

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

785017

ACC

10000/109/156

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

785017

0000/109/156

VAL D' AOSTA
JULY - SEPT. 1945

DECLASSIFIED BY: 12356 SECTION 313/AND No.

313/

Top Secret

Top Secret + Confidential

My Vision
2500

VAL D AOSTA

3645-1045
3645-3495

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958 Section 3.3/NND Not

2481-3495

10000 / 10000

CONTAINS NO MORE

10000 45
10000 45

Top Secret

03511

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 12958 Section 3.1 AND No.

MINISTERO DELLE CORPORAZIONI

SERVIZIO DI VIGILANZA SULLE ASSICURAZIONI

36
34 25
Please see folios 293 for information.
Suggested acknowledgment submitted, unless any comments on the communication are required.
251248

37
As announced when forwarding
to AFHQ (copy to Embassies) re: the
the other communication as
the subject "Facts & Figures"
5/15/48

38
Letter submitted for C's signature please
251249

39
Excluded
For C's signature please
251249

the subject "points to my ok"

5/5

20

cho

Letter submitted for C.C.'s signature please

Autograph

20

Exhibit

For C.C.'s signature please

20

20

28.

Ex Com

For your info, letter from M of Foreign Affairs at 27 forwarding note issued by the Ministry on the subject of the ~~above~~ Government's policy regarding the administration of Hosta. Folio 16 refers also.

28 Aug 45

A.T. by Sa Car

Chief Commissioner.

29.

Attached is submitted for your ~~information~~ information.

Will discuss with P.O. 45

X is enclosed.

294

175/201

Don't think so. Surely to their duty Country East
To be expected - 0

cc 175/315. I meant significant! 175/315.

32.

Ex Com

Ref 27 Two letters for September 47

(201)

Attached is submitted for your signature
information

Will discuss with P. N. de

X is our concern
30292 175/20/1
2-5-61
Don't think so. Surely to their
To be expected - O their duty Country

cc
175/31/5
mean significant! 175/31/5

32

175/31/5

Ref 27 Two letters for Liphakaw 4

cc

cc

Executive Committee

Follow 5-8 for information.

Two letters for September of
CC. in accordance with instructions at 16

CS.

25/7.

78/25/7

22.

Explan.

Pl see 21. Our reply to the Secretary

at 17 does not cover Mr. Jones

Suggestion: do you consider we

should write another letter?

Have you seen 8? 78/26/7.

23.

22.

2 x Lenz

Pl Sec 21. Our reply to the Simpson
of 17 does not cover Mr. Jones.
Suggestion: do you consider we
should write another letter?
Have you seen it? Si 26/7.

23.

CSO. I think the letter on 17, as it has 3453
gone, should suffice. DR (26/7)

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

39

Ref: 312/39/53.

7 September 1945.

SUBJECT: Administration of Val d'Aosta.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
Attn: G-5 Section.

31

Further to my 312/31/53 dated 5 September 1945 and enclosure on the above subject, attached please find copy of a Memorandum 6/3068/1438 dated 31 August 1945 from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs together with copy of a communique issued by the Council of Ministers on the autonomy of the Val d'Aosta.

34

(Spc) HENRY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Incl:

Memorandum for Foreign Affairs,
6/3068/1438 dtd. 31 Aug 45, with
enclosure.

Copy to: U.S. Ambassador
British Ambassador
Polad (A)
Polad (B)

3492

PA
9/4

Ref: 312/38/20.

6 September 1945.

SUBJECT: Official Communiqués on the Val d'Aosta Autonomy.

TO : The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Italian Government.

1. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs Memorandum 6/3068/1438 dated 31 August 1945 and the attached communiqué on the autonomy of the Val d'Aosta are acknowledged.

2. The Allied Commission wish to thank the Ministry for Foreign Affairs for the transmission of this document, which they have forwarded to the American and British Embassies and to AFHQ.

Copy to: Polad (A)
Polad (B)

Ministero degli Affari Esteri

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION

1945

SUBJECT: Transmission of official communiqué on the Val
d'Aosta autonomy.

1. Reference is made to the letter n. 3/1422 addressed by Foreign Minister DE CASPERI to the Chief Commissioner on August 25th, 1945.

2. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to forward to the Allied Commission, herewith enclosed, the official text of the communiqué issued after the meeting at the Council of Ministers held on August 23rd, concerning the measures taken in order to insure the administrative autonomy of the Val d'Aosta and the provisions that are about to be passed in favour of other non-Italian speaking populations of the Northern and Eastern frontier zones.

MW

SUBJECT: Transmission of official communications on the Val
d'Aosta autonomy.

2. Reference is made to the letter n.3/1422 addressed by Foreign Minister DE GASPERI to the Chief Commissioner on August 25th, 1945.

2. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs beg to forward to the Allied Commission, herewith enclosed, the official text of the communiqué issued after the meeting at the Council of Ministers held on August 23rd, concerning the measures taken in order to insure the administrative autonomy of the Val d'Aosta and the provisions that are about to be passed in favour of other non-Italian speaking populations of the Northern and Eastern frontier zones.

Rome, August 3185. 1945.

ECID 37-44 Sept 1955

Action: Ex B. 1000

One Encl.

Lue #36437
100 Nov (19)
100 Nov (19)

See 38-39

(Das Konsort)

Translation

Autonomy of Valle d'Aosta

The debate of the Council of Ministers about Valle d'Aosta is important in itself and because of the attitude of the democratic government which it expresses. It grants to a territory inhabited by Italian citizens who speak another language complete equality of language and an administrative decentralization for all matters of local interest which can be defined as truly broad-minded and new. This means a self-administration in which the men elected by the people exercise their own powers and also functions entrusted to them by the state.

Besides, the principle of institutional decentralization is also asserted in the legislative decree for Valle d'Aosta. The Aosta Council will be able to issue regulations to discipline such matters as have been decentralized. The way to local legislation is therefore open. Of course, on this ground, concretely to define the spheres of competency, further regulations are foreseen, and a final legal discrimination will only be possible at the constituent, when the decentralizing tendency which has asserted itself in so many parts of the country will have been concretized in a fundamental law, and when what must be reserved to the state because of its unitarian requirements, and what can be decentralized to local organizations, has been decided.

Even now, for what concerns local autonomies, the legislative decree for Valle d'Aosta proves that the democratic government does not stop after the solemn statement lately made by the Council of Ministers, but intends to handle little by little the concrete situation, beginning by the zones where differences of languages or race make decentralization more necessary, as a guarantee for the minorities.

In the same way as for Valle d'Aosta, the government now intends to issue in the same spirit the necessary regulations for the regions of the eastern frontier and for those of the northern frontier, consulting the representatives of the populations and local interests. The Council of Ministers has already referred another time to Alto Adige in particular; we may now add that consultations are now taking place and to be rapidly carried out, also in relation with the problem of regional autonomy for Venezia Tridentina, where the need for administrative autonomy is greatly felt.

The Italian state is thus giving proof of its strong and wise democratic spirit and wish for pacification.

SULL'AUTONOMIA DELLA VALLE D'AOSTA

La deliberazione del Consiglio dei Ministri circa la Valle d'Aosta è importante per sé e per l'orientamento del governo democratico che essa manifesta. Essa concede ad un territorio abitato da cittadini italiani d'altra lingua la completa pacificazione linguistica e un decentramento amministrativo in ogni materia d'interesse locale che si può definire veramente largo ed innovatore. Si tratta di un'autonomia amministrativa nella quale gli eletti del popolo esercitano oltre i poteri propri anche funzioni e loro delegate dallo Stato.

Nel decreto legislativo per la Valle d'Aosta è inoltre affermato il principio del decentramento istituzionale. Il Consiglio d'Aosta avrà facoltà di deliberare norme giuridiche per disciplinare le materie ad esso decentrate. E' dunque aperta la via alla legislazione locale. Certamente su questo terreno, per precisare in concreto le sfere di competenza sono previsti ulteriori provvedimenti legislativi e una definitiva discriminazione giuridica non sarà passibile se non in sede di Costituente, quando in una legge fondamentale si sarà concretata la tendenza decentralizzante affermata in tante parti del paese e sarà stabilito ciò che per le sue esigenze unitarie deve essere riservato allo Stato e ciò che può essere decentrato a enti periferici.

Ma già ora il decreto legislativo per la Valle d'Aosta è una prova che il Governo democratico, per quanto riguarda le autonomie locali, non si limita alla solenne dichiarazione generica fatta recentemente nel Consiglio dei Ministri, ma intende affrontare mano a mano la concreta attuazione, a cominciare da quelle zone ove le differenze linguistiche o etniche rendono più sentita l'esigenza del decentramento, quale presidio delle minoranze.

Il Governo, come ha fatto per la Valle d'Aosta, intende ora elaborare con lo stesso spirito i necessari provvedimenti per le regioni della frontiera orientale e per quelle della frontiera settentrionale, consultando gli esponenti delle popolazioni e degli interessi locali. All'alto Adige in particolare il Consiglio dei Ministri ha già altra volta fatto riferimento; si può ora aggiungere che sono ivi in corso consultazioni che verranno rapidamente condotte anche in rapporto al problema dell'autonomia regionale della Venezia Tridentina, nella quale l'esigenza della autonomia amministrativa è largamente sentita.

Così, il nuovo Stato italiano dà prova del suo vigoroso e consapevole spirito di democrazia e di pacificazione.

disciplinare le materie ad esso decentrate, e comunque operare in vista alla legislazione locale. Certamente su questo terreno, per precisare in concreto le sfere di competenza sono previsti ulteriori provvedimenti legislativi e una definitiva discriminazione giuridica non sarà possibile se non in sede di Costituzione, quando in una legge fondamentale si sarà concretata la tendenza decentratrice affermata in tante parti del paese e sarà stabilito ciò che per le sue esigenze unitarie deve essere riservato allo Stato e ciò che può essere decentrato a enti periferici.

Ma già ora il decreto legislativo per la Valle d'Aosta è una prova che il Governo democratico, per quanto riguarda le autonomie locali, non si limita alla solenne dichiarazione generica fatta recentemente nel Consiglio dei Ministri, ma intende affrontare mano a mano la concreta attuazione, a cominciare da quelle zone ove le differenze linguistiche o etniche rendono più sentita l'esigenza del decentramento, quale presidio delle minoranze.

Il Governo, come ha fatto per la Valle d'Aosta, intende ora elaborare con lo stesso spirito i necessari provvedimenti per le regioni della frontiera orientale e per quelle della frontiera settentrionale, consultando gli esponenti delle popolazioni e degli interessi locali. L'Alto Adige in particolare il Consiglio dei Ministri ha già altre volte fatto riferimento; si può ora aggiungere che sono ivi in corso consultazioni che verranno ripiamente condotte anche in rapporto al problema dell'autonomia regionale della Venezia Tridentina, nella quale l'esigenza della autonomia amministrativa è largamente sentita.

Così, il nuovo Stato italiano dà prova del suo vigoroso e consapevole spirito di democrazia e di pacificazione.

3453

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

Ref: 312/31/30.

5 Sept. 45.

Subject: Administration of Val d'Aosta.

To: Allied Forces Headquarters,
Attn: G-5 Section.

31

Attached for your information is a copy of a letter
received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, No: 3/1422 of
26 August 45.

37

WILLIAM H. WARD,
Rear Admiral, USNR,
Chief Commissioner.

Encl - 2.

Copies to: U.S. Ambassador,
British Ambassador,
Pol. Ad(A)
Pol. Ad(B)

121
Attached for your information is a copy of a letter
received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, No: 3/1422 of
26 August 45.

WILLIAM H. STINE,
Rear Admiral, USNR,
Chief Commissioner.

Enc1 - 2.

Copies to: U.S. Ambassador,
British Ambassador,
Pol. Ad(A)
Pol. Ad(B)

3456

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

Ref: 512/30/EC.

5 Sept. 45.

My dear Doctor De Gasperi,

Thank you for your letter, 3/1422 of 26 August. A copy of this letter and the enclosure has been sent to Allied Forces Headquarters.

I am very glad to have been informed of the progressive step taken by the Council of Ministers in regard to foreign minorities in Italy generally and in the Valle d'Aosta in particular.

Yours very truly,

15/ Henry M. Stone

WILEY M. STONE,
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.R.,
Chief Commissioner.

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Italian Government,
R O M E.

(30)

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

3454

August. A copy of this letter and the enclosure has been sent to Allied Force Headquarters.

I am very glad to have been informed of the progressive step taken by the Council of Ministers in regard to foreign minorities in Italy generally and in the Valle d'Aoste in particular.

Yours very truly,

12/12/44

ELIOT W. STONE,
Rear Admiral, U.S.N.R.,
Chief Counselor.

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Italian Government,
R O M E.

(Translation)

The Minister of Foreign Affairs

3/1422

Rome, 26 August 1945

regu. 104

(27)

25 AUG 1945

(16)

Dear Admiral,

referring to my letter of July 16th, n. 3/1152, I enclose the text of the official note issued after the meeting of the Council of Ministers of the 23rd current month, in relation with the action which the Royal Government has taken to assure the administrative autonomy of Valle d'Aosta, and similar dispositions which it intends to take in favour of the other regions of the northern and eastern frontiers where part of the population is foreign.

I don't need to stress the fact that by carrying out under a concrete form, and after barely more than a month, the regulations announced in a general way in a statement of July 12th, and announcing that similar action is to be taken on the same basis and in the same spirit for Venezia Tridentina and Venezia Giulia, the Italian government confirms and proves by facts that it definitely intends to reach a fair and rapid settling of the internal problems of such zones of her own frontiers as have foreign populations. At the same time, this brings an efficacious contribution to the solving of the international aspects of the said problems.

The fact that discussions are now taking place with local representatives in Alto Adige and that more discussions are to begin with the local representatives of Venezia Giulia, to come to an agreement about the principles of the regional autonomy which has been promised to these territories, clearly shows that the solution of these very complex problems is being reached through methods of a scrupulous democratic justice, taking in consideration the real interests and requirements of the population.

I trust you will appreciate to its full value the meaning of the note which I enclose and point out to the Allied governments how effective a contribution Italy is bringing to the peaceful solution of the problems concerning her frontier zone, by carrying out the principles expressed in this note.

Believe me,

Yours very truly,

A. De Gasperi

28-240
E. 30 31

Admiral Gregory W. Stone
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission

Rome

trans. c/o

(S/Com. 1000)

EC 1155-28 AUG 45

Action: Ex Com R 35

INFO: CHM Com 3453

Polad (A)

Polad (B)

Translation

26

*because

*The deliberation of the Council of Ministers regarding Valle d'Aosta is important in itself and of the tendency of the democratic government which it expresses. It grants to a territory inhabited by Italian citizens, who speak another language, complete equality of language, and administrative decentralization in every matter of local interest, which may be defined as truly broad-minded and new. It is a matter of self-administration in which the men elected by the people will exercise not only their own powers but also functions delegated to them by the State.

The principle of institutional decentralization is also asserted in the legislative decree for Valle d'Aosta. The Aosta Council will be entitled to deliberate legal regulations to discipline such matters as have been decentralized. The road to local legislation is therefore open. On this matter, more legal regulations have been foreseen, and a final legal discrimination will only be possible at the Costituente, when the decentralizing tendency which has asserted itself in so many parts of the country will have been made concrete in a fundamental law.

However, even now, the legislative decree for Valle d'Aosta proves that, for what concerns local autonomies, the democratic Government does not limit itself to the solemn general statement, recently made during the Council of Ministers, but means to face the concrete situation little by little.

In the same way as for Valle d'Aosta, the Government intends to elaborate in the same spirit the regulations which are necessary for the regions of the Eastern frontiers and for those of the Northern frontiers, consulting the representatives of the populations and of local interests. To the Alto Adige in particular, the Council of Ministers has already referred, we may now add that negotiations are now taking place, and to be carried on without delay, in relation with the problem of the regional autonomy of Venezia Tridentina, where the need for administrative autonomy is greatly felt."

trans. o/c

3482

Ministro degli Affari Esteri

3/11/52

Roma,

Caro Ammiraglio,

Con riferimento alla mia lettera n. 3/1152 del 16 luglio c.a., Le trasmetto qui accluso il testo della nota ufficiale diramata in seguito alla riunione del Consiglio dei Ministri del 23 corrente relativo ai provvedimenti che il R. Governo ha adottato per assicurare l'autonomia amministrativa alla Valle d'Aosta, ed alle analoghe disposizioni che si prepara ad adottare in favore delle altre regioni allogene della frontiera settentrionale ed orientale.

Non occorre che io Le sottolinei come, attuando in forma concreta, ad appena poco più di un mese di tempo, i provvedimenti annunciati colla dichiarazione generica del 12 luglio scorso, ed annunciando che analoghe misure stanno per essere adottate sulle medesime basi e nel medesimo spirito per la Venezia Tridentina e per la Venezia Giulia, il governo italiano conferma e dimostra coi fatti la propria precisa intenzione di giungere ad una pronta ed equa soluzione dei problemi interni relativi alle zone allogene delle proprie frontiere. Esso arreca al tempo stesso un efficace contributo alla soluzione degli aspetti internazionali dei problemi stessi.

Il fatto che consultazioni siano attualmente in corso con esponenti locali in Alto Adige, ed altre stiano per avere

niatri del 23 corrente relativo ai provvedimenti che il R.Governo ha adottato per assicurare l'autonomia amministrativa alla Valle d'Aosta, ed alle analoghe disposizioni che si prepara ad adottare in favore delle altre regioni allojene della frontiera settentrionale ed orientale.

Non occorre che io Le sottolineei come, attuando in forma concreta, ed appena poco più di un mese di tempo, i provvedimenti annunciati colla dichiarazione generica del 12 luglio scorso, ed annunciando che analoghe misure stanno per essere adottate sulle medesime basi e nel medesimo spirito per la Venezia Tridentina e per la Venezia Giulia, il governo italiano conferma e dimostra coi fatti la propria precisa intenzione di giungere ad una pronta ed equa soluzione dei problemi interni relativi alle zone allojene delle proprie frontiere. Esso arreca al tempo stesso un efficace contributo alla soluzione degli aspetti internazionali dei problemi stessi.

Il fatto che consultazioni siano attualmente in corso con esponenti locali in Alto Adige, ed altre stiano per avere inizio con esponenti locali della Venezia Giulia, al fine di concordare i principi della promessa autonomia regionale a quei territori indica chiaramente come la soluzione di questi problemi oltremodo complessi venga condotta attraverso metodi di scrupolosa giustizia democratica tenendo conto dei reali

./.

All'Ammiraglio Ellery W. STONE, U.S.N.R.
Capo della Commissione Alleata

R o m a

interessi e delle necessità di quelle popolazioni.

Sono certo che Ella vorrà apprezzare nel suo giusto valore il significato della nota che Le trasmetto e segnalare ai nostri Alleati l'effettivo contributo che, attraverso l'attuazione dei principi in essa esposti l'Italia arreca alla pacifica soluzione dei problemi relativi alle sue zone di frontiera.

Con i migliori saluti

De Gaulle

24

La deliberazione del Consiglio dei Ministri circa la Valle d'Aosta è importante per sé e per l'orientamento del governo democratico che essa manifesta. Essa concede ad un territorio abitato da cittadini italiani d'altra lingua la completa partecipazione linguistica e un decentramento amministrativo in ogni materia d'interesse locale che si può definire veramente larga e innovatore. Si tratta di un'autosamministrazione nella quale gli eletti del popolo esercitano tutti i poteri propri anche funzioni e loro delegare dallo Stato.

Nel decreto legislativo per la Valle d'Aosta è inoltre affermata il principio di decentramento istituzionale. Il Consiglio d'Aosta avrà facoltà di deliberare norme giuridiche per disciplinare le materie ed esso è esente. L'Unione sposta la via alla legislazione legislativi e una definitiva circoscrizione giurisdizionale non sarà possibile se non in base al Costituzione, quando in una legge fondamentale si sarà concretata la tendenza decentratrice affermata in tante parti del paese.

Da già con il decreto legislativo per la Valle d'Aosta è una prova che il governo democratico per quanto riguarda le autonomie locali, non si limita alla solenne dichiarazione generica, fatta recentemente nel Consiglio dei Ministri, ma intende effettivamente mettere in atto la concreta attuazione.

Il Governo, come ha fatto per la Valle d'Aosta, intende ora

no oltre i poteri propri anche funzioni e loro delegate allo Stato.

Nel decreto legislativo per la Valle d'Aosta e inoltre a Crerna, to il principio di decentramento istituzionale. Il Consiglio d'Aosta avrà facoltà di deliberare norme giuridiche per disciplinare le materie ed esso decentrate. E' dunque aperta la via alla legislazione locale. Su questo terreno sono previsti ulteriori provvedimenti legislativi e una definitiva dichiarazione giuridica non sarà possibile se non in sede di costituente, quando in un legge fondamentale si sarà concretata la tendenza decentratrice affermata in tante parti del paese.

La già ora il decreto legislativo per la Valle d'Aosta è una prova che il governo democratico per quanto riguarda le autonomie locali, non si limita alla solenne dichiarazione generica, fatta recentemente nel Consiglio dei Ministri, ma intende affrontarne mano a mano la concreta attuazione.

Il governo, come ha fatto per la Valle d'Aosta, intende ora elaborare con lo stesso spirito i necessari provvedimenti per le regioni della frontiera orientale e per quelle della frontiera settentrionale, consultando gli esponenti delle popolazioni e degli interessi locali. All'Alto Adige in particolare, il Consiglio dei Ministri ha già altre volte fatto riferimento: si può ora aggiungere che sono in corso consultazioni che verranno rapidamente condotte anche in rapporto al problema dell'autonomia regionale della Venezia Tridentina, nella quale l'esigenza dell'autonomia amministrativa è largamente sentita.

32 d)

Ex. Comm (21)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Political Adviser (A)

To : Executive Commissioner

Subject: Italian Government Policy with respect to
non-Italian speaking subjects

UL 34 1945

Reference is made to the Foreign Minister's letter of July 16, 1945, to the Chief Commissioner regarding the policy of the Italian Government, recently adopted, with respect to non-Italian speaking subjects and local autonomy for Val d'Aosta.

X It is suggested that the Chief Commissioner acknowledge the Foreign Minister's letter by thanking him for bringing this progressive step on the part of the Italian Government to his attention.

If desirable, some expression to the effect that this action will undoubtedly contribute to the internal peace and stability of Italy might be included.

J. Wesley Jones
J. Wesley Jones

Rome, July 21, 1945

See M 22. 23.

See M 22. 23

479
28
1

(Cso)

312.19

(70)

JUL 23 1956

916 02 711

Chief of Staff of the
Executive Committee

(4)

Reference your letter dated July 1956.

A similar letter was addressed by me to the
President of the United States. I have forwarded a copy to the
Foreign Office. I have no particular comment to
make except that the action of the Italian Government
was taken along the right lines.

V. Hopkinson

cc. x. 1. 15

Collected material (1956)

Copy to be made (1)

3478

Ref: 311/9/80.

25 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Administration of Val D'Aosta.

TO : Allied Force Headquarters,
Attn: G-5 Section.

I attach hereto for your information copy of letter
received from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, No. 3/1151 dated
16 July 1945, with its attached statement on Italian proposals
in Val D'Aosta.

(Sgx) EILEEN W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USN
Chief Commissioner

Incl:
as above

Copy to: U.S. Ambassador
Br. Ambassador
R.C. Piemonte Region

18
16
15
19
5577

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

Ref : 311/8/50.

25 July 45

My dear Dr. De Gasperi :

Thank you for your letter No. 3/1151 dated 16
July 1945.

I am sending copy of your letter to AFHQ, together
with the statement which you enclosed on Val D'Aceta, so that
it may have every consideration by higher authority.

Yours very truly,

(Sgk) ELLERY W. STONE
Rear Admiral, USNR
Chief Commissioner

Dr. Alcide De Gasperi
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Italian Government
Rome.

See H/13476

Translation

State Department

3/11/51

1000, 10 July 1945

Dear Admiral,

I enclose the text of the statement which the Council of Ministers approved during the meeting of the 11th, concerning the regulations which the Italian Government means to issue a propos of the citizens of the Kingdom who do not speak Italian. This statement is followed by a pledge about the local autonomy which will be granted to Val d'Aoste.

I do not need to stress the fact that the principles adopted by the Council of Ministers form a solemn pledge towards the Italian citizens of all lineages and of all regions, pledge which will find its concrete juridical expression in the laws which will sanction the democratic organization of new Italy.

As you will see, the statutes of the Government foresee not only the safeguard of individual rights to freedom, but also that of the public rights of all citizens, guaranteed by adequate political and administrative institutions. It was made according to the spirit of liberty for which the United Nations have been fighting, and I trust that it will therefore be favourably received by public opinion in all truly democratic countries.

Above all, I want to add that the principles approved by the Council of Ministers, in conformity with the highest Italian juridical tradition, seem to form - and I think they do form - a concrete contribution to a fair and peaceful solution of the problems concerning the frontier zones of the Kingdom, which, I feel certain, is wished by the Allied Commission as keenly as by the Italian Government.

I remain, my dear Admiral,

Truly yours,

A. De Gasperi

Admiral Henry H. Stone,
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Rome

c/s

(See 27)
3415

See 17+18

Translation

8

15

The Italian Government reasserts that the democratic renewal of the State must necessarily imply various special guarantees for the citizens that do not speak Italian.

Free use of the language will be admitted and guaranteed not only in private trading relations, public meetings, exercise of the cult, press, but also in the relations with political, administrative and juridical authorities. In the localities where there is a considerable proportion of citizens who do not speak Italian, the teaching and the use of the maternal language will be guaranteed in the public schools.

The particular requirements of the zones inhabited by populations which have a different language or tradition will find their safeguard in the free functioning of an appropriate regime of local autonomies.

Having acknowledged the particular requirements of the Val d'Aosta, the Council of Ministers has decided to establish for it a particular regime of local autonomy, completed by appropriate economic and financial regulations, and it has entrusted a Committee of Ministers to draft the corresponding regulations, based on the draft presented by the C.I.M. of the Val d'Aosta, which will be submitted to the Council of Ministers of July 8th.

e/c

3474

Il Dipartimento degli Affari Esteri

3/1154

Roma, 19 LUGLIO 1945

Caro Ambasciatore,

Le trasmetto qui enclosed il testo della dichiarazione che il Consiglio dei Ministri ha approvato nella seduta dell'11 a.m. merito alla direttiva che il governo italiano intende adottare nei confronti dei cittadini del Regno Unito, sua diversa da quella tedesca. Alla dichiarazione segue un impegno circa l'autonomia locale che verrà concessa alle Val d'Aosta.

Non occorre che io le sottolinei che i principi adottati dal Consiglio dei Ministri costituiscono un valore importante nei confronti dei cittadini italiani di tutte le età, e di tutte le regioni, impegno che troverà la sua concreta espressione giuridica nella legge che sancirà l'ordinamento amministrativo della nuova Italia.

La dichiarazione del Governo, come lei constaterà, prevede non solo la tutela dei diritti individuali di libertà, ma anche quella dei diritti pubblici di tutti i cittadini, merita da opportuni istituti politici o amministrativi. Essa è stata fatta nelle stesse spirito di libertà per cui sono come in campo le libertà tutte e sono certo che sarà pertanto accolta con favore dall'opinione pubblica di tutti i paesi veramente democratici.

I.C.

Nell'11 con un voto alla sinistra del governo italiano in-
 tende ottenere nel confronto del 1978 alla del 24-25 di 111-
 una diversa da quella italiana. Alle dimissioni segue u-
 ispetta circa l'autonomia locale che vorrà mantenere alla sal-
 d'acqua.

Non occorre dire che le sottigliezze che i partiti non-
 tutti del Consiglio dei Ministri vorrebbero un ordine in-
 meno del confronto del 1978 tra i partiti di centro e di sin-
 tra di tutte le regioni, sapere che trovarli la sua natura.
 La rappresentazione globale delle 12 che suscitano l'ordi-
 namento internazionale della nuova Italia.

La legislazione del governo, come del resto
 re, prevede per solo la tutela dei diritti individuali di li-
 bertà, su quelle quelle dei diritti pubblici di tutti i citta-
 dini, garantita da opportuni istituti politici e costituzio-
 nali. Essa è stata fatta nella storia, letto di libertà
 per cui sono state in corso le elezioni del 1978 e sono certo
 che sarà pertanto accolto con favore dell'opinione pubblica
 di tutti i paesi veramente democratici.

La coproduzione verrà espletare che i principali
 approvati del Consiglio dei Ministri, conformemente alla

Amministrato Enrico M. Siano, S.S.R.S.
 Capo della Commissione Alleanza

R.O. 1.4

13

Il governo italiano riafferma che il rinnovamento democratico dello Stato deve necessariamente comportare un complesso di speciali garanzie per i cittadini di lingua diversa dall'italiana.

Garà anzitutto il libero uso della lingua non solo nelle relazioni private di commercio, nelle riunioni pubbliche, nell'esercizio del culto, nella stampa, ma anche nei rapporti con le autorità politiche, amministrative e giudiziarie. Nelle località dove risiedono in proporzione considerevole cittadini di lingue diverse dall'italiana, sarà garantita nelle scuole pubbliche l'insegnamento e l'uso della lingua materna.

Le particolari esigenze delle zone abitate da popolazioni di lingua o tradizioni diverse troveranno la loro tutela nel libero funzionamento di un appropriato regime di autonomie locali.

Presso atto delle peculiari esigenze della Valle d'Aosta, il Consiglio dei Ministri ha deciso di istituire per essa un regime particolare di autonomia locale, integrato da adeguate misure economiche e finanziarie ed ha incaricato un Comitato di Ministri di elaborare, in base al progetto presentato dal C.I.N. Valdostano, le norme relative che saranno sottoposte al Consiglio dei Ministri nel 25 luglio prossimo.

nell'esercizio del culto, della storia, la ricerca dei rapporti con le autorità politiche, amministrative e giudiziarie. Nelle località dove risiede in proporzione considerevole cittadini di lingua diversa dall'italiana, sarà garantito nelle scuole pubbliche l'insegnamento e l'uso della lingua materna.

In particolari esigenze delle zone abitate da popolazioni di lingua o tradizioni diverse troveranno la loro tutela nel libero funzionamento di un appropriato regime di autonomia locale.

Il Consiglio delle peculiarità esigenze della Valle d'Aosta, il Consiglio dei Ministri ha deciso di istituire per essa un regime particolare di autonomia locale, integrato da adeguata misure economiche e finanziarie ed ha incaricato un Comitato di Ministri di elaborare, in base al progetto presentato dal C.N.A.P. Valdostano, le norme relative che saranno sottoposte al Consiglio dei Ministri del 25 luglio prossimo.

Il luglio 1945

3472

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

Top Secret
Confidential (H)

Ref: 342/5/80.

20 July 45.

Subject: Situation in Val d'Aosta.

To: Regional Commissioner,
F I E M O N T E.

Attached please find paraphrase of a cable from DIST 80,
G.S.I., giving a picture of current negotiations between delegates
of Val d'Aosta and the Italian Government, which is forwarded for
your information.

[Signature]
Brigadier,
Executive Commissioner.

Encl - 1.

BU 24 / 1
Noted
3471
1A
2/17

TOP SECRET

Summary of current negotiations between delegations of the Italian Government, obtained by an officer of the Italian Government, operated in the area for 90 days during the same period.

1.

Many discussions have taken place between Professor CHABOD, delegate of Aosta and Vice-Prefect of Aosta Eugenio Dugoni, delegate of CINA on Government Committee for study of Aosta problems, and ministers of all parties. It is understood that the Italian Government will reach final decision of the future status of Val d'Aosta on 25 July.

2.

Main original demands of the Valdostani were as follows :-

- a) Administrative and cultural autonomy.
- b) All public waters to become property of Aosta.
- c) Fiscal autonomy.
- d) Aosta Province to become free custom zone.

3.

These demands were not entirely acceptable to the government. A majority agreement appears to have been reached on the following points :-

- a) Administrative and cultural autonomy to be granted. The boundaries of the autonomous province to be :-

East: Ponte San Martino - J.1786
South: Watershed between
Val d'Aosta & Canavese

- b) Val d'Aosta to be administered by a Council of 25 members, elected by Consigliere Comunal of towns and villages of Val d'Aosta. Council to nominate its President and Giunta of five members.
- c) President of Val d'Aosta council to assume Prefect's powers. Council of valley to be consulted by Government on all laws and decrees affecting Val d'Aosta.
- d) French and Italian to be official languages. Schools to pass under valley control.
- e) Government to retain administration of army justice and coinage.
- f) Budget to be prepared and approved by council without Government

c) Fiscal autonomy.

d) Aosta Province to become free custom zone.

3.

These demands were not entirely acceptable to the government. A majority agreement appears to have been reached on the following points :-

a) Administrative and cultural autonomy to be granted. The boundaries of the autonomous province to be :-

East: Monte San Martino - J.1786
South: Watershed between
Val d'Aosta & Courmayeur

b) Val d'Aosta to be administered by a Council of 25 members, elected by Conseiliers Communaux of towns and villages of Val d'Aosta. Council to nominate its President and Giunta of five members.

c) President of Val d'Aosta council to assume Prefect's powers. Council of valley to be consulted by Government on all laws and decrees affecting Val d'Aosta.

d) French and Italian to be official languages. Schools to pass under valley control.

e) Government to retain administration of army justice and courts.

f) Budget to be prepared and approved by council without governmental control.

g) Concessions already granted on most public water. On few waters remaining perpetual concession to be granted free of charge, though public waters remain legally state property.

h) Mines to follow same rules as waters.

i) Woods belonging to state to become the property of the Valley.

j) Taxes to remain state privilege. Government agrees to help the valley in covering expenses of local public services and reconstruction; also to alleviate tax burden on small landowners.

/s/ The

...2.

~~Confidential~~ 9

The question of free custom zone is expected to encounter strong Government opposition. From it Valdostano export cheap prices which will attract new industries and profitable tourist traffic. They also see in it the only decisive argument with sufficient popular appeal to counter strong French propaganda and French promises to grant exemption from all taxes for fifty years.

At a small meeting at Courmayeur 51 on 15 July attended by influential Valdostano including Dugoni, no common view was reached. Minority was prepared to abandon demand for a free zone in return for Government money compensation. Majority insisted that institution of free zone was the only chance of saving Val d'Aosta from the French, and wished to delay the whole question of autonomy until it could be submitted to the Constituents. Arguments against post-independence were:-

- a) That it would strengthen French propaganda to the effect that, for the last 30 years, Valdostano have never obtained anything but unfulfilled promises from Italians.
- b) Present atmosphere in Government circles, impressed by French attitude and carefully prepared by Chabod, Dugoni and others, was golden opportunity for Aosta.

As a compromise it was agreed that delegates would insist on free zone, but if on 25 July it is clear that this is not acceptable to the Government they will ask

- a) For immediate autonomy.
- b) That the question of the free zone be left open for examination by the Constituents.
- c) That meantime the government should give tangible proof of their goodwill in the form of material compensation.

The real reason for the present suggested compromise is that delegates are anxious to keep the question of free zone open so as to ensure against French gaining majority if a plebiscite is demanded in connexion with the Peace Conference.

Probable supporters of free zone will be Brozio, Fogliatti, Aninatti. Ruin is opposed.

O.S.S. Q and A north Italian report no: 18 of 10 June gives a good background to Aosta problem.

but unfulfilled promises from Italians.

- b) Present atmosphere in Government circles, impressed by French attitude and carefully prepared by Chabod, Dugani and others, was given opportunity for Aosta.

6.

As a compromise it was agreed that delegates would insist on free zone, but if on 25 July it is clear that this is not acceptable to the Government they will ask

- a) For immediate autonomy.
- b) That the question of the free zone be left open for examination by the Constituents.
- c) That meantime the Government should give tangible proof of their goodwill in the form of material compensation.

7.

The real reason for the present suggested compromise is that delegates are anxious to keep the question of free zone open so as to ensure against French gaining majority if a plebiscite is demanded in connexion with the Peace Conference.

8.

Probable supporters of free zone will be Brozio, Togliatti, Raimondi. Raimondi is opposed.

9.

O.S.S. Q and A north Italian report no: 18 of 10 June gives a good background to Aosta problem.

3409

3/2 Ex Commissioner
INCOMING MESSAGE (8)

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION Copy No 1

Originator's Reference: GSI A610
Date/Time of Origin: JULY 170107

Message Centre No. P/332

Date/Time of Receipt: JULY 191430

Precedence: ROUTINE

FROM: GSI DISTWO

TO: AFHQ G2 INFO RAAC FOR BRITISH EMBASSY AND US EMBASSY (INFO)
ALCOM PER TELEPHONE MESSAGE FROM RAAC)

JUL 19 1945

TOP SECRET.

Following is picture of current negotiations between delegates of VAL D'AOSTA and Italian Government obtained by officer who operated in VAL D'AOSTA for SOM during CLANDESTINE period, is persona grata with VAL D'AOSTA delegates and is at present on staff of GSI DISTWO. In view of domestic nature of negotiations and stage they have reached request that source be safeguarded and information contained in this signal be used with appropriate circumspection.

1. During past 6 weeks many discussions have taken place between Professor FEDERICO CHABOD delegate of: AOSTA and Ex Vice Prefect of AOSTA EUGENIO DUGONI delegate of CLNAI on government committee for study of AOSTA problems and ministers of all parties. Understand that Italian Government will reach final decision on future status of VAL D'AOSTA on 25th July.

2. Following were main original demands of VALDOSTANI.

- A. Administrative and cultural autonomy.
- B. All public waters to become property of AOSTA.
- C. Fiscal autonomy.
- D. AOSTA Province to become free custom zone.

3. These demands were not entirely acceptable to government but a majority agreement appears to have been reached on following points.

- A. Administrative and cultural autonomy to be granted.

Boundaries of autonomous province to be. East. PONTE SAN MARTINO 31786.

South. Watershed between VAL D'AOSTA and CANAVASE.

0342

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

CONT JATION PAGE 2

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential

~~TOP SECRET~~
7

B. VALDAOSTA to be administered by council of 25 members elected by Consiglieri comunali of towns and villages of VALDAOSTA. Council to nominate its president and GIUNTA of 5 members.

C. President of VALDAOSTA council to assume powers normally invested in Prefect. Council of valley to be in charge of public order and administration are to be consulted by government on all laws and degrees affecting VALDAOSTA.

D. Both French and Italian to be official languages. Schools to pass under valley control.

E. Government to retain administration of army justice and communications.

F. Budget of valley to be prepared and approved by council without governmental control.

G. Concessions have already been granted on most public water. On the few waters remaining free perpetual concession are to be granted free of charge to AOSTA though all public waters are legally to remain state property.

H. Mines to follow same rules as waters.

I. Woods belonging to state to become property of valley.

J. Taxes to remain state privilege. Government however agrees to help valley in covering expenses of local public services and reconstruction. Also to alleviate tax burden on small landowners.

4. Question of free custom zone is the major issue and is expected to encounter strong government opposition. From it VALDOSTANO expect cheap prices which will attract new industries and profitable tourist traffic they also see in it only decisive argument with sufficient popular appeal to counter strong French propaganda and French promise to grant exemption from all taxes for 50 years.

3467

~~TOP SECRET~~

CONTINUATION PAGE 3

TOP SECRET

Confidential

6

5. At small meeting at COURMAYEUR 51 on 15 July attended by influential VALDOSTANO including DUGONI and at which source EAS present no common view was reached. Minority was prepared to abandon demand for free zone in return for government money compensation. Majority insisted that institution of free zone was only chance of saving AOSTA from the French but wished to delay whole question of autonomy until it could be submitted to the Costituente. Arguments against postponement were

(A) That it would strengthen French propaganda to the effect that for past 30 years VALSOSTANO have never obtained anything but unfulfilled promises from Italians

(B) Present atmosphere in government circles impressed by French attitude and carefully prepared by CHABOD DUGONI and others was golden opportunity for AOSTA.

6. As a compromise it was agreed that delegates would insist on free zone but that if on 25 July it is clear that this is not acceptable to government they will ask

(A) For immediate autonomy

(B) That question of free zone be left open for examination by Costituente

(C) That meantime government should give tangible proof of goodwill in form of material compensation.

7. Real reason for present suggested compromise is that delegates are anxious to keep question of free zone open so as to ensure against French gaining majority if a plebiscite is demanded in connection with the peace conference.

3406

TOP SECRET

CONTINUATION PAGE 4

~~TOP SECRET~~ Confidential

Probable supporters of free zone will be BROSIO TOGLIATTI
ENINUDI. RUINI is opposed.

9.. OSS Q and A north Italian report number 18 dated 10 June
45 gives good background to ACSTA problem.

DIST

COPY NO 1& 2	INFO-ACTION - EXEC COMMISSIONER 2
3	INFO - CHIEF COMMISSIONER
4	POLAD (A)
5	POLAD (B)
6	CA SEC
7	ECON SEC
8	FILE

TOP SECRET

3465

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

(4)

Ref: J11/3/20

18 July 45

SUBJECT: Italian Government Policy

TO : Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)

SEE TO

(3)

I enclose copy of a letter, 3/1151, dated 16 July 45, from Dr.
de Gasperi and shall be grateful for your comments thereon.

1 Incl:
as above

H. E. S. Menden
Chief Staff Officer,
To Executive Commissioner.

me 20-21

H/V
23/7
Glaser

PA 3404

1 4

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

Translation

State Department

3/11/51

Rome, 16 July 1945

Dear Admiral,

I enclose the text of the statement which the Council of Ministers approved during the meeting of the 11th, concerning the regulations which the Italian Government means to issue a propos of the citizens of the Kingdom who do not speak Italian. This statement is followed by a pledge about the local autonomy which will be granted to Val d'Aosta.

I do not need to stress the fact that the principles adopted by the Council of Ministers form a solemn pledge towards the Italian citizens of all lineage and of all regions, pledge which will find its concrete juridical expression in the laws which will sanction the democratic organization of new Italy.

As you will see, the statement of the Government foresees not only the safeguard of individual rights to freedom, but also that of the public rights of all citizens, guaranteed by adequate political and administrative institutions. It has been made according to the spirit of liberty for which the United Nations have been fighting, and I trust that it will therefore be favourably received by public opinion in all truly democratic countries.

Above all, I want to add that the principles approved by the Council of Ministers, in conformity with the highest Italian juridical tradition, mean to form - and I think they do form - a concrete contribution to a fair and peaceful solution of the problems concerning the frontier zones of the Kingdom, which, I feel certain, is wished by the Allied Commission as keenly as by the Italian Government.

I remain, my dear Admiral,

Truly yours,

A. De Gasperi

Admiral Ellery S. Stone,
Chief Commissioner
Allied Commission
Geneva

e/o

EC 117-18 July 45

Action: Exec Comm

Info: Comm Comm 1403

Polaco (A)

Polaco (B)

14

0397

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

2

Translation

The Italian Government reasserts that the democratic renewal of the State must necessarily imply various special guarantees for the citizens that do not speak Italian.

Free use of the language will be admitted and guaranteed not only in private trading relations, public meetings, exercise of the cult, press, but also in the relations with political, administrative and juridical authorities. In the localities where there is a considerable proportion of citizens who do not speak Italian, the teaching and the use of the maternal language will be guaranteed in the public schools.

The particular requirements of the zones inhabited by populations which have a different language or tradition will find their safeguard in the free functioning of an appropriate regime of local autonomies.

Having acknowledged the particular requirements of the Val d'Aosta, the Council of Ministers has decided to establish for it a particular regime of local autonomy, completed by appropriate economic and financial regulations, and it has entrusted a Committee of Ministers to draft, the corresponding regulations, based on the draft presented by the C.L.A. of the val d'Aosta, which will be submitted to the Council of Ministers of July 25th.

e/c

3402

Extract from text/statement approved by the Council of Ministers, Italian Government, during meeting, 11 July 45, with reference to the regulations which the Italian Government proposed to issue.

(Folio 1, file 311/EC.)

"Having acknowledged the particular requirements of the Val d'Aosta, the Council of Ministers has decided to establish for it a particular regime of local autonomy, completed by appropriate economic and financial regulations, and it has entrusted a Committee of Ministers to draft, the corresponding regulations, based on the draft presented by the C.L.N. of the Val d'Aosta, which will be submitted to the Council of Ministers of July 25th."

0399