

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

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(VOL. II)

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

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MINUTES, VP'S MEETINGS
SEPT. 1945 - MAR. 1946

Sgt. G. L. Land

201

Col. F. L. Land to see minutes of
today's V.P. meeting - to
appear at next V.P. meeting
on Wednesday afternoon.

Per ^{V.P.} minutes sheet of 836/EC
88/44

10/10/44

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

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(137)

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133 SUMER.

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139 seen by Ex. C. 11/24

(144)

The 141-42 to Ex. Com if he has not seen

Ennet 30/10

145

was seen by Ex. Com

Ex. 3

147

of Ex. Com.

P. 146 for inf.

of 11 Nov 87

Ennet 7/11

Pa 1/11

151

154 seen by Ex. Com

Ex. 29

(157)

Ex. 24/14

157 for info: already seen by Ex. Com.

Envi 30/10

145
seen by Ex Com
147

Ps. 2

of Ex Com. 9 146 for info
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7/11

Pa 1/11

151
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157

Ps. 22

250. 24/10/14
157 for info: already seen by Ex Com.

153 29/11
154 27/11
155 1/12
156 1/12

157 1/12

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 551/54

29 March 1946

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 20 March 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Falken, Colonel Parkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warner, Captain Mente, Colonel Savko, Lieutenant Colonel Cross, Major Leeson, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Lieutenant Colonel Wilbe-Jones, Mr. Cleveland.

1. Future of AC

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 13 March, the Chief Commissioner stated that SACMED is dispatching a signal to CCS proposing that, while the functions of AC continue to be reduced, basically the form of AC and its responsibilities continue as they have been under SACMED as the ex-officio president. The signal also suggests that some additional delegation of authority be given to AC as was first done in the establishment of the COM-MOC message series permitting direct communication between AC and CCS on economic matters. There is still nothing definitive with respect to the future of AC, although press reports indicate discussions on a modus vivendi are being renewed in the apparent belief that the peace treaty will not be completed rapidly. There are three possibilities for AC: (1) Changed status under existing set-up under the armistice; (2) changed status if AC continues under modus vivendi; and (3) abolition of AC by modus vivendi or peace treaty, although it is expected that some form of inspectorate will be retained.

2. Boundary Commission

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 13 March, the Chief Commissioner stated that according to reports, the boundary commission did cross the Morgan Line into Zone B and is returning shortly to Trieste. Mr. Halford added that the discussions of the commission are being kept strictly secret and it is expected that an announcement will be made from Trieste but that the commission will return to London and report to the deputies of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

3. Political

Colonel Wilson, Lieutenant Colonel Wilke-

1. Future of AC

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 13 March, the Chief Commissioner stated that SACMED is dispatching a signal to CCS proposing that, while the functions of AC continue to be reduced, basically the form of AC and its responsibilities continue as they have been under SACMED as the ex-officio president. The signal also suggests that some additional delegation of authority be given to AC as was first done in the establishment of the COM-MED message series permitting direct communication between AC and CCS on economic matters. There is still nothing definitive with respect to the future of AC, although press reports indicate discussions on a modus vivendi are being renewed in the apparent belief that the peace treaty will not be completed rapidly. There are three possibilities for AC: (1) Changed status under existing set-up under the armistice; (2) changed status if AC continues under modus vivendi; and (3) abolition of AC by modus vivendi or peace treaty, although it is expected that some form of inspectorate will be retained.

2. Boundary Commission

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 13 March, the Chief Commissioner stated that according to reports, the boundary commission did cross the Morgan line into Zone 2 and is returning shortly to Trieste. Mr. Halford added that the discussions of the commission are being kept strictly secret and it is expected that an announcement will be made from Trieste but that the commission will return to London and report to the deputies of the Council of Foreign Ministers.

3. Political Resumé

Mr. Halford gave a brief resumé of the general political situation. Interest during the past week has been concentrated principally on the elections and the international situation. The Council of Ministers met 12 March and examined a project submitted by the Sicilian Consultative Assembly for a form of regional autonomy for Sicily. The High Commissioner for Sicily resigned his position to enter politics.

With regard to a modus vivendi for Italy, considerable speculation was caused by dispatches from Washington that Great Britain had withdrawn its previous objections, probably because the peace negotiations are getting on so very slowly. Mr. Jones stated that it was his understanding that the three powers have agreed in principle to a revision of the Armistice terms and that a draft document is now being studied. De Gasperi expressed great pleasure at the thought of a modus vivendi, which he said would permit Italy to settle down seriously to the work of reconstruction.

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The Lugotenente signed the laws on the referendum and the Constituent and returned them on 16 March to the President of the Council of Ministers with a letter in which he undertook to abide by the decisions of the referendum, which he said was in keeping with the traditions of the House of Savoy. He added that his Father's irrevocable withdrawal from public life was made in the same spirit. The Chief Commissioner observed that the Lugotenente's statement clarified the King's manifesto of 1944 which did not clearly state that the King would retire irrevocably from public life. Mr. Holford added that the Lugotenente's statement would probably strengthen his position in the electoral campaign.

4. Food Situation

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 13 March, Colonel Walton stated that a letter has been transmitted to C-5, AFHQ, informing them of the incidence of a coal shortage and requesting an investigation of the possibility of using coal from the Kraus mine. Mr. Cleveland stated that the prospects are not encouraging. 500,000 tons per month are set up monthly for the second quarter but only 37,000 tons of Ruhr coal is under discussion for that entire quarter with a possibility of more Ruhr coal in the second half.

9. Threat Station

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 13 March, Colonel Walton stated that March lendings are not expected to exceed 150,000 tons and that this being then consumptior it is anticipated that stocks on May 1st will be low. Mr. Cleveland stated that the Italian Government has been kept informed of the situation. No plans have yet been made to reduce the ration, and the Italians have even wanted to increase the ration in the spring, but UNRRA has not agreed.

6. Foramen Ceci

Colonel Walton reported that he had attended a conference in Milan on foreign trade. At the opening of the conference the Chief Commissioner's letter to the conference was read and well received and at the conclusion letters from the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of State were read. The conference was well attended and the general line taken by the businessmen was that they should have freedom from control and free use of foreign credits. A committee of five was appointed to present to the Government the conference's recommendations that the Government should let them know the channels to be used in foreign trade and the items in which they may not trade.

17. Unpolarized Light

Mr. Cleveland stated that the control committee of UNRRA has officially

and requesting an investigation of the possibility of using coal from the above mines. Mr. Cleveland stated that the prospects are not encouraging. 500,000 tons per month are set up monthly for the second quarter but only 39,000 tons of pure coal is under discussion for that entire quarter with a possibility of more pure coal in the second half.

5. Wheat Situation

With references to para 5 of Minutes of 13 March, Colonel Walton stated that March landings are not expected to exceed 150,000 tons and that this being less than consumption it is anticipated that stocks on May 1st will be low. Mr. Cleveland stated that the Italian Government has been kept informed of the situation. No plans have yet been made to reduce the ration, and the Italians have even wanted to increase the pasta ration in the cities, but UNRRA has not agreed.

6. Foreign Trade

Colonel Walton reported that he had attended a conference in Milan on foreign trade. At the opening of the conference the Chief Commissioner's letter to the conference was read and well received and at the conclusion letters from the U.S. Secretary and Assistant Secretary of State were read. The conference was well attended and the general line taken by the businessmen was that they should have freedom from control and free use of foreign credits. A committee of five was appointed to present to the Government the conference's recommendations that the Government should let them know the channels to be used in foreign trade and the means in which they may not trade.

7. UNRRA Supply Program

Mr. Cleveland stated that the central committee of UNRRA has officially approved the supply budget for 1946 for all receiving countries. Italy's share is taken as \$417,000,000, which included \$34,000,000 of the 1945 program, and of which \$125,000,000 is to be spent during the first six months of 1946.

At the Trieste meeting attended by Mr. Keeny it was decided to recommend to UNRRA, Washington, that charges incurred in handling UNRRA supplies through Trieste for other countries should not be borne by Italy, but that lire should be bought from the Italian Government to cover those expenses.

8. Metropolitan Lire

Colonel Timmons reported that Allied Armed Forces regulations have been changed to permit the interchange of Metropolitan Lire and All lire so that the two currencies are now in all respects equal. The Banca d'Italia is now the sole issuing authority for all lire.

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9. Liberty Ships

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 13 March, Colonel Timmons reported that there have been articles in economic papers that 50 Liberty ships are to be acquired from the U.S., the plan being to distribute these ships to shipowners in proportion to the damage they suffered through war losses. Mr. Cleveland stated that there is not yet any positive indication that the U.S. Government has agreed to sell these ships.

10. Minesweeping

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 13 March, Admiral Warren reported that the last of the crews to man the 30 minesweepers turned over to the Italian Navy by the Royal Navy have taken over their ships.

11. Repatriation

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 13 March, Admiral Warren reported that the TOSCANIA, the ASPIC, and the MYTELLO II are continuing their program. If the program can be continued, all PWs from North Africa will have been repatriated by July. General Browning reported that as at 18 March there were 25,000 Italian POWs in India and Ceylon to be repatriated, 200 remaining in the U.S. out of 51,000 there during the war, and 107,000 in the U.K. out of 158,000. Between 18 February and 18 March some 47,000 POWs were repatriated.

12. Elections

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 13 March, Brigadier Carr reported that 27% of the electoral rolls have now been approved, so that it can be assumed that by the end of March all electoral lists in Italian Government territory will have been approved except for Bolzano. Elections are held on 17 March in just over 1,000 communes throughout Italy. The results seem to follow the pattern set in the previous elections with the Christian Democrats receiving more votes than any other single party and only slightly fewer than the combined left-wing parties. Elections were orderly and there was only disturbance in Alass where polling booths were broken into and ballot boxes broken. Elections in this commune were declared null and void.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting: Wednesday, 27 March 40, 1000 hours

DISTRIBUTION:
Chief Commissioner
Executive Commr

W. STEARNS
Lt Col, ADC
Staff Officer to CC

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 13 March, Admiral Warren reported that the TOSCANI, the JERUZZI, and the MONTICELLI are continuing their programs. If the program can be continued, all 3 will be repatriated by July. General Browning reported that as of 18 March there were 26,000 Italian POW's in India and Ceylon to be repatriated, 200 remaining in the U.S. out of 51,000 there during the war, and 107,000 in the U.S. out of 158,000. Between 18 February and 18 March some 47,000 POW's were repatriated.

12. Elections

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 13 March, Brigadier Carr reported that 87% of the electoral rolls have now been approved, so that it can be assumed that by the end of March all electoral lists in Italian Government territory will have been approved except for Bolzano. Elections were held on 17 March in just over 1,000 communes throughout Italy. The results seem to follow the pattern set in the previous elections with the Christian Democrats receiving more votes than any other single party and only slightly fewer than the combined left-wing parties. Elections were orderly and there was only disturbance in Rieti where polling booths were broken into and ballot boxes broken. Elections in this commune were declared null and void.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting: Wednesday, 27 March 46 ~~1000~~ hours

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Corner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section (6)
VP, Establishment Section (2)
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
Navy Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces Subcommittee (M&IA)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (AC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AC)
Chief Legal Advisor (AC)
British Ambassador

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Lt Col, AGS

Staff Officer to CG

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APQ 194

CD 451/53

13 March 1946

M E M O R A N D U M

Vice President's Meeting, 1800 hours, 13 March 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Walters, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Capitaine Mollise, Lieutenant Colonel Gros, Major Leacock, Colonel Weber, Captain Gutteridge, Lieutenant Colonel Milne-Jones, Mr. Cleveland.

1. Future of AC

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, the Chief Commissioner reported that the only developments with regard to the future of the AC have been the recent discussions in Rome and at APQ. However, no directive has yet been received. The changes reported in para 1 of Minutes of 27 February in connection with the Economic Section have taken place.

2. Boundary Commission

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, the Chief Commissioner stated that the Venezia Giulia border commission had arrived in Trieste and begun its deliberations. The Italian Government has made a formal request that the commission visit all of the disputed areas including Piuma and Zara and that an Italian observer be attached to the commission, but so far no reply has been received. Mr. Jones stated that there is nothing official on the itinerary of the commission but it appears that the commission will go east of the Morgan Line.

3. Political Resume

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. Legislation for the Costituzione has developed along the lines reported by Mr. Hopkinson on 27 February. The Council of Ministers agreed on 27 February to the draft law submitted by the Prime Minister, providing for referendum on the institutional question and consultation with the elections for the Costituzione, the question

General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Capitaine Moullec, Lieutenant Colonel Gros, Major Leacacos, Colonel Weber, Captain Gubbartson, Lieutenant Colonel Wilber-Jones, Mr. Cleveland.

1. Future of AG

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, the Chief Commissioner reported that the only developments with regard to the future of the AG have been the recent discussions in Rome and at AGO. However, no directive has yet been received. The changes reported in para 1 of Minutes of 27 February in connection with the Economic Section have been plans.

2. Boundary Commission

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, the Chief Commissioner stated that the Venezia Giulia border commission had arrived in Trieste and begun its deliberations. The Italian Government has made a formal request that the commission visit all of the disputed areas including Fiume and Zara and that an Italian observer be attached to the commission, but so far no reply has been received. Mr. Jones stated that there is nothing official on the itinerary of the commission but it appears that the commission will go west of the Morgan Line.

3. Political Resumé

Mr. Jones gave a brief resumé of the general political situation. Legislation for the Constituent has developed along the lines reported by Mr. Hopkinson on 27 February. The Council of Ministers agreed on 27 February to the draft law submitted by the Prime Minister, providing for referendum on the institutional question to be held simultaneously with the elections for the Constituent, the question (tentatively agreed upon) is to asked if the voters being "Do you want the constitution of a republic?" Legislative powers will remain in the hands of the Government during the period of the Constituent except as regards electoral laws and approval of international treaties. The Government will be responsible to the Constituent. However, a Government crisis cannot be created solely by the Constituent's disapproval of or failure to approve Governmental actions, but only on a specific action of lack of confidence which must be passed by an absolute majority, the vote to be taken 48 hours after the election has been made. The Constituent will have its first meeting in Rome on the third day after the date of the elections. It shall cease its functions on the day the new constitution comes into force, and in any event it cannot last for more than a year. The law provides that any state officials not respecting decisions of the Constituent will be subject to heavy penalties. The law also prohibits ministers of religion and public officials from using their office to influence voters in the forthcoming elections. The Constituent passed the law limiting the powers of the Constituent and providing a referendum by a vote of 172 to 50 at a meeting that will probably

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to its last plenary session, although some of its committees will continue. The date for the referendum and elections was set for 2 June. With regard to the question of obligatory voting, it was agreed to impose moral sanctions rather than material sanctions on those failing to vote by posting their names publicly for a period of five years and by an appropriate notation on their good conduct certificates.

The Italian Ambassador to France resigned last week in order to re-enter Italian politics prior to the elections.

At his press conference, the Prime Minister stated that Italy wants the Brenner as the boundary between Austria and Italy. He also announced that it had been decided to go ahead with the formation of a commission without the participation of the South Tyrol People's Party for establishment of an autonomous government in the Upper Adige. In response to a question, the Prime Minister stated that he would not sign a peace treaty which would deprive Italy of Trieste. With regard to the elections for the Constituent, the Prime Minister announced that on the advice of the Allied a state ballot had been adopted to guarantee impartiality.

4. Coal Situation

Colonel Walker reported that February arrivals amounted to 513,000 tons of coal, about 50,000 tons of which was for military use. The outlook is not good, however, because there is every indication that there may shortly be a coal strike in the U.S., which information has been passed on to the Italian Government. Every effort has been made to get coal from the Ruhr but the difficulty is in getting the coal from the sources in Germany to the Polish border. Discussions are continuing with regard to Polish coal, but at the moment it appears that it would be necessary to use Italian rolling stock to transport the coal. There is a possibility that petroleum coke from the Persian Gulf may be imported. The Chief Commissioner requested Colonel Walker to review the minutes of the Joint Economic Committee to see if technical assistance should not be put to get coal out from the Area coal mines. Brigadier Lamb recommended that G-5 inform of the imminence of a coal shortage.

5. Wheat Situation

Mr. Cleveland reported that the wheat picture was poor and referred to Mr. Lehman's statement that every development in the past few months has been for the worse. March arrivals will be 240,000 tons, but March loadings will drop to 150,000 tons, plus about 50,000 tons coming in under the FEA program. In addition, 19,000 tons of flour for the Italian Army will arrive in March and April. Monthly requirements for Italy are about 230,000 tons.

stated that he would not sign a peace treaty which would deprive Italy of Trieste. With regard to the elections for the Constituent, the Prime Minister announced that on the advice of the Allies a state ballot had been adopted to guarantee impartiality.

4. Coal Situation

Colonel Walker reported that February arrivals amounted to 523,000 tons of coal, about 50,000 tons of which was for military use. The outlook is not good, however, because there is every indication that there may shortly be a coal strike in the U.S., which information has been passed on to the Italian Government. Every effort has been made to get coal from the Ruhr but the difficulty is in getting the coal from the source in Germany to the Swiss border. Discussions are continuing with regard to Polish coal, but at the moment it appears that it would be necessary to use Italian rolling stock to transport the coal. There is a possibility that petroleum will come from the Persian Gulf may be imported. The Chief Commissioner requested Colonel Walker to review the minutes of the Joint Economic Committee to see if any recommendations could be put to get coal out from the large coal mines. Brigadier Inch recommended that G-5 be informed of the imminence of a coal shortage.

5. Wheat Situation

Mr. Cleveland reported that the wheat picture was poor and referred to Mr. Lehman's statement that every development in the past few months has been for the worse. March arrivals will be 240,000 tons, but wheat loadings will drop to 150,000 tons, plus about 50,000 tons coming in under the 22A program. In addition, 19,000 tons of flour for the Italian Army will arrive in March and April. Monthly requirements for Italy are about 230,000 tons.

6. UNRRA Supply Program

Mr. Cleveland stated that the local UNRRA organization has recommended to Washington that expenses incurred by the Italian Government in handling UNRRA supplies for other countries should be covered by an increase in the appropriation for Italy. Washington has replied that the Italian Government should make funds available, but the Government has not yet agreed to do so. At the moment Mr. Koenig is at a meeting in Trieste on the problem of shipment of UNRRA supplies through North Italian ports. The total UNRRA supply budget for 1946 for Italy is \$27,000,000, of which \$25,000,000 has been earmarked for procurement during the first six months, so that almost all procurement is supposed to be made before 30 June. The money not spent at that time will be set to the general pool for reallocation.

7. Elections

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, Brigadier Carr reported that 98% of the electoral lists have been submitted, which virtually

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completes the compilation, and that 75% of the rolls have been approved. With reference to the elections held on 10 March, Brigadier Carr stated that no official report has yet been received from the Ministry of the Interior. Mr. Jones stated that according to press reports 426 communes in Italy held elections 10 March, with accounts to date showing principal strength in the Socialist-Communist bloc and in the Christian Democrats. Out of 330 communes reported on, the Christian Democrats won in 146, the left-wing groups in 123, and the other parties including independents in 63 communes. The elections held were mostly in the central and southern parts of Italy, although a few were held in the North. The Chief Commissioner requested that the AG observers note to see whether the electoral lists are being observed. Brigadier Carr reported that all the 91 communes of Bolzano have compiled electoral lists not including the cases of doubtful citizenship, but none of these lists have yet been approved. Mr. Jones added that the Government has stated that elections will not be possible in Venezia Giulia and in Bolzano because the electoral lists will not be ready. Brigadier Carr stated that the Government is still considering the decree relating to the Special Commission to decide cases of doubtful citizenship in Bolzano but it is not expected to be passed before 31 March. The Chief Commissioner asked Brigadier Carr to check with the political advisors to see if a letter should be prepared to the Prime Minister putting on pressure.

9. Disturbances

Brigadier Carr reported that information received by phone up to midday March 12th was that the situation in Trieste was quiet. The general strike in Gorizia had broken down. No reports have yet been received from the Liaison Officer at Palermo with regard to the disturbances there. It appears that 2 were killed and about 20 wounded in the outbreak.

9. Minesweeping

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, Admiral Warren stated that the British minesweepers have now left Lagoon and the minesweeping is now entirely up to the Italians under the direction of Mediterranean Zone Mine Clearance Board. A meeting was held at the Ministry of Marine to acquaint the Italians with the difficulties facing them and the Italians seem very keen to get on with the job. A further four crews have gone to Malta to take over British minesweepers.

10. Reconstruction

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, Admiral Warren stated that the MONTEDUCOLI has arrived with 800 POW's from Philadelphia. The Chief Commissioner stated that he had seen a report that there were only 50 Italian POW's left in the U.S. He could not believe the figure was so low and

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Brigadier Carr reported that information received by plane up to midday March 12th was that the situation in Trieste was quiet. The general strike in Gorizia had broken down. No reports have yet been received from the Liaison Officer at Palermo with regard to the disturbances there. It appears that 2 were killed and about 20 wounded in the outbreak.

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10. Repatriation

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 27 February 1946, Admiral Warren stated that the MONTENEGROLI has arrived with 800 POWs from Phillipville. The Chief Commissioner stated that he had seen a report that there were only 50 Italian POWs left in the U.S. He could not believe the figure was so low and asked General Browning to check. Mr. Hopkinson reported that a delegation had sailed on his protesting at the slowness of repatriating POWs from India and South Africa, claiming that non-operators were returning from India ahead of co-operators.

11. Liberty Ships

Mr. Cleveland stated that a law has been passed and signed in the U.S. making it possible for the U.S. Government to sell Liberty ships and that the Italian Ministry of the Treasury has earmarked money for loan payments on fifty ships. The Chief Commissioner asked Mr. Jones to check on the channel to be used for private operators who desire to buy ships. The Chief Commissioner stated that the AG should call the Italian Government's attention to this matter, requesting them to circulate shipowners so that members can know if they are permitted to buy the ships and what channel should be used.

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12. Italian Courier Service - Fare Paying

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 27 February, AVM Brodie stated that the subject of fares has been agreed with the Legal S/C, Economic Section, and Transportation S/C. In discussion with Minister Cavallotti, it was agreed that he would speak with the Minister of Transport and that when the plan has been approved in detail, the Air Ministry will coordinate action with the other members of the Government.

13. Italian Flights Outside Theater

AVM Brodie stated that approval has been given in principle for Italian Military Courier flights outside the theater to transport Italian officials to international meetings, etc., but approval is required in advance for each flight (from ARHQ, etc.).

14. Commercial Air Travel

AVM Brodie reported that the SOAC has advised ARHQ that a weekly schedule is now being flown between London, Marseilles, Rome, and Athens. 50% of the accommodations on each flight are reserved for military priorities and the other 50% are for civilians without priority. The fare to London is 27 pounds sterling, one way.

15. Summer Time

Brigadier Lush reported that at the request of the Italians, in order to conserve electric power, it has been decided to introduce summer time at 0200 hours 17 March, i.e., one hour advance.

16. Displaced Persons

Brigadier Lush stated that Colonel Findlay has returned from a trip through Austria and Germany and now believes that when the northern passes are open there will be a great increase in legal and illegal immigration into Italy. Colonel Findlay is preparing a full report on the trip. The Chief Commissioner suggested that a copy should go to the Italian Government. The necessity for tightening up on frontier control already has been brought to the attention of the Italian Government. The Chief Commissioner stated that the problem would not be readily solved until it has been decided what to do with the refugees in Europe. Brigadier Lush observed that the desire of these displaced persons to come to Italy does in a way speak well for the comparative condition of this country with the rest of Europe.

Brigadier Lush stated that although UNRRA was supposed to have taken over all camps for displaced persons in Italy by 1 February, there are still five camps under the jurisdiction of the Displaced Persons S/C, although there are UNRRA personnel at these camps.

AFM Brodie reported that the HMC has advised AFSC that a weekly schedule is now being flown between London, Marseilles, Rome, and Athens. 50% of the accommodations on each flight are reserved for military priorities and the other 50% are for civilians without priority. The fare to London is 27 pounds sterling, one way.

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Brigadier Lush stated that although UNRRA was supposed to have taken over all camps for displaced persons in Italy by 1 February, there are still five camps under the jurisdiction of the Displaced Persons S/C, although there are UNRRA representatives at the camps. UNRRA has taken the position that it has no responsibility until CCS ratify the agreement.

Mr. Hopkinson expressed his regrets to the members of the Vice Presidents' Meeting at his leaving the Allied Commission. On behalf of his colleagues, the Chief Commissioner stated that Mr. Hopkinson would be missed personally as well as officially, and thanked him for his excellent service to the Allied Commission.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting: Wednesday, 20 March 1946, 1000 hours

L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGO

cc Officer to CC

SECRET

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

Chief Commissioner
 Executive Commissioner
 VP, Civil Affairs Section
 VP, Economic Section (6)
 VP, Establishment Section (2)
 Political Advisor (A)
 Political Advisor (2)
 Navy Subcommittee (3)
 Land Forces Subcommittee (USIA)
 Air Forces Subcommittee
 French Representative, AC
 Soviet Representative, AC
 British Officer (EC)
 Public Relations Branch
 American Ambassador
 C-5, MHC (3)
 Chief Financial Advisor (AC)
 Chief Legal Advisor (AC)
 British Ambassador

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

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Public Relations Branch
Ambassador's Office
G-5, 3150 (5)
Chief Legal Advisor (AC)
Chief Legal Advisor (AC)
Public Relations

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CO 551/52

27 February 1946

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 27 February 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parzin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Kerr, Captain Martin, Colonel Savko, Capitaine Moulec, Major Leasacos, Lieutenant Colonel Hennrich, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Walton, Lieutenant Colonel Milne-Jones.

1. Future of AC

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 20 February 1946, the Chief Commissioner stated that there was nothing to report on the future of the AC. Certain changes in the Economic Section have been proposed to AFHQ partly because of the fact that FBI personnel are required to be out of the AC as of 1 March. The proposed changes will bring to an end the so-called "two-hat" arrangement whereby certain UNRRA officials were also AC officials. A skeleton Economic Section consisting of approximately 30 officers will be retained for the present.

2. Strength of Carabinieri

The Chief Commissioner stated that SACMED has agreed to AC proposals and has recommended to the CCS an increase of 10,000 in the authorized strength of the Carabinieri, bringing the ceiling up to 75,000. No reply has yet been received from the CCS but recommendations have been made independently through the embassy to the Foreign Office and the State Department to support the recommendation and also to prevent that strength in the final peace treaty. In this connection Brigadier Lush reported that there was a very definite increase in confidence in the Carabinieri, largely due to the improved equipment and better clothing with which the Carabinieri are now supplied.

3. Political Future

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The main item for the past week has been the discussions going on about the definition

Colonel Kerr, Captain Wenta, Colonel Savko, Capitaine Moullec, Major Descazes, Lieutenant Colonel Benguet, Lieutenant Colonel Simons, Colonel Walton, Lieutenant Colonel Wilbo-Jones.

1. Nature of AC

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 20 February 1946, the Chief Commissioner stated that there was nothing to report on the future of the AC. Certain changes in the Economic Section have been proposed to APM partly because of the fact that PM personnel are required to be out of the AC as of 1 March. The proposed changes will bring to an end the so-called "moshat" arrangement whereby certain UNRRA officials were also AC officials. A skeleton Economic Section consisting of approximately 30 officers will be retained for the present.

2. Strength of Carabinieri

The Chief Commissioner stated that SACMEI has agreed to AC proposals and has recommended to the CCS an increase of 10,000 in the authorized strength of the Carabinieri, bringing the ceiling up to 75,000. No reply has yet been received from the CCS but recommendations have been made independently through the embassy to the Foreign Office and the State Department to support the recommendation and also to permit that strength in the final peace treaty. In this connection Brigadier Lamb reported that there was a very definite increase in confidence in the Carabinieri, largely due to the improved equipment and better clothing with which the Carabinieri are now supplied.

3. Political Rumors

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The main item for the past week has been the discussions going on about the definition of powers of the constituent assembly and the question of a referendum on the institutional question. During the week there was considerable discussion in the Inner Cabinet (two representatives from each of the six parties) on these points. The Liberals wanted a double referendum, first on the institutional question and secondly on the powers of the Constituent, both referenda to be held at the same time. The Labor Democrats agreed with the Liberals in wanting two referenda. The Socialists took the line that the Constituent should be a sovereign assembly, but they would not object to a referendum on the institutional question after the Constituent had convened. Generally speaking, this represented the views of the Communists and the Action Party as well. The Christian Democrats wanted two referenda, the referendum on the institutional question to take place after the Constituent had convened. According to the press, the matter was resolved on 26 February when the Liberals won out. Thus, on 26 May when the national elections are held, the people will be called on to decide the institutional question. As reported, the conditions laid down are that at time of convening of the Constituent the present government will resign; and in case a referendum is favored the

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new president of the council will exercise powers as head of the state for the period of the mission of the Costituente. The powers of the costituente have not yet been defined.

The visit of the Venetian Giulia border commission has been postponed until next week due to a difference of opinion as to where the commission should be allowed to go. The Soviet proposal reportedly is that the commission should be allowed to visit only Trieste and the border claimed by Yugoslavia, while the other powers favor permitting the commission to go where they wish in both Zones A and B.

Speeches in the House of Commons by Mr. Macmillan and Mr. Bevin were well received in Italy, although the Chief Commissioner stated that some Italian officials were dismayed by Mr. Bevin's apparent willingness to consider ceding territory to others on the assumption that economic disarrangements caused thereby could be settled by trade agreements.

Mr. Jones reported that there has been considerable reaction in the press to the American suggestion that the Costituente should not have the powers of government, with the left-wing papers objecting to "American intervention in entirely Italian internal matters." The Italian Government has said nothing on the subject, although the American suggestion was submitted by the Prime Minister to the cabinet.

4. Wheat Situation

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 20 February 1946, Mr. Cleveland gave a brief review of the current wheat situation. Two months ago the Italian Government postponed 1/3 of the 300 grain ration and later reinstituted the equivalent of 25 grams. The present ration is therefore equivalent to 200 grams a day of bread and 500 grams of pasta per month. March wheat landings are still not yet assured and indications are that the wheat landings in March will be the lowest yet, which information has been passed to the Italian Government. There is a possibility that the small pasta ration that was reinstituted will again have to be postponed, although UNRRA has not made a recommendation to this effect to the Italian Government. The Chief Commissioner observed that the Government would probably not announce a reduction in the ration and might continue the present ration until the supply runs out in an effort to get more wheat into the country, unless UNRRA takes a firm stand. Brizzadori Lush stated that April is expected to be the worst month as the hidden reserves will then be out, and if there is no great rainfall the psychological reaction will not be helpful.

Mr. Cleveland reported that discussions are being held with the Italians on the anticipated Italian food deficit in 1946-1947, particularly as to whether or not the deficit should be covered by loans to be borrowed during the harvest in order to

could be settled by trade agreements.

Mr. Jones reported that there has been considerable reaction in the press to the American suggestion that the Constituent should not have the powers of government, with the left-wing papers objecting to "American intervention in entirely Italian internal matters." The Italian Government has said nothing on the subject, although the American suggestion was submitted by the Prime Minister to the cabinet.

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Mr. Cleveland reported that discussions are being held with the Italians on the anticipated Italian food deficit in 1946-1947, particularly as to whether or not the shortfalls should continue to be imported during the harvest in order to build up stocks for the next year. The Chief Commissioner recommended in this connection that other food prices as well be controlled in order that the farmers will not convert wheat acreage to other, more profitable products.

5. Elections

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 20 February 1946, Brigadier Carr stated that up to 16 February 96% of the electoral lists had been compiled and 56% approved. It is now expected that elections will be held during the period 10 March to 7 April in 4,835 communes.

6. Industrial Labor Relations

The Chief Commissioner reported that the difficulty caused in the North by workers' committees virtually taking over management functions in industry might soon be settled as a result of compromise between intelligent representatives of

of both labor and management. The trend appears to be along lines similar to those in the U.S. and U.K., that is, the setting up of labor-management committees but limiting their functions to those subjects normally covered in the U.S. and U.K. committees, i.e., wages and hours, working conditions and employee grievances and definitely excluding the committee from management functions. The system gives greater recognition to the worker than he had in the Fascist regime. The first such agreement to be announced would probably be that made with the Fiat Group. The Chief Commissioner added that if the next step would be the transfer of administration of unemployment compensation from private management to the Government, a national set-up will finally be obtained.

7. Air Transport of Perishables

Air Vice Marshal Brodie reported that arrangements have been made for the transport of perishable foods, fish, etc., by Air Citta Sardinia to Rome for communal kitchens and a similar arrangement is hoped for between Venice and Milan. The Chief Commissioner complimented AVM Brodie on a fine job.

8. Civil Aviation

Air Vice Marshal Brodie reported that Trans World Airlines have made an agreement with the Italian Air Ministry for running Italian internal civil aviation whenever it is allowed. The Chief Commissioner added that the agreement provides for modification to any extent necessary to comply with CCS directives in case, for example, the policy is that there should be British participation in this internal company on the same terms as American.

9. Airport Operation

AVM Brodie reported that as a result of shortage of personnel the U.S. ATC and the RAF TC are investigating the possibility of turning over certain equipment and duties at the various airports to Italian operation. Milan airport is already operated by Italians. Personnel for the present will probably be provided by the Italian Air Ministry but it is expected that there will be a gradual infiltration of commercial personnel.

10. Italian Carrier Service

AVM Brodie reported that since the Italian Air Force now pays for petrol, AFHQ has agreed that the Italians could charge fares for certain classes of Italian freight and personnel. Discussions are now being held by representatives of the Italian Air Ministry, the Air Forces S/C, the Transportation S/C, and AFHQ. The Chief Commissioner asked that Colonel Walton be included in the discussions in order that all interested departments of the Government might be informed.

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11. Mine Sweeping

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 20 February 1946, Captain Mantz reported that British mine sweepers have completed a clearance sweep of the area between Genoa and Savona and then proceeded inshore of the minefields between Savona and San Remo, carrying out a check sweep as they went, thus confirming the safety of this inshore channel for navigation. A check sweep about to be undertaken south of San Remo will open up the approach to the port from seaward, as well as to Imperia. Four Italian trawler crews arrived in Malta on the 21st for four British trawlers being transferred on loan to the Italian Navy.

12. Repatriation

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 20 February 1946, Captain Mantz reported that the following vessels arrived in Naples during the week with Italian POW repatriation: MONTEDUCOLI from Port Said with 700 POWs; ABRUZZI

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from Algiers with 750 POW's, and the S.S. TOSCANI from Biscerta with 1200 POW's.
The ABRUZZI is now en route to Casablanca for a further lift of POW's to Naples.

Next Vice Presidential Meeting: to be announced.

[Signature]
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGC
Staff Officer to CC

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- Land Forces S/C (MMLA)
- Air Forces Subcommittee
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Officer (EG)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- G-5, AFHQ (2)
- Chief Financial Advisor (AC)
- Chief Legal Advisor (AC)
- British Ambassador

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Lt. Col., AGC
Staff Officer to CG

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Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AG
Soviet Representative, AG
Liaison Officer (EC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AG)
Chief Legal Advisor (AG)
British Ambassador

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COM LONDON
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

27 February 1946

CORRECTION TO MINUTES OF VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING OF 20 FEBRUARY 1946

Reference paragraph 4, number and title "4. German RUE Files in Poland" are to be deleted and re-inserted as number and title of last paragraph on page 1 which starts "With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 13 February 1946....."

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L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

26 February 1946

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

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- ATTENDANCE:
- Chief Commissioner _____
 - Executive Commissioner _____
 - V.P. Civil Affairs Section _____
 - V.P. Economic Section _____
 - V.P. Establishment Section _____
 - Political Advisor (A) _____
 - Political Advisor (B) _____
 - Navy Subcommission _____
 - Land Force Subcommission (MCLA) _____
 - Air Force Subcommission _____
 - Liaison Office (EO) _____
 - French Representative, AG _____
 - Soviet Representative, AG _____
 - Public Relations Branch _____
 - Chief Financial Advisor _____
 - Chief Legal Advisor _____

L. J. STRAUGH
Lt. Col, AG
Staff Officer to CC

The regularly scheduled weekly Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held, Wednesday morning, 27 February 1946 at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference room.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

20 February 1946
1946

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 20 February 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hookins, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Kerr, Captain Menta, Colonel Savko, Capitaine Houllac, Major Leacock, Lt. Colonel Barnard, Lt. Colonel Timmons, Colonel Walton, Lt. Colonel Wilbo-Jones.

1. Chief Commissioner's Visit to London

The Chief Commissioner expressed his appreciation to the British officials present for the courtesy and hospitality shown him by H.M. and H.B. Government officials on his recent visit to London.

2. Future of AC

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 13 February 1946, Brigadier Lush stated there was nothing to report, adding that it was decided at AFHQ to make no further request for news. The Chief Commissioner observed that in London he had formed the impression that it is unlikely that the draft peace treaty for Italy will be ready by May. Because of this delay, the question of a modus vivendi for Italy will no doubt again be brought forward, which in turn should bring to a head the question of termination of AC, if a directive is not already received by that time. The whole question is still in the realm of speculation. The Chief Commissioner thought that there is a growing appreciation on the part of the U.S. and British delegations of Italy's needs and a desire to treat Italy objectively and with justice, taking into full account Italy's contributions and also the efforts being made to set up a democratic regime in Italy.

3. Supplying of Venezia Giulia

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 13 February 1946, Mr. Cleveland stated that the signal referred to transmitted USAAC's views on the subject. Brigadier Lush added that a meeting was held with regard to responsibility for supplies to Venezia Giulia and it was decided that the Economic Section of AC should continue to be the operating function for the supplies of both Udine and Venezia Giulia, and that therefore the present machinery should continue to be employed.

The Chief Commissioner expressed his appreciation to the British officers present for the courtesy and hospitality shown him by H.M. and H.B. Government officials on his recent visit to London.

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Mr. Cleveland reported that AFHQ has stated that Venezia Giulia should be treated as far as possible as within the Italian economy. The Chief Commissioner observed that the Italian Government, as a result of this policy, could justifiably request permission to enter Venezia Giulia and also ask for representation on the Joint Economic Committee. The Chief Commissioner requested that Mr. Cleveland discuss this point informally with AFHQ before informing the Italian Government of the AFHQ ruling. *human this file is began*
With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 13 February 1946, Brigadier Lush stated that a letter has been prepared for the Chief Commissioner's signature making suggestions on this subject.

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5. Political Situation

Mr. Jones gave a brief review of the political situation. The Consultative Assembly met during the week. A temporary suspending obligation voting in the forthcoming elections was introduced, resulting in a violent reaction by the right-wing and other left-wing groups, which resulted in a vote of 170 to 156. It should be realized, however, that this is only an expression of opinion by the Consultative Assembly and is not binding on the Government.

As a result of the split in the Action Party and the subsequent resignation of the Action Minister, Lombardi was recommended as Minister of Transport, Ciamberini took over Lussu's post of Minister without Portfolio for the Committee, and Mario Brecci took over in Lombardi's post as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The "Uomo Qualunque" movement has been holding a congress in Rome. The movement's important development was the alignment of the Democratic party with the "Uomo Qualunque." Thus all independent parties right of center tend to be aligned with the "Uomo Qualunque." The movement was elected to become a party in Lombardi was elected the president. During the Congress, Signor Petrassi made a speech in which he attributed Italy's ills to "exiles" who had been outside the country and working for the downfall of Italy, a speech which created a furor in the Consultative Assembly which included many "exiles." The Consultative Assembly passed a motion to expel him and the question is now up to the Government for final decision.

According to newspaper reports the Council of Ministers have been discussing the powers and limitations of the Consultative Assembly and it is particularly whether the procedure should be submitted to the Consultative Assembly to resolve the institutional question has also discussed.

6. Wheat Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that because of the world shortage, the wheat outlook is poor. February lendings may reach over 200,000 tons, but because of shortfalls in shippings from January, and there is still a heavy demand for wheat in March and April, it is expected that the Government will require support on the food situation and suggested that UNRRA cables be shown to the United Nations.

7. Coal Situation

Mr. Cleveland reported that the situation for coal is not recognized. The practicality of supplying Italy is a problem. January arrivals are 516,000 tons, the practicality of supplying Italy is a problem. February arrivals are 516,000 tons, the practicality of supplying Italy is a problem.

The "Uomo Qualunque" movement has been holding a congress in Rome. The most important development was the alignment of the Democrat party with the "Uomo Qualunque." Thus all independent parties right or left tend to be aligned with the "UQ." The movement was voted to become a party and Giannini was elected its president. During the Congress, Signor Petrucci made a speech in which he attributed Italy's ills to "exiles" who had been outside the country and working for the downfall of Italy. A speech which drew a storm in the Congress which includes many "exiles." The Congress passed a motion to expel him and the question is now up to the Government for final decision.

According to newspaper reports the Council of Ministers have been discussing the powers and limitations of the Constitution and in particular whether the procedure should be submitted to the Committee. A referendum to resolve the institutional question was also discussed.

6. Wheat Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that because of the world shortage, the wheat outlook is poor. February loadings to date have been 200,000 tons, partly because of shippings from January, and there is still a certain amount of December shortfalls to be shipped. No shipments have yet been received on March loadings. Brigadier Bush stated that SACO will require reports on the feed situation and suggested that UNRRA cables be shown to the Office General.

7. Coal Situation

Mr. Cleveland reported that the European Coal Commission has now recognized the practicability of supplying Italy from the West. January coal arrivals, including military, amounted to 384,000 tons. February arrivals are 516,000 tons, and the estimated March arrivals are 500,000 tons.

8. Private Trade

Mr. Cleveland stated that on 15 February private trade officially opened with the U.S. and the British Empire. On 20 February the press reported resumption of private trade with Belgium.

9. Elections

With reference to para 3 of minutes of 13 February 1946, Brigadier Carr reported that up to 12 February 1946, the electoral lists had been compiled and 50% approved. 5,953 communes have already fixed dates for elections but a total of 4,498 are expected to hold elections during the period March to 7 April.

13. Minor Reporting

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 13 February 1946, Captain Montz reported that four Italian trawler crews left Malta on the 19th to man British trawlers transferred on loan to the Italian Navy. During the week the four Italian-manned ex-British trawlers already handed over have been working out in Naples. A further British motor-minesweeper will be transferred in Messina during the course of this week.

11. Repatriation

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 13 February 1946, Captain Montz reported that the "MONTEDUCOLI" arrived in Port Said on the 18th from Naples carrying about 400 persons embarked for the Near East and is due back in Naples on the 22nd with 700 Italian POW repatriates. The "ARRUZZI" returned to Naples on the 18th with 700 Italian POW's from Algiers. The "ROSCANA" sailed from Naples on the 17th for Bizerta to embark some 1200 Italian POW's awaiting repatriation.

12. Italian Navy Conscription

Captain Montz stated that the Ministry of Marine has informed the Navy S/C that after restoration of the North no further action was taken to conscript 1923 and 1924 recruits as they exceeded the requirements. Negotiations are in progress for the transfer of these recruits to the Italian Army. Reinstatement of volunteers for 1946 for the Navy will be completed at the end of February. The number of enlistees will be reduced from 1400 to 1025.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday 27 February 1946

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- Political Advisor (A)
- Political Advisor (B)
- Navy Subcommission (3)

L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AMB
Staff Officer to CC

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday 27 February 1946

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Navy Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces S/C (MHA)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (EE)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AC)
Chief Legal Advisor (AC)
British Ambassador

L. W. STEARNS
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CG

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
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M I E U I 2 2

13 February 1946

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 13 February 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Presents: Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Major Reakes, Mr. Wesley Jones, AMB Bradie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Major Leonidoff, Captain Houlton, Major Lomonos, Lieutenant Colonel Pimmans, Lieutenant Colonel K. Wilke-Jones, Major Temple.

1. Future of AG

Brigadier Lush stated there was nothing to report.

2. Supplying of Venezia Giulia

Brigadier Lush stated that AFHQ had signalled OCS regarding UPRA taking over this responsibility.

3. Elections

Major Temple presented a summary of the progress on preparations for elections. He stated that the latest information was that 13,359 lists, or 92% of the population, had been compiled, and 6,000 lists, or 42% of the total, had been approved. The progress during the second half of January had been marked, 70% of the lists having been compiled and 21% approved during the first half of the month. It was anticipated that progress would continue to accelerate. The total number of lists for Italy, excluding Venezia Giulia, was 14,428.

Local elections were scheduled to be held in 437 communes on 10 March, 915 on 17 March and 890 on 24 March, a total of 2,242 communes. This was not final as supplementary lists were coming in.

The Ministry of Interior had authorized elections to be held on 31 March and 7 April.

Major Temple exhibited a map showing the geographical distribution of communes which were scheduled to hold elections on 10 March. He pointed out that 70% of the communes holding elections on that date had less than 5,000 inhabitants.

4. Political Resume

Mr. Wesley Jones gave a brief political resume. The Action Party congress has resulted in a clean split between the right and left wings as a consequence of which Lussu, Minister for the Consulta and party secretary, Lombardi, Minister of Transport (both left wing) and La Malfa, Minister of Foreign Trade and right wing leader, resigned their posts in the Government to the party directorate. This, however, was not a Government crisis since it meant only a reshuffle of

Brigadier Lash stated that AFHQ had cancelled USOS regarding MURA taking over this responsibility.

3. Elections

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Local elections were scheduled to be held in 637 communes on 10 March, 915 on 17 March and 899 on 24 March, a total of 2,242 communes. This was not final as supplementary lists were coming in.

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Almost immediately after these resignations, Perri, former Prime Minister withdrew from the party, followed by LaMalfa and others. Perri said the party was no longer represented its original ideals and talked of starting a new party, a Democratic Republican Concentration. Fernando Sciucivetti was elected party secretary to replace Lussu. While the Government has not taken action, it looks as if Lombardi will be re-confirmed in his post while Alberto Clusca will not leave his post and Aurelio Peccei or Siletti to take LaMalfa's.

The Council of the Labor Democrat Party and the Congress of the Republican Party also have met. Boneri made a speech in which he called for an alliance of parties of the center representing the liberal, democratic elements of the middle class and stationed politically between the Socialists Communists and Christian Democrats. The Republican Party Congress, which advocated decentralization of state administration, was visited by Perri who was greeted with applause. Perri said his attendance had nothing to do with his resignation from the Action Party.

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6. German RIR Files in Bologna

Mr. Cleveland stated that a report on these files was being prepared for AFHQ.

6. Minerweepering

Four further Italian crews for the British motor minesweepers being handed to the Italians left Taranto for Malta on 1 February.

Four of the British minesweeping trawlers already transferred on loan would arrive in Naples on 15 February from Malta.

7. Repatriation

Using the cruisers "Caribaldi", "Abruzzi" and "Montecuccoli", and the ex-hospital ship "Toscano", a programme of six sailings to French North African ports during the next three weeks had been agreed upon by the King Officer Italy and Liaison, the Italian Prisoners of War Division of M.M.I.A. and the French authorities.

This should secure the repatriation of more than 5,000 Italian prisoners of war.

Further the "Montecuccoli" would carry out one lift from Port Said to Naples before the end of month.

8. Transport for Italian Army

The "Montecuccoli" and the "Abruzzi" had each made one trip during the last week between Naples and Cagliari carrying Italian Army personnel between the mainland and Sardinia.

9. Transport for Italian Police Authorities

Civilian prisoners had been ferried between the mainland and the penal settlements of Pianosa and Elba in the torpedo boat "Mancaburno" during the past seven days.

10. Patrolling of Adriatic

Brigadier Lush stated that a meeting held with AFHQ with regard to the relaxation of military control in and out of Italy he was informed that AFHQ were disposed to hand over the whole of control to the Italian Government. One of the points that arose was the constabulary service and AF had been asked to press the Italians to reorganize their constabulary service to maintain efficiency.

Brigadier Lush considered that the Italian reaction to this might be that C in C had restricted naval patrol in the Adriatic and that an additional handover was shortage of craft. He directed Navy Sub-Commission to take the matter up with C in C and endeavour to obtain relaxation of control and derequisitioning of craft.

5. This should secure the repatriation of more than 5,000 Italian prisoners of war. Further the "Montecassino" would carry out one lift from Fort Sidi to Naples before the end of month.

6. Transport for Italian Army

The "Montecassino" and the "Abruzzi" had each made one trip during the last week between Naples and Capri ferrying Italian Army personnel between the mainland and Sorrento.

9. Transport for Italian Prisoner Interrogation

Civilian prisoners had been ferried between the mainland and the penal settlements of Pianosa and Elba in the torpedo boat "Montebasso" during the past seven days.

10. Patrolling of Adriatic

Brigadier Lush stated that a meeting held with AFHQ with regard to the relaxation of military control in and out of Italy he was informed that AFHQ were disposed to hand over the whole of control to the Italian Government. One of the points that arose was the crested service and AF had been asked to press the Italians to reorganize their crested service to maintain efficiency.

Brigadier Lush considered that the Italian reaction to this might be that C in C had restricted naval patrol in the Adriatic and that an additional handicap was shortage of craft. He directed Navy Sub-Commission to take the matter up with C in C and ask endeavour to obtain relaxation of control and hereafter of craft.

11. Hotel Accommodation

Colonel Pugin stated that the Boston Hotel, offered to AF by AFHQ for the use of American officers had been inspected. It would cost approximately six million lire to put the hotel in order and it would have to remain empty for thirty days after the present occupants had left. AFHQ had been informed that AF did not require the hotel.

12. War Establishment

Brigadier Lush announced that the proposal for the British War Establishment had been approved in principle by the AFHQ Committee and depended on AF concurrence.

Next Vice President's Meeting, 1800 hours, Wednesday, 20 February 1966.

[Signature]
L. V. STUBBS

Lt Col, AMB

Staff Officer to CG

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED NATIONS
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CC-551

11 February 1946

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED WEEKLY VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING WILL BE HELD, WEDNESDAY MORNING, 13 FEBRUARY 1946 AT 1000 HOURS AT THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER'S CONFERENCE ROOM.

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L. C. STRANDE
 Lt Col. AGO
 Staff Officer to CG 61.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CO 551/49

6 February 1946

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 6 February 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, AVM Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Major Leontidoff, Captain Moullec, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Lieutenant Colonel K. Hilber-Jones.

1. Supply to Venezia Giulia

Reference paragraph 1 of Minutes 30 January, the Chief Commissioner stated that a strongly worded telegram had been sent to AFHQ on this matter and he hoped it would be effective.

2. Future of AC

The Chief Commissioner reported no change.

3. Supplying of Venezia Giulia

Reference paragraph 7 of Minutes 30 January, the Chief Commissioner declared the situation remained more or less as reported in previous minutes.

4. Elections in Udine Province

Reference paragraph 11, Minutes 30 January, upon the Chief Commissioner's inquiry as to repercussions about the holding of elections in Udine, Brigadier Carr reported that there had been no substantial change.

5. Electoral Lists

Reference paragraph 12 of Minutes 30 January, the Chief Commissioner wished to know if there had been any increase in the number of approved lists. Brigadier Carr stated there had been a sharp rise in the number of final approvals as a result of the new system.

6. Political Regime

Mr. Hopkinson reported that the main interest of the week lay on the press

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6. Political Remarks

Mr. Hopkinson reported that the main interest of the week lay on the press reaction to the activities of the Deputy Foreign Ministers' meeting in London. Press comments revealed great anxiety in respect of Venezia Giulia and the impending arrival of the UNO Commission that is to investigate and report on the area. There is particular concern about the plans the Yugoslavs are making for the UNO Commission's reception. Their aim is to make Trieste appear to the UNO as a strong Yugoslav town. As regards Zone "B", there is the feeling among the Italians that their case in this connection will not be upheld, and it has been suggested that the Italian Government have a liaison officer or observer with the UNO Group for the protection of Italian interests.

There has been also much comment relative to the Austrian Government claim to Adige and its suggestion that the territory be placed under UNO trusteeship but under Austrian administration. The Italians are opposed to the claim, and the Prime Minister in a recent newspaper interview spoke of the steps being taken to grant autonomy to the area. De Gasperi also presented to the various ambassadors a memorandum for formal transmission to the Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

See by Mr. Carr
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(all off)

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It presented the Italian Government's claim to Adige, and the Prime Minister explained that such action had been taken not because the area was considered as disputed but so as to match the formal claim put in by Austria.

Mr. Hopkinson reported that Nenni had made an important speech in Geneva during which he discussed foreign and internal policy. Referring to the Adige question, he stated that Austria could claim the territory only on ethnic grounds. On the subject of the powers of the Constituent, he declared that some democratic parties were raising questions which appeared to tend to divert attention from the Constituent. He declared that compulsory voting was not undemocratic and that the Socialists would not oppose the referendum in principle.

Mr. Hopkinson further reported that two congresses had opened their sessions during the week -- that of the "Uomo Qualunque" front and Action Party's.

7. German Files in Bolzano

Mr. Cleveland reported that some discussions were taking place on the question of the disposition of German files in Bolzano. These are of value because of the information they contain on production capacity and related subjects in respect of Northern Italy. He explained that these files had records which could be the basis for various types of claims against German, Austrian, and Italian firms. An analysis is being made of the types of claims that might be gotten out of the files. The matter had been taken up with the Poles and it had been suggested that the Commission put up a paper to AFSA embodying an appreciation of their value and recommendations for their disposition.

8. North Italian Industrial Council

Mr. Cleveland reported that the North Italian Industrial Council was functioning again. Under decree, the Council can continue only until 31 March. The question is now being discussed whether it will be succeeded by a national industrial council or a national economic council.

9. Cotton Textile Commission

Mr. Cleveland reported that the Committee had made the decision that no cotton textiles from Europe can be sent to the Western Hemisphere. Mr. Cleveland suggested that AC should protest this decision. The American Embassy had sent a strong cable of protest, and the Chief Commissioner suggested the British Embassy should do likewise. The matter called for a combined Allied decision.

10. Italian POWs

Mr. Cleveland reported that both the "Uomo Qualunque" and the

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10. Italian POWs

Rear Admiral Warren stated that both the "Enea degli Abruzzi" and the "Montecuccoli" had arrived with several hundred POWs and Italian civilians. The "Eritrea" is expected from the East with Italian and Dutch repatriates from the East Indies.

11. Minesweeping

Rear Admiral Warren reported that a general statement on minesweeping operations is being prepared by the Navy Subcommission and that it would be ready by the end of the month.

12. Entry of Ships into La Spezia

Rear Admiral Warren announced that the approval that had been granted for vessels to enter the port of La Spezia had been revoked owing to the fact that the channel was not wide enough. The passage is being widened now by the Italian

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Government. Another cruiser had put in at La Spezia for complete refit -- this made a total of two and was creating work for the unemployed in that area.

13. War Establishment

Brigadier Lush announced that the Commission's proposal for the British War Establishment had been put up to AFHQ for approval.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday, 13 February 46

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGP
Staff Officer to CG

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L. W. STEARNS

L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGO
Staff Officer to CC

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 374

CO 551/48

30 January 1946

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 30 January 1946. Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Smith, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Morrison, Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Captain Morris, Colonel Savka, Captain Moulton, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons.

1. Supplies Loaned to Venezia Giulia

Reference paragraph 4 of Minutes of 23 January 46, the Chief Commissioner stated that the draft cable mentioned therein had been revised and forwarded to AFHQ.

2. Future of AC

The Chief Commissioner reported there had been no developments in the situation.

3. Rationing of EL and ELR

Reference paragraph 7 of Minutes of 23 January 46, the Chief Commissioner reported that a rationing commission was expected to be set up in the North. He added that strong instructions had gone out from the Ministry of the Interior consequent to his discussions with the Vice Minister. Mr. Cleveland observed that the rationing commission had not yet been established and the Chief Commissioner directed that this matter be followed up.

4. Monetary Exchange

The Chief Commissioner made reference to press announcements appearing in "The Stars and Stripes" about the favorable rate of exchange enjoyed by the American and British Embassies. The question came up as to whether Allied military personnel would be given the benefit thereof, and it was pointed out that this depended on whether the troop pay check, who have been issuing AM lire, will be able to secure a favorable rate. It is more probable that the Americans will get it because of the troop pay account. However, on the British side the outlook is not so bright since the British Government has not yet granted pounds sterling credit for British troop pay in Italy.

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Reference paragraph 4 of Minutes of 23 January 46, the Chief Commissioner stated that the draft cable mentioned therein had been revised and forwarded to AFHQ.

2. Future of AI

The Chief Commissioner reported there had been no developments in the situation.

3. Rationing of AI and its Power

Reference paragraph 7 of Minutes of 23 January 46, the Chief Commissioner reported that a rationing commission was expected to be set up in the North. He added that strong instructions had gone out from the Ministry of the Interior consequent to his discussions with the Prime Minister. Mr. Cleveland observed that the rationing commission had not yet been established, and the Chief Commissioner stated that this matter be followed up.

4. New Rate of Exchange

The Chief Commissioner made reference to press announcements appearing in "The Stars and Stripes" about the favorable rate of exchange enjoyed by the American and British Delegations. The question arose as to whether Allied military personnel would be given the benefit thereof, and it was pointed out that this depended on whether the troop paymaster, who moves by issuing AM lire, will be able to secure a favorable rate. It is more probable that the Americans will get it because of the new troop pay account. However, on the British side the outlook is not so bright since the British Government has not yet granted pounds sterling credits for use British troops pay in Italy.

5. Chilling for Carnation

Reference paragraph 3 of Minutes of 23 January, the Chief Commissioner stated that he had not yet seen any official from the Prime Minister but that he understood a letter was coming in. Mr. Radford Durr observed that it had been received the day before (January 29) and passed to the Land Forces Subcommittee for action.

6. Political Rumor

Mr. McBride reported there had been much speculation in the past week regarding the Italian peace treaty and the Secretary's report to the UNO. It was

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Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom of the page, including "R.D. 112", "J. W. J.", "H.C.", and a large signature. There is also a stamp that says "609" and a note "(ALL CORN)".

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still being discussed whether the Prime Minister's message could be construed as a formal request on the part of Italy to join the UNO. The general opinion is that it was not, and the only official action taken upon it was its publication in the official bulletin of the UNO. In respect to the peace treaty, many stories were trickling in from London. One report had it that the preliminary draft would be ready by the first or third of April; another was to the effect that the Italian peace treaty would have precedence over all others. None of these reports had received confirmation. On the question of disposal of the Italian colonies, Mr. McBride stated that, judging from the latest press reports, the setting up of a four power administration appeared likely. As for the mission to Venezia Giulia, he observed its arrival had been expected round 1 February; however, there was no official confirmation of this.

Mr. McBride further reported that various lists had appeared of communes which will hold local elections between March 10-17 -- more of these lists were expected to follow; the Consulta, which closed its doors during the past week, would re-open on 11 February; the movement sponsored by "UCMO QUADRINQUE" is to have its first national congress in Rome the early part of February; public safety disturbances continued and in this connection a campaign had been started against High Commissioner Aldisio in Sicily -- he would, however, keep his post for the moment; the press continued to comment on the Torre Annunziata explosion and some newspapers were trying to blame the Allies -- the Italian Government is carrying on an investigation of the cost of damage with the purported intention of filing a claim against the Allied governments.

Mr. McBride stated that the most important political speech of the week had been delivered by De Gasperi in Naples. The Prime Minister did not substantially alter his previous views. He declared that any sins Italy may have committed in the past had been fully expiated, and asked again for a just peace treaty. Another item of interest was the return of Morri and Silone from London. The former made various statements as to the alleged position of the British Labor Party in respect to Italy. One of his statements was to the effect that the British Labor Party realized there was no danger in Italy of violence from the left, and that the Party was anxious that elections be held soon.

Mr. Hopkinson stated that the first meeting of the Val d'Aosta Council had taken place on 24 January at the Vercellese Palace in Rome to discuss problems arising from the grant of autonomy to that region. Mr. Hopkinson also called attention to reports appearing in the press to the effect that the Franco-Italian frontier had been closed. The report was denied by AC (based on AFHQ authority) and from Paris, but rumors kept trickling in about disturbances in the neighborhood of Ventimiglia.

7. Summary of Venezia Giulia

Mr. Cleveland stated that a general proposition had been put up to G-5, AFHQ, to treat Venezia Giulia as economically a part of Italy and not separately, but that no formal answer had been received as yet. Such a policy would imply that

safety disturbances continued and in this connection a campaign had been started against High Commissioner Alibis in Sicily -- he would, however, keep his post for the moment; the press continued to comment on the Torre Annunziata explosion and some newspapers were trying to blame the Allies -- the Italian Government is carrying on an investigation of the cost of damage with the purported intention of filing a claim against the Allied governments.

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7. Supplying of Venezia Giulia

Mr. Cleveland stated that a general proposition had been put up to G-5, AFHQ, to treat Venezia Giulia as economically a part of Italy and not separately, but that no formal answer had been received as yet. Such a policy would imply that the Italian Government would continue to supply Venezia Giulia from Italian sources. The Chief Commissioner suggested that concurrence might be sought from UNRRA, in view of UNRRA's responsibility for the Italian basic supply line. In this connection he brought up the question of whether the UNRRA contract with the Italian Government applies to Venezia Giulia since that territory is being supplied as a military responsibility.

8. Abolition of Economic Controls by AC

Mr. Cleveland reported that the Italian Government had just been informed that the Allied Commission had come to have control over Italian foreign trade activities with the exception of banking as a channel for clearance or "reserved" commodity transactions with the Combined Chiefs in Washington, and that even that responsibility would be removed from the Commission as soon as appropriate status have been given to the Italian Government through diplomatic channels. A directive from the CGS to AFHQ had been received to this effect.

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SECRET

out smoothly. The transfer of civilian personnel to UNRRA is going on and is expected to be completed by 1 March. However, a serious difficulty had arisen on the personnel side -- UNRRA is apparently unwilling to release the American Army officers that were to go to UNRRA. The matter, Mr. Cleveland explained, is being taken up by UNRRA with Washington.

11. Elections in Uthmaniyah Province

Brigadier Carr stated that the holding of elections in the Province of Uthmaniyah was under consideration. He observed that quite clearly that elections should be held in that province and in this connection pointed out that the situation had been complicated by the fact that there are six communities among which had been dismissed by the Provincial Commissioner in connection of excluding these communities from the elections. The Chief Commissioner declared that the AC policy is that elections be held in all the communities.

12. Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement

Reference paragraph 1 of Minutes of 23 January. Lt Col Fleming reported no change had taken place in the situation. The Swiss Government's reply is still being awaited.

13. Electoral Lists

In connection with the preparation of electoral lists, Brigadier Carr announced that the Council of Ministers had passed a decision that should eliminate the bottleneck in the approving of electoral rolls. The reported restriction concerns the examination of penal records. An appropriate answer the local authorities can now take action without referring to Rome.

14. Currency Agreement and Foreign Trade

Lt Col Fleming stated that in connection with PAX 582 the Italian Government had accepted the Currency Agreement, and that GIC received another authorization on foreign trade -- the necessity of the prior approval of the Ministry of Finance. Also, discussions had been carried on with Rome concerning the requirements of the Italian customs services. As a result, Lt Col Carr had a meeting with a directive to Allied port commanders requesting them to report to the Allied extent possible with the Italian customs authorities. Lt Col Carr also reported that the customs services are not practically satisfactory and that some under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Finance.

15. Minesweeping

Captain Meritt announced that negotiations had been agreed by UNRRA and the Minister of Marine covering transfer of mines to the Italian 12 British mines.

S E C R E T

sweepers and the mobile viper unit WMS 125.

16. Repatriation of IPOMs

Captain Montu reported that the "Duca degli Abruzzi" sailed from Naples on 29 January to carry out a third lift of IPOMs from Port Said to Italy. The SS "Innocent" arrived in Tripoli on 26 January from Naples to disembark some 600 children who are returning to their homes from Italy. The "Innocent" will continue to Port Said, arriving on 3 February to disembark a further 400 children rejoining their families in Egypt. She will return to Italy with about 1500 IPOMs from the Levant. The cruiser "Montecuccoli" will arrive in Bizerte on 2 February to lift to Italy about 400 Italian civilians and some 300 IPOMs whom the French are releasing.

17. Allied Meetings

It was stated that since the last meeting (see paragraph 12, Minutes of 23 January) the decision had been taken to establish a British mess at the Flora Hotel and move certain American officers from there to the Grand Hotel. The directive was issued by MFOUSA. The Chief Commissioner once more expressed his regret that such a decision had been forced on the Commission. Mr. Hockinson brought up the question of the feeding of British visiting VIPs and Colonel Parkin explained that General Dasher, Commanding General of RMAC, was sending over a letter authorizing the feeding of such personages at the Grand Hotel.

18. Lindson Groups

Brigadier Lush reported that lindson groups were now set up and that the two officers stationed on the islands of Lampedusa and Pantelleria had been withdrawn.

19. AC Weekly Bulletin

Brigadier Lush pointed out that at a meeting held the day before (January 29) the general opinion was that the Bulletin should be abolished but that he personally was opposed to such a course and defended the further publication of the Bulletin on the grounds of its value to the Commission and other organizations such as AFHQ, the War Department, the State Department, and the War Office. The Chief Commissioner concurred.

20. Parity in Venetian Giulie

Brigadier Lush stated that every available American had been sent to Venetian Giulie in order to help establish parity between American and British ranks. He added that the difficulty in establishing such parity rested mainly on the fact that there was a paucity of US officers -- they simply could not be found.

21. Allied Publication Panel

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18. Liaison Groups

Brigadier Lush reported that liaison groups were now set up and that the two officers stationed on the islands of Lampedusa and Pantelleria had been withdrawn.

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20. Parity in Venetian Civilian

Brigadier Lush stated that every available American had been sent to Venetian Civilian in order to help establish parity between American and British ranks. He added that the difficulty in establishing such parity rested mainly on the fact that there was a paucity of US officers -- they simply could not be found.

21. Allied Publication Board

Lt Coli Bergin stated that the following had been omitted from the Minutes of 23 January and he desired it made of record: "A final meeting of the Allied Publications Board was held in Rome on January 19th. Major Noble, Secretary of the Board, reported that the transfer of its functions to the Italian Government had taken place monthly. Dr. Lazzaro of the Italian Government also expressed himself as pleased and stated the government would carry on along the lines previously followed by the AFHQ."

Next Vice Presidential Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday 6 February 46

W. H. Starnes
W. H. STARNES
Lt Col, AGF
Staff Officer to CG

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- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5, AFHQ (5)
- Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

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785017

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G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AO)

CONFIDENTIAL
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

23 January 1946

JAN 31 1946

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 23 January 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Lieutenant Colonel McIlwain, Mr. Holstein, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Prodie, Colonel Kerr, Commodore Elliott, Colonel Bayko, Captain Moulton, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons.

1. Italo-Swiss Agreement

In response to the Chief Commissioner's inquiry, Lt Col Timmons stated it was understood from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the views of the U.S. and U.K. Governments on the debt repayment provisions of the Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement had been conveyed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Swiss Government, but that no reply from the Swiss had been received. The Chief Commissioner directed that the status of this matter be again checked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2. Future of AC

The Chief Commissioner stated the situation remained the same and added that he had been unofficially informed that one reason for the delay in the new directive has been the question of the handing over to the representatives of those economic functions of the Commission which will not be taken over by EURA.

3. Callings for Carabinieri

Reference paragraph 4 of Minutes of 16 January 1946, the Chief Commissioner stated unofficially that the Prime Minister is going to make a request for an increase in the carabinieri to be to bring the total to 75,000. The Chief Commissioner added that he would support the request vigorously.

4. Dispatches from 1 to Venezia Giulia

Reference paragraph 6, Minutes of 16 January 46, the Chief Commissioner observed he was in agreement with the main points but not with some of the details. He stated in a draft cable prepared by the Economic Section for

1. Italy-Swiss Agreement

In response to the Chief Commissioner's inquiry, Lt Col Timmons stated in his report that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had the views of the U.S. and U.K. Governments on the debt repayment provisions of the Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement had been conveyed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Swiss Government, but that no reply from the Swiss had been received. The Chief Commissioner directed that the status of this matter be again checked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

2. Future of AGI

The Chief Commissioner stated the situation remained the same and added that he had been unofficially informed that one reason for the delay in the new directive has been the question of the handing over to the Embassy of those economic functions of the Commission which will not be taken over by UNRRA.

3. Calling for Carabiniere

Reference paragraph 4 of Minutes of 16 January 1946, the Chief Commissioner stated unofficially that the Prime Minister is going to make a request for an increase in the carabinieri so as to bring the total to 75,000. The Chief Commissioner added that he would support the request vigorously.

4. Supplies Loan to Venezuela Giulia

Reference paragraph 6, Minutes of 16 January 46, the Chief Commissioner observed in his agreement with the main points but not with some of the arguments contained in a draft cable prepared by the Economic Section for dispatch to AGI. Revision thereof is under way. The Chief Commissioner also stated he agreed the Commission should oppose the view taken by COS in this matter. (In this connection see "Correction" to paragraph 6, Minutes of 16 January 46, which appears below).

5. Feeding of the Italian Army and Navy

The Chief Commissioner reported that the situation was not good. It was understood that the Italian Mission in Washington had been completely unable to procure in this field because procurement of food for various shipments has been entirely dominated by UNRRA. The Chief Commissioner mentioned that a tentative decision had been reached to the effect that UNRRA did not clear up the matter whereby the Prime Minister would be informed that he should advise such indigenous supplies as are required to feed the armed forces and leave it up to UNRRA to supply the balance.

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6. Political Situation

Mr. Hopkinson referred to the telegram sent by the Prime Minister to the UNO Assembly in behalf of the Italian Government in which he proposed his good wishes to the UNO and expressed the hope that Italy would soon be able to take her place in the international community. The telegram had a good reception and a friendly reply was received from the UNO. At first it was interpreted in some Italian quarters as a cynical comment on Italy's part to join the UNO, but it was very clear that it had not been intended as such.

Mr. Hopkinson reported that the foreign affairs debate in the Chamber had continued throughout the week. The most important speech was made by the Prime Minister on January 21. He defended himself against attacks leveled at him for being too optimistic in regard to relations with the Allies (particularly the Soviet Union) and in respect of the signing of the commercial treaty with Spain. On the subject of relations with Yugoslavia he pointed out that that country was entitled to a recognition of the Government and that the line proposed by President Wilson in 1919 should be taken as a basis. He observed that this might mean the loss to Italy of Fiume and Zara. The Prime Minister also referred to the western frontier problem and Italy's efforts to cement good relations with France even at the cost of sacrifices on her part.

Mr. Hopkinson further reported that there was increasing insistence in the press for solidarity between the Great Powers and Italy, and that satisfaction had been expressed that a rift had been removed by the foreign ministers on the drawing of the Italian peace treaty.

7. Restoring of Electric Power

The Chief Clerk said he reported that restoring of electric power in the North was necessary since requirements in Northern Italy will be completely exhausted in March if construction continued at the present rate. He referred to a report until April when the work will begin to melt. Meetings on this matter have been held with Allied representatives and the Chief Clerk said he urged the Prime Minister to take a strong position with the prospects. If savings are not effected, the situation will grow more and more dangerous and urgent may be expected.

8. U.S. War Relocation Account

Mr. C. J. Timmins reported that arrangements are being worked out with the Italian Government by the U.S. Treasury Representative in Rome for the transfer of the U.S. War Relocation Account to the sole control of the Italian Government as of 1 February 1946. The account is presently in the name of the Secretary of the U.S. Treasury for account of the Italian Government. The War Relocation Account will, after the transfer, be in the same category as other Italian Government War Relocation Accounts, except that the

Mr. Harkness, further reported that there was increasing insistence in the press for solidarity between the great powers and Italy, and that satisfaction had been expressed that work had been resumed by the foreign ministers on the drafting of the Italian peace treaty.

7. Restoring of Electric Power

The U.S. State Department reported that restoring of electric power in the North was necessary since power in Northern Italy will be completely exhausted in March if consumption continues at the present rate. It is expected to begin in April when the snow begins to melt. Meetings on this matter have been held with Allied representatives and the Chief Commissioner has urged the Prime Minister to take strong measures with the provinces. If savings are not effected, the situation will grow more and more dangerous and unrest may be expected.

8. U.S. War Troop Expenditure Account

It was reported that arrangements are being worked out with the Italian Government by the U.S. Treasury representative in Rome for the transfer of the U.S. War Troop Expenditure account to the sole control of the Italian Government as of 1 February 1946. This account is presently in the name of the Secretary of the U.S. Treasury for account of the Italian Government. The War Troop Expenditure account will, after the transfer, be in the same category as other Italian Government post-liberation dollar accounts, except that the restriction specifying that the troop expenditure dollars may only be spent in the U.S. will be removed.

9. UNRRA Import Program

Mr. Harkness reported that supplies are beginning to come in and the procedure is operating very well -- no procedural difficulties are expected.

10. Restoration of Italian Prisoners of War

Mr. Harkness reported that on Christmas Eve the "U.S. Army Ship" arrived in Naples bringing several hundred repatriated POWs from Italy. The ship was ordered from Naples on 12 January and arrived in Italy later returned to Italy with no loss of life from the voyage. On the way back to Italy a small number of displaced persons was shipped to Egypt for the display of persons and also to Italy for repatriation. The ship "U.S. Army Ship" is on her way to Italy from the East Indies carrying a number of Italian, Dutch, and Swiss repatriates. This ship is expected to arrive in Genoa on 30 January and after proceeding to Italy is scheduled to return to South America to carry out another trip of repatriation.

11. Minesweeping

Comodoro Zirolli reported that progress was being made in handing over minesweeping responsibilities to the Italian Government. However, operations have been almost at a standstill since Christmas owing to bad weather. Some minesweeping is, nevertheless, going on at present in certain parts of Northern Italy and in the Taranto area. Comodoro Zirolli also reported that the Admiralty had approved the loan to the Italian Government of a wiping unit for the purpose of clearing magnetic mines, and that the Navy Subcommittee had requested from the Italian Navy an outline of their program for minesweeping which is scheduled to begin in the Spring.

12. Allied Messages

Colonel Purkin brought up this question and said efforts were being made to secure the Majestic Hotel for American officers of the Commission. If this were impossible then there might be need for establishing at the Flara Hotel separate messes for American and British officers. A board composed of two American and two British officers is looking into the situation and exploring the possibility of a better arrangement. The Chief Commissioner called attention to the fact that this matter of split messes had not originated with the Commission and that he regretted the necessity for it. He added that he was hoping for a solution that would be equitable to both sides.

13. Torre Annunziata Explosion

Brigadier Carr reported on the explosion of an ammunition train which took place at Torre Annunziata, Naples, the eve of 21 January. The number of dead was not yet known. Food, supplies, and tents had been furnished by the Allies for the homeless. UNRRA was assisting the injured and 250 had been removed to Italian hospitals in Naples. The Chief Commissioner observed that AC should render all possible help and suggested the staff of the AC Liaison officer in the area should be temporarily re-inforced in order to help cope with the situation.

CORRECTION:

Paragraph 6, Minutes of 16 January 46:

First line: Instead of "....a cable received from AFHQ on this matter...." read "....a cable received from AFHQ transmitting views of the CCS on this matter...."

Fifth line: delete "AFHQ" and insert "CCS."

13. Torre Ammunition Explosion

Brigadier Carr reported on the explosion of an ammunition train which took place at Torre Annunziata, Naples, the eve of 21 January. The number of dead was not yet known. Food, supplies, and tents had been furnished by the Allies for the homeless. UNRRA was assisting the injured and 250 had been removed to Italian hospitals in Naples. The Chief Commissioner observed that AC should render all possible help and suggested the staff of the AC liaison officer in the area should be temporarily re-informed in order to help cope with the situation.

CORRECTIONS:

Paragraph 6, Minutes of 16 January 46:

First Line: Instead of ".....cable received from AFHQ on this matter....." read ".....cable received from AFHQ transmitting views of the CCS on this matter....."

Fifth Line: delete "AFHQ" and insert "CCS."

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday 30 January 46

DISTRIBUTION:

- Chief Commissioner
- Executive Commissioner ✓
- VP, Civil Affairs Section
- VP, Economic Section (6)
- VP, Establishment Section (2)
- Political Advisor (A)
- Political Advisor (B)
- Navy Subcommittee (3)
- Land Forces S/C (MML)
- Air Forces Subcommittee
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Officer (BC)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5, AFHQ (5)
- Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGP
Staff Officer to CC

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STATISTICAL ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
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16 January 1945

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Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 16 January 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stan. McNamara, Colonel McClary, Mr. Glavin, Colonel Parfitt, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Tince, Mr. Hopmann, Air Vice Marshal Bredie, Major General Brownlie, Commander Tinsell, Colonel Sesto, Captain Phillips, Lieutenant Colonel Berrin, Colonel Weber, Colonel Walton, Officer in Charge, Chicago Group.

1. Restoration of Italian Provisional

Reference para 1 of Minutes of 8 January, the Chief Commissioner reported that a last communication in regard to the provision of Italian not being a disputed area had been made in the erroneous announcement that appeared in "The Stars and Stripes."

2. Italy-Greece Trade Agreement

Upon the Chief Commissioner's inquiry as to the status of this matter, Colonel Walton replied that there has been no change in the situation. An answer is still awaited from the Greek Government.

3. Future of AI

Reference para 4 of Minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner stated the situation remained the same -- no word had been received.

4. Callings for Surrender

Further to paragraph 12, "Callings for Surrender", minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner suggested that a paper be prepared as the basis for a letter to be written to AIHQ in case Prime Minister De Gasperi should make a statement of 10.1.45 in the parliament calling.

Present: Four Advised Staff: Lieutenant Colonel McCafferty, Mr. Clavin-land, Colonel Perkins, Brigadier General Mc. Tamm, Mr. Haskins, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Commander Wright, Colonel Seaton, Captain Miller, Lieutenant Colonel Burris, Colonel Walker, Colonel Wilson, Officer in primary release copy.

1. Restoration of Italian Prisons

Reference para 1 of Minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner reported that a later correction is made to the provision of appeal not being a disputed area had been made to the erroneous understanding that appeared in "The Stars and Stripes".

2. Italian-Italian Trade Agreement

Upon the Chief Commissioner's inquiry as to the status of this matter, Colonel Walker replied that there has been no change in the situation. An answer is still pending from the Swiss Government.

3. Return of AL

Reference para 4 of Minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner stated the situation remained the same -- no word had been received.

4. Collier for Carabini

Further to paragraph 12, "Medium for Carabini", minutes of 9 January, the Chief Commissioner suggested that a letter be prepared on the basis for a letter to be written to ALM in some Prime Minister De Gasperi should make a request for the increase of 10,000 in the combined ceiling.

5. Political House

Mr. Jones reported that the most important development of the week was the second plenary session of the Council, which opened on 9 January. Morsani (Socialist) was elected to fill the place of Vice President which had been left vacant by the death of its former occupant. A proposal for the right of intervention by the Council was defeated by a large majority.

Prime Minister De Gasperi gave a speech on Saturday, 12 January, which was principally devoted to the Italian position in Italy. On the subject of the Western European following the holding of Foreign Ministers he announced that the Italian Government had made proposals to the American and British Governments and the following statement had been received. The American Government declared that the conclusions reached at Moscow were based on the Italian

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socialists, that resignation of Italy's coalition position was in no way invalidated at Moscow; that US policy was that, in keeping with earlier declarations, Italy would have an opportunity to present her viewpoint. The British Government answered that the Italian viewpoint would be taken into consideration before approval of the definite text of the treaty, that Italy's position was not considered to be more than afterthought because as it had in no way been modified at Moscow, and that the Imperial War Conference in the Moscow programme is that the work of the Council of Foreign Ministers would be reduced to a definite date. De Gasperi then observed that Italian aims directed by the announcement that it expects would have the right to sit in judgment on the Italian peace treaty and to include that Italy's contribution to the war against Germany compared favorably with that of some of the minor states which would participate in drafting her destiny.

Mr. Jones then summarized the speeches on foreign policy made by Signor Bonomi and Signor Nitti on Monday and Tuesday, respectively.

Mr. Jones spoke of the third resolution of the Fifth Communist Congress. It included the following points: the Communist party realizes that it is national, homogeneous, solidly-organized political force enjoying prestige and undisputed authority among all strata of the population; members of the fascist regime have not been eliminated quickly and completely; the Communist Congress declared there should be no further postponement of the Constituent, which, with sovereign powers, should declare the downfall of the monarchy, accomplish of fascism, and determine the Italian state to be a democratic republic; the intellectual workers possessed by a system of contradictions; the Communist party advocates a foreign policy along the lines that Italy must strive for a just peace and seek her salvation in unity of the world powers, denounce as contrary to national interests hostility against the Soviet Union, defend and solve through direct negotiations with her allies the Italian character of Trieste. The Italian Communist Party is opposed to a federal state, but recognizes the need for some national autonomy in Sicily and Sardinia.

Mr. Jones reported that on the subject of compulsory voting Tapinetti and expressed the views of the Communist party. In a radio interview last week Tapinetti said that the Communist party would withdraw from the government if the latter approved compulsory voting. This proposal is said to be debated in the Council. The Liberal viewpoint was expressed by Gattuso who declared in the National Committee of the Liberal party meeting in Rome that the Liberal party favored compulsory voting and hoped the Communists would not break up the coalition government through their opposition to compulsory voting.

Mr. Jones also brought attention to Mondale's (Socialist party Secretary General) and Silvano's (editor of Socialist paper "Avanti!") trip to London for a short visit at the invitation of the British Labor Party.

Mr. Jones spoke of the final resolution of the Fifth Communist Congress. It included the following points: the Communist party realized that it is a nation's, domestic as well as foreign, political force enjoying prestige and undisputed authority among all strata of the population. Members of the Communist regime have not been alienated and are consistently the Communist Congress declared there should be no further postponement of a Constituent, which, with sovereign powers, should declare the dismantling of the monarchy, exemplification of fascism, and determine the Italian state to be a democratic republic. Intellectual workers governed by a system of administrative representation; the Communist party advocated foreign policy along the lines that Italy must strive for a just peace and seek her salvation in unity of all great powers, denounce as contrary to national interests hostility against the Soviet Union, defend and solve through direct negotiations with the allies the Italian character of Trieste. The Italian Communist Party is opposed to a federal state, but recognizes the need for some regional autonomy in Italy and Sicily.

Mr. Jones reported that on the subject of compulsory voting Togliatti had expressed the views of the Communist party. In a press interview last week Togliatti said that the Communist party would withdraw from the government if the latter approved compulsory voting. This proposal is being to be debated in the Congress. The liberal view has been expressed by Togliatti who declared in the National Committee of the liberal party writing in Rome that the liberal party favored compulsory voting and hoped the Communists would not break on the coalition government through their opposition to compulsory voting.

Mr. Jones also brought attention to Mammì's (Socialist party Secretary General) and Silvestri (editor of Socialist paper "Avanti") trip to London for short visits at the invitation of the British Labor Party.

6. Supplies Loaded in Venezia Giulia

Mr. Cleveland referred to a cable received from AFHQ on this matter to the effect that repayment would not be made to the Italian civil economy in respect of the supplies loaned by US to Venezia Giulia. It was Mr. Cleveland's opinion that such action was not justified on the basis of the situation. The Chief Comptroller also expressed opposition to the AFHQ point of view and directed that a signal be drafted.

7. Transfer of Certain AFHQ Functions to AFHQ

Mr. Cleveland stated that AFHQ had taken the position that there should be no piecemeal transfer of functions; therefore, the turnover of Labor Subcommittees to the Economic and Cultural Affairs Committee for AFHQ would have to be postponed. COS had however directed the transfer of the Allied Financial Agency to AFHQ, though AFHQ is a separate organization in Rome attached to the

FINANCIAL DISSEMINATION.

8. Coal Situation

Mr. Cleveland reported no change has taken place. The cause for the present shortage is that there were during the last half of December insufficient orders to run the ships which were loaded during that period. Present indications were that there would be enough supplies to keep in operation only the railroads, hospitals and bakeries. Industries which do not have stocks of their own would have to stop working since there would be no coal available for them during January.

9. North Italy Industrial Council

Mr. Cleveland stated that the Council had received and considerable dissemination was under way both in Government circles and the press about the meeting up of a National Industrial Council under the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. Mr. Cleveland said that Northern Italians were apprehensive that the Government was taking the control away from them; nevertheless, it was believed important that when the new National Industrial Council is set up it should have some representation from the North.

10. Feeding of the Italian Army and Navy

Colonel Walton reported that he had been requested to inform SAC re to a tentative date when the responsibility for feeding the Italian Navy and presumably the Italian Air Force should pass over to the Italian Government. The question of procurement was brought up and the Chief Commissioner observed that he should ascertain whether the procurement and shipping needs for the next two months had been obtained. In this connection, the Chief Commissioner also pointed out that there was the possibility that Russia, which is engaged in bringing food to Italy, might agree to supply additional of greater value by agreement with the Italian Government. Under this arrangement, the Italian Government would provide funds over and above the amount that Russia has undertaken for feeding the civilian population.

COMMENTS:

Para 12, "Feeding for Carabinieri," dated 19 January 46:

Latest: Last two sentences.

Insert: "General Browning reported unofficially that the War Minister's personnel plans were to raise the ceiling by 15,000 and that with this addition there could be formed 36 extra mobile battalions, and it is believed this would stabilize the police force in the country."

10. Readings of the Italian Army and Navy

Colonel Galton reported that AG had been requested to inform AG as to a tentative date when the responsibility for feeding the Italian Navy and presumably the Italian Air Force should pass over to the Italian Government. The question of procedure was brought up and the Chief Commissioner observed that AG should ascertain whether the government was shipping stores for the next two months had been obtained. In this connection, the Chief Commissioner also pointed out that there was the possibility that UNRRA, which is engaged in bringing food to Italy, might assume the responsibility of procurement by agreement with the Italian Government. Under this arrangement, the Italian Government would provide funds over and above the UNRRA that UNRRA has undertaken for feeding the civilian population.

CORRECTION:

Page 12, "Calling for Carabinieri," Mention of 9 January 1946

Editor: last two sentences.

Editor: "General Browning reported unofficially that the War Minister's personal files were to raise the ceiling by 10,000 and that with this addition there could be formed 20 extra mobile battalions, and it is believed this would stabilize the police force in the country."

Next Vice President's Meeting, 1946 Wars, Wednesday 23 January 1946.

LISTENING:

Chief Commissioner ✓
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section (3)
VP, Establishment Section (2)
Political Advisor (1)
Political Advisor (2)
VP, Communications (3)
Land Forces S/A (1946)
Air Forces Subcommittee

Presses (1946) AG
Executive Staff, AG
Italian Officer (1946)
Public Relations Branch
American Subordinate
British Subordinate
U.S. Army (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AG)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CC-551

15 January 1946

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED WEEKLY VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING WILL BE HELD,
TOMORROW MORNING, WEDNESDAY, 16 JANUARY 1946 AT 1000 hours AT THE CHIEF COMMISS-
SIONER'S CONFERENCE ROOM:

DISTRIBUTION:

- Chief Commissioner _____
- Executive Commissioner _____
- VP, Civil Affairs Section _____
- VP, Economic Section _____
- VP, Establishment Section _____
- Political Advisor (A) _____
- Political Advisor (B) _____
- Navy Subcommittee _____
- Land Forces Subcommittee (AGFA) _____
- Air Forces Subcommittee _____
- Liaison Office (RC) _____
- French Representative, AC _____
- Soviet Representative, AC _____
- Public Relations Branch _____

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L.W. STRAUSS
Lt Col, AGC
Staff Officer to CC

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

OC 551/45

9 January 1946

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 9 January 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Lieutenant Colonel McCleary, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Walford, Wing Commander Piesden, Major General Browning, Comodoro Zirolli, Colonel Savko, Captain Moullac, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Italian Provinces

Referring to paragraph 1 of Minutes of 4 January, the Chief Commissioner reported that this matter has been completed.

2. 1946 UNRRA Import Program

In regard to paragraph 2 of Minutes of 4 January, the Chief Commissioner stated that the program had been initiated, announcement having been made by UNRRA on 8 January at a press conference. "The Stars and Stripes" and other newspapers had reported the fact.

3. Italy-Soviet Trade Agreement

The Chief Commissioner reported the situation unchanged.

4. Future of AC

Reference paragraph 4, Minutes of 4 January, the Chief Commissioner stated that there was no change in this matter.

5. Political Resume

Mr. Jones gave a brief political resume. The Communist Congress finally adjourned on Sunday, January 6. Longo spoke of the creation of a unified party of all working classes. He stated there was urgent need for political unity of all democratic forces and explained this might be achieved by uniting various federations such as the Italian Women's Union, Youth Front, and Partisans. He cited the British Labor Party as an example of a party composed of various federations. Longo further stated that during the coming elections the Communists will follow the tactics of unity of action with all true democrats and with the Christian democrats is not

Colonel Joseph H. ... Colonel Timmons, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Italian Provinces
Referring to paragraph 1 of Minutes of 4 January, the Chief Commissioner reported that this matter has been completed.
2. 1946 UNRRA Report Program
In regard to paragraph 2 of Minutes of 4 January, the Chief Commissioner stated that the program had been initiated, announcement having been made by UNRRA on 8 January at a press conference. "The Stars and Stripes" and other newspapers had reported the fact.
3. Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement
The Chief Commissioner reported the situation unchanged.
4. Future of AG
Reference paragraph 4. Minutes of 4 January, the Chief Commissioner stated that there was no change in this matter.
5. Political Resume

Mr. Jones gave a brief political resume. The Communist Congress finally adjourned on Sunday, January 6. Longo spoke of the creation of a unified party of all working classes. He stated there was urgent need for political unity of all democratic forces and explained this might be achieved by uniting various federations such as the Italian Women's Union, Youth Front, and Partisans. He cited the British Labor Party as an example of a party composed of various federations. Longo further stated that during the coming elections the Communists will follow the tactics of unity of action with all true democrats and with the workers, and observed that unity of action with the Christian democrats is not impossible. The Communist party, he said, is not atheistic; fundamentally it has always condemned anticlericalism. On the question of fusion of the Socialist and Communist parties, Longo stated that the time for fusion is now ripe. The new fusion party would not have to be based on Communist ideology. All questions would be discussed by the two parties on a level of absolute parity. To elicit the fear of the Socialists that they might constitute a minority in the new fusion party, Communists would: 1) attend Italian congress on level of equal representation and accept only unanimous decisions; 2) accept equal representation on all executive councils of new party for indefinite period of time. If Socialists should not be in favor of absolute fusion now the Communists propose a federation of two parties to achieve political and practical coordination of activities. The delegates to the Communist congress subsequently declared themselves unanimously in favor of fusion with the Socialists, although this was not arrived at without some

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opposition being expressed. The number of delegates to the congress was reported as 1,626, who represented approximately 1,708,000 members of the PCI. The compartments having the largest number of members are: Emilia and Romagna. Those having the smallest: Sardinia, Sicily, Southern Italy compartments, the Abruzzi, and Venetian Tridentine. The membership of the PCI is roughly made up as follows: 53% are industrial laborers, 33% agricultural laborers and farmers, and the remainder artisans, white collar workers, business and professional men and students.

On Monday January 7 Nenni (Socialist Party) replied to the Communists in a speech to the General Committee of the Socialist Party. He said that Nenni with the Communists was merely a hope or prospect but not an immediate reality, and that united action in winning the elections was much more important now than a new Italian party. He went on to say that Nenni must come from the ranks and admitted considerable opposition in both parties; therefore, this was not the time to discuss a new organization. On relations with the Christian Democrats, Nenni said that the unchanging attitude of the Socialist party toward the Christian Democrats has been one of understanding and solidarity with republican leftists of the party who form the majority of De Gasperi's party today. He went on to say that the existence of the Catholic mass party in Italy must be reckoned with and that an alliance of the left-wing parties is a formula which has lost its meaning in France and would be even more inadequate in Italy. He further declared that the Socialist party is opposed to compulsory voting. On the constituent assembly, Nenni stated that by its very nature it was a sovereign assembly; that the limits of its power lie not in a law or a referendum but in agreement between parties and composition of the assembly; and that moderate elements can control it if they are persuasive and forceful enough or have strong enough representation. Nenni then passed into the economic field and observed that bread and work are two fundamental needs for which Italy is literally dependent on the Allies. On Allied policy he said that Italy owes gratitude to the Allies for the little daily bread and coal she has, as well as for her gasoline and raw materials. However, to the Allies is due also the uncertainty of the political fate of Italy and her lack of an independent status.

Mr. Jones then reported on the Italian POW position. The Ministry of Post-War Assistance gave the following figures on repatriation of POWs as of the end of the year: 975,000 have already returned home and 450,000 remain to be returned. The breakdown by countries (i.e., prisoners held by) is as follows: United States (95,000 returned; 30,000 still to be repatriated); British Empire (67,000 returned; 324,000 to be repatriated); France and colonies (28,500 returned; 45,500 still to be repatriated -- France has asked the Italians to furnish the means of transport); Soviet Union (10,000 returned; 9,000 to be repatriated); Balkans -- mostly Yugoslavia -- (30,000 to be repatriated). The bulk of those who have returned have come from Germany and Austria.

Mr. Jones concluded with the statement that a morning newspaper had reported that the Spanish-Italian "Treaty of Commerce" was to be signed on January 9 in Rome. Spain would settle the debt question by paying with Spanish

On the other hand, there has been one of understanding and solidarity with republican leftists of the party who form the majority of De Gasperi's party today. He went on to say that the existence of the Catholic mass party in Italy must be reckoned with and that an alliance of the left-wing parties is a formula which has lost its meaning in France and would be even more inadequate in Italy. He further declared that the Socialist party is opposed to compulsory voting. On the constituent assembly, Monni stated that by its very nature it was a sovereign assembly; that the limits of its power lie not in a law or a referendum but in agreement between parties and composition of the assembly; and that moderate elements can control it if they are persuasive and forceful enough or have strong enough representation. Monni then passed into the economic field and observed that bread and work are two fundamental needs for which Italy is literally dependent on the Allies. On Allied policy he said that Italy owes gratitude to the Allies for the little daily bread and coal she has, as well as for her gasoline and raw materials. However, to the Allies is due also the uncertainty of the political fate of Italy and her lack of an independent status.

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Mr. Jones concluded with the statement that a morning newspaper had reported that the Spanish-Italian "Treaty of Commerce" was to be signed on January 9 in Rome. Spain would settle the debt question by paying with Spanish goods.

6. Transfer of AC Functions

Reference para 6 of Minutes of 4 January, Mr. Cleveland reported that discussions were continuing but that little further progress had been made. The American Embassy had asked that at least for the next month or so, AC should continue to watch over the functions of the Italian Industrial Advisory Council, during which time the Embassy would try to develop those functions.

7. Short Situation

Reference para 7 of Minutes of 4 January, Mr. Cleveland reported that the over-all picture is roughly the same as last week's. There is a shortage of

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short and in this manner the Italian Government has found it necessary to pass the program into its own hands. Mr. Cleveland added that judging from the statistics available, the situation was not worse through January and then start improving in February. This would depend on how well UNRRA would be able to meet the wheat and flour requirements for Italy.

8. Import Requirements, 1946

Mr. Cleveland stated that a considerable amount of work is being done on this, mostly in regard to the UNRRA program. Efforts are being made to fit the figures of the published report to the limits of the appropriations and to establish a firm supply budget for the year. A great deal of the planning work for 1946, which will be of great help in 1947, has been carried out by AC over the last few months.

9. Troop Pay Account

Reference paragraph 10 of Minutes of 4 January. Mr. Cleveland announced that it has been confirmed that the US Government procurement under the troop pay program will end on February first and that thereafter the troop pay fund would revert to the status of a post-liquidation account which will be available to the Italian Government for the current purchases of civilian supplies.

10. Transfer of Motor Vehicles

Colonel Walton reported that the Italian Ministry of Transport has proposed transferring motor vehicles obtained from US Army instead of certain Italian Army vehicles that had been captured in the North. The Prime Minister also suggested that it might be better to transfer the former surplus vehicles rather than captured ones. The program provided that 153 be returned immediately and the rest turned over to the Italian Ministry of War after repair. The turnover of 153 has been accomplished, but the repair program is stalled. At a meeting held with the Minister of Transport the new Minister claimed no responsibility for the vehicles which were to be turned over to the Army. The head of the A.R.A.R. is no longer dependent on the Ministry of Transport; A.R.A.R. has become autonomous. The Chief Commissioner stated that if the matter were not quickly resolved, a paper should be put up to him for discussion and transmittal to the Prime Minister.

11. Pillageage of Food and Supplies

Colonel Walton stated that some pillage of imported food and supplies is taking place. A meeting had been called to discuss the subject. Fedorations del Consumatori Agrari was making the best contribution in furnishing figures on losses, and Fedorations had agreed to furnish their figures in a week's time. It was claimed that much of the stealing was done by persons who enter the port areas illegally and make their way into the ships, as well as by the hired laborers themselves. The Chief Commissioner said that under our directives we should

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12. Boiling for Carabinieri

The Chief Commissioner directed Brigadier Carr to ascertain whether the new Italian Government desires to press the matter of the ceiling for the Carabinieri, which had been pressed by Ferri when he was Prime Minister. General Browning reported unofficially that the Italian Government should like to have the figure raised by 10,000. With this addition there could be formed 20 extra mobile battalions, and it is believed this would stabilize the police force in the country.

13. Public Safety

Brigadier Carr stated that there had been signs of unrest in various parts of the country. Disturbances have occurred in Sicily, Florence, Milan, and in prisons at Genova and Turin.

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See Feb 179

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12. US Government Property at Displaced Persons Camps

Colonel Parkin reported that he had been directed by MURKIN to make a census of all the Displaced Persons camps that are being turned over to UNRRA to find out what US Government property the camps wish to retain when UNRRA assumes responsibility for their operation. The US Government property in these camps is charged against the 2675th Regiment and for this reason the Commanding Officer was approached. A letter has been directed to the various camps requesting the above information together with a list of that property which they wish to declare surplus.

Corrections to Minutes of 4 January:

Minute 5, "Political Rumors," 4th para, second line: delete the word "supposedly."

10th line: delete the words "it seems that at a time the Communists are not ready to replace the British."

12th line: delete the words "of restoration."

15th line: delete the word "not."

Minute 6, "Transfer of 100 Poles," second line: delete the words "the British Embassy is not." and substitute "the British Embassy is not."

13th line: delete the word " Embassy" and substitute "Embassy."

Minute 9, "Financing of Additional Credits and Loans," second line: delete the words "does not seem very likely" and substitute the words "is not yet in sight."

Next Vice President's Meeting, 1200 hours, Wednesday, 15 January 46

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section (5)
VP, Establishment Section (2)

[Signature]
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AEC
Staff Officer to CC

Communists did not consider Tolstoy as much."

12th line: delete the words "of restoration."

15th line: delete the word "not."

Minute 6, "Transfer of AC Functioning", second line: instead of "with the American Embassy about" read "with the American and British Embassies about."

3rd line: delete the word "Embassy" and substitute "Embassies."

Minute 9, "Financing of Additional Credits and Loans," second line: delete the words "does not seem very likely" and substitute the words "is not yet in sight."

Next Vice Presidency' Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday, 16 January 46

DISTRIBUTION:

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VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section (5)
VP, Establishment Section (2)
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
Navy Subcommittee (3) (4)
Land Forces Subcommittee (4)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (30)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5 AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

L. W. STEARNS

Lt Col, AGO
Staff Officer to CC

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CO-551

8 January 1946

JAN 9 1946

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The regularly scheduled weekly Vice-Presidents' Meeting will be held, tomorrow morning, Wednesday, 9 January 1946 at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room:

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner _____
Executive Commissioner AC _____
VP, Civil Affairs Section _____
VP, Economic Section _____
VP, Establishment Section _____
Political Adviser (A) _____
Political Adviser (B) _____
Navy Subcommittee _____
Land Forces Subcommittee (ACIA) _____
Air Forces Subcommittee _____
Liaison Office (EC) _____
French Representative, AC _____
Soviet Representative, AC _____
Public Relations Branch _____

L.W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

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Office of the Chief Commissioner
April 1946

CC 52/44

4 January 1946

MEMORANDUM

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 4 January 1946, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. McBride, Mr. Halford, Brigadier General Lee, Major General Browning, Commodore Zivell, Colonel Savio, Officer de Premiere Classe Guyot, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Colonel Manasse, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Italian Provinces

Reference paragraph 1 of Minutes of 19 December, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Northern provinces, with the exception of Udine and Venezia Giulia, had been returned to the Italian Government on 31 December. In this connection an Associated Press dispatch in "The Stars and Stripes" reported that Udine had been held back as a disputed area. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that this was not correct and was contrary to the announcement he had made on 13 December. Lt. Col. Bergin had contacted AP and "The Stars and Stripes" about a correction. Of the papers that carried the announcement, "The Stars and Stripes" was the only one to have made that mistake.

2. 1946 Import Program

The Chief Commissioner reported that the first portion of the funds had been voted -- \$750,000,000 for 1946. Beginning 1 January, the responsibility of supply had passed to INRRA. Many of the personnel of the Economic Section would be transferred to INRRA, but the Economic Supply Group would still continue for some time in order to handle January and February arrivals that had been procured by EEA.

3. Italy-Switzerland Agreement

Colonel Walton reported that the agreement has not yet gone into effect because the two interested parties are still arguing about the question of payment of back debts.

4. Future of EC

The Chief Commissioner stated that APHA had not yet received a reply to its signal to the Combined Chiefs on the future of the Commission.

5. Political Resumé

Reference paragraph 1 of Minutes of 19 December, Minutes of 19 December, on the subject of elections, Mr. Halford reported that it may not be possible to hold elections for the

Associated Press dispatch in "The Stars and Stripes" reported that Udine had been held back as a disputed area. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that this was not correct nor was contrary to the announcement he had made on 13 December. Lt Col Bergin had contacted AP and "The Stars and Stripes" about a correction. Of the papers that carried the announcement, "The Stars and Stripes" was the only one to have made that mistake.

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3. Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement

Colonel Walton reported that the agreement has not yet gone into effect because the two interested parties are still arguing about the question of payment of Swiss debts.

4. Future of AG

The Chief Commissioner stated that AFHQ had not yet received a reply to its appeal to the Combined Chiefs on the future of the Commission.

5. Political Resume

Reference paragraph 1 of Minute 6, Minutes of 19 December, on the subject of elections, Mr. Halford reported that it may not be possible to hold elections for the Constituents until the coming Summer because of the slow pace at which election lists are being approved.

With regard to the handover of Northern provinces to the Italian Government, there had been a favorable reaction in the press. However, the statement released after the meeting of Foreign Ministers at Moscow had brought about immediate protest. The papers denounced the fact that Italy had been relegated to the same position as Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary and other former Nazi satellites in spite of her contribution as a co-belligerent.

A crisis seemed to be brewing in the Socialist Party. Signor Martini, the Secretary of the party, had resigned on 21 December and Signor Morandi had taken his place. The new Secretary claimed there was no crisis in the party, but Mr. Halford pointed out that the old problem of fusion of the Socialist and Communist parties had been very much in debate recently. In spite of the new Secretary's statement, the press and prominent Socialists had continued to speculate on the subject. Morandi is reported to be in favor of fusion.

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3. Political Resume (Continued)

The Italian Communist Party has been having a national congress. It started on 29 December and is supposedly still going on. Togliatti came out strongly against compulsory voting in all elections. From the Communist Party viewpoint, voting is a right of the individual and not a duty. On foreign policy, Togliatti drew attention to the need for peace and the necessity of Italy's collaboration with the democratic powers. He also stated that Italy must become economically independent if she is to play her part among the United Nations. On the question of Trieste, Togliatti's statements showed a clarification in his attitude toward Trieste. He revealed that the Communist position on Trieste had been misrepresented -- Trieste is Italian. It seemed that at a time the Communists did not consider Trieste as such. Togliatti took much the same attitude towards Belgium. There would be no question of ceding territory there, either. On the matter of restoration of the monarchy, he said it was not a question of whether to have a republic or the monarchy but of whether to have a republic or fascism. On the subject of the church, he emphasized freedom of religion but did not denounce the interference of ecclesiastical authorities. This discussion was general, not specific.

6. Transfer of AC Functions

Mr. Cleveland reported that in addition to the transfer of responsibility to UNRRA, conversations were being carried on with the American Embassy about those functions of the Economic Section which will be assumed by the Embassy. First in the program is the transfer of those remaining functions of the Labor Subcommission, which is scheduled to be effected this month. The Chief Commissioner observed that the transfer depended on the approval of the Combined Chiefs and AC had no authority to take such action without word from them.

7. Wheat Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that the wheat situation was not good. He explained that at the beginning of the FEA program supplies were in bad shape, but it was hoped that through the FEA program they would be built up. There will be a shortage by the end of this month due to the lateness of the FEA program and the fact that UNRRA is some 90,000 tons short for the first month of its program. The Italian Government is aware of the situation and efforts are being made to distribute incoming supplies so that the bread ration will not be affected. However, Mr. Cleveland pointed out that if the continuation of the UNRRA program does not come close to the requirements needed, the situation will probably get worse than better. Most of the wheat is expected to come in during the latter part of January and early February. Mr. Cleveland explained that the trouble in getting the wheat was due mainly to three factors: 1) the cumulative effect of strikes in the United States; 2) the paralysis of shipping due to reluctance of crews to sign up for trips scheduled for the holiday period; 3) the fact that the biggest wheat movement toward the Atlantic seaboard is now taking place in the United States and this has been hampered by the disruption of railway traffic in the holidays and redeployment of military personnel.

8. Import Requirements - 1946

Transfer of AG Functions

Mr. Cleveland reported that in addition to the transfer of responsibility to INARA, conversations were being carried on with the American Embassy about those functions of the Economic Section which will be assumed by the Embassy. First in the program is the transfer of those remaining functions of the Labor Subcommission, which is scheduled to be effected this month. The Chief Commissioner observed that the transfer depended on the approval of the Combined Chiefs and AG had no authority to take such action without word from them.

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8. Import Requirements - 1946

The Chief Commissioner commended the Economic Section and those concerned with the publication of this report for having done an excellent job. He observed that it was a worthwhile piece of work which deserved careful reading.

9. Financing of Additional Credits and Loans

Mr. Cleveland reported that the financing of program other than that of UNRRA does not seem very likely. The question of the formal channel for requesting additional funds was brought up and it was stated that the official channel probably will be for the Italian Government to approach the US and British Governments through its representatives in those countries. In this connection the Chief Commissioner observed that if this method was followed, AG would be left in the dark as to the progress of negotiations. There has been talk about sending a Mission abroad to treat the matter, but thus far nothing concrete has happened.

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10. Troop Pay Accounts

Colonel Manspess reported that definite advice had been received as to the quantity of money in the troop pay account. Definite certifications amount to \$120,000,000 through 31 March 45, and an additional \$20,000,000 has been certified provisionally. Colonel Manspess also reported specifically that the first of February is being considered as the date for Government participation in the troop pay account.

11. Local Elections

Brigadier Carr stated that the Council of Ministers had approved new decrees for local elections. All the points raised by AC had been incorporated into all major requirements met.

12. American Officer Personnel

Colonel Parich stated that under a new circular the War Department had called all officers' signed service commitments and had redivided service into five new categories: 1) direct to continue on extended active service for an unlimited time; 2) those who signed until 30 June 1947; 3) those who signed until 31 December 1946; 4) those who are to serve for a period to be agreed upon between the commanding officer and officer involved; 5) those to be relieved as soon as possible. A circular on this matter is being prepared for distribution to all American AC officers.

13. Report by Brigadier Bush

Brigadier Bush reported that the handover had gone over perfectly. Regional Commissioners are liquidating and liaison officers are already set up and functioning. The AC directive to the liaison officers has been approved by AFHQ and a letter to the Prime Minister is being drafted suggesting instructions for the prefects. The Brigadier called attention to the fact that some 45 British warrant officers, WCO's and WO's of high caliber had recently left AC and that this would undoubtedly result in a falling off in the efficiency of some of the services of this Headquarters.

Next Vice Presidential Meeting - 1000 hours, Wednesday, 9 January 1946

L. W. STEARNS
Lt. Col., AGF
Staff Officer to CG

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Vf, Civil Affairs Section

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new categories: 1) select to continue on extended active service into five years; 2) those who stayed until 30 June 1947; 3) those who stayed until 31 December 1946; 4) those who are to serve for a period to be agreed upon between the commanding officer and officer involved; 5) those to be relieved as soon as possible. A circular on this matter is being prepared for distribution to all American AD officers.

13. Report by Brigadier Lush

Brigadier Lush reported that the headway had been over perfectly. Reserved Commissioners are maintaining and liaison officers are already set up and functioning. The AC directive to the liaison officers had been approved by AFHQ and a letter to the Prime Minister is being drafted suggesting instructions for the practice. The Brigadier called attention to the fact that some 43 British warrant officers, NCO's and O's of high caliber had recently left AC and that this would undoubtedly result in a falling off in the efficiency of some of the services of this Headquarters.

Natt Vice President's Meeting - 1000 hours, Wednesday, 9 January 1946

L. W. STEPHENS
Lt Col., ADC
Staff Officer to CC

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Air Forces Subcommittee
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American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5 AFHQ (5)
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CONFIDENTIAL

ADMINISTRATIVE CHIEF COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
PO Box

ST 551/43

19 December 1945

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Via President's Meeting, 11th House, 19 December 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Fisher, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hafford, Mr. Spadie, Major General Bromberg, Rear Admiral Wilson, Colonel Savko, Officer de Premier Classe Guyot, Lieutenant Colonel Perrin, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Mennace, Colonel Denstone, Colonel Walton, Lieutenant Colonel Parker.

1. Restoration of Italian Province

With reference to para 1 of minutes of 14 December, the Chief Commissioner reported the additional statement of this subject had been received the night of Tuesday, 12 December. It appeared to the Italian press the following morning, but not in the Allied service papers. The Chief Commissioner read the statement, the highlight of which was that a definite date had been set for the transfer of the Northern provinces (midnight -- 31 December) and the Prime Minister had been accordingly advised the morning of December 12th.

2. Italian Province

With reference to minute 2 of minutes of 14 December, Mr. Cleveland reported that the 850,000,000 appropriation for 1946 had passed both the Senate and the House of Representatives. The appropriation bill of 51,397,000,000 is being worked upon. The Chief Commissioner remarked that the appropriation would take care of the basic supply program for 1946 under which and this would mean that probably within thirty days it could be passing to the study of the members of the Economic Section.

3. Italian-Soviet Trade Agreement

With reference to minute 3 of minutes of 14 December, Colonel Walton stated that there had been no change in the status of the Italy-Soviet agreement since last week. Mr. Cleveland added that the situation was simply that the Italian Government had no idea of the date, for that, so far as he knew, there had been no change in the situation.

4. Future of AI

With reference to minute 4 of minutes of 14 December, the Chief Commissioner

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the administration of the State -- for example, whether a governmental agency in enforcing the law goes beyond its jurisdiction. It usually passes on questions involving the State administration and individual citizens. The Court of Cassation is a superior court in that it may render a decision of the Council of State if the latter has passed on a question involving private law. Councilors of State are nominated by the King, while lower officials are appointed by examination. Councilors are irremovable. From a purely administrative point of view the Council of State is independent on the Presidency of the Council of Ministers; otherwise, it is an autonomous body.

The Chief Commissioner stated that, in his opinion, in the question of separation there were only two features that might conceivably concern the State: first, that Fascists be removed from governmental positions in accordance with the stipulations of the armistice and begin disarming in the subject; and the second, that it is not the State's concern how the Italians accomplish separation provided that the military services and such services as communications and transport of importance to the Allies are not impaired. The Chief Commissioner expressed his belief that in the machinery set up by the Italian Government for removal of Fascists, they might be beyond the removal of Fascists and even Fascist people that the Allies might not consider as such. He stated that, in his opinion, under the existing directive of giving advice, but forth in FAR 487, he has no right to intervene further.

6. Political Situation

On the subject of elections, Mr. Jones remarked that De Gasperi had called a meeting Saturday evening of officials of the Ministry of the Interior in order to accelerate preparations for local elections. The latest figures are reported to be: 2800 communes have cancelled their lists of which 598 have been approved. 3200 communes have cancelled their lists of which 116 have been approved. Instructions had been sent to all communes to complete nominations for local elections as soon as possible. The first local elections in to be considered by the representative Councils Commune is for V. December 19. It may be removed and accelerated in January and elections could thus be held in February. If electoral preparations are not completed a special event, De Gasperi is inclined to consider the possibility of beginning to hold local elections in communes where preparations are complete.

Mr. Jones further reported on the Prime Minister's press conference of 18 December. De Gasperi defended his record as a journalist and supporter of freedom of the press. He spoke of two humorous incidents having been suggested: depleted the vulnerability of some of the Roman news. De Gasperi said he had faith in the judgement of the Prefect of Rome in action being taken. He recalled to the journalists that Rome had 22 daily newspapers and 120 weeklies; although many are voiceless, there are selling first. He pointed to the Italian press for a greater sense of responsibility to give the freedom.

expressed his belief that in the ordinary set up by the Italian Government for removal of priests, they might go beyond the removal of priests but even penalize people that the Allies might not consider a much. He stated that, in his opinion, under the existing directive of giving advice, set forth in Fall 1947, it has no right to intervene further.

6. Political Situation

On the subject of elections, Mr. Jones reported that De Gasperi had called a meeting Sunday evening of officials of the Ministry of the Interior in order to formulate preparations for local elections. The latest figures are reported to be: 1800 communes have completed preliminary lists of which 850 have been received, 1200 communes have completed preliminary lists of which 114 have been received. Instructions had been sent to all communes to complete preparations for local elections as soon as possible. The draft law on local elections is to be considered by the Chamber of Deputies on December 19. It may be reviewed and amended in January and elections may be held in February. If electoral preparations are not generally completed soon, De Gasperi is inclined to postpone the possibility of beginning to hold local elections in countries where preparations are complete.

Mr. Jones further reported on the Prime Minister's press conference of 12 December. De Gasperi defended his record as a journalist of support of freedom of the press. He spoke of two newspapers having been recently closed; deplored the vulgarity of some of the Roman press. De Gasperi said he had faith in the judgment of the people of Rome in action being taken. He recalled in the journalistic that Rome had 22 daily newspapers and 120 weeklies although misery is widespread, there is nothing but. He appealed to the Italian press for a greater sense of responsibility to give its freedom.

On the subject of relations with Yugoslavia, the Prime Minister reported that every effort has been made and is continuing to be made to restore normal relations with Yugoslavia, but that Italy could not, however, remain indifferent to provocations from Tito's side. Italy being asked as to a meeting between for Italy, he said there were two ways out to the Allies -- out Italy on the road to final peace or seek a "modus vivendi" immediately. He said his Government realized the need of all of the Allies and that the answer is not to say one. Then on the subject of relations with France, De Gasperi stated they were based on traditional sentiments of friendship and that France had shown great understanding for Italy during the London Conference.

Mr. Jones then reported on Benini's speech at Padua. Speaking of the new government Benini had said that it was the first of its kind since 1848 that Italy had a Catholic Party leader and the first time since that some fear that there had been a socialist Minister of the Interior. There had been indications clericalism and anti-clericalism were finished, which is highly satisfactory to the Socialists. He recommended the Wilson line as an appropriate boundary

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For Italy and France. It is the hope of the Committee, World and S
Socialists and other with the Committee, World and S
revolution, solution and extension of the Committee, World and S
developed under cover for a possible.

7. Northern Africa Report and Northern Italian Industrial Council

Mr. Cleveland reported that during his recent trip in the North, the
movement of the business of the various provinces to the Italian Government
had been such. As a result of the turnover there, the problem of the
Northern Italian industrial council was to have a meeting
by January 15. The industrial council was to have a meeting
between now and the end of January, with a plan for a national industrial
council. There was the possibility of an industrial council, which
arrived at the end of the year, and there was the possibility
of an industrial council in the North. The industrial council
which will be formed, as the industrial council will be formed by
there the industrial council and they will sit in the North
in the North. Mr. Cleveland reported that he considered the plan a
arrangement which could continue in the North, which would be organized.

8. Coal

In connection with an article that appeared in the Italian press about
the failure to move coal into Germany, Colonel Patton stated
that it is reported that the article was based on insufficient information.
During the first of January, all coal that has been unloaded at
Genoa and Trieste was moved promptly into the regular distribution channels.
It is believed a portion of the coal has been delivered to the Benetton
stockpile; this point is being checked.

9. Reconnaissance

Colonel Fiske reported that 93 American soldiers were in various positions
have just been received and were being examined.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Friday, January 14, 1945.

[Signature]
Lt Col. J. H. H. H.
Staff Officer to CG

8. Goal

In connection with an article that appeared in the Italian press about the failure to save coal shipped into Geneva and Bern, Colonel Belton stated that it appeared that the article was based on insufficient information. During the first fifteen days of December, all coal that had been unloaded at Geneva and Bern was moved directly into the regular distribution channels. It is believed a portion of the coal has been delivered to the Ben Glusensky stockpile; this unit is being checked.

9. Background

Colonel Fleiss reported that 95 American enlisted men of varying abilities have just been received and were being assigned.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Friday, January 14, 1966.

[Signature]
Lt Col., ASD
Staff Officer to CC

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Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
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V2, Economic Section (3)
V2, Personnel Section (2)
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
Naval Communication (3)
Land Force Communication (CUL)
Air Force Communication
French Representative, 6
Soviet Representative, 7
Liaison Officer (C)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
S-5 (2) (5)

Chief Financial Advisor (A)

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CC 551

3 January 1946

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

JAN 3 1946

The regularly scheduled weekly Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held, tomorrow morning, Friday, 4 January 1946 at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room:

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner _____
Executive Commissioner _____
VP, Civil Affairs Section _____
VP, Economic Section _____
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Political Adviser (A) _____
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Land Forces Subcommittee (MIA) _____
Air Forces Subcommittee _____
Liaison Office (EC) _____
French Representative, AC _____
Soviet Representative, AC _____
Public Relations Branch _____

L.W. STANES
Lt Col, AG
Staff Office to CC

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CONFIDENTIAL
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 591/L2

14 December 1945

M I L I T A R Y

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 14 December 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Pisko, Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Colonel Warden, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Seven, Officer de Premier Classe Gerret, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Weber, Colonel Menapace, Colonel Rutherford, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of minutes of 5 December 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the date of return of northern provinces was expected to be fixed as of midnight 31 December. The information was released to the press on 13 December that the AMG territory to be turned back about December 31st included the islands of Pantollaria, Linosa, and Lampedusa but not Venezia Giulia nor Udine, which will continue under AMG. The transfer documents are now being drafted. The new Prime Minister was gratified at this news.

2. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 5 December, the Chief Commissioner reported that the House of Representatives has approved the appropriation and indications are that the Senate will shortly pass the \$550,000,000 appropriation for UNRRA which will take care of the January loadings. On the other hand, the 1946 recommended appropriation of \$1,350,000,000 has not yet been passed. A telegram has gone forward to AFHQ recommending that an alternative plan be found for continuation of the present supply program if the UNRRA appropriation does not go through. These alternative recommendations were sent on to CCS. Personal messages were also sent by SACMED and Deputy SACMED.

3. Italy-Swiss Trade Agreement

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 5 December, Colonel Walton stated that the Italian Government had replied to the note from the U.S. Embassy that there was in fact very little debt prior to 10 June 1940 and that the relief offered was nil, as the bulk of the debt was incurred after that date. It is assumed that an identical note has been sent to the British Ambassador. Matter

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 5 December 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the date of return of northern provinces was expected to be fixed as of midnight 31 December. The information was released to the press on 13 December that the AMG territory to be turned back about December 31st included the islands of Pantelleria, Linosa, and Lampedusa but not Venezia Giulia nor Udine, which will continue under AMG. The transfer documents are now being drafted. The new Prime Minister was gratified at this news.

2. 1946 Export Program

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 5 December, the Chief Commissioner reported that the House of Representatives has approved the appropriation and indications are that the Senate will shortly pass the \$550,000,000 appropriation for UNRRA which will take care of the January loadings. On the other hand, the 1946 recommended appropriation of \$1,350,000,000 has not yet been passed. A telegram has gone forward to AFHQ recommending that an alternative plan be found for continuation of the present supply program if the UNRRA appropriation does not go through. These alternative recommendations were sent on to GCS. Personnel messages were also sent by SACMED and Deputy SACMED.

3. Italo-Swiss Trade Agreement

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4. Future of AC

The Chief Commissioner reported that meetings were held at this Headquarters on 6, 7 & 8 December with respect to draft suggestions regarding future activities of AC and the possible revision of the Armistice terms. If the UNRRA appropriation goes through, a large portion of the economic activities of AC will cease. All indications are that the scope of AC's activities, if not its life, will be substantially curtailed early in the year. With the successful formation of the new government, the Chief Commissioner expressed the hope that Italy is now on the last lap of restoration to normalcy.

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1. Political Rumors

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief political review summarizing the conditions which finally resulted in De Gasperi's forming the new government. De Gasperi was able to confirm in writing to the Liberals, on behalf of the Christian Democrats, virtual acceptance of the Liberals' ten-point program. The new government is in fact little more than a reshuffle of the last one, with exclusion of Parri and a few others. The attempt to include non-party men failed, but there is talk of appointing, at some future date, men outside the parties as ministers without portfolio. Press opinion differs as to whether final decision is victory or defeat for the Liberals. The position of the new government will be very much strengthened by the handback, which Italians consider an expression of confidence by Allied governments in De Gasperi.

6. Wheat Situation

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 29 November, Colonel Denamore reported that 73.9% of the target figure had now been assessed.

7. Electric Power Situation

The Chief Commissioner inquired if there was any truth in the report that the electricity allotment for Naples was being increased at the expense of Rome's and he directed the Economic Section to check on the present distribution and rationing of electric power. The Chief Commissioner recommended that Allied functions should be given special priority. Colonel Walton stated that the electricity shortage was caused by shortage of rainfall. Public Utilities representatives are now meeting at AAC to discuss this. The Chief Commissioner directed that they be instructed to arrange for all Allied requirements. The Executive Commissioner said a drastic program had already been instituted in the North to curtail use of power. All non-industrial lighting has been cut to 70%, whereas domestic lighting has been reduced to 125 KW hours. The Executive Commissioner recommended that the Italian Government issue one national order, which could be applied in AMO territory. The Chief Commissioner stated this might not be altogether probable for technical reasons. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Walton to check on power export to France. On Mr. Hopkinson's inquiry about importing power from Switzerland, Colonel Denamore replied that Swiss representatives are now claiming a shortage.

8. Mine Clearance

Admiral Warren reported that the mine-sweeping program is proceeding according to plan. At the moment British sweeps are laid up for three weeks' holiday leave and refitting.

9. Evacuation

Colonel White stated that a new evacuation law had been proposed by the Secretary General of the High Commission for Evacuation. The new law proposes that evacuation cease to be a function of the High Commissioner of Evacuation and that the responsibility for evacuation be left to the separate ministries.

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10. Executive Commissioner's Meeting in the North

Brigadier Lush gave a brief report on the special meeting held in Milan. It was agreed that after the handover it would take approximately three additional weeks before all regional affairs could be wound up. As to liaison representatives, the present estimate is placed at 35 AC officers to be held in the North, exclusive of the economic representatives. If UNRRA takes over there will be no Economic Section people in the North except perhaps transportation and warehousing officers. The Chief Commissioner asked Colonel Denmore to find out the status of negotiations between UNRRA and the Italian Government. Reference to supplies for liaison officers, Colonel Fiske stated that rations are now being drawn from Uline. There are no vehicle repair facilities. Brigadier Lush reported that a proposed directive for liaison officers has been approved but has to be cleared by AFHQ. The present directive of last year to

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 military commanders was not considered to be satisfactory and Brigadier Lush suggested that the Italian Government be persuaded to issue directives to prefects setting down the form of liaison to be followed between military commanders and Italian local officials. Brigadier Lush added that the Italian AG Team will consist of 28 officers.

Next Vice President's Meeting -- 1000 hours, Wednesday 19 December

1945.

[Signature]
 L. H. STEARNS
 Lt Col, AGC
 Senior Officer AGC

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- Chief Coordinator
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- Land Forces Subcommissioner (HMA)
- Air Forces Subcommissioner
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- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5 AFHQ (5)
- Chief Vice Consul Advisor (AG)

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Chief Operational Advisor (AC)

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1. N. STEARNS
Lt Col, 100
Staff Officer 100

1978

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

785017

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

18 December 1945

CC 551

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The regularly scheduled Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held, tomorrow morning, Wednesday, 19 December 45, at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room:

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VP, Economic Section _____
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Air Forces Subcommittee _____
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Soviet Representative, AG _____
Public Relations Branch _____

591
L. W. STRAKES
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

1978

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CC 551

11 December 45

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The Vice Presidents' Meeting that was scheduled to take place tomorrow, Wednesday 12 December, will instead be held on Friday, 14 December, 1000 hours, at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner _____
Executive Commissioner _____
VP, Civil Affairs Section _____
VP, Economic Section _____
VP, Establishment Section _____
Political Advisor (A) _____
Political Advisor (B) _____
Navy Subcommittee _____
Land Forces Subcommittee (KNIA) _____
Air Forces Subcommittee _____
Liaison Office (AC) _____
French Representative, AC _____
Soviet Representative, AC _____
Public Relations Branch _____

See 47 EC
J. S.

B U 13/12 for J-1 Ex Com.

L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

43 552/41

5 December 1945

MINUTES

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1300 hours, 5 December 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lamb, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Lt. Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Colonel Warden, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Sarto, Capitaine de Vaisseau Muller, Lieutenant Colonel Hergis, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Donmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that there is no change in the situation with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Resumption of Shipbuilding

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the latter has been signed and transmitted to the Prime Minister informing the Italian Government of the CCS policy with regard to the resumption of shipbuilding in Italy.

3. Political Resumé

Mr. Jones gave a brief resumé of the current political crisis. The failure of Orlando to form a new government seemed to end the attempts to get a leader from outside the six parties. On the 28 November at a meeting of the six parties, Menni suggested de Gasperi to head the new government, because of the central position of the Christian Democratic party. On Saturday a palace communiqué stated that de Gasperi had been asked to sound out opinions, and since then de Gasperi has been very active in trying to form a new government. Subsequent developments emphasized the difficulty in assigning the Interior post, which both the Socialists and the Liberals wanted. The Socialists finally

Parkin, Lt. Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Colonel Warden, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Burke, Captain de Vaisseau Houllier, Lieutenant Colonel Berge, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Dandero, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that there is no change in the situation with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Restoration of Sicily

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the letter has been signed and transmitted to the Prime Minister informing the Italian Government of the COS policy with regard to the resumption of administration in Italy.

3. Political Reform

Mr. Jones gave a brief review of the current political crisis. The failure of Orlando to form a new government seemed to end the attempts to get a leader from outside the six parties. On 22 November at a meeting of the six parties, Norri suggested de Gasperi to head the new government, because of the central position of the Christian Democrat party. On Saturday a palace conference stated that de Gasperi had been asked to sound out opinion, and since then de Gasperi has been very active in trying to form a new government. Subsequent developments emphasized the difficulty in assigning the Interior post, which both the Socialists and the Liberals wanted. The Socialists finally indicated that they would accept the Ministry for Foreign Affairs as an alternative, but the Communists objected. On Tuesday a palace conference announced that de Gasperi had been formally asked to form a government and that he had accepted, which meant that de Gasperi felt he had overcome the greatest difficulties. The position at 0300 hours Tuesday following a conference de Gasperi had with the Liberals was that the Liberals would accept a Socialist as Minister of the Interior, the most difficult point, providing he was acceptable to de Gasperi. The Liberals indicated they wanted the Ministry of the Treasury and/or one or two economic ministries. Yesterday (2 November 45) de Gasperi met with Bonomi, who possibly might be a vice president. De Gasperi also met with Bonomi, who he was going to participate in the government. On Tuesday at a meeting of the six parties the Liberals presented a ten-point program for the new government. The morning papers on 5 November indicate that the Liberal program is unacceptable because it is felt to ignore the CLN and the anti-Fascist activities of the North. The distribution of portfolios and the program for the new government are now holding up the solution of this matter.

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4. Dissolution of AFHQ

Mr. Cleveland reported that there is now under discussion a draft AFHQ administrative memo which would dissolve the Allied Forces Local Resources Section and incorporate its few remaining functions in the Office of the CIO, AFHQ. This is to be discussed with the CIO on 6 December 1945.

5. Military Exports from Civil Economy

Mr. Cleveland brought up the question of military exports from the Italian civil economy. The Chief Commissioner directed that a strong line be taken in this regard, as he felt that the military should not requisition items, particularly if manufactured in whole or in part from materials imported into Italy for the civilian economy, and export them to other countries. Mr. Cleveland stated, as an example, that the military had requisitioned large quantities of light bulbs for export from Italy, although the tungsten for these bulbs had been imported from the U.S. for the civilian economy. He directed that an appropriate letter to AFHQ be drafted.

6. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that Congress has not yet approved either the \$550,000,000 appropriation or the \$1,350,000,000 appropriation for 1946 for UNRRA. Congress has postponed its recess until 20 December, which leaves but 15 days in which to get the money for the January deadline. The Chief Commissioner directed that this matter be brought up at the conference with C.A.O. on 6 December together with recommendations for solution.

7. Italy-Swiss Trade Agreement

Mr. Cleveland reported that the AC has been holding up the Italy-Swiss Trade Agreement pending approval from the CCS, but that the CCS has now informed the AC that the matter is being handled through the embassies, who have delivered notes to the Italian Government giving the position of their governments. Italy is permitted to pay off debts incurred prior to 10 June 1940 but not thereafter. Mr. Cleveland stated that a letter has been sent to the Ministry informing them that as they received the "notes verbales" from the embassies, any further negotiations should be made through the embassies. The Chief Commissioner directed that a cable be sent off to CCS asking if the procedure followed in this case means that the directive to AC has been modified, in order that the AC can be relieved of responsibility of the channels of communication changed.

8. Acquisition of Liberty Bells

In reply to the Chief Commissioner's query, Mr. Cleveland stated that the

Export from 1949, although the target for these bulbs had been imported from the U.S. for the civilian economy. He directed that an appropriate letter to AFHQ be drafted.

6. 1946 Import Program

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8. Acquisition of Liberty Ships

In reply to the Chief Commissioner's query, Mr. Cleveland stated that the press reports that Italy is to receive a number of Liberty ships from the U.S. are the result of speeches made by the Head of the American Chamber of Commerce for Trade with Italy who is now in Italy and who has stated that 46 Liberty ships are to be turned over at the price of one lira each. However, the latest information from Washington is that the Maritime Commission has not yet decided on what basis it is going to dispose of Liberty ships to anyone.

9. Wheat Cessation

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Colonel Walton reported that 74% of the target figure has now been assessed. Colonel Walton stated it was proposed to reduce the target figure from the present total crop estimate less local retentions to the estimate of what would actually be assessed. The Chief Commissioner directed that this be not done and that the target continue to be estimated as at present, so that the figures will show the percentage of the locally assessable wheat that has actually been assessed.

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CONFIDENTIAL

10. Bologna

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Colonel White stated that a legal opinion has now been received that the decree making Bologna an official bilingual province issued by the Prefect went beyond the Prefect's powers, as it provides conditions for civil service and permits removal from office at a certain time of those officers who are not bilingual. The Chief Commissioner directed that action be taken to see if this was issued with AMG authority, and if so, whose authority. Colonel White is checking on this.

Colonel White also reported that a proposal is being considered by the Italian Government, although it will probably not come up until the new government is in office, to grant autonomy to the Alto Adige, including Bologna. The proposal is that the local constitution be worked out locally by the people there.

11. Act of Clemency

Colonel White stated that a recommendation was made to AFHQ that on the handover an act of clemency might be desirable. AFHQ has replied that an act of clemency might indicate that Allied justice was not just. However, there are 140 prisoners serving sentences in Italian jails, but, unlike the civil prisoners, they are not entitled to remissions under the Italian penal code. Brigadier Lusk stated that the new reviewing officer has several hundred cases ahead of him, and suggested that a full staff be organized to review all these cases in the event clemency is not granted.

12. Dismissal of Government Officials

Colonel White reported that the Italian Government has passed a decree giving to the Prime Minister, for a limited time, the authority to remove officers of grade 5 or higher for no other reason than "in the interests of the service." This authority is to be used only in exceptional cases, and was apparently designed to remove from office well-known fascists who were not operated because of incorrect testimony given by subordinates to protect themselves. The Chief Commissioner observed that the AC has no right to interfere in this matter.

13. Commission to Rule on Nationality

Colonel White stated that a draft decree has been received which sets up commissions to inquire into cases of nationality. Persons who had opted for Germany would be deprived of Italian citizenship and could apply to the commission for a passport. The Commission would consider the individuals' records and would make a decision. The Chief Commissioner asked Colonel White to consult with the political advisors on this.

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14. National and Local Elections

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Colonel White stated that for all of Italy an average of 9% of the electoral lists have been completed.

15. Economic Section Representations in North

With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 28 November 1945, Brigadier Lush stated that a cable has been received from AFHQ stating that having an Economic Commissioner in Milan is in violation of PAN 187. Brigadier Lush stated that at present the Economic Commissioner has executive functions under AMG, but that on withdrawal of AMG he can remain there only as a liaison officer. Mr. Clowland reported that the basic reason for concentrating Economic Section representa-

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tatives in Milan was that the Italians have concentrated their men there. The Chief Commissioner stressed the fact that these representatives could remain in the North after AMG withdrawal only on the invitation of the Italian Government and then only in an advisory capacity. In this connection the Chief Commissioner pointed out that UNRRA operates under authority of a contract signed with the Italian Government, and by agreement with the Italian Government UNRRA could assume functions denied to the Allied Commission by PAN 487.

Next Vice President's Meeting -- 1000 hours, Friday 14 December 1945

L. W. STEARNS
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

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Executive Commissioner ✓
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VP, Establishment Section (2)
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Political Adviser (B)
Navy Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces Subcommittee (UNRRA)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AG
Soviet Representative, AG
Liaison Officer (AG)

[Signature]
L. W. STEARNS

Lt Col, AGO

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Air Forces Subcommission
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Soviet Representative, AG
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Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5 AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Adviser (AG)

- 4 -
SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
APO 394
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CC 551

5 December 1945

DEC 5 1945

SUBJECT: Amendments to Minutes of Vice Presidents' Meeting of
14 November 1945 (ref. CC 551/38)

TO : See DISTRIBUTION below

The Acting Vice President, Economic Section, wishes to have the minutes of the Vice Presidents' Meeting, 14 November, amended in the following respects:

(1) Paragraph 3, third sentence should read as follows: "Mr. Cleveland stated that he was in favor of extending the USRA program on supplemental feeding. (Eliminate: "but not on the handling of displaced persons.")"

(2) Paragraph 6, last sentence should read as follows: "Mr. Cleveland stated that it now appears as though 75% of the additional amount of imports desired will be received and that it will therefore not be necessary to reduce the bread ration." (Insert: "of imports" after the word "amount.").

L. H. Stearns
L. H. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CC

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section (5)

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L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CG

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Executive Commissioner
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VP, Economic Section (5)
VP, Establishment Section (2)
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Political Advisor (B)
Navy Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces Subcommittee (18/1A)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (EC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

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11/2/49

(ALC:RMS)

CC 554/40

28 November 1945

MINUTES

DEC 6 1945

Vice Presidential Meeting, 1000 hours, 25 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Ibb, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Purkin, Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Captain Butler, Colonel Savko, Capitaine de Vaisseau Moullier, Major Lucusson, Colonel Weber, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the situation with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government remains unchanged, although it is reported that Foreign Secretary Bevin stated that the remaining Italian provinces will be returned to the Italian Government within the next few weeks.

2. Resumption of Shipbuilding

The Chief Commissioner reported that approval was received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff to resume shipbuilding in Italy, and instructions were superlatively received to inform the Italian Government of the policy. Although this matter comes under the jurisdiction of the Navy, there are economic questions involved which affect other ministries. Accordingly, a letter will be drafted and coordinated by the Executive Commissioner with the Navy Subcommittee and the Economic Section and transmitted by the Chief Commissioner to the Prime Minister.

3. Political Room

Mr. Halford gave a brief review of the current political crisis. At the last meeting the position was that the Liberals were awaiting the reaction to their memorandum demanding a broadening of the base of government, and the Left-wing parties were sticking to the view that there was no need for the crisis. On 22 November, all ministers nominated by the Liberal party handed in their resignations. On 23 November the Christian Democrats in a meeting decided that as the Government was based on the six parties, the withdrawal of one of the parties created a crisis, and they asked their party executive to recommend that their ministers should resign. This forced party's hand and on

Resumption of Shipbuilding to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 23 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the situation with respect to the resumption of shipbuilding to the Italian Government remains unchanged, although it is reported that Foreign Secretary Bevin stated that the remaining Italian provinces will be returned to the Italian Government within the next few weeks.

2. Resumption of Shipbuilding

The Chief Commissioner reported that approval was received from the Combined Chiefs of Staff to resume shipbuilding in Italy, and instructions were separately received to inform the Italian Government of the policy. Although this matter comes under the jurisdiction of the Navy, there are economic questions involved which affect other ministries. Accordingly, a letter will be drafted and coordinated by the Executive Commissioner with the Navy Subcommittee and the Economic Section and transmitted by the Chief Commissioner to the Prime Minister.

3. Political Remarks

Mr. Halford gave a brief résumé of the current political crisis. At the last meeting the position was that the Liberals were awaiting the reaction to their memorandum demanding a broadening of the base of government, and the left-wing parties were sticking to the view that there was no need for the crisis. On 22 November, 11 ministers nominated by the Liberal party headed in their resignations. On 23 November the Christian Democrats in a meeting decided that as the Government was based on the six parties, the withdrawal of one of the parties created a crisis, and they asked their party executive to recommend that their ministers should resign. This forced Parri's hand and on the evening of the 24th he handed in the resignation of the whole government, before handing in his resignation, however, he addressed the UNV central and northern committees, stating that as he had received his mandate from them, he must inform them of what he was going to do. Parri stated that the center of gravity of his government had been moving left and said that either a left or right-wing government would be a prelude to civil war. He told them that he had received assurances of allied support, mentioning DeLozano. He said the crisis had increased the internal tension, and that the people who had served the crisis were responsible for a very grave situation. De Gasperi, who was present, leaped to his feet and urged the correspondents not to misjudge the position of the Christian Democrats and not to hold them responsible. The meeting continued in private and it was decided that the government must be based on the six parties. Immediately after the meeting Parri handed in his resignation to the legislators.

- 1 -

See by E.C. SECRET

p. 5/12

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(50) (ALL OFFS)

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The next morning the Government began consultations, but nothing so far has resulted. The first suggestion was that Orlando might head the new government, but due to objections from the left he has refused to undertake the task. The suggestion now is that a leader outside of the six parties be selected, with the right wing favoring Bonomi and the left wing favoring Sforza. At the moment, Sforza seems to be the most likely candidate. Mr. Belford thought it possible that if Sforza does not get the presidency, they might return to Perri.

Mr. Belford added that no estimate of the duration of the crisis could be made but that it would probably last for some time. In this connection the Chief Commissioner pointed out that the present government is continuing in office to handle day-to-day problems until the new government is formed and that the Allied Commission can and should continue to do business with the present Ministers.

4. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that as a result of conferences in the North, the Northern phase of the 1946 import program has been cleared up. With regard to the measures appropriating U.S. funds to UNRRA, the \$550,000,000 appropriation is now before a joint House-Senate committee, and authorization for the appropriation of funds for 1946 has been approved by the House Foreign Affairs Committee. With regard to imports, Mr. Cleveland reported that he had discussions while in the North on the end use of imports and how to ensure that the imports were used for the purpose for which they were imported. At present in the North the industrial council, which authority depends from AEM, handles allocations, but on the withdrawal of AEM, it is considered necessary to have a national authority to handle allocations, and it is proposed to recommend to the Italian Government that such an authority be set up.

5. Electricity Shortage

Mr. Cleveland reported that there is an electricity shortage in the North. Hence it has been necessary to institute a ration system, which is being done at present by the power companies. A representative is being sent North to establish more equitable ration policy under AEM powers.

6. Foreign Trade

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that there has been a setback in the resumption of foreign trade in that the Consulta vetoed the decree establishing a Ministry of Foreign Trade on the basis that such a Ministry should have control of foreign exchange as well as export-import licensing.

7. Food Situation

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that as a result of conference in the North, the Northern phase of the 1946 import program has been cleared up. With regard to the measures appropriating U.S. funds to UNRRA, the \$550,000,000 appropriation is now before a joint House-Senate committee, and authorization for the appropriation of funds for 1946 has been approved by the House Foreign Affairs Committee. With regard to imports, Mr. Cleveland reported that he had discussions while in the North on the end use of imports and how to ensure that the imports were used for the purpose for which they were imported. At present in the North the industrial council, whose authority depends from AMB, handles allocations, but on the withdrawal of AMB, it is considered necessary to have a national authority to handle allocations, and it is proposed to recommend to the Italian Government that such an authority be set up.

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With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that there has been a setback in the resumption of foreign trade in that the Consulta vetoed the decree establishing a Ministry of Foreign Trade on the basis that such a Ministry should have control of foreign exchange as well as export-import licensing.

7. Short Shipping

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Colonel Danahora reported that 73% of the target figure has now been attained. Colonel Baltes stated that the return of wheat loaned to Austria and Venezia Giulia from civil supply sources is being handled through the C.A.O. HQ, and that most of the wheat loaned has now been returned. Mr. Cleveland reported that the whole of the 309,000 tons of wheat requested monthly will be shipped from the U.S.

8. Supply Situation

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that 37 coal ships have already sailed and the remaining 22 ships are scheduled to sail shortly, which will bring the December coal imports up to the 540,000 tons requested. Petroleum oil also have now been assigned to both submarines and the procedure for importing petroleum has been agreed between them and the Petroleum Section representative of AMB.

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9. Return of Motor Transport to Italy

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Colonel Bolton reported that the return of motor transport to the Italian armed forces is proceeding very slowly but, according to the Ministry of Transport, no difficulties in clearing the contractors' warehouses remain charged with vehicle repairs. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that the Allied Commission has a definite responsibility in returning these vehicles to the Italian armed forces and directed the Executive Committee of the Economic Section to bring full pressure to bear so that this return may be accomplished as expeditiously as possible.

10. Motor Transport

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Captain Butler stated that four of the sixteen motor transporters to be loaned to the Italian Navy are being used to ferry from Malta and will be taken over by the Italian crews as soon as they are ready.

11. Reimbursement

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Captain Butler stated that the "USSA D'ASST" arrives in Naples 20 November with 750 consignment cases from Italian POW's in Algeria. The cruiser will return to Crete next week for a second lift and thereafter it is hoped to begin a regular shuttle service between Crete and Naples employing three cruisers which should be in operation before the end of the year. Ferry 12,000 Italian POW's from the French area. Following, Captain Butler stated that those POW's are being replaced by German POW's and that 25,000 Italian POW's will still remain in French hands. Captain Butler stated that it is further hoped to arrange a monthly sailing of a cruiser to the Levant to repatriate consignment cases and sick POW's in Egypt and to send a converted aircraft carrier to Tunisia to return families of Italian prisoners who have already been repatriated. Arrangements are being made for the ship "LIVIA" to repatriate Italian POW's from Singapore, Batavia, and Bangkok.

12. National and Local Elections

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Colonel Bolton stated that no reply has yet been received to the representative made in connection with the electoral law for the national and local elections. The Chief Commissioner suggested that the embassies be kept informed of any developments in this connection. As regards the holding of local elections, they may begin in December or January but it will be impossible to hold nationwide local elections at that time. However, it was observed that the holding of the local elections simultaneously throughout Italy was not essential and that every effort should be made to encourage holding local elections as fast as the machinery was cleared.

...being... Italy from... will be taken over by the Italian... as soon as they are ready.

11. Registration

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Captain Butler stated that the "UNCA POWs" arrived in Naples 28 November with 750 compositionals from Italian POWs in Algeria. The cruiser will return to Genoa next week for a second lift and thereafter it is hoped to begin a regular shuttle service between Genoa and Naples employing these cruisers which should be in operation before the end of the year. A ferry 12,000 Italian POWs when the French are released. Captain Muller stated that these POWs are being replaced by German POWs and that 28,000 Italian POWs will still remain in French hands. Captain Butler stated that it is further hoped to arrange a monthly sailing of a cruiser to the Levant to repatriate compositionals and sick POWs in Egypt and to send a converted aircraft carrier to Tunisia to return families of Italian nationals who have already been deported. Arrangements are being made for the slow "MIRAL" to repatriate Italians from Singapore, Batavia, and Bangkok.

12. National and Local Elections

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Colonel White stated that no reply has yet been received to the representations made in connection with the electoral laws for the national and local elections. The Chief Commissioner suggested that the embassies be kept informed of any developments in this connection. As regards the holding of local elections, they may begin in December or January but it will be impossible to hold nationwide local elections at that time. However, it was observed that the holding of the local elections simultaneously throughout Italy was not essential and that every effort should be made to encourage holding local elections as fast as the machinery was cleared. It is doubtful that the electoral lists will be ready in time to hold national elections in April, although it is possible if the Italians really work on it.

13. Poland

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Colonel White stated that the President of Poland has issued a decree making Helzang an official bilingual province.

14. Amalgamation of Northern Regions

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 21 November 1945, Brigadier Lush suggested that he had attended a conference in Milan where it was recommended that the Lombardy, Piedmont, and Liguria Regions should not be amalgamated into one.

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region. It was felt that the relatively inexperienced provincial commissioners should have a senior officer close at hand to guide them, particularly because of the shortage of staff, and because it was considered that any reduction of representation would be regarded as a weakening of Allied power. Full agreement was reached on the following recommendations, which have been approved by the Chief Commissioner: The Office of the Representative of the Chief Commissioner should be abolished and its functions, other than economic, taken over by Lombardia Region; an Economic Commissioner, who would be the Regional Commissioner of Lombardia, should be appointed to deal with the whole of North Italy, having direct communication with the other Regional Commissioners; a G-4 officer should be assigned to Lombardia Region to deal with transport problems throughout the North. Mr. White (A) will be assigned as the economic executive officer. It was also recommended that there should be a Regional Commissioners' meeting in the North on 12 December, regardless of whether or not the provisions have been handed back, and the Chief Commissioner approved this recommendation.

CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES OF 21 NOVEMBER 1945

The Chief Commissioner directed that the following corrections be made to the Minutes of 21 November 1945:

- (a) List of those present at meeting -- Delete "Mr. Cleveland."
- (b) Para 7, Sheet 1 annexing -- correct second sentence to read "Colonel Pellet stated that the loan of 56,000 tons in October-November must be made up by 15 December. The estimated loan for December of 57,000 tons can be compensated for provided shipments for January and February are maintained at 309,000 tons per month, otherwise it may be necessary to cut the bread ration."
- (c) Para 12, Belzamo -- last line, between the words "sources" and "granting" insert "under consideration."

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting -- 1000 hours, Wednesday, 5 December 45

DISTRIBUTION:

CORRECTIONS TO MINUTES OF 21 NOVEMBER 1945

The Chief Commissioner directed that the following corrections be made to the Minutes of 21 November 1945:

- (a) List of those present at meeting -- Delete "Mr. Cleveland."
- (b) Para 7. Must amend -- correct second sentence to read "Colonel (Linton state) that the loss of 56,000 tons in October-November must be made up by 15 December. The estimated loss for December of 57,000 tons can be compensated for provided shipments for January and February are maintained at 369,000 tons per month, otherwise it may be necessary to cut the Israel ration."
- (c) Para 12. Bulbano -- last line, between the words "advised" and "granting" insert "under consideration."

Next Vice President's Meeting -- 1000 hours, Wednesday, 5 December 45

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Air Forces Subcommittee
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G-5 AFHQ (5)
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L. W. Stewart
L. W. STEWART
Lt Col. AGD
Staff Officer to CG

- 4 -
SECRET

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

CC 551

4 December 1945.

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

DEC 4 1945

The regularly scheduled Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held, tomorrow morning, Wednesday, 5 December 1945 at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room:

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner _____
Executive Commissioner [Signature] _____
VP, Civil Affairs Section _____
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Air Forces Subcommittee _____
Liaison Office (EO) _____
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L. E. STARNES.
Lt. Col. AGD
Staff Officer to CC

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
ADG 194

CO 5521/35

21 November 1945

NOV 27 1945

M I N U T E S

Vice President's Meeting, 1900 hours, 21 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Brigadier Lamb, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Colonel White, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Brattle, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Bayko, Capitaine de Vaisseau Boullier, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Mansford, Lieutenant Colonel Timmons, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that no word has been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Assignment of Northern Region

The Executive Commissioner reported that the Chief Commissioner has agreed to consider the assignment of Lombardy, Piemonte, and Liguria Regions into one region with headquarters at Milan, which would absorb the office of the Representative of the Chief Commissioner and the Economic Section representatives now there. It is proposed to have one Regional Commissioner in charge, with three deputies, each deputy handling one of the former regions. This move will have the advantage of providing for the eventual handover to the Italian Government and will also effect a saving in personnel. All officers saved as a result of this assignment will be assigned to Venetia Giulia in accordance with a directive from HQ to maintain Venetia Giulia at full strength at the expense of ADG/ABG if necessary. Venetia Region will not be included in the assignment.

The Executive Commissioner gave a brief report of his tour of the North. The Regional Commissioners are doing a fine job with a limited number of personnel delegating many functions to the Italians, who are holding up their end very well. In Venetia Giulia the personnel situation is not as bad as in the Northern Region. Undercurrent there is a serious problem and some of the representatives are studying

3. Executive Commissioner's Tour of the North

Colonel, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Briddle, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Geyko, Capitano de Valenciana Muller, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Halford, Lieutenant Colonel Tizman, Colonel Deussen, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to page 1 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that no word has been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Assignment of Northern Region

The Executive Commissioner reported that the Chief Commissioner has agreed to consider the assignment of Lombardy, Veneto, and Liguria Regions into one region with headquarters at Milan, which would absorb the office of the Representative of the Chief Commissioner and the Economic Section representatives now there. It is proposed to have one Regional Commissioner in charge, with three deputies, each deputy heading one of the former regions. This move will have the advantage of preparing for the eventual takeover to the Italian Government and will also effect a saving in personnel. All officers saved as a result of this reorganization will be assigned to General Giulio in accordance with a directive for the maintenance of the Division at full strength at the expense of AB/AG if necessary. Veneto Region will not be included in the reorganization.

3. Executive Commissioner's Tour of the North

The Executive Commissioner gave a brief report of his tour of the North. The Regional Commissioners are doing a fine job with a limited number of personnel delegating many functions to the Italians, who are holding up their end very well. In Veneto Giulio the personnel situation is not as bad as in the Northern Regions. Unemployment there is a serious problem and economic representatives are studying the possibility of increasing employment in the shipyards. There appears to be an increase in the number of armed highway robbery, although in AG territory the Italian forces are keeping pace with the increase and have arrested several groups of robbers in the past few weeks. Political assassinations in the North, except for Emilia Region, are decreasing.

4. Publication of arrestation Terms

With reference to page 2 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that there appeared to be some comment on the arrestation terms in the North that in the rest of Italy. Colonel Bergin reported that an Italian newspaper has printed correctly both the "Quarta Document" and the "Benedetto" list.

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5. Political Issues

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The Liberal Party has precipitated a political crisis by a declaration to the other political parties which included, among other things, statements that the Government should not be restricted to the parties of the DAF but should include other men who have contributed to the history of the country, and that the Government should more accurately reflect popular opinion. Generally speaking, the parties of the left were opposed to the crisis, calling it an artificial crisis. The Prime Minister said that the country did not need a crisis and he saw no justification for substantial alteration of the character of the Government, adding that whatever brings at the crisis has a grave responsibility. Tagliessi, however, stated that the possibility of bringing in men from outside the six parties should not be excluded. Mr. Hallford observed that the Liberals may have inaugurated the crisis because of their desire for stronger representation in the Government based on what they interpreted as a considerable move to the right in Italy.

6. WFO Meetings

Colonel Beria reported that since the cessation of WFO activities there had been a number of inaccurate articles in the Italian press. Accordingly it was suggested at the Executive Committee's Meeting that the PC's of AC and AFHQ and the Press Attaches of the Embassies have weekly meetings to discuss these inaccurate reports and arrange for co-ordination in press matters.

7. Wheat Situation

With reference to item 5 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Colonel Beria reported that 70% of the wheat stores has now been consumed. Colonel Walton stated that the loss of 5,000 tons in November and an estimated loss of 55,000 tons in December must be made up by imports in January, February, and March of 300,000 tons or it may be necessary to visit the bread ration. Brigadier Lush directed Economic Section to bring this to the attention of AFHQ and press for the release of wheat issued to Austria and to AFHQ (from civil supply sources) from Venezia Giulia.

Empowerment of Italian Army

General Browning reported that, by authority of the CCS, control of the Italian Army has been handed over to the Italian Government with effect from 14 November. Operational control was likewise handed over to the Italian Government with the exception of those troops in AFHQ territory. The Land Forces Subcommission will continue to advise the Italian Government and the terms of the directive are that if there is any point of disagreement between the Land Forces Subcommission and the Ministry of War, the matter will be referred to AFHQ, although General Browning felt certain that many difficulties which arise could be handled satisfactorily without reference to AFHQ. SACMNS reserved the right to reserve control of

6. PRD Meetings

Colonel Berlin reported that since the cessation of PRD activities there had been a number of inaccurate articles in the Italian press. Accordingly it was suggested to the Executive Committee's meeting that the PRDs of AC and AFHQ and the PRD attachés of the Ambassadors have weekly meetings to discuss these inaccurate reports and arrange for co-ordination in press matters.

7. When's meeting

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, Colonel Berke reported that 72% of the target figures for the PRD were met. Colonel Salton stated that the loss of 54,000 tons in November and an estimated loss of 58,000 tons in December must be made up by imports in January, February, and March of 300,000 tons or in any way to emergency to get the PRD going. Brigadier Lush directed Economic Section to bring this to the attention of AFHQ and press for the return of ships loaned to Austria and to AFHQ (from civil supply surplus) from Venezia Giulia.

Handover of Italian Army

General Browning reported that, by authority of the GCS, control of the Italian Army has been handed over to the Italian Government with effect from 14 November. Operational control was likewise handed over to the Italian Government with the exception of those troops in the territory. The Land Forces Subcommittee will continue to advise the Italian Government and the terms of the directive are that if there is any point of disagreement between the Land Forces Subcommittee and the Ministry of War, the matter will be referred to AFHQ, although General Browning felt certain that any difficulties which arise could be handled satisfactorily without reference to AFHQ. EAGLE reserves the right to resume control of the Army when necessary. Italian service groups now working with U.S. and British forces will be released by June 1946. It is estimated, after 30 November the Army will be supplied by the Italian Government, and the Army will have first priority on surplus materiel made available by U.S. and British disposal agencies. Colonel Nelson reported that it has been recommended that the Navy and Air Force adopt the same supply scheme when control has been returned to the Italian Government, probably 1 February 1946.

8. Ministerial

Brigadier Lush reported that there was a great deal of concern over the number of ships still in waters off the Italian coast. Admiral Warren reported that when crews are now being trained to take over the fleet of the 32 aircraft carrier being loaned to Italy by the Royal Navy.

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CONFIDENTIAL

10. Registration

Brigadier Luck asked if it would be possible to provide an Italian consul to return Italians from Tunisia, and Admiral Warren reported that the question was already under discussion and arrangements were being made.

Education Law

With reference to item 2 of Minutes of 14 November 1945, the Executive Commission, with the concurrence of the Political Advisers, directed Colonel White to make representations to the Italian Government on the new education law specifically with respect to education officials, who do not fall under the present education law.

11. Boisano

Colonel White reported that decrees with respect to lawyers, education, and nationality in the Province of Palermo are being considered and will become law in a short time. These decrees follow the AC plans. There is also a new decree granting autonomy to Boisano, but a draft has not yet been seen.

12. Personnel

Colonel Fabela reported that, as of 20 November 1945, the strength of the 2575th Regiment was down to 231 officers and 218 AM, and that on 1 December the enlisted strength will be down to 153. British enlisted strength stands at approximately 250. Steps are being taken to get civilian replacements and requisitioning for replacements have been in progress.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 28 November 1945
(1500 hours)

(Signature)
L. W. STEARNS
Lt. Col., AGO

Staff Officer to CC

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Executive Commissioner
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HQ, Economic Section (4)
HQ, Detachment Section (2)
Political Adviser (4)

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low in a short time. These decrees follow the old views. There is also a new decree creating railway in Bolzano, but a draft has not yet been sent.

13. Personnel

Colonel Parkin reported that as of 20 November 1945, the strength of the 21st Regiment was down to 211 officers and 218 XM, and that on 1 December the unit's strength will be down to 183. British estimated strength stands at approximately 200. Steps are being taken to get civilian replacements and regular officers for replacements have gone to Nicosia.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 23 November 1945
(1200 hours)

W. W. STEARNS
Lt Col. AGP

Staff Order to CG

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Land Forces Subcommission (MIA)
Air Forces Subcommission
French Representative, AG
Soviet Representative, AG
Mission Officer (25)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AG)

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785017

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

27 November 1945

CC 551

NOV 26 1945

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The regularly scheduled Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held, tomorrow morning, Wednesday 28 November 1945, at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner _____
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Land Forces Subcommittee (MIA) _____
Air Forces Subcommittee _____
Liaison Office (EC) _____
French Representative, AC _____
Soviet Representative, AC _____
Public Relations Branch _____

581

L.S. STEARNS.
Lt. Col. AGD
Staff Officer to CC

(EC)

CC 561/36

14 November 1945

NOV 22 1945

M I L I T A R Y

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 14 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Finko, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel Parkin, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Pichley, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Moulton, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Mansfield, Colonel Morrison, Colonel Dunmore, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word has been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Publication of Italian Paper

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Commission had received from the Italian Government and forwarded to SACM an official request for the publication of the "Quebec Document" and the Italian letter of 20 November 1943. The Chief Commissioner also has notified SACM that subsequent to receiving the request, two of the Italian papers published the first two sentences of the "Quebec Document" and that another paper had printed a substantially correct version of the Italian letter. In the latter case, the Chief Commissioner observed that the Italian Government, as the originator of the Italian letter, should have the right to publish it.

3. Extension of UNRRA Relief Activities to AEG Territory a 163

The Chief Commissioner stated that the present UNRRA supplementary relief program is limited to Italian Government territory. A request has been

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CONFIDENTIAL

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

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Piche, Mr. Cleveland, Colonel
 Perkins, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie,
 Colonel Piddley, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel McKee, Captain Mallett, Lieutenant
 Colonel Doryin, Colonel Hamforth, Colonel Harpoco, Colonel Denmore, Colonel
 Walton.

1. Restoration of provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word has been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Publication of Justice Terms

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Commission had received from the Italian Government and forwarded to GILLES an official request for the publication of the "Quebec Document" and the Bologna letter of 20 November 1945. The Chief Commissioner also has notified JAG that subsequent to receiving the request, two of the Italian papers published the first to, sentence of the "Quebec Document" and that another paper had printed a substantially correct version of the Bologna letter. In the latter case, the Chief Commissioner observed that the Italian Government, as the originator of the Bologna letter, should have the right to publish it.

3. Extension of UNRRA Relief activities to AAG Territory *ca 163*

The Chief Commissioner stated that the present UNRRA supplementary relief program is limited to Italian Government territory. A request has been received from the head of the Italian Government Liaison Group with UNRRA to extend this aid to AAG territory in the North, with the exception of Venezia Giulia. Mr. Cleveland stated that he was in favor of extending the UNRRA program in supplemental feeding but not on the handling of displaced persons. It is understood that it is proposed to change the UNRRA contract to permit this extension, but Mr. Hopkinson stated he thought the contract contained a provision for the extension of UNRRA activities to AAG territory if the Chief Commissioner's approval is received. The Chief Commissioner directed Mr. Cleveland to take the question up with him after the meeting.

4. Political Remarks

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief political remark. The situation created by the passing of the operation law was mixed with an apparent agreement between the parties that this law will be open for discussion and modification. There continues to be much bitter comment in the arithmetic terms in the press.

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5. Petroleum Imports

Mr. Cleveland reported that Petroleum Section, APMB, as an allied agency, will allow the use of this month. By agreement between APMB and its British counterpart, practically all petroleum imports in the next few months will come from U.S. sources, and the Economic Section will handle those imports through a local APMB representative.

6. Wheat Arrivals

see 163

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 6 November 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that last week's wheat arrivals were the poorest yet reported. 71% of the target figure has now been achieved. Mr. Cleveland stated that it now appears as though 79% of the additional amount desired will be received and that it will therefore not be necessary to reduce the bread ration.

7. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that the country appropriating funds to UNRRA for the year 1946 was introduced in Congress on 12 November and that public hearings start 14 November.

8. Economic Section Representatives in the North

Mr. Cleveland revealed that in the last Executive Commissioner's meeting agreement was reached, subject to satisfactory completing arrangements, to withdraw Economic Section representatives in the North from regional headquarters and concentrate them in Miami.

9. Operation Law

Brigadier Carr reported that the new operation law passed by the Council of Ministers has been received and studied. In general, the new law keeps operation alive in the South, but only affects officials in the higher grades. The law is not considered objectionable with the possible exception of the fact that it does not seem to cover adequately education officials who are not in the higher grades.

*Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 21 November 1945

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner

[Signature]

1. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 8 November 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that the measure appropriating funds to HMMA for the year 1946 was introduced in Congress on 12 November and that public hearings start 14 November.

2. Executive Section Representatives in the North

Mr. Cleveland revealed that in the last Executive Commissioner's meeting agreement was reached, subject to satisfactorily completing arrangements, to withdraw Executive Section representatives in the North from regional headquarters and concentrate them in JMW.

3. Education Law

Dr. William Carr reported that the new education law passed by the Council of Ministers has been received and studied. In general, the new law keeps operation alive in the South, but only affects officials in the higher grades. The law is not considered objectionable with the possible exception of the fact that it does not mean to curvy adequately education officials who are not in the higher grades.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 21 November 1945

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- Air Forces Subdivision
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- Soviet Representative, AG
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- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- C-5, JMW (5)
- Chief Financial Adviser (AG)

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6 November 1945

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Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 6 November 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Colonel Fiske, Mr. Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkins, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savio, Captain Moulton, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Demestre, Colonel Jones, Colonel Weber.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government.

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word has yet been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government. In this connection, it was noted that administrative control of the Italian Army is to be returned to the Italian Government as of midnight, 11 November, and that since it was a widely accepted view that the return of the Army would coincide with the return of the provinces, this might indicate that the provinces will be returned in the near future. In response to the Chief Commissioner's query, Brigadier Carr stated that the mechanism for handling the turnover are all laid on and that it will take approximately ten days, to effectuate the transfer after the authorization has been received.

2. Publication of Amistice Terms.

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the Amistice terms, certain associated documents and S.M.S.D.'s commentary, were published at 1900 hours (Rome time) 6 November simultaneously in Rome, Washington, and London. The Prime Minister has submitted to the Ambassadors and is submitting to the Allied Commission a formal request for publication of two additional documents: first, the so-called "Spence Document", which was presented in Lisbon to General Castellano by General Smith as an aide-memoire to accompany conditions of Amistice and second, Rodoglio's letter of 20 November 1943 addressed jointly to President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. The Chief Commissioner's recommendation is that approval be granted to this request and that the documents be published simultaneously.

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

present: Mr. Admiral Stone, Colonel Fluke, Mr. Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Mr. Jones, Mr. Robinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savie, Captain Simulios, Lieutenant Colonel Burgin, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Jones, Colonel Weber.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government.

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word has yet been received with respect to the restoration of provinces to the Italian Government. In this connection, it was noted that administrative control of the Italian Army is to be returned to the Italian Government as of midnight, 14 November, and that since it was a widely accepted view that the return of the Army should coincide with the return of the provinces, this might indicate that the provinces will be returned in the near future. In response to the Chief Commissioner's query, Brigadier Carr stated that the mechanism for handling the turnover are all laid on and that it will take approximately ten days to effectuate the transfer after the authorization has been received.

2. Publication of Armistice Terms.

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the Armistice Terms, certain associated documents and SALAMINI's commentary, were published at 1900 hours (Rome time) 6 November simultaneously in Rome, Washington, and London. The Prime Minister has submitted to the Albanian and is submitting to the Allied Commission a formal request for publication of two additional documents: first, the so-called "Greek Document", which was presented in Lisbon to General Contalasso by General Smith as an aide-memoire to accompany conditions of Armistice and second, Badoglio's letter of 20 November 1945 addressed jointly to President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill. The Chief Commissioner's recommendation is that approval be granted to this request and that the documents be published simultaneously.

3. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, General Browning stated that Colonel Fluke is giving him the fullest co-operation and that the matter is being worked out satisfactorily. Colonel Walter reported that conferences have been held with representatives of the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of War and that plans have been set up for the Italian Government to repair and recondition vehicles prior to turning them over to Italia, which is expected to have been accomplished by the end of November.

4. National and Local Elections

With reference to para 9 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that an excellent letter to the Prime Minister has been prepared by

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SECRET

the Civil Affairs Section with the collaboration of the Political Advisors stating the position of the Allied Commission with respect to the electrical lines, and the Chief Commissioner examined all concerned for their fine work.

5. Political Remarks.

Mr. Jones gave a brief review of the general political situation. The most important event of the past week was the publication of the Bratislava telegram. Generally speaking, there was more unfavorable than favorable newspaper comment. Among the unfavorable comments were statements that the Hudeglin letter should have been published, that the Italians should have had more time to study the question than the 24 hours granted, that the terms were more harsh than the Vioxy terms imposed by the Germans on France and the Allies combined with such countries as Finland, Hungary, and Rumania.

Liberal Party representatives made a statement suggesting that the powers of the Constituent be determined by referendum, adding that the Liberal Party would then accept a decision on the institutional question by the Constituent. Nervi, in a speech, expressed the belief that the Constituent would choose a republican form of government, but pledged that the Socialists would accept the decision of the Constituent even if it is contrary to Socialist desires.

6. Supply Situation

With reference to para. 4 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that the coal situation has improved somewhat in the past week. The coal allocation has been met for October and although there will be a shortage of 125,000 tons in coal imports for November, this will be more than compensated by scheduled imports of 500,000 tons in December. The Chief Commissioner requested Mr. Cleveland to discuss this with Colonel Bergin with a view to releasing that encouraging news to the Italians.

7. Wheat Harvest

With reference to para. 8 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Colonel Bergin reported that 70% of the target figure has now been reached. Mr. Cleveland reported that the situation on wheat imports is not so good. Although the U.S. has had a bumper crop this year, there is such a world demand for U.S. wheat that the internal distribution system cannot handle all the shipments. Unless additional shipments are received, it appears that the bread ration must be cut early next year. Mr. Cleveland recommended that this be handled on the highest level; that is, that the U.S. and British Ambassadors and British report on the seriousness of the situation as was done on the coal situation.

8. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para. 5 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland

would then accept a decision on the institutional question by the Constituent. Mr. Cleveland, in a speech, expressed the belief that the Constituent would choose a republican form of government, but pledged that the Socialists would accept the decision of the Constituent even if it is contrary to Socialist desires.

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7. Wheat Imports

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8. 1946 Import Program

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland reported that the planning for the 1946 import program is well under way. Money to finance the program, however, will not be available until the U.S. Congress appropriates the necessary funds to UNRRA. The British and Canadian Governments have informed the State Department that they will appropriate their respective shares to UNRRA immediately after Congress acts.

9. Reorganization of Economic Section

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 31 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated the reorganization of the Economic Section has been approved by the Chief Commissioner and is now in effect.

10. Foreign Trade

Mr. Cleveland reported that he has had discussions with Italian Government representatives on the resumption of foreign trade. The Under-Secretariat for Foreign Trade has not yet been contacted by the Consulate. There is at present no licensing machinery for imports and exports. During the week the Italian Government put forth an official policy having the effect of creating what amounts to an export-import rate of exchange of 200 lire to the dollar. On the U.S. side, this raises a very difficult question because if this is considered as a subsidy scheme, exports to the U.S. will fall under the U.S. tariff laws applicable to subsidized exports.

11. Clearance of Commercial Representatives

Mr. Cleveland requested, and received, the Chief Commissioner's approval to notify AMHQ that they may consider that the answer to AMHQ's cables to Allied Commission on clearance of commercial visitors to Italy will be always affirmative.

12. News of Ship Arrivals and Departures

Mr. Cleveland reported that U.S.A. is now giving full publicity to the arrivals of ships and cargoes in Italy. IC will continue to publicize imports of particular value. As an example of the value of this, he cited one announcement of the arrival of cotton imports, which brought out large stocks of hoarded cotton textiles in the North, with a resultant price drop.

13. Return of Ports to Italian Control

Admiral Warren stated that it is scheduled to return port working at Naples on 30 November and at Taranto on 31 December to full control of the Italian Government.

14. Mine Clearance

Admiral Warren reported that there are estimated to be 30,000 unexploded mines off the Italian coast at the present time. Consequently, the admiralty has loaned 32 minesweepers, to be Italian manned and operated, to the Italian Navy to add to the present Italian minesweeping fleet of 80 vessels. At present, British vessels are clearing channels while the Italian minesweepers are sweeping the larger areas. The Gulf of Taranto and the Bay of Naples have so far been cleared. The principal difficulty is the unfamiliarity of the Italians with mines of the magnetic-acoustic type. Sonobuoys are being set up to instruct the Italians in deepening.

15. Release of Personnel from AD

Colonel Fiske stated

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to a statement in this minute to the effect that all captured enemy equipment would go to the Italian Government. He considered it appropriate to change the minute to reflect the fact that only captured enemy material was going to the hands of the United Nations' would be disposed of to the Italian Government. (LHQ's letter HQ, 11/6 of 24 October refers). The Chief Commissioner approved the change.

Next Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, Wednesday, 14 Nov 45

(Signature)
L. W. STEPHENS
Lt Col, ASD
Staff Officer to CC.

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- Air Forces Subordination
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- Liaison Officer (20)
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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017

L. W. STEPHENS
L. W. STEPHENS

Lt Col, ASD

Staff Officer to CC.

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Air Force Subordination
People's Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (AC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
S-3, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

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CC 559

13 November 1945

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The regularly scheduled Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held, tomorrow morning, Wednesday, 14 November 1945, at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room.

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 Air Forces Subcommittee _____
 Liaison Office (EC) _____
 French Representative, AC _____
 Soviet Representative, AC _____
 Public Relations Branch _____

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+ Dep. Sec. Gen.

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

AGO 394

CC 551/36

31 October 1945

MINUTES

NOV 8 1945

Vice Presidents' Meeting, 1000 hours, 31 October 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters, Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Mr. Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Blake, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Bredia, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Savko, Captain Moulise, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Denmore, Colonel Walton, Colonel Jones.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that there have been no developments with respect to the restoration of the remaining provinces to the Italian Government.

2. Publication of Armistice Terms

The Chief Commissioner reported that as a result of considerable agitation in the U.S., it appears likely that the armistice terms may be published possibly within a week. The Chief Commissioner has stated that the AC has no objection to the publication of the terms, provided that the publication is accompanied by a commentary on how the terms have been modified in practice and by such directives as FAN 487 and FAN 563. On 31 October a meeting is being held at AFHQ to consider a draft commentary.

3. Political Resume

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The Council of Ministers passed a resolution providing for national elections to be held not later than the end of April, administrative elections to be initiated during 1945, and the powers and procedures of the Constituent to be determined simultaneously with the holding of the national elections. The possibility of solving such matters as the institutional question by referendum was also discussed.

4. Supply Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that as a result of widespread strikes in the coal and oil industries and by the steelworkers in the U.S., the supply situation has

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3. Political Resume

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. The Council of Ministers passed a resolution providing for national elections to be held not later than the end of April, administrative elections to be initiated during 1945, and the powers and procedures of the Costituente to be determined simultaneously with the holding of the national elections. The possibility of solving such matters as the institutional question by referendum was also discussed.

4. Supply Situation

Mr. Cleveland stated that as a result of widespread strikes in the coal and oil industries and by the steelworkers in the U.S., the supply situation has deteriorated during the past week. It is estimated that Italy will lose 200,000 tons of coal, which represents employment for 1,000,000 people for one month. Cable reports on the seriousness of the situation have been sent by AC directly to Washington, by the American Ambassador to the State Department, and by memorandum to AFHQ suggesting SACMID make representations to the CCS.

5. 1946 Import Program

Mr. Cleveland reported that a great deal of work has been done on the 1946 import program. In addition a study of projects would be undertaken which could be financed by the Export-Import Bank. The Chief Commissioner suggested that loans to finance such projects should not be restricted to the Export-Import Bank, but that the program when completed should be brought to the attention of American, British, and Canadian private banks - through the Embassies.

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6. Disposal of Captured Enemy Equipment

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, Mr. Cleveland stated that the substance of the letter on Captured Enemy Equipment disposal from the CAO, AMQ, has been communicated to the Italian Government. With respect to captured enemy material having no utility, arrangements have been made to have this handled by the PMS Quartermaster in lieu of CAUC.

7. Reorganization of Economic Section

Mr. Cleveland reported that the Economic Section is being reorganized so that the supply sections may be detached, at such time as they are to be incorporated into the successor supply organization, without disrupting the work of the Section.

8. Wheat Arranging

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, Colonel Dunsmore reported that 906,000 tons of wheat have been engaged, representing 68% of the target figure of 1,300,000 tons. With reference to the Italian ships in Argentine ports that under armistice terms were left in the hands of the Argentine Government, arrangements are being made for the Italian Government to buy back these ships and the Transportation S/C is pressing for their immediate return. The Chief Commissioner reported that the Prime Minister has asked that these ships be delayed in Argentina until they have been loaded with 100,000 tons of wheat which the Argentine Government has promised the Italian Government. The Chief Commissioner has asked Prof. Parri to cable Argentina for specific information as to when the wheat will be available and when the ships can sail. Mr. Cleveland observed that the Argentine commitment on the wheat may not be a firm one as they seem to have promised the same wheat to other nations. Mr. Cleveland also reported that in order to keep one month's supply of wheat in stock, it will be necessary to import 325,000 tons over and above the shipments scheduled from the U.S. and that promised by the Argentine Government.

9. National and Local Elections

Brigadier Carr reported that he has received a draft of the new electoral law and that some, but not all, of the criticisms directed against the old law have been met. For example, the servicemen are now allowed to vote. Mr. Jones reported that the law covering local elections did prohibit electioneering in the vicinity of the polling booths, while the law covering national elections did not. Therefore, he considered it appropriate for the AC to point out the discrepancy. The new law provides for the use of printed ballots, and for the posting of the lists of candidates at the time of the elections. Mr. Jones stated that this too should be brought up with the Italian Government in order that the lists may be posted sufficiently in advance of the elections to provide for proper publicity. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Fiske to check and report on these points.

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, Colonel Danmore reported that 906,000 tons of wheat have been assessed, representing 69% of the target figure of 1,300,000 tons. With reference to the Italian ships in Argentine ports that under armistice terms were left in the hands of the Argentine Government, arrangements are being made for the Italian Government to buy back these ships and the Transportation S/C is pressing for their immediate return. The Chief Commissioner reported that the Prime Minister has asked that these ships be delayed in Argentine until they have been loaded with 100,000 tons of wheat which the Argentine Government has promised the Italian Government. The Chief Commissioner has asked Prof. Parri to cable Argentine for specific information as to when the wheat will be available and what the ships can sell. Mr. Cleveland observed that the Argentine commitment on the wheat may not be a firm one as they seem to have promised the same wheat to other nations. Mr. Cleveland also reported that in order to keep one month's supply of wheat in stock, it will be necessary to import 325,000 tons over and above the shipments scheduled from the U.S. and that promised by the Argentine Government.

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Brigadier Carr reported that he has received a draft of the new electoral law and that some, but not all, of the criticisms directed against the old law have been met. For example, the servicemen are now allowed to vote. Mr. Jones reported that the law covering local elections did prohibit electioneering in the vicinity of the polling booths, while the law covering national elections did not. Therefore, he considered it appropriate for the AC to point out the discrepancy. The new law provides for the use of printed ballots, and for the posting of the lists of candidates at the time of the elections. Mr. Jones stated that this too should be brought up with the Italian Government in order that the lists may be posted sufficiently in advance of the elections to provide for proper publicity. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Fiske to check and report on these points.

10. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, General Browning stated that orders have not yet been issued to implement the compromise arrived at. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Fiske to check this matter to see if the necessary orders could be issued immediately. General Browning reported that he is in receipt of a directive to issue vehicles to the Carabinieri but that he cannot comply until the other vehicles are returned.

11. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 25 October 1945, Colonel Fiske stated that General Ridgway is anxious to meet all AC/AG officers, including the 91 officers now under orders to return to the U.S., before they leave.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chief Commissioner expressed the regrets of the AC at the detachment of Major General Lemnitzer. Chief of Staff, AFHQ and MTOUSA, who has worked in the closest collaboration with AC/AC since the early days in Sicily.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Thursday, 8 November 1945.

MEMORANDUM:

- Chief Commissioner
- Executive Commissioner
- VP, Civil Affairs Section
- VP, Economic Section (5)
- VP, Establishment Section (2)
- Political Adviser (4)
- Political Adviser (B)
- Navy Subcommittee (3)
- Land Forces Subcommittee (MCA)
- Air Forces Subcommittee
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Officer (EC)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5, AFHQ (5)
- Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

L. W. Sterns
 L. W. STERN
 Lt Col. AGO
 Staff Officer to CC

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

By Col. LBN
Staff Officer to CC

- VP, Civil Affairs Section
- VP, Economic Section (5)
- VP, Establishment Section (2)
- Political Adviser (A)
- Political Adviser (B)
- Navy Subcommittee (3)
- Land Forces Subcommittee (MFA)
- Air Forces Subcommittee
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Officer (EC)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5, AMK (5)
- Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

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CC 559

6 Nov 1945.

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

NOV 6 1945

The regularly scheduled Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held on Thursday morning, 9 November 1945 at 1000 hours at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room.

DISTRIBUTION:

- Chief Commissioner _____
- Executive Commissioner _____
- VP, Civil Affairs Section _____
- VP, Economic Section _____
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- Land Forces Subcommittee (AMIA) _____
- Air Forces Subcommittee _____
- Liaison Office (EO) _____
- French Representative, AC _____
- Soviet Representative, AC _____

See M 573

L.W. STEARNS,
LT COL, AGD.
SO to CC.

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Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785017*536 of Exec Comm*
*(143)*HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 559

30 October 1945
Oct 30 1945VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The regularly scheduled Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held, tomorrow morning, Wednesday, 31 October 1945 at 1000 hours.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner _____
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*Col. Fiske to attend**ML**See 072**(1/2)*

CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO-394

25 October 1945
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OL 551/35

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 25 October 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Headquarters Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Fiske, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Fildesley, Captain Butler, Colonel Savko, Captain Moullec, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Densmore, Colonel Walton, Colonel Parkin.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, The Chief Commissioner stated that he attended SACRED's conference on the 24 October and learned that while no definitive word has been received from the CCS, it appears as though AC's recommendations with respect to the provinces to be returned will not be approved in their entirety. There is a possibility that another province, in addition to Udine, may be retained under AVG. No word has been received on the transfer date. The Chief Commissioner cautioned that no mention of the foregoing should be made outside the meeting.

2. Disposal of Captured Enemy Equipment

With reference to para 3 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that a letter had been received from the CAO, AFHQ, ruling that captured enemy equipment not needed by the Allies and turned over to the Italian Government must be handled solely by the Italian Government, presumably to avoid any claims of preferential treatment to individuals on the part of the Allies. Colonel Walton stated that the letter further provided that material having utility may be disposed of directly to the Italian Government, but that material having no utility and classified as excess must be handled through OAMC and the Chief Commissioner.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Fiske, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Colonel Eideley, Captain Butler, Colonel Sarko, Captain Moullec, Lieutenant Colonel Bergin, Colonel Bentmore, Colonel Walton, Colonel Parkin.

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3. Return of San Marco Regiment to AN

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, Captain Butler stated that the San Marco Regiment was returned to the jurisdiction of the Italian Navy on 20 October and that the Ministry of the Navy had been so informed.

4. Relief of Director of Railways

The Chief Commissioner stated that he had received a letter from the Central Committee of the Union of National Railway Men calling attention to reports that General Di Sandomo was to be relieved as Director of Railways and expressing the hope that his services would be retained. The Chief Commissioner wrote to Prof. Parri stating that he assumed no change was being considered and called attention to the fact that this post was one to which appointments be approved by AC, under the Macmillan Aide Memoire.

SECRET5. Political Resume

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. There was considerable speculation in the press on both the revision and the publication of the armistice terms. Secretary of State Byrnes was reported to have stated that he considered the terms harsh and obsolete, but that attempts to modify them at the London Conference had failed. He saw no reason why the terms could not be published, but stated later that all Allied Governments would have to concur before such action could be taken. Prof. Parri requested modification of the armistice terms now inasmuch as the peace treaty could not be signed before spring. He added that the Italian Government had no objection to the publication and had even solicited publication. The Italian Ambassador in London revealed that the Italian Government had requested revision, and there were reports from London that a provisional peace treaty was under consideration.

At a meeting of the Socialist Committee, a resolution was passed stating that because elections for the Costituente could not be held before winter, local administrative elections should be held now. Minister De Gasperi confirmed that the U.S. Government had exerted pressure on the Italian Government to hold administrative elections now as an early assurance of the rebirth of democracy in Italy. On 23 October Nenni proposed an extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet to decide the date of elections for the Costituente and also the date for the holding of administrative elections. It is anticipated that the date set for national elections will be some time in March or April.

At the meeting of the Socialist Committee a resolution was passed appealing to all democratic parties to work together in rebuilding Italy, which appeal, it is believed, was intended as an offer of unity to the Christian Democratic party. In this connection, Mr. Jones stated that no mention of the Socialist-Democrat fusion was made at this meeting, which could be interpreted as an indication of a slight reversal of the previous determination of fusion by the Socialists with the Communists. Mr. Hopkinson stated, however, that since the French elections Nenni had stated privately that a Socialist-Communist fusion could control Italy.

6. Status of Correspondents

Colonel Bergin reported that as of 1 November the U.S. war correspondents will revert to civilian status, and at the same time political correspondents will become foreign correspondents and both classes will work through the Embassies. After 1 November, neither AC nor A3HQ will have any responsibility in connection with the accrediting of correspondents.

7. Wheat Assessing

At a meeting of the Socialist Committee, a resolution was passed stating that because elections for the Costituente could not be held before winter, local administrative elections should be held now. Minister De Gasperi confirmed that the U.S. Government had exerted pressure on the Italian Government to hold administrative elections now as an early assurance of the rebirth of democracy in Italy. On 23 October Kennan proposed an extraordinary meeting of the Cabinet to decide the date of elections for the Costituente and also the date for the holding of administrative elections. It is anticipated that the date set for national elections will be some time in March or April.

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Colonel Bargain reported that as of 1 November the U.S. war correspondents will revert to civilian status, and at the same time political correspondents will become foreign correspondents and both classes will work through the Embassies. After 1 November, neither AC nor AFHQ will have any responsibility in connection with the accrediting of correspondents.

7. Wheat Hoarding

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 10 October, Colonel Densmore stated that 57% of the target figure has now been amassed. Mr. Cleveland reported that the Italian Government has requested that the scheduled monthly wheat imports be increased from 150,000 tons to 253,000 tons. Mr. Cleveland is to discuss the whole question of how Italy intends to finance these imports with the Italian officials.

8. Manufacture and Disposition of Warlike Stores

Air Vice Marshal Brodie called attention to a cable recently received directing a survey of the whole output of factories in the North and directing that factories producing warlike material be closed down. The Executive Commissioner stated that the factories could not be closed down until instructions have been received on the supplies the Italian Army is going to be permitted to have. With regard to the small arms and ammunition now in stock at the Beratta factory, the Chief Commissioner stated that the failure of AFHQ to authorize this material to be used by the Italian police forces could have a serious effect

SECRET

on the state of law and order. With regard to naval equipment, Captain Butler stated that several manufacturers had requested permission to resume production but have all been refused. An officer has been sent north to check on the report of the manufacture of midjet submarines. The Chief Commissioner requested Air Vice Marshal Brodie to see if the manufacture of civil aircraft would be affected by the directive. With regard to making the survey, Captain Butler said that from the experience of one officer who had made such a survey in connection with the manufacture of navy stores, he estimated a board of four officers could make the required survey in a few months. The Chief Commissioner asked the Executive Commissioner to give him the latest information on this subject.

Disposal of U.S. Salvage and Waste

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, Colonel Walton stated that PBS reached agreement with the Italian Government on 15 October to dispose of salvage and waste direct to the Italian Government and therefore AC no longer will be involved.

Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, Colonel Fiske reported that Colonel Chapman, representing G-3 MTOUSA, is now in Rome checking on the AC American personnel situation. Colonel Fiske stated that Colonel Chapman is being very helpful, and asked that section heads render all assistance possible to Colonel Chapman.

APPOINTMENTS:

Director, Public Relations Branch. The Chief Commissioner introduced Lieutenant Colonel Bergin as the new Director of the Public Relations Branch, and reported that Colonel Bergin had just returned from the U.K. and U.S. after having done an excellent job in connection with the distribution of the AC/AMC Review.

Acting Vice President, Economic Section. The Chief Commissioner introduced Mr. Herlan Cleveland as the new Acting Vice President of the Economic Section and commented on the fine job that Mr. Cleveland did in Washington and London in keeping the AC informed on economic developments there.

Deputy Vice President, Economic Section. The Chief Commissioner announced that Colonel Bensmore had been appointed Deputy Vice President of the AC.

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

stated that the reached agreement with the Italian Government on 15 October to dispose of salvage and waste direct to the Italian Government and therefore AC no longer will be involved.

10. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 10 October 1945, Colonel Fiske reported that Colonel Chapman, representing G-3 WFOUSA, is now in Rome checking on the AC American personnel situation. Colonel Fiske stated that Colonel Chapman is being very helpful, and asked that section heads render all assistance possible to Colonel Chapman.

APPOINTMENTS:

Director, Public Relations Branch. The Chief Commissioner introduced Lieutenant Colonel Bergin as the new Director of the Public Relations Branch, and reported that Colonel Bergin had just returned from the U.K. and U.S. after having done an excellent job in connection with the distribution of the AC/AMS "Review."

Acting Vice President, Economic Section. The Chief Commissioner introduced Mr. Herlan Cleveland as the new Acting Vice President of the Economic Section and commented on the fine job that Mr. Cleveland did in Washington and London in keeping the AC informed on economic developments there.

Deputy Vice President, Economic Section. The Chief Commissioner announced that Colonel Densmore had been appointed Deputy Vice President of the Economic Section and expressed his pleasure at the appointment of one of the AC "old guard" to this post.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday,
21 October 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS
Lt Col, AGD
Staff Officer to CG

570

SECRET

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section (5)
VP, Establishment Section (2)
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
Navy Subcommittee (3)
Land Forces Subcommittee (MIA)
Air Forces Subcommittee
French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (EC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
G-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

2033

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

785017

French Representative, AC
Soviet Representative, AC
Liaison Officer (EC)
Public Relations Branch
American Ambassador
British Ambassador
O-5, AFHQ (5)
Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

SECRET
-4-

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

536
HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commr.
APO 394

23 October 1945.

The regular Vice Presidents' Meeting originally scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed for Thursday, 25 October 1945 at 10 o'clock at the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room.

L. W. STEARNS,
Staff Officer to CC.

DISTRIBUTION

Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section
VP, Establishment Section
Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (E)
Naval Sub-Commission
Land Forces Sub-Commission (MIA)
Air Forces Sub-Commission
French Representative, AC.
Soviet Representative, AC.

Liaison Officer (EC)
Public Relations Branch

569
10/25/45
Informed
10/25/45

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

785017

536

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER
Office of the Chief Commissioner
AT 394

CC 159

16 October 1945

OCT 16 1945

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The next Vice Presidents' Meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday 17 October 1945 in the Chief Commissioner's conference room at 1000 hours has been postponed.

ATTENDANCE:

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
Mr. Civil Affairs Section
Mr. Economic Section
Mr. Establishment Section
Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (B)
Naval Subcommission
Land Forces Subcommission (MIA)
Air Forces Subcommission
Liaison Office, AF
French Representative, AF
Soviet Representative, AF
Public Relations Branch

568

PA 7/10

Emu 8/10

17/10

ENB

The (PA 5-8-45)

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

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

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1. The first of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

2. The second of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

3. The third of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

4. The fourth of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

5. The fifth of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

6. The sixth of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

7. The seventh of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

8. The eighth of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

9. The ninth of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

10. The tenth of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

11. The eleventh of the three is that, in the past, the Commission has been given the right to say no to a request for information, even when the request is made in the name of a person who is known to be a member of the Commission.

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Next Vice Presidential Meeting - Thursday 17 October 1990.

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

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 559

9 October 1945

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

The next Vice Presidents' meeting will be held in the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room at 1000 hours on Wednesday 10 October 1945.

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner _____
Executive Commissioner _____
VP, Civil Affairs Section _____
VP, Economic Section _____
VP, Establishment Section _____
Political Adviser (A) _____
Political Adviser (B) _____
Naval Subcommittee _____
Land Forces Subcommittee (MIA) _____
Air Forces Subcommittee _____
Liaison Office (AO) _____
French Representative AC _____
Russian Representative, AC _____
Public Relations Branch _____

(PA 6.00)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

cc 551/39

3 October 1945
0000-3 1945

MINUTE

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 3 October 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, By Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Brigadier Lusk, Brigadier General McKinley, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Jones, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Beadle, Major General Williams, Rear Admiral Barron, Colonel Sawyer, Captain Moulton, Mr. Brown, Colonel Lamore, Brigadier Anderson, Colonel Walton.

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that no word has yet been received on the transfer date and that a tracer has been sent off to Washington. In the meantime, redeployment is affecting the operation of AMS in the North, but it has been laid down that AMR representation will be maintained in the field.

2. Reduction of Italian Army Pay

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, General Brenning stated that the study of the proposed pay table has been completed and an Aide Memoire sent to the Chief Commissioner. The new table down involves certain reductions in pay and it is recommended that because of the effect on the morale of Italian servicemen that reductions in pay will have, that representation be made to the Prime Minister.

3. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Lusk reported that a satisfactory compromise has been worked out so that vehicles to be handed over from Allied sources will be assigned to the Italian military services to replace Italian military vehicles held in the North.

4. AMS Delivery of Italian Army Property

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier

1. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that no word has yet been received on the transfer date and that a tracer has been sent off to Washington. In the meantime, redeployment is affecting the operation of AMG in the North, but it has been laid down that AMG representation will be maintained in the field.

2. Reduction of Italian Army Pay

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, General Browning stated that the study of the proposed pay table has been completed and an Aide Memoire sent to the Chief Commissioner. The new table does involve certain reductions in pay and it is recommended that because of the effect on the morale of Italian servicemen that reductions in pay will have, that representation be made to the Prime Minister.

3. Return of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

With reference to para 12 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Lush reported that a satisfactory compromise has been worked out so that vehicles to be handed over from Allied sources will be assigned to the Italian military services to replace Italian military vehicles held in the North.

4. AMG Deprivation of Italian Army Property

With reference to para 13 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Lush stated that certain Italian Army property in the North had been utilized by AMG but now been returned to the Italian Army.

5. Political Regime.

Mr. Jones gave a brief resume of the general political situation. Count Sforza was installed as President of the Consulta. Prof. Parri in his report to the Consulta of the state of the nation said that Italy recognized the debt owed to the Allies and that Italy's immediate economic needs are being met by the Allies, but a long-term program is being prepared for presentation to the Allied Governments. Prof. Parri attributed the delay in holding elections to the public safety situation, Italy's uncertainty as to her future international status, and disagreement between the political parties. Mr. Jones said that the Prime Minister intended to include a basic program for delay in preparing electoral lists.

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(CSA) 10-10-45

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Minister DeGasperis reported to the Consulta on his trip to London. He said he had taken the position there that Italy was prepared to make sacrifices to Yugoslavia but that Italy was not willing to accept any undue economic solution, that a commission is being sent by the Council of Foreign Ministers to Yugoslavia to study the situation there and that the question of Italian colonies is being handled by the deputies of the foreign ministers.

The Consulta closed 2 October with another speech by Prof. Perri. With regard to the financial situation, the Prime Minister stated that it was the Government's determination to avoid inflation and not to devalue the currency.

The morning press of 3 October reported the arrest of leaders of the Sicilian separatist movement including Pisciotta Aprile.

6. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Colonel DeGasperis reported that 62% of the wheat now has been amassed, with the last week's collections the lowest yet reported. Colonel Walton reported that Sicily, where the amassing has been particularly poor, faces an immediate shortage and will probably request that a ship be diverted there. General McKinley said that any wheat diverted now to Sicily will be deducted from future allotments. Italy must show some degree of self reliance in settling her food problem and cannot be allowed to fall back on the Allies at will.

7. Disturbances in Lecce

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Carr reported that the Bari Liaison Officer had gone to Lecce and reported that the situation there seems to be now under control.

8. Armed Guards for Convoys

Air Vice Marshal Brailo stated that the Italian Air Ministry has requested permission to assign armed guards to their truck convoys as protection against brigands. The Protective Commissioner stated that he could see no objection to the assignment of armed guards provided the guards were military personnel and not civilians.

9. Release of Personnel from AD

With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 26 September, Colonel Jones reported that there is now a deficiency of 209 officers and that a loss by 1 December of approximately 400 officers is anticipated. The Executive Committee of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is currently reviewing the situation.

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that 61% of the target had been unmasked, with the last week's collection the lowest yet reported. Colonel Walton reported that Sicily, where the unmasking has been particularly poor, faces an immediate shortage and will probably request that a ship be diverted there. General McKinlay said that any vessel diverted now to Sicily will be deducted from future allotments. Italy must show some degree of self reliance in settling her food problem and cannot be allowed to fall back on the Allies as well.

7. Disturbances in Lecce

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 26 September 1945, Brigadier Carr reported that the Bari Liaison Officer had gone to Lecce and reported that the situation there seems to be now under control.

8. Armed Guards for Genoa

Air Vice Marshal Brodie stated that the Italian Air Ministry has requested permission to assign armed guards to their truck convoys as protection against brigands. The Executive Commissioner stated that he could see no objection to the assignment of armed guards provided the guards were military personnel and not civilians.

9. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 26 September, Colonel Jones reported that there is now a deficiency of 209 officers and that a loss by 1 December of approximately 400 officers is anticipated. The Executive Commissioner stated that a cable has been dispatched to all AC/AMC units informing U.S. Officers with 75 points or over that they may request retention in their present assignment until such date as they choose but not later than 6 March 1946. While the numerical loss of officers may not be too great, the loss of irreplaceable technical experts will be keenly felt by AC. The CM/CA position is even more serious, with personnel of entire sections being slated for redeployment. In this connection, the Executive Commissioner called attention to the fact that, because of the loss of personnel in the signals section a reduction in signal traffic must be made.

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

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting - Wednesday 10 October 1963.

[Signature]
L. A. STEARNSMajor, AGP
Staff Officer to CCDISTRIBUTION:

Chief Commissioner
 Executive Committee
 VP, Civil Affairs Section
 VP, Economic Section (5)
 VP, Establishment Section (2)
 Political adviser (A)
 Political adviser (B)
 Naval Subcommittee (3)
 Land Forces Subcommittee (AGFA)
 Air Forces Subcommittee
 French Representative, AC
 Soviet Representative, AC
 Liaison Office (SC)
 Public Relations Branch
 American Ambassador
 British Ambassador
 G-5, AFHQ (5)
 * Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

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

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- VP, Civil Affairs Section
- VP, Economic Section (5)
- SP, Establishment Section (2)
- Political Adviser (4)
- Political Adviser (1)
- Naval Subcommission (3)
- Land Forces Subcommission (10/11)
- Air Forces Subcommission
- French Representative, AC
- Soviet Representative, AC
- Liaison Office (SC)
- Public Relations Branch
- American Ambassador
- British Ambassador
- G-5, WHQ (5)
- * Chief Financial Adviser (AC)

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 994

CG 159

2 October 1945

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

001-2 1945

The next Vice Presidents' Meeting will be held in the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room at 1000 hours on Wednesday 3 October 1945.

DISTRIBUTION

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VI, Civil Affairs Section
VI, Economic Section
VI, Establishment Section
Political Advisor (A)
Political Advisor (B)
Naval Subcommittee
Land Forces Subcommittee (LSEA)
Air Forces Subcommittee
Liaison Office (AO)
French Representative, AO
Russian Representative, AO
Public Relations Branch

561

5

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

1998

24 September 1998

over = 9 1945

Subject: Value and Use

3. Employment of German Youth in England

1. Italian Film Production

1. Italian Film Production. The Italian film industry has been severely affected by the economic crisis, and the government has taken measures to support it.

2. Italian Economy and Finance

2. Italian Economy and Finance. The Italian economy has been in a state of stagnation for several years, and the government has implemented various measures to stimulate growth.

3. Italian Politics

3. Italian Politics. The Italian political system has been characterized by a long period of instability, and the government has taken steps to reform it.

4. Italian Education

4. Italian Education. The Italian education system has been criticized for its inefficiency, and the government has implemented reforms to improve it.

5. Italian Culture and Society

5. Italian Culture and Society. Italian culture and society have been the subject of much international interest, and the government has taken steps to promote them.

6. Italian Foreign Relations

6. Italian Foreign Relations. Italy has been an active participant in international affairs, and the government has taken steps to strengthen its foreign relations.

7. Italian Military

Foreign Policy of the U.S.

Admiral Dorey, the representative of the U.S. Navy, stated that the U.S. Navy has received information from the Italian Government that the Italian Government is planning to send a large number of Italian troops to the Middle East. The U.S. Navy is concerned that this could be a violation of the U.S. Navy's policy of non-interference in the Middle East. The U.S. Navy is also concerned that this could be a violation of the U.S. Navy's policy of non-interference in the Middle East.

Italian Government's Position on the Middle East

The Italian Government has stated that it is planning to send a large number of Italian troops to the Middle East. The Italian Government is concerned that this could be a violation of the U.S. Navy's policy of non-interference in the Middle East. The Italian Government is also concerned that this could be a violation of the U.S. Navy's policy of non-interference in the Middle East.

U.S. Navy's Position on the Middle East

The U.S. Navy has stated that it is planning to send a large number of U.S. Navy troops to the Middle East. The U.S. Navy is concerned that this could be a violation of the U.S. Navy's policy of non-interference in the Middle East. The U.S. Navy is also concerned that this could be a violation of the U.S. Navy's policy of non-interference in the Middle East.

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



1997-2000

W. Stewart

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

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Continued from page 19. The following information is being furnished to you for your information. It is not to be distributed outside your agency.

1. Background Information

The following information was received from the Central Intelligence Agency on 10/10/54. It is being furnished to you for your information. It is not to be distributed outside your agency.

10/10/54
10/10/54
10/10/54

W. Stewart

2. Summary

- 1. Central Intelligence Agency
- 2. State Department
- 3. Defense Department
- 4. Atomic Energy Commission
- 5. National Security Council
- 6. Federal Bureau of Investigation
- 7. United States Army
- 8. United States Navy
- 9. United States Air Force
- 10. United States Coast Guard
- 11. United States Marine Corps
- 12. United States Army Air Corps
- 13. United States Army Medical Corps
- 14. United States Army Dental Corps
- 15. United States Army Veterinary Corps
- 16. United States Army Chaplain Corps
- 17. United States Army Nurse Corps
- 18. United States Army Medical Center and School
- 19. United States Army Medical Research and Development Command
- 20. United States Army Medical Research and Development Command

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

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 394

CC 359

25 September 1945

VICE PRESIDENTS' MEETING

SEP 25 1945

Next Vice Presidents' meeting will be held in the Chief Commissioner's Conference Room at 1000 hours on Wednesday 26 September 1945.

DISTRIBUTION

Chief Commissioner
Executive Commissioner
VP, Civil Affairs Section
VP, Economic Section
VP, Establishment Section
Political Adviser (A)
Political Adviser (B)
Naval Subcommission
Land Forces Subcommission (IS/LF)
Air Forces Subcommission
Liaison Office (SC)
French Representative, AC
Russian Representative, AC
Public Relations Branch

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F.C.
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CG 354/31

19 September 1945

SEP 25 1945

MEMORANDUM

Vice President's Meetings, 1000 hours, 19 September 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, HQ Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Brigadier General McKinley, Brigadier Carr, Colonel Perkins, Mr. Jones, Mr. Halford, Air Vice Marshal Brodie, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel Owen, Captain Moullier, Mr. Brown, Colonel Walton, Brigadier Anderson.

1. Release of San Marco Regiment

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 18 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that in response to an AC signal, AFHQ had indicated willingness to permit the San Marco Regiment to be released when two thirds of the Internal Security Brigade at Bari has been organized. It is noted that the Regiment will be turned back to the Navy this month.

2. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that he and his staff have received with respect to the transfer date and it is now doubtful whether the transfer can be effected on 30 September even if approval is received. AFHQ has received permission to turn back all ports to Italian Government jurisdiction. AC has recommended that the date for the return of ports be the same as for the major transfer of provinces.

3. Importation of Phosphate

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner requested Colonel Walton to confer with Captain Moullier to see if the critical phosphate situation may be relieved by assistance from the French Government in expediting completion of negotiations on exchange of Italian pyrites for phosphate.

HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
AFG 384

CONFIDENTIAL

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1. Release of 4th Mammal Regiment

With reference to para 1 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that in respect to an AC signal, AMHQ has indicated willingness to permit the 4th Mammal Regiment to be relieved at any time subject to the internal security brigade at Malt having been organized. It is hoped that the Regiment will be turned back to the Navy this month.

2. Repatriation of Prisoners to Italian Government

With reference to para 14 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that no word has yet been received with respect to the transfer date and it is now doubtful whether the transfer can be effected on 1 October even if approval is received. AMHQ has received permission to turn back all parts to Italian Government jurisdiction. It was recommended that the date for the return of parts to the Navy be for the major transfer of prisoners.

3. Importation of Phosphate

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner requested Colonel Fulton to confer with Captain Waller to see if the critical phosphate situation may be relieved by supplies from the French Government in expediting completion of negotiations on exchange of Italian parties for phosphates.

4. Medical supplies in Sardinia

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that satisfactory arrangements have been worked out, with the War Ministry as regards the supply of medical supplies in Sardinia in exchange for a few months of supplies from AMHQ stores on the mainland.

5. Release of Personnel from AC

With reference to para 17 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that the Executive Commissioner and the Representative Commission have agreed to a phased scale for the reduction in numbers of AC personnel. The plan will bring the personnel strength of the AC comfortably within the limitation set by WFOC of 100 W.O. officers and enlisted men, and an equivalent number of British personnel, by 1 December.

6. Release of Colonel Denton

The Chief Commissioner stated that a signal had been received from XIII Corps indicating it is hoped that Colonel Denton was to be relieved for demobilization soon. Colonel Denton was directed not to indicate in any way approval in any reply sent to AMHQ or XIII Corps, as Colonel Denton cannot be released at this time.

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7. Transportation for Members of the Committee

The Chief Commissioner deferred to a letter received from the Italian Government requesting a special allocation of passenger train accommodations for members of the Committee, which will cover it, from an appropriate source. The Chief Commissioner stressed the importance of meeting this request. Several inquiries are directed to follow it through with the Transportation A/C and to inform the Chief Commissioner if A/C is unable to meet the request.

8. Resolution of Italian Army Pay

The Chief Commissioner reported that a request had been received from ARHQ stating that the Italian Army was planning a reduction of their pay and was requesting the AR to protest against this to the Italian Government. General Browning stated that the AR pay table was being studied very carefully and that the AR should not be asked to accept a reduction in pay. The Chief Commissioner stated that the AR should actually be informed in some cases. The Chief Commissioner stated that the AR should be made to the Italian Government until General Browning completed his study of the proposed pay table.

9. Political Remarks

Mr. Jones gave a brief review of the general political situation. As a result of an invitation received, the Italian Government has sent a number of experts to London to present Italian views during the consideration of the Italian Peace Treaty by the Council of European Ministers.

The Prime Minister in an interview with the press gave his views on the Peace Treaty. He stated that the Italian Government had adopted a moderate attitude policy with regard to the Peace Treaty in order that it might be able to join Italy, which would become a member of the League of Nations. Italy must pay for the Peace Treaty. It is a certain point, after which action could have to be taken in Italy. He considered the matter to be a military line and expressed the hope that it would not be considered if anything were done. He stated that he did not believe the Italian Government would accept it as a boundary and that, in his opinion, the Italian Government could not accept it.

The question of the time to hold local or national elections first will be decided within the next two weeks, during which time any information will be received, or completion of scheduled lists through the country. This will affect the decision. The Prime Minister stated that the Prime Minister would not be able to reply to the U.S. and British Government representations. In this connection the Chief Commissioner requested Brigadier Carr to ask whether British that he be included in the Delegation as to voting procedure and whether suggestions made by the U.S. and British Governments are to be included.

The meeting of the Sept 2nd carried a full account of a reported interview given by Field Marshal Alexander in which he is reported to have

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had requested an additional 400 copies to be distributed. Colonel Borgia is to leave London for Washington in a day or two.

11. Next Meeting

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, General McKinley stated that the South has not assessed 61% of the target, as compared to 59.6% assessed at this time last year. However, the whole picture is extremely difficult. In Piemonte, Italian Army troops have assisted the Carabinieri in tracking down about 2000 smugglers.

12. Report of Motor Transport to Italian Armed Forces

Air Vice Marshal Brodie brought up the question of disposition of Italian armed force vehicles captured from the Germans and a lengthy discussion ensued. AFHQ has directed that vehicles identified as belonging to the Italian armed forces by serial markings and coming into Allied hands by virtue of the German collapse in the North, must be returned to the armed forces. However, since the German collapse these vehicles have been used by CLM's and individual troops for the economy of the North and it is considered that it will be extremely difficult and perhaps impossible to attempt to recover these vehicles, which would in many cases require the use of force. An alternative suggestion has been made that these particular vehicles be maintained in their present service and that an equivalent number of vehicles now being turned over to the Italian Government by the Allies be in turn assigned to the Italian services to replace them. The Chief Commissioner requested Air Vice Marshal Brodie and General Browning to discuss this question with General McKinley and Brigadier Lush with a view to working out some compromise.

13. War Criminals in SW Zone

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that AFHQ would be informed of war criminals held in Italian SW zone and that no action would be taken until instructions are received from AFHQ.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 28 September 1945.

[Signature]
J. E. STEARNS
Major, AGP
Staff Officer to CC

DISTRIBUTION:
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Executive Commissioner
Vice Civil Affairs Section

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13. For Principals and Staff. However, dual groups for the recovery of the North and it is considered that it will be extremely difficult and perhaps impossible to attempt to recover these vehicles, which would in many cases require the use of force. An alternative suggestion has been made that these particular vehicles be maintained in their present service and that an equivalent number of vehicles now being turned over to the Italian Government by the Allies be in turn assigned to the Italian services as replacements. The Chief Commissioner requested Air Vice Marshal Bradley and General Browning to discuss this question with General McKinley and Brigadier Lush with a view to working out some compromise.

13. For Principals and Staff

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 12 September 1945, the Executive Commissioner stated that AFHQ would be informed of war criminals held in Italy. See FCW memo and that no action would be taken until instructions are received from AFHQ.

Next Vice President's Meeting - Wednesday, 26 September 1945.

L. E. Starnes
L. E. STARNES
Major, ASD

Staff Officer to AC

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 - Air Forces Subcommission
 - French Representative, AC
 - Soviet Representative, AC
 - Liaison Office (EC)
 - Public Relations Branch
 - American Ambassador
 - British Ambassador
 - C-5, AFHQ (5)
 - Chief Financial Advisor (AC)

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner

AFO 326

CC 531/30

12 September 1945.

MINUTES

Vice President's Meeting, 1000 hours, 12 September 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, HQ Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Lush, Colonel Denmore, Brigadier General McKinley, Brigadier Andersen, Colonel Walton, Lieutenant Colonel White, Colonel Parkin, Colonel Fiske, Mr. Jones, Mr. Hopkinson, Brigadier General Lee, Group Captain Jarman, Major General Browning, Rear Admiral Warren, Colonel V. V. Barko, Mr. Brown.

1. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, General McKinley stated that advice had been received from ATHQ which has clarified the September loadings question.

2. Release of San Marco Regiment

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that 2-3 ATHQ still refuse to release the San Marco Regiment. In order to keep the question open, the Chief Commissioner suggested that 2-3 ATHQ be queried as to their estimate of the date that this Regiment can be released.

3. Martirious Service Unit Plaque for 267th Regiment

The Chief Commissioner commended the Commanding Officer of the 267th Regiment on the smart appearance of the officers and men who took part in the presentation ceremony in the Piazza Venezia on 5 September.

4. War Criminals in POW Camps

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Colonel White stated that the four generals who have been indicted as war criminals and who are now held in an Italian POW camp are being cared for on proper authority. The Chief Commissioner again expressed concern about holding war criminals in Italian camps and directed Brigadier Lush to investigate the matter.

5. Soviet Representative's Protest re Incident Involving Allied MP's

Reference to para 10 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner

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Procedural Responsibility for Prisoner Complaints

With reference to para 2 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, General McKinnley stated that advice had been received from AFHQ which has clarified the September loadings question.

2. Release of San Marco Regiment

With reference to para 4 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported that G-3 AFHQ still refuses to release the San Marco Regiment. In order to keep the question open, the Chief Commissioner suggested that G-3 AFHQ be queried as to their estimate of the date that this regiment can be released.

3. Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for 2675th Regiment

The Chief Commissioner commended the Commanding Officer of the 2675th Regiment on the smart appearance of the officers and men who took part in the presentation ceremony in the Piazza Venezia on 5 September.

4. War Criminals in POW Camps

With reference to para 10 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Colonel White stated that the four Germans who have been indicted as war criminals and who are now held in an Italian POW camp are being cared for on proper authority. The Chief Commissioner again expressed concern about holding war criminals in Italian camps and directed Brigadier Lush to investigate the matter.

5. Soviet Representative's Protest re Incident Involving Allied MP's

With reference to para 11 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that the new report had been forwarded to AFHQ. Brigadier Lush stated that no reply had yet been received. Colonel Savko reported that two officers were assigned by the commanding general of the district in which the incident occurred to start the investigation and they are now in Rome waiting to speak to General Vesilov.

6. Importation of Phosphates

The Chief Commissioner reported that the Italian Government is trying to import phosphates through the French Government in exchange for pyrites. In the meantime, Italian representatives inquired of AFHQ as to whether or not any phosphates could be obtained from American sources, and a signal requesting that information has been dispatched. Colonel Walton stated that the Commission was in contact with the French Commercial Attache but that since this was

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(in L. 100)

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purely a French-Italian deal, he believes it would be rather difficult to try to expedite it. Brigadier Lush suggested that the Commission bring pressure to bear through the Economic Section of SHAZ.

7. Medical Supplies in Sardinia

The Chief Commissioner reported that Mr. Kestey of UNRRA had called him in connection with surplus Italian Army medical supplies now in Sardinia which the Italian Army intends to transfer to the mainland. Mr. Kestey requested permission for UNRRA to pick up those supplies in Sardinia in exchange for a like amount of UNRRA supplies now in stock in Italy, the supplies being badly needed in Sardinia. The Chief Commissioner stated that when the confirming letter is received he would refer it to Brigadier Lush and General Browning, who were requested to bring pressure to bear on the Italian War Ministry.

8. Political Resume

Mr. Hopkinson gave a brief resume of the general political situation. Prof. Ferri made a speech in which he placed blame for fascism on the middle classes. No decision has yet been made by the Government as to whether local or national elections should be held first. The execution in September of General Bellomo gave rise to a strong reaction as the General had defended Bari against the Germans and was wounded in that battle. The British Embassy has stated that this was a purely military matter. Mr. Hopkinson reported that the case had been reviewed personally by the Field Marshal and that because of the strong evidence it was not possible to change the sentence of the court.

9. Review of AMG and AG in Italy

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Mr. Hopkinson suggested that the booklet should be made available to the British Government to issue as a White Paper if AMG so elected, which would mean that the booklet would be put on public sale. All present concurred in this proposal provided it was issued after the general release date. The Chief Commissioner requested Mr. Brown to discuss the matter with Mr. Hopkinson.

10. Italian Operation of Ports

Admiral Warren gave a brief report on his trip North and stated that the ports of Genoa and Savona, which are now run entirely by the Italians are operating extraordinarily well, although the inner harbor at Genoa is still not yet cleared of mines and cannot be used.

11. Wheat Amassing

With reference to para 6 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Colonel Densmore reported that 5% of the target has now been amassed. Letters have been

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... political situation. ... made a speech in which he placed blame for fascism on the middle classes. No decision has yet been made by the Government as to whether local or national elections should be held first. The execution in September of General Bellomo gave rise to a strong reaction as the General had defended Bari against the Germans and was wounded in that battle. The British Embassy has stated that this was a purely military matter. Mr. Hopkinson reported that the case had been reviewed personally by the Field Marshal and that because of the strong evidence it was not possible to change the sentence of the court.

9. Review of AMR and AC in Italy

With reference to para 7 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Mr. Hopkinson suggested that the booklet should be made available to the British Government to serve as a White Paper if AMR so elected, which would mean that the booklet would be put on public sale. All present concurred in this proposal provided it was issued after the General release date. The Chief Commissioner requested Mr. Brown to discuss the matter with Mr. Hopkinson.

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11. West Amersing

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, Colonel Denmore reported that 5% of the target has now been assessed. Letters have been dispatched to the Regions and to the Italian Government on the massing. In answer to the Chief Commissioner's query, Colonel Denmore stated that the new massing system which will be used in future years has been worked out by the Italians in conjunction with the Agriculture S/C. The Chief Commissioner requested Colonel Denmore to furnish a report of the workings of the new plan.

12. Reported Disturbances in the North

Colonel Fiske stated that the press reports of disturbances in Milan were erroneous and have had an adverse effect on the people in Milan. One report was that General Clark had postponed a scheduled visit to Milan because of the unrest there, which was untrue as the trip was postponed because General Clark had to attend an important meeting in Central Europe.

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13. Release of Personnel from AG

Brigadier Lush reported that a letter has been received from AFHQ asking for complete description of how the subcommittees work and for the general scheme for reduction of personnel. The Chief Commissioner said that information on the subcommittees was required by AFHQ because a staff study was being prepared to see if it is possible to abolish the Commission prior to the peace treaty. On the U. S. side of the Commission, a telegram from AFHQ has been received limiting the total American officer and enlisted men strength to 700 on 1 December, and although no limitation has yet been set on the British side, it is expected that it will be about the same. AFHQ is also studying the AG recommendations for liaison staffs in the North and it is likely that the proposed staffs will be cut down.

14. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

Referring to page 2 of Minutes of 5 September 1945, the Chief Commissioner stated that no word had yet been received from the Combined Chiefs with respect to the transfer date, but it is hoped that it will not be postponed beyond 30 September.

Next Vice Presidents' Meeting-- Wednesday 19 September 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGD
Staff Officer to CC.

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- Air Forces Subcommission
- French Representative, AG.
- Soviet Representative, AG.
- Liaison Office (EC)
- Public Relations Branch

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting-- Wednesday 19 September 1945.

L. W. Stearns
L. W. STEARNS,
Major, AGO
Staff Officer to G2.

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 - Air Forces Subcommission
 - French Representative, AGO
 - Soviet Representative, AGO
 - Liaison Office (EC)
 - Public Relations Branch
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 - British Ambassador
 - G-5, AFHQ (5)
 - Chief Financial Adviser

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HEADQUARTERS ALLIED COMMISSION
Office of the Chief Commissioner
APO 374

CC 551/29

5 September 1945

MINUTES

SEP 13/1945

Vice President's Meeting, 1800 hours, 5 September 1945, Chief Commissioner's Conference Room, Hq Allied Commission, Rome.

Present: Rear Admiral Stone, Brigadier Bush, Colonel Danmore, Lieutenant Colonel White, Colonel Barkin, Mr. Jones, Mr. Welford, Group Captain Jarman, Colonel Kerr, Commodore Zircell, Colonel V. V. Savko, Captain Moulton, Mr. Brown, Colonel Walton, Brigadier General Lee.

1. Mr. General Kislenko to Moscow

The Chief Commissioner announced that Major General Kislenko had been called to Moscow and probably would return to AC unless directed to London for the peace negotiations. General Kislenko had named Colonel V. V. Savko as his deputy during his absence.

2. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

With reference to para 2 of the Minutes of 29 August, the Chief Commissioner reported that the position was unchanged so far as UNRRA's taking over on January 1st. The need for close cooperation between Economic Section and UNRRA again was emphasized.

It was observed that Colonel Butterworth's statement regarding supplies called forth for the month of September was not clear. Colonel Danmore stated that AFHQ had not yet advised AC of either availabilities or procedures for calling forward supplies for September loadings (October arrivals). The Chief Commissioner requested clarification of this matter.

3. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

Referring to para 2 of the Minutes of 29 August, the Chief Commissioner stated that the question had been delayed at AFHQ and the date not recommended for turn back of the bulk of Northern Provinces is 30 September, not 15 September. At the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference of 6 September, the question of Bolzano and Udine Provinces would be considered, and it was felt that the Supreme Allied Commander would accept AC's recommendation to turn back Bolzano and Udine Provinces to Italian Government for military

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 7850171. Chief General Kislensko to Moscow

The Chief Commissioner announced that Major General Kislensko had been called to Moscow and probably would return to AC unless directed to London for the peace negotiations. General Kislensko had named Colonel V. V. Serko as his deputy during his absence.

2. Financial Responsibility for Civilian Supplies

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It was observed that Colonel Butterworth's statement regarding supplies called forth for the month of September was not clear. Colonel Danabara stated that AMK had not yet advised AC of either availability or procedure for calling forward supplies for September loadings (October arrivals). The Chief Commissioner requested clarification of this matter.

3. Restoration of Provinces to Italian Government

Referring to para 2 of the Minutes of 29 August, the Chief Commissioner stated that the question had been delayed at AMK and the date now recommended for turn back of the bulk of Northern Provinces is 30 September, not 15 September. At the Supreme Allied Commander's Conference of 6 September, the question of Salerno and Udine Provinces could be reconsidered, and it was felt that the Supreme Allied Commander would accept AC's recommendation to turn back Salerno, but that Udine would be held for a longer period for military reasons. The Chief Commissioner directed that the discussion on restoration of provinces was not to be mentioned outside the meeting.

4. Shift Within Polgara Division

With reference to para 5 of Minutes of 29 August 1945, the Chief Commissioner reported the receipt of a signal from AMK disapproving the release of the San Marco Regiment. The Chief Commissioner was unwilling to accept AMK's reasons, since they referred to overall strength rather than local needs. Colonel Kerr together with Commodore Ziroli was directed to draft a signal to AMK presenting this view and setting forth the objection from the political viewpoint to the use of the San Marco Naval Regiment as security troops in the Bari area. Colonel Kerr believed that the tie-up was in No 3 District, who did not wish to release another guard battalion. They have three battalions and have been directed to release one of them by the 13th, so far no action has been indicated. The transfer of the Garibaldi and San Marco Regiments is supposed to be completed on 9th September.

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5. Ministerial Service Unit: Pleague for 2675th Regiment

The Chief Commissioner announced that there would be a presentation of the Ministerial Service Unit Pleague to the 2675th Regiment that afternoon at a ceremony to be held at Piazza Venezia and an invitation was extended to all to attend.

6. Political Reform by Mr. Jones

The Council of Ministers met last week and discussed Mammì's action in submitting the names of 77 senators to the High Court of Justice for consideration as to whether they should be separated as Senators. A group of Senators previously separated had appealed to the Italian Supreme Court on the basis that their separation was unconstitutional.

The Chief Commissioner inquired as to what grounds they had for this appeal. Mr. Jones believed they were attacking the constitutionality of the separation law. Colonel White stated that there were 159 itself could not affect their particular position, as they were made under the old constitution.

At the same meeting the Council of Ministers approved the establishment of a Commission for the elaboration of Senate electoral laws. Mammì stressed the preparation of a draft electoral law. Mammì said that the Commission was free to make its own decisions and must prepare an electoral system to permit the fair expression of every political opinion.

The Prime Minister spoke on 1 September at a DEMI meeting in Milan, where he said that the CIP was not a danger to the formation of the State. Regarding separation, the Prime Minister said that it was necessary to strike at those persons responsible for Fascism. Referring to elections, Professor Perri said he would be the first to oppose any election if it were effected by violence. At a press conference given by the Prime Minister while he was in Milan, he expressed his opinion that ASD would probably be withdrawn from Northern Italy during September.

Brigadier Lamb asked whether it was the belief of the Political Advisers that the old electoral law will be annulled. The electoral law of 1915 has not been touched by the new legislation. Mr. Jones stated that they could not touch on without the other.

The Chief Commissioner thought it was voting procedure rather than electoral lists that was being revised. The lists would not have to be altered unless there were new restrictions as to who might vote - even then they could strike names from the already prepared lists.

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Brigadier Luch asked whether it was the belief of the Political Advisors that the old electoral law will be annulled. The electoral law of 1915 has not been touched by the new legislation. Mr. Jones stated that they could not touch you without the other.

The Chief Commissioner thought it was voting procedure rather than electoral lists that was being revised. The lists would not have to be altered unless there were new restrictions as to who might vote - even then they could strike names from the already prepared lists.

7. Review of AME and AC in Italy

Mr. Brown reported that the first copy of the booklet on Military Government and Allied Commission activities in Italy would be off the press that afternoon. It had been printed in both English and Italian, and AME was working with the Ministries of Interior and Education for distribution to colleges and libraries and to all the Prefects. The U.S. Army Information and Education Service and the British equivalent would handle distribution to the Allied Forces. United States Information Service would take over about 40,000 copies.

The Chief Commissioner commended Public Relations Branch for their good work on this publication.

4. Short Summary

With reference to para 8 of Minutes of 29 August 1945, Colonel Desmoro reported a gain of 5% on the overall quota bringing the maximum short assessed up to 50% of target. The Chief Commissioner requested a percentage column on the pending report so that comparison could be made with last year's figures for the same period.

5. Tired

The Chief Commissioner asked Colonel Walton whether or not the term situation was strengthened out. Colonel Walton replied that the matter was in hand, but a reply of clarification was awaited from AFHQ. The Chief Commissioner advised that an AFHQ cable had been received which directed AG to deal directly with AFHQ. Brigadier Lush stated that procedure was entirely inasmuch as the American and British sides differed. It would be better if we could get both disposal organizations to work with the Italian Government. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that AFHQ is working under standard rule in many countries and it would be difficult to change their procedures.

10. War Criminals in POW Camps

Colonel Kerr reported the indictment of four Fascist generals in an Italian POW camp for war criminals. The Chief Commissioner questioned the retention of these generals in the POW camp after their indictment as war criminals. Colonel Kerr advised that AFHQ's POW Command desired that these prisoners be retained in the Italian controlled camps. The Chief Commissioner directed Colonel Kerr to make sure that these four generals were being properly held. Both the Chief Commissioner and Brigadier Lush expressed the belief that it would be better to turn them over to the Allies.

11. Soviet Representative's Protest Re. Incident Involving Allied Military Police

Colonel Savko reported that on 29 August, while General Vesilov and General Bealov were returning from Caserta to Rome on Highway No. 7, General Vesilov's automobile was fired upon from a military police road block. Colonel Savko wished to bring the matter again to the attention of the Chief Commissioner, and gave a brief account of the incident. The Chief Commissioner stated that the Allied Commission had no jurisdiction over military road blocks. Colonel Savko reported that he had been directed by his government to prevent the case to the Allied authorities through the Chief Commissioner. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that it was an absolute rule for all Allied officers and men to immediately stop when flagged by an AF. The Chief Commissioner further stated that he would expect to be checked upon if he failed to stop on such an occasion. Mr. Grunovsky reported

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Colonel Savko reported that on 29 August, while General Vasiliev and General Beeflow were returning from Deserte to Rome on Highway No. 7, General Vasiliev's automobile was fired upon from a military police road block. Colonel Savko visited to bring the matter again to the attention of the Chief Commissioner, and gave a brief account of the incident. The Chief Commissioner stated that the Allied Commission had no jurisdiction over military road blocks. Colonel Savko reported that he had been directed by his government to prevent the case to the Allied authorities through the Chief Commissioner. The Chief Commissioner pointed out that it was an absolute rule for all Allied officers and men to immediately stop when flagged by an MP. The Chief Commissioner further stated that he would expect to be fired upon if he failed to stop on such an occasion. Mr. Urnevsky reported that he was riding in the front seat of the General's car at the time and interpreted the MP's gesture to be a signal to go forward. Admiral Stans asked that the Soviet Representative note this point in a full written report of the incident. The Admiral would then forward this report to the Chief Administrative Officer, Allied Force Headquarters, who had jurisdiction over the matter. It was noted that on the 31st August, when the incident was first reported, the Chief Commissioner immediately informed AMO both by cable (4562) and by letter GO 1050.

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Next Vice Presidents' Meeting-- Wednesday 12 September 1945.

L. W. STEARNS

Major, ADC

Staff Officer to GC

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Executive Commissioner

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VP, Economic Section (5)

VP, Establishment Section (2)

Political Advisor (A)

Political Advisor (B)

Naval Sub-Commission (3)

Land Forces Subcommission (MMA)

Air Forces Subcommission

French Representative, AC.

Soviet Representative, AC.

Liaison Office (EC)

Public Relations Branch

American Ambassador

British Ambassador

O-5, WHQ (5)

Chief Financial Advisor

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