without meaning however ingenuous one may be. In fact I have the impression that some people are ingenuously falling into this game conducted by those who well know that they are making an authentic and lively fascist movement behind the agitation for the defence of the "italianità" of Venezia Giulia, agitation which guarantees an excessive liberty of action.

And who can have an interest in all this, in creating an atmosphere of exasperated tension, in putting arms in circulation which can have no other end than to create disorder?

This certainly cannot be the interest of the democratic parties and all this acquires instead a particular colour a violent colour which is that of 1919 - 1920 - 1921.....

And yet Trieste has given a very large contribution to that movement, it has been one of the Provinces which has given most. There are the statistics of the fallen in battle, of those murdered by the Nazi-fascists of those who died in concentration camps. Well it is incomprehensible that right here in Trieste more than in any other part of Italy, this movement of devaluation of the partisan movement should be stult. And right at this moment, while in the hands of the Italian delegation in Paris, amongst the few cards, there is this very precious one of the partisan movement, from here from a particularly delicate

38

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 fascism still exists ?

And raising this impression in those to whom we have solemnly promised
 to stamp out fascism, how can one think, however innumerable one may be,
 to act in the interests of our Country in general and of those of
 Venetia Giulia in particular ?

"Antefascia" atmosphere

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 In fact I have the impression that some people are ingenuously falling
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 is incomprehensible that right here in Triuli more than in any other part
 of Italy, this movement of devaluation of the partisan movement should
 be sought. And right at this moment, while in the hands of the Italian
 delegation in Paris, amongst the few cards, there is this very precious
 one of the partisan movement, from here from a particularly delicate
 area this action of devaluation is begun.

How does one explain all this ? The suspicion arises, that here,
 someone who has the obscure interest of devaluing those titles, which

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may really count at the table of our peace, is acting who is this some-
one? Is it a question always and only of national elements?

Incompetence?

"And what do you think of the attitude of the Democratic Christians?"
"Certain facts induce me to think that certain elements of that Party
are, without wanting or suspecting it, influenced by anti democratic
and fascist elements. There is perhaps, in these demo-christian elements
a small programme: that of being able to say tomorrow: you see we
did everything..... And in the meantime they do not realize that they
are creating serious embarrassment to De Gasperi who in Paris has that
difficult mission to complete. But thus it is: sometimes miserable
questions of ballot boxes make one lose sight of the urgent, most serious
and decisive national problems.

Then there is this. On my first visit to Uaine I spoke clearly of the
condemnation by the P.C.I. of any possible "coup de main" in Venezia
Giulia, from whatever part it might come.

To-day we are printing our own newspaper in Trieste "L'Informatore del
Popolo". There is in our programme a sincere and profound will of pacifi-
cation, of understanding; we aim at a Italo-Yugoslav understanding, con-
vinced that only in this way does one serve the interests of peace, the
capital interests in other words of our and all other countries. We
want to contribute efficaciously to easing the situation and this imple-
mentally from those which may be the intentions of Paris.

But serious accusations are made against us, accusations of not
acting in the interests of the nation.

Is this an action prompted only by party politics? Is it in so the
whole thing has a character of other baseness. If it is not so, how can
one know that other significant this enthusiasm needed as participation
has, patriotism which I think I have proved is authentic anti-fascism?

The Government will carry out
its programme.

5-38

Now, Sir, will you be so kind as to tell us something of the labour
problems? We have in Italy 55,000 unemployed. We have read the programme

"And what do you think of the attitude of the Democratic Christians?" "Certain facts induce me to think that certain elements of that party are, without wanting or suspecting it, influenced by anti-democratic and fascist elements. There is perhaps, in these democratic elements a small programme: that of being able to say to-morrow: 'You see we did everything.....'. And in the meantime they do not realize that they are orienting serious embassament to De Gasperi who in Paris has that distinction: mission to complete. But thus it is: sometimes miserable questions of ballot boxes make one lose sight of the biggest, most serious and decisive national problems.

Then there is this. On my first visit to Udine I spoke clearly of the condemnation by the P.C.I. of any possible "coup de main" in Venezia Giulia, from whatever part it might come.

To-day we are printing our own newspaper in Trieste "L'Informatore del Popolo". There is in our programme a sincere and profound will of pacification, of understanding: we aim at a Italo-Yugoslav understanding, convinced that only in this way does one serve the interests of peace, the capital interests in other words of our and all other countries. We want to contribute efficiently to easing the situation and this independently from those which may be the decisions of Paris.

But serious accusations are made against us, accusations of not noting in the interests of the nation.

Is this an action prompted only by party politics? If it is so the whole thing has a character of utter baseness. If it is not so, we can not know what other significance this anti-communist, masked as patriotic has, patriotism which I think I have never seen is authentic patriotism?

The Government will carry out its programme.

5-38

Now, Sir, will you be so kind as to tell us something of the labour problems? We have in April 50,000 unemployed. We have read the programme on the basis of which the new Government has been formed. We know the

attitude adopted by the P.L. Is there really a possibility of developing, or carrying out this programme? Can we face the near future with faith? The Government has the firm intention of carrying out the programme on the basis of which it formed itself. There are though still some uncertainties on the matter of carrying it out, especially as far as the financial means necessary are concerned and the selection of one or another manner is not an indifferent matter because it will depend from this if the State will be able to find the means necessary to carry out the programme in full or whether it will limit itself to continue the policy prior to the 2nd June.

In the latter case the problem would not be solved as one desires. We communists have made concrete proposals which for the moment have not been carried out because agreement on them has not then reached. To those who were not of our opinion we have said: "Don't our proposals appear good to you? Well, you make some concrete ones. One must certainly reach a decision and in the moment - as it was necessary to go to Paris and it was not opportune to go with a creaking Government - the matter has been postponed, one will not be able to postpone it to-morrow.

This as far as the general Italian situation is concerned.

Irishman unemployed shall have vote.

As far, instead, as the particular Irishman problem is concerned, matters, fortunately, are better and this because of the diligence of the Prefect Vissani, the understanding of the P.M. Minister, Ruffa and my personal intervention.

For the Province of Udine we succeeded in obtaining funds from those partial allotments disposed by the Government; we thus have right from this moment at our disposal the funds necessary to begin within a few weeks some work which will absorb a good portion of unemployed and another portion of those will find excellent labour and living conditions in the Province.

It is displacing that the previous Prefect's Administration should not have prepared in time the above projects; it this had been done by now the solution of this sad problem would already be under way. Every one understands perfectly that the situation in Udine as it is to-day is so, longer sustainable. But I repeat fortunately we have been able to launch a programme by means of which the problem will be solved.

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This as far as the general Italian situation is concerned.

Italian unemployment shall have work.

As far, instead, as the particular Italian problem is concerned, matters, fortunately, are better and this because of the diligence of the President Vittorini, the understanding of the P.S. Minister, Rinaldi and of personal intervention.

For the Province of Varese we succeeded in obtaining funds from those partial allotments disposed by the Government; we thus have right from this moment at our disposal the funds necessary to begin within a few weeks some works which will absorb a good portion of unemployed and another portion of these will find excellent labour and living conditions in Varese itself.

It is displeasing that the previous President's administration should not have prepared in time the works projects; it has been done by now the solution of this and problem would already be under way. Every understanding perfectly that the situation in Italy as it is to-day is no longer sustainable. But I repeat fortunately we have been able to launch a programme by means of which the problem will be solved.

We had other arguments to submit to the minister; but people were waiting outside and we had to leave. But we hope to be able to see the General Secretary shortly again and to get him to say something else to other to the readers of "L'Espresso".

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

File No. 1516 U. S. District Court

PC/103

Dear Brigadier

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th.
I realise the necessity for reducing the strength of Police Officers in the Province, and had in fact discussed the position with Manuel before he went to Rome.

In effect I told him that I thought three P.S. Officers was the absolute minimum necessary to supervise adequately the public safety duties in the province, but that if a fourth was available there would be plenty for him to do.

There is as you know a strong undercurrent of intrigue and propaganda in this province, consequent on its proximity to Venezia Giulia and though for the moment it is peaceful, incidents arise from time to time which tend to show how strong a feeling there is between the Yugoslavs and all but the few pro-slow agitators in the Province.

At the present time there is an important law case pending which involves the trial of some 30 ex-Osoppo partisans, who, fearing a raid by the Yugs were concerned in distributing arms in the Natisone valleys.

I believe the defence will be that this was done with the knowledge and approval of the Allies.

We of course were no party to this and in fact are responsible for their apprehension and trial.

This type of incident, sequestration of arms and other cases affecting allied interests keep the police fully occupied.

I have recently lost two more American Officers and am now reduced to 6 out of a proposed establishment of 15 with 15 out of 17 British Officers.

Other releases in the near future will still further reduce the team, so that any assistance which may be available in the future will be warmly welcome.

I want to go to Rome with the Prefect for two or

17 July 1946

Heppner
JUL 19 1946

1814

30/24

Dear Birmingham

Many thanks for your letter of the 6th.

I realise the necessity for reducing the strength of Police Officers in the Province, and had in fact discussed the position with Manuel before he went to Rome.

In effect I told him that I thought three P.S. Officers was the absolute minimum necessary to supervise adequately the public safety duties in the province, but that if a fourth was available there would be plenty for him to do.

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Other releases in the near future will still further reduce the team, so that any assistance which may be available in the future will be warmly welcome.

I want to go to Rome with the Prefect for two or three days arriving on the 30th in order to pilot our public works programme for the year through the Ministries of Public Works, Agriculture and Treasury similar to the way I arranged our last six months programme.

(EC)

See Lm 34-2633.

...../323/46
P. H. F.

just for paper JUL 19 1948

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

TO: 1516. M. S. LUSH

PC/103

17 June 46

DATE

- 2 -

I am convinced that delay will be avoided only by personal contact between myself and the Prefect and the three Ministries concerned.

The unemployed figure of 60,000 demands constant attention, especially at a time when it would appear that these unfortunate elements are being subject to considerable propaganda from left wing elements, and demonstrations are frequent.

I have just had a telephone call from Alan Knisely to say that you will be lunching with us on Monday.

We shall of course be delighted to see you and I have arranged for officers to come in and meet you.

Remember me please to your wife and children.

Yours sincerely

H. N. Bright

HNB/gt.

To : Brigadier M.S. LUSH C.B.E. MC.
Executive Commissioner
H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION

R O M E

5-75

- 2 -

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To : Brigadier W.S. LUSH CB.CBE.MC.
Executive Commissioner
H.Q. ALLIED COMMISSION

R O M E

From :

H.N. BRIGHT, Lt.Col.,
Provincial Commissioner,
H.Q. A.M.G. Udine Province.

5-35

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

Ref No 1516. M. A. 1000.001

Ref No P.C./1103

28 June, 1946.
JUL 2 1946

Dear Brigadier

Thank you very much for your informative letter of the 22nd of June.

Nothing could have been more orderly than the elections in this Province and I am quite satisfied that no undue pressure was brought to bear on any electors. In those communes which have dual nationalities, such as Tervasio, Maribor-ghetto, etc., it was obvious that the minorities would abstain from voting, and this proved to be the case; otherwise the Province registered a very high percentage of the electorate.

There were no demonstrations of any sort following the announcement of the success of the republic, though in some half dozen communes the monarchy received a majority and the figures were very close in Udine city.

As you may have heard, I requested the Prefect to go to Rome the other day with ^a view to securing an amelioration of emoluments for the statal and para-statal employees, including public safety services. His visit was most satisfactory, and in consequence the strike which would have affected a very large number of people was averted.

I have greatly appreciated the help of the Vice-President of the Economic Sub-Division and was particularly grateful for the sympathetic way in which the President of the Council, the Minister of the Treasury and the Minister of Interior treated our case.

In the Natissone valleys, feeling has been running high against the persistent claims of the Slavs to this area, and recently a group of Osoppo partisans attempted to distribute arms throughout the district, claiming that they did this to assist the Allies in preventive any infiltration of Slav elements into the area. I firmly believe that they had no different or motive, but in distributing these arms they were, of course, violating every sort of Proclamation and Provincial Order and Court.

26

JUL 2 1946

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One or two of the pro-Slav communist leaders are most indignant that the ex-Osoppo partisans should have had

see 1728. *APG*

(LC)

25

- 2 -

These arms in their possession, though of course would not admit that they probably controlled far more hidden arms. We succeed in recovering a number of arms every month, but there must be a very large quantity still hidden.

I am now down to eight American officers, of whom two are due to leave, and am still short of two British officers; otherwise "All is well."

It was very kind of you, indeed, to send me your congratulations on my recent mention in Despatches. I can only say I have tried to do my job since I have been in the Allied Commission and am more than grateful to you and the officers at Headquarters, Allied Commission, and my own officers, for the wonderful support I have invariably received.

Yours, sincerely

H. N. Bright

To : Brig. H. S. Lush, C.B., CBE, MC.,
Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters, Allied Commission.

From: Lt. Col. H. N. Bright, MBE,
Provincial Commissioner,
Udine Province.

HB/SL

5-33

785017

23

RE ALICE HIGGS MEMORIAL LITER

RE MAY 44

RE .. AND HIGGS

133

DELAWARE

15

REY YOUR DOG CROOK OF TWENTY MAY 44 REVENUE UP TO TWENTY THOUSAND
ATTACHED

Copy to: Finance 3/3.

4603/EC

5-32

REPTING

Office of Executive Counsel

A. W. Raley.

300

NICHOLAS PIERCE
CWO, USA
Assistant Adjutant

A
7/6

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE

Udine 1516
PC/103

1945
22nd. May

Dear Bing adian

I wonder if there is any chance of recommending any officer or other rank in this Province for any award - British or American.

So far I have not received any request for names, nor do I know the class of award that is applicable to different ranks.

From the Monthly Bulletin, it is noticeable that awards are still being given to officers in Rome, and I feel that certain personnel in this Province might be considered, if only the information on such awards was available, so that I could submit particulars of recommendations.

May I add that no British officer has received either promotion or award in this Province in the past year.

Incidentally, though pressed to write a brief story of the year's work in this Province, and though copies of the Monthly Report are invariably sent to Public Relations Branch, I have never yet seen Uddine Province mentioned in the Allied Commission Monthly Bulletin.

Perhaps, for the sake of many in the Province, some reference to Udine could be made very occasionally in the Bulletin, and possibly some recognition given to one or two of the many who have served me and the Province so well.

I may be wrong in making these suggestions; if so, I hope I may be forgiven.

Mortgage

Simi canal

H. N. Bintl.

TO:
Brigadier A.S. LUTHI, C.A. COM. HQ.,
Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters, ALLIED COMMISSION.

100

0724

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I may be wrong in making these suggestions; if so, I hope I may be forgiven.

Yours

Sincerely

H. N. Bright

To:
Brigadier H. N. LUSH, CB, CBE, MC,
Executive Commissioner,
Headquarters, ALLIED COMMISSION.

From:
Lt. Col. H. N. BRIGHT, MC,
Provincial Commissioner,
AUS. Udine Province.

5-31

see M222, M224

B.

(24)

181
HEADQUARTERS
ALL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UOINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

Tel. No.
A. M. & L. No.
File No.

20 MAY 48.

To : Brig. W.S. LUSH, CB, CBE, MC,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ Allied Commission, Rome.

MAY 22 1948

Dear Brigadier

I have had a strenuous time lately chiefly owing to shortage of officers, unemployment, change of prefect, housing and other problems. I am still 6 officers short of establishment and in addition two are away for approx two months leave and one has a broken leg in hospital.

The American CACs are all inexperienced and are finding it rather uphill work, and one is a headache!

On the British side, Public Works and Utilities requires a more forceful character, one CAC is only fair and industry is somewhat peculiar.

From this you will see that the team is not too strong, though very sound on the Legal, Finance, Public Safety, Food, Agriculture side.

These however are all specialists and it is CACs who are specially needed at present.

Alan's relief is an American boy of 21 who does his best but finds working with British staffs etc rather beyond him. I like him very much but have to do most of his work.

The financing of public works is one of the most difficult problems, as we are continually blocked by the bureaucratic methods of the Magistrato alle Acque at Venice. Over 300 million lire's work of projects have been lying there for the past seven weeks.

All this time the unemployment problem gets worse.

I am going to Venice on Thursday to try and squeeze more through this tape machine.

The new Prefect Vittadini seems to be a good fellow, but is wisely treading warily at present.

Incidentally I should like to give a party for him on the 1st June, the eve of the elections, and invite the Corps Commander

MAY 22 1946

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Executive Commissioner,
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I am going to Venice on Thursday to try and squeeze more through this tape machine.

The new Prefect Vittadini seems to be a good fellow, but is wisely treading warily at present.

Incidentally I should like to give a party for him on the 1st June, the eve of the elections, and invite the Corps Commander and his staff, the heads of the political parties, Venezia Julia and other formation Commanders and staffs.

I was unable to give any such party for the Boundary Commission as by the time I had your message it was unfortunately too late to get out invitations.

We have therefore had no official entertaining since last year and I feel that the time is due particularly in view of forthcoming

Lu 4.7.46-20.523

(cc)

changes.

Incidentally I have continued to entertain in my room all and sundry here, for which Lire 3000 a month goes nowhere particularly as all NAAFI supplies cost 2 1/4 their former price.

I like doing it, but over the past six months or so it has been particularly heavy.

I should be particularly grateful to have your approval for the entertainment on the 1st June as early as possible.

I also hope you may be able to come.

I mentioned this suggestion to the DGS 12 Corps some time ago and he agreed that it would help the Prefect in his new appointment.

I will arrange for it as economically as possible, but there would probably be approx 150 people, ^{it would be} on a similar scale to that recently given in Trieste by AMG Venezia Julia.

Braine from the Embassy has been staying here and helping us considerably with the strike of statal employees and transfer of labour to Austria etc.

I should be glad of some assistance in the way of officers, and am urgently in need of a relief for my chief clerk.

In great haste

Yours

Sincerely

J. N. B. Smith

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

PERSONAL & SECRET.

1R

Ref: 181/SD.

27 March 1946.

17
Thank you so much for your letter of 24 March. We were terribly sorry not to get to you but the arrival of an important directive from AFHQ which concerns the future of the Commission made it essential for me to return to Rome. We are now in the throes of further planning for the future.

I am afraid both you and Venezia Giulia AMG are in for a difficult time, particularly on your frontier, in connection with the visit of the representatives of the Germans. I hope that that particular trouble will soon be over and that the reactions to the visit will not be too violent.

I shall try to come and see you quite shortly, even if it is only a flying visit by air both ways. I am afraid our idea of a visit to the mountains is out of the question now.

I am afraid I cannot alter my decision about Knisoley. He is settling in well here.

I have replied by airmail to your application for approval of expenditure for entertainment of the Boundary Commission.

M. S. LUSH

Lt. Col. J. Bright,
Provincial Commissioner,
Allied Military Government,
UDINE PROVINCE.

5029

MEL/SD.

17/3
27/3

13

Dr. K. H. H.

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

Tel. No. A. M. B. 1011-1111

Date: 24 March

File No.

San Brigida

has been the heavy
disappointment that you + your party
have made to come here yesterday,
the hope that your visit is only
postponed.

This week I have had Sr. Scaccinara
+ the Director of Pass have a visit
(have forgotten his name).
I have both come here + I asked
a few of their employees to meet them.
The former is here + the latter is
in the office of the latter is Palazzo

San Brigada

has been the heavy
disappointment that you + your party
have wanted to come here yesterday,
but hope that your visit is well
postponed.

This week I have had ~~the~~ Secretaries
+ the Minister of Peace have assistance
(have forgotten his name).
I have both come here + I asked
a few of their employees to assist (helping).
The former is help + the latter night.
Yesterday I took the letter to Paluzzo
to open a new hospital, for T.B.
Ex prisoners of war + ex internees,
which has been equipped by us.

I was surprised to learn from the Minister that it is the only hospital of its kind in India.

The Boundary Commission will probably come here this week & I would like to entertain them, as I understand it is their last tour of

celebrations.
I ask Graham & the other members in addition to the Corps Commander Staff - British & American DPs & Rao. There will probably be ^{approx} 150 people. & the case would not be much less than 40-50 thousand this & the Bureau will exchange.

forward the sanction this, as if not. With which has the 29 years advancing the case.

probably come from 1000 people +
I would like to retain them, as I
understand it is their last year of

celebrating
If I ask, I retain 700 people
in addition to the Corps Commander +
Staff - British + American Divs + Base
that will probably be ^{approx} 150 people.

+ the area would not be much less
than 40-50 thousand times the
Baran area of exchange.

would you sanction 1000, as if you
withhold them you are again reducing
the cost.

I am anxious to have some such
reception to include all political
prisoners (within of 1000), 1000

12/

HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

TO: Mr. A. M. G. UFFICI

DATE

FILE NO.

Capt. Di, & Area Staffs, particularly
as the persons are, the training
captured by another at the end of
the month.

Robertson has been caught &
I get the position in P.V. is
very difficult. The reaction is
extremely in this position!

At some time the change of
Officers means the consideration
areas remain "uncaptured".

When this happens in this position,
secondary elements are always
more active!

Cirpa, Div, & Area Staffs, particularly
as the Bureau ^{staff} are, the Bureau
explained by another at the end of
the month.

Robertson has been since August &
I get the position in P.V. is
v. difficult. The reaction is v.
unstable in this position!

At least a time the change of
officers means that consider the
areas remain "uncovered".

When this happens in this position,
secondary elements are always
more active!

I have much more than knowably back
for many reasons, & would be so
grateful if you could agree to
his return at the earliest date

Canadians to go.
His American citizenship is a part
of his birthright is a word to be
guaranteed!

Please remember the 60000
+ 112 children

Yours sincerely
H. N. B. B.

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

CONFIDENTIAL. (11)

28 February 1946.

Ref: 164/EC.

SUBJECT: UDINE Province.
TO : Political Advisor (Br)

In accordance with your written request, attached is extract
of DO Report UDI/EC/103 dated 23 February 46 from Provincial Commissioner,
UDINE. (2)

1/11 M V. HIND SMITH
MAY
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Incl.

5026

PA 5/3
M.
G.

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS

MILITARY GOVERNMENT

UDINE PROVINCE

OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

File No. 101/PC/403

23 Feb 46.

Dear Brigadier,

Thank you so much for your letters of the 15th and 18th, and particularly for your wife's kind wishes for my recovery.

I had a nasty attack of tonsillitis which kept me in hospital for 11 days, and now it seems I must go for a few days convalescence to Cortina, but will be back full of vigour on Thursday or Friday of next week.

Thank you also for your very kind suggestion regarding the egg, but unfortunately I was already in hospital when I heard about it, and was very much under the doctor's orders regarding diet. However, I shall remember it if I may be unfortunate enough to have another "go".

The possibility of your taking Alan knisely on your staff is, frankly, a nasty pill to swallow, as with so many recent changes I had really hoped to keep him as my equivalent of an Adjutant. It would, of course, be manifestly unfair to attempt to stand in his way of a better appointment, but he suits me so well and has just that extra amount of tact which, frankly, I have found it a little difficult to discover in one or two of the others I have tried in this appointment. If, therefore, it is possible for you to leave him with me I would be most grateful! Worse than this I cannot say, as no doubt your needs are even greater than mine!

Owing to my indisposition I regret very much that I have been unable to send you a comprehensive survey of the Yugo-Slav influence in the Eastern boundary of this Province. For eight months - in all my monthly reports - I have stressed the persistent and insidious methods of the Slavs to infiltrate into the area East of a line drawn North and South through PORTOFINO, GENOVA, LA SPEZIA, LIVORNO, CARRARA. All this area up to the GORIZIA-UDINE boundary is Italian and has been Italian from the earliest times, and whatever the "Jug" claims are to any part of Venezia Giulia, it would be an everlasting bone of contention between the two countries if any portion of the Province of Udine was ceded to the "Jugs". The Slav-speaking minority in the Province is negligible, bilingual and wholly pro-Italian except for the very few proselytes resulting from Tito's propaganda. In my view, it is largely due to the behaviour of the "Jugs" towards the Italians, particularly during the early days of liberation, that has been responsible for the recent hardening of Italian opinion against the "Jugs". Now, the bitter hatred that has been engendered by the barbarous treatment of Italians by the "Jugs" (and incidentally Russians), is deep-rooted and the menacing

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1.
24 May 30/4

- 2 -

Incidentally it would be even more at the mercy of marauding gangs from the East, if it were not for the full protection of the Italian Government.

I did not intend to go into this in so much detail, but hope I have shown that the Friulians are most independent, and anti-Slav, and resent with increasing fervour the continued efforts of the "Jugs", to intimidate and spread the type of subversive propaganda which has been so characteristic of them since the date of liberation.

Please remember me to your wife, and with love to the children.

Hoping you will find it possible to leave Alan Griseley with me.

Yours

*Sincerely,
Mr. Bright*

P.S. Your D.O. dated 20 Feb has just arrived, for which many thanks.

To : Brigadier M.S. LUSH, CB, CBE, MC,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ, A.C., SOE.

From : Lieut Col. H.M. BRIGHT, MBE,
Provincial Commissioner,
HQ, AMG, Udine Province.

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE
OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL COMMISSIONER

A. M. G. (M. G. P. 1)

DO/PB/103

19 Feb 46.

Dear *Brigadier*,

I have had a most disappointing week, as a chill, which I think commenced on my return trip from Rome, broke out with full force last Sunday necessitating my immediate removal to Hospital. Thank goodness the tests for suspected diphtheria were all negative and nothing more than acute tonsillitis, with its attendant evils, was diagnosed. This, however, has been quite enough to keep me with too high a temperature for several days, but now it is normal!!! I am again feeling full of the joys of Spring and endeavouring to push open the prison bars. A good, but cautious, doctor, however, is my chief difficulty and I expect to be here another day or two, and then will probably have a few days convalescence which I am hoping to arrange at Cortina.

There is, I believe, a convalescent depot at Klagenfurt and one at Cortina, and at this time of the year the latter is much the better. When could you and your family come before the snows go? Accommodation there is none too easy, but if you could give me a day or two's notice I think I could arrange it. If you cease by train the idea would be to stop at Treviso where I would arrange to meet you and take you direct to Cortina. If you came by car you would have no difficulty in staying at the Excelsior with the family, if you saw the British Military Manager, Capt. Collinge. I would try and arrange accommodation at the Keckler Villa, nephew of Count Di Asata, with whom you dined in Rome, as their Villa is very comfortable.

An American Officer named Bove, complete with Italian wife, arrived the other day, quite inexperienced, but inoffensive looking, with a sallow complexion, glasses, and of Jewish appearance, of about 5 ft. 5 in. in height. His wife seemed quite a bright little thing and very self-possessed, and hoped her mansion was ready for her. I sent them up to Tarvisio as I thought Jones was his best teacher. On arrival he happened to be away, and on his return found both of them ensconced in his bedroom! I haven't heard any further details, but can only imagine!

The latest effort of the Jugs in objecting to the Polish Corps in this area is another subterfuge for removing anyone of known anti-Communist feeling, and reducing our very meagre garrison in this area. Generally speaking I should say the Poles are remarkably well-behaved troops and scrupulously abstain from any form of politics in this country, though it is well known they would be the right people to have in the event of any serious disorder. As for their being a menace to the Yugo Slavs, this is a complete myth, and I strongly suspect that

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The Commander of the Carabinieri has just been in to see me and is all smiles at his new equipment of transport, etc. - one of the objects of my trip to Rome.

- 2 -

This is my last afternoon up after 9 days in bed, and though a bit wobbly am feeling quite a different person. It was just a severe case of flu, the sort that seems to be doing a good deal of harm at home now.

My horse ran in the 6th Arm. Div. Meeting at Trevino last Saturday but I am afraid the distance was just too far for it. Am hoping for better luck in a shorter race at 13 Corps Meeting on 2 March, when I hope to see him run instead of being in bed.

Have just had the Prefect in and he says all is going well and much good has done by our Home trip, particularly on PW & U side, prisons, Carabinieri equipment, etc.

The leaders of all parties have given personal assurances on behalf of their supporters that the forthcoming elections will be free from any form of intimidation or disorder !!!

I have just heard that three more American officers have reported for duty, Capt. Bickley, Transportation, and Lieut's Morton and Alsop, and hear that a further four have been nominated, thus helping my officer position.

I must finish off this now as Alan has to return to the office.

Remember me please to your wife and family.

Yours,

*Sincerely,
H. N. Bright*

To : Brigadier M. S. Lush, CB, CBE, MC,
Executive Commissioner,
HQ, AC, Rome.

From : Lieut. Col. H. N. Bright, MC,
Provincial Commissioner,
HQ, AMG, Udine Province.

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From : Lieut. Col. H.N. Bright, MBE,
Provincial Commissioner,
HQ, AMG, Udiene Province.

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

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL.

Ref: 184/6/EC.

18 February 1946.

Thank you for your letter UDI/PC/103 of 9th February. I am sorry to hear that since writing it you have been down with tonsillitis. You can take it that the interests of both British and American officers are watched by the Establishment Section to whom I have passed the relative section of your letter.

I have not yet read your monthly report. I hope to do so this week and but I notice no mention in your letter of the frontier question and the activities of the Yugoslavs. I hope by this that I can infer that all is well and you have no particular problem in this respect. I should be glad to have an assurance on that subject.

For your own information I may be taking Captain Knisley from you to fill a staff appointment at this HQ. I have not yet made a firm decision and you need not comment on the matter, but I think I should warn you so that you can plan any dispositions you may wish to make.

(Sx) M. S. LUSH

Lieut. Colonel J. Bright,
Provincial Commissioner,
Allied Military Government,
UDINE PROVINCE.

MSL/JG.

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HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT
UDINE PROVINCE

File
101/PC/103

9 February 1945.

Brigadiere M.S. Lush,
C.E., I.S.E., M.C.

Dear

Brigadier

We returned here about 4 P.M. on the 31st after an excellent run with no snow or ice on the road even at the Pass.

The monthly report occupied the first day or two and I am sending you the Allied Commission copies by Brigadier Dullip.

The suspension of the paper LUTTA E LA VITA was removed on the first of February, and in its first publication was included an abject apology to the Carabinieri Regiment. It had published a libellous and defamatory article.

Food requisitioning by A.M.G. from the Carnia forests has again been the subject of a protracted conference. The position is that for eight months now A.M.G. have linked these forests in and are now taking some three or four times the normal production of the forests for various building projects. Apart from the damage caused by overcutting in the forests, they are depriving the population of the Carnia of their normal means of livelihood and are hindering the reconstruction of the many devastated areas of this province. I, therefore, propose to forward a full statement on the position of these forests and will ask you to press A.M.G. to divide its requisitioning requirements evenly amongst the provinces of Treviso, Pordenone, Belluno and Udine rather than drawing solely from Udine because the location of these forests is more suitable to its needs.

I have had the Inspector for the preparation of electoral rolls in Udine for the past few days and we hope to hold elections in the Province as under:

22 communes on the 24th of March,
20 communes on the 31st of March,
The chief towns of the Province on the 7th of April.

5022

He returned here about 1 P.M. on the 31st after an excellent run with no snow or ice on the road even at the Pass.

The monthly report occupies the first day or two and I am sending down the Allied Commission copies by Brigadier B. J. P.

The suspension of the paper ICETA is having been removed on the first of February and in its place publication was included in subject appendix to the Commission's report which is and which is a libellous and defamatory article.

Good reclamation by A.E.F. from the German forests has again been the subject of a projected conference. The position is that for eight months now A.E.F. have milked these forests dry and are now taking some three or four times the normal production of the forests for various building projects. Apart from the damage caused by overcutting in the forests, they are depriving the population of the fruits of their normal means of livelihood and are hindering the reconstruction of the land. A full statement on the position of these forests and will send you to press A.E.F. to divide the reclamation requirements evenly amongst the provinces of Treviso, Bergamo, Milano and Varese. Rather than trying solely from Treviso because the location of these forests is more suitable to it Corps.

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There have been numerous changes of officers since my return. Major Spies and Captain Pagan have been posted to Trento base. Captain Rees to B.T.A. and Captain Polunin has to go to M.E.F. in order to obtain his release from the U.D.F. on transfer to the British Army where he has just been gazetted second lieutenant. I should be most grateful of an assurance that this officer is allowed to retain his temporary rank of captain which he was held since the 14th of August 1914. I had hoped to

See him 4-5. W. 6.

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(2)

Keep Captain Sage in line and arrival of American officers to fill appointments ^{as} C.A.O.s in the war establishment out of pressure from me have had to send him to London. I would be very grateful if this could be watched closely as otherwise I am liable to lose my British C.A.O.s, and although not actually filling vacancies in the war establishment of the Province are essential until the arrival of the war establishment American C.A.O.s. The following officers have arrived: Major Evans - Public Works and Utility; Major Hilsman - Log; Captain Hilding - Industry, but surplus to requirements as I wish to retain Captain Hall for Industry; Captain Cammarata - Food; Lt. Jaspars - C.A.O., due for immediate release. Incidentally, it would be a great help if officers due for early release are not posted to this Province.

I would also be very grateful if the Gazette Office could be sent over here and to the Prefecture at the earliest possible moment, as some considerable delay has already been experienced.

Two American officers, Lt. Murphy and Lt. Cammarata, have been posted to certain this week. I have another, Lt. Evans, who has been the sole Log Officer here for the past three or four months, and who is well worth promotion to Captain, even though he may be short of the requisite service by a few months. If you could do anything with Colonel Perkins in this direction I ~~could~~ ^{would} be very grateful. Captain Hopkins, police, and Lt. J. Boyd, American, (plus his wife) have just arrived. The former is a fine policeman, the latter is completely inexperienced as a C.A.O. However, purity is ~~the~~ ^{the} law and I will endeavor to train him. With the arrival of Major Evans who was Senior Public Works and Utility Officer with Lombard's Region, and has the most intimate knowledge of the P.W. and U. position on a higher level, I should be very glad indeed to retain his services in addition to Captain Hall's; more particularly as 13 Corps insist on a close liaison between us and the roads in the region under command of 13 Corps. Where some fifteen hundred million of lire are involved in this Province, apart from any other allocation for military roads in other provinces of the Veneto, it is vital that a close liaison should be kept with the Ministry of Public Works in Rome. I am farly convinced that there is a whole-time job for two public works and utility officers and would, therefore, be glad to retain the services of Major Evans and Captain Hall as was originally suggested to Brigadier Doolley.

I do not think there is anything more of importance to add except routine matter with which I will not bore you. I would, however, like to be reassured that postings of British officers filling temporarily the vacancies of American C.A.O.s

- 3 -

will not be re-posted before the arrival of the American officers.

I am hoping sincerely that you and your family will shortly visit us. I am sure Mrs. Lush will be glad the moment you see the word.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Bristle

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION

APO 394

Office of the Executive Commissioner

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL.

21 January 1946.

ALL : AG CIO's.

Those of you who have been Regional Commissioners know that I have always been glad to receive DO 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 Ambassador 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 resources will be exhausted.

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Admiral Stone hopes to go to London on February 9th, amongst other things to receive his K.B.E. We have lost Colonel Denamore 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.

(Sgd) E.S. LAMM.

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